

# Sexual Violence Prevention E-News

July 28, 2005

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## **1. Reminder: Sexual Violence Prevention Network, Friday, August 5, 2005, Rochester, MN. Topic: *Sexual Violence and Alcohol Abuse Prevention - Where do they Intersect?***

It's not too late to RSVP!

Please come to the next meeting of the Sexual Violence Prevention Network, a quarterly gathering to support information sharing, networking and collaboration.

### **Special Topic**

*Sexual Violence and Alcohol Abuse Prevention: Where do they Intersect?*

### **Date and Time**

Friday, August 5, 2005

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### **Location**

[Public Health Services Building \[map\]](#)

2011 Campus Drive, SE

Rochester, MN 55904

Lunch will be provided.

R.S.V.P. required by Wednesday, August 3, 2005. Contact [Amy Kenzie](#), (651) 281-9810.

*Requests for special accommodations must be made by Tuesday, July 26, 2005.*

Please provide name, telephone number and type of accommodation needed.

### **Agenda**

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon: Welcome, introductions and information sharing

12:00 noon - 12:30 p.m: Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m: Panel Presentation

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## **2. Adverse Childhood Experiences Study site**

CDC is delighted to announce the Web release of the [Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACE\) Study](#).

The ACE Study is an ongoing collaborative study between CDC and Kaiser Permanente's Department of Preventive Medicine in San Diego, California. The study examines the possible effects that adverse childhood experiences can have on numerous public health, social, and individual medical problems across the life stages, and has already established a link between adverse childhood experiences and development of chronic illnesses throughout the life stages.

The site can provide a broad an array of users with information about findings and other aspects of the study. The website summarizes major findings, links to ACE Study publications, provides access to ACE Study questionnaires, and has general information about the study.

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## **3. One-day summit on the current state and future direction of child and adolescent violence prevention in Minnesota**

The Minnesota Department of Health's Injury and Violence Prevention Unit is convening a one-day summit to discuss the current state and future direction of child and adolescent violence prevention in Minnesota. Cordelia Anderson of Sensibilities, Inc will be facilitating this first major step toward creating a strategic plan. Primary focus areas include policy development, prevention programming

and data collection. It will be vital to hear from as many voices as possible as this project gets underway. If you have questions or are interested in attending, please contact [Maureen Holmes](#), (651) 281-9871. (Lunch will be provided, as well as travel reimbursement.)

Direction of child and adolescent violence prevention in Minnesota

A one day summit

Friday, September 9, 2005

10:00am - 3:00pm

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## 4. Academy on Violence and Abuse Inauguration

Please plan to join us for a luncheon event to inaugurate the [Academy on Violence and Abuse](#) (AVA). AVA is a new, innovative national academic medical society dedicated to advancing health, education and research on the recognition, treatment and prevention of violence and abuse. Each year billions of healthcare dollars are spent treating victims of violence and abuse, yet research and education on this issue lags far behind that of other diseases.

Dr. Edward Hill, president of the American Medical Association, will be the keynote speaker, with additional presentations by leading medical researchers and educators who specialize in health-related abuse issues.

AVA has been incorporated in Minnesota in recognition of the leading role the State has played in addressing issues of violence and abuse. Join in on this important event.

Academy on Violence and Abuse

Friday, September 9, 2005

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The Minikahda Club

### Questions

- ▶ [Academy on Violence and Abuse](#) or call
- ▶ Jacquelyn Hauser, Executive Director, (952) 920-4725

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## 5. Primary prevention needs to occur on the individual, institutional, and societal level

Taken from the Prevention Connection listserv

Written by Keith E. Edwards, [Men Ending Rape](#)

I wanted to respond to some of the questions about primary prevention of "potential perpetrators." When I speak with college students about issues of sexual assault, they often view perpetrators of this kind of violence as bad immoral people who are easily identified (skeevy, smelly, homeless, perpetrator who is often times racialized). In my experience, particularly with issues of sexual assault on college campuses, most perpetrators are not bad guys looking to hurt someone. Instead they are men who are acting the way they have been taught by our culture. In Mary Koss's study 84% of the men who admitted to behaviors that met the legal definition of rape saw nothing wrong with what they had done. In other words these men never intended to hurt or rape someone, instead they were hooking up and having sex exactly the way they had been taught. Unfortunately, our culture mis-educates men about what is rape and what is sex. This does not absolve perpetrators of their responsibility in any way, it does give the rest of us a responsibility to prevent violence against women beyond just not doing it.

The examples are all around us. Here are some more notable ones from the media:

1. As mentioned in an earlier post Kobe Bryant admitted to the very definition of sexual assault in his statement the day his case was dismissed. What is most relevant about that situation for me is that night the lead story on ESPN and other sports program was "Kobe Bryant has been vindicated." When a man makes a statement like that and we call it vindication we mis-educate a whole generation of young men about what is rape and what is sex. The very next questions was whether or not Kobe Bryant will make more money after the "vindication." That very night Bryan Cox a Black former professional football player said on national television that he would buy his 15 old son a Kobe Bryant jersey because Kobe Bryant now has "street cred" and is no longer "lilly white." In that moment Bryan Cox mis-educates a whole generation of young men about misogyny and race. It seems that Nike has also gotten the same message.
2. Right now Esquire magazine is revealing the sexiest woman alive - body part by body part - over 6 issues revealing her full identity in December (it is Jessica Biel by the way - now you don't have to buy the magazine). When men see women portrayed as objects over and over every day in t-shirts, tv shows, magazines, song lyrics, bill boards, and movies sooner or later is gets a little easier for some men to treat women like objects.
3. When Justin Timberlake reaches over and grabs the clothing covering Janet Jackson's breast and tears it off - that is the definition of sexual assault, a stage sexual assault if you believe like

most of us do that they both planned this. But for the past year and half we haven't talk about it as assault, we've talked about it as obscenity, the Janet Jackson incident, and what that dirty little woman did. Even in a staged sexual assault in front of 80 million people and in the national dialogue in the past year and half, we blame the woman for her obscenity. Why don't we call it the Justin Timberlake incident? Is it because that behavior from a man is so normal and so common that it is ignored or dismissed as "that's what men do"? What message does that send to high school boys? "If I do that at school they'll blame the girl for being obscene." And just because no one in the mainstream media talks about race as a factor in this incident doesn't mean that it is not. Imagine what our national reaction would have been if P Diddy would have reached over and exposed Jessica Simpson. I think we might be having a different conversation about the "P Diddy Incident."

When I speak to college audiences I encourage the men to see how violence against women is hurting them as well, by harming the women they care about as well as taking away their humanity as men. I encourage both the men and women to not only begin to recognize the messages in our culture (messages they are often eager to deconstruct), but also how to confront these messages that are in the media and in our daily lives. Primary prevention needs to occur on the individual, institutional, and societal level. Just because the culture is partly responsible doesn't mean it is too big a task. Our lives are filled with examples of culture change because of courageous individuals and strong social movements. Change is possible. To paraphrase Cornell West, I am not optimistic, because optimism depends on evidence and the evidence is not good. But I remain hopeful...and I'm going down fighting.

The Prevention Connection's Listserv is a forum to discuss the newest violence against women prevention efforts.

[Register for Prevent-Connect Listserv.](#)

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## **6. *Know When to Use Your Pause Button* campaign targeted at 11 to 13 year-old boys**

The New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault is proud to announce the availability of our prevention education toolkit and poster, [Know When to Use Your Pause Button](#). This is a unique and innovative campaign targeted at 11 to 13 year-old boys.

Suitable for use in educational settings, the poster and toolkit aim to reinforce boys' positive masculinity, respect their own moral compasses, and show them how not to cross the line and

commit sexual assault.

We conducted a comprehensive literature review, extensive research on existing campaigns, and direct research with target-aged boys and girls. After a long, careful development process working with experts in research and design, the Pause Button Campaign is the best poster we've seen for this audience.

The message is simple and effective: Know when to use your pause button: sexual assault is not a game.

Focus testing found that boys felt clearly that this message was intended for them, and that if they came across an ad like this, no matter the location, they would stop and check it out. All boys immediately and readily understood the message. As a 9th grade boy participating in a focus group said: "It's not a game. You get points in playing games, but you don't get points for rape."

For more information contact [The New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault](#).

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## 7. Three fun summer events that prevent child abuse

[Walk for Children](#), Saturday, September 10, 2005, Como Lakeside Pavilion

It's getting closer. September 10, 2005, is the day for the annual Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota Walk for Children at Como Park in St. Paul. This year the fun, family event will feature entertainment by the Walker West Little Big Band, Women's Drum Heart, and the delightful Ms. Catherine, entertaining children with music and dance. Come enjoy the family fun, and help raise awareness and funds for child abuse prevention in Minnesota. [ [Registration brochure](#) ]

[The Race to Empower](#), Saturday, August 6, 2005, 8:30 a.m. - noon, Lake Harriet Bandshell

Got lots of energy and passion for child abuse prevention? Of course you're already planning to come to the Walk for Children, but you want *more* opportunities to exercise, have fun, and prevent child abuse and neglect. Here's jst the thing for you: Hennepin Parks and the Empowerment Project have joined forces to present the first annual Race to Empower, a 5K, Children's fun and Zero-K run/walk/sit designed to empower those affected by physical and sexual abuse. Proceeds from this event will benefit Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota, the Neighborhood Involvement Program Rape and Sexual Abuse Center, and the Twin Cities Men's Center Anger Management Program.

[Cici Porter Concert](#), Tuesday, August 23, 2005, 7:00 p.m., Detroit Lakes

You can support awareness and prevention of child abuse of all kinds by joining us at a concert in

Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, on Tuesday, August 23rd, at 7:00pm. Cici Porter, nationally known singer and survivor of child abuse, will perform at the Historic Holmes Theatre, on Oak Grove Avenue and Front Street in Detroit Lakes. Cici's folk music style with acoustic guitar is very powerful and it will touch your heart. Bernice Jepson, authentic voice and author of *I'm Not That Way Anymore*, has been the key organizer of the concert. Tickets are free, but contributions to support child abuse prevention will be accepted. Workshops will be offered in the afternoon by Stop It Now Minnesota and Congregations Concerned for Children and Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota. The Becker County Child Abuse Prevention Council is also participating. For more information, contact [Connie Skillingstad](#).

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Sexual Violence Prevention Program  
Injury and Violence Prevention Unit  
Minnesota Department of Health  
PO BOX 64882  
ST PAUL MN 55164-0882  
(651) 201-5484  
[injury.prevention@health.state.mn.us](mailto:injury.prevention@health.state.mn.us)  
[www.health.state.mn.us/svp](http://www.health.state.mn.us/svp)