

# Sexual Violence Prevention E-News

August 24, 2005

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## 1. ***Understanding Sexual Violence in the Deaf Community***

The [Council on Crime and Justice](#) has been conducting research on sexual violence in the deaf community with a grant from the National Institute of Justice. The report, [\*Understanding Sexual Violence in the Deaf Community\*](#), which details the community member perspective, is now available.

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## 2. **Teens who experience dating violence at greater risk for STD's**

From the [Family Violence Prevention Fund](#)

[\*\*Teens Who Experience Dating Violence at Greater Risk for STDs\*\*](#)

August 11, 2005

Nearly one in three sexually active adolescent girls (31.5 percent) report experiencing physical or sexual violence from a dating partner, and there is a “significant” association between being a victim of dating violence and being diagnosed with a sexually transmitted disease (STD) or HIV.

Those are among the findings from a study published in the August 2005 issue of *Pediatrics*. *Dating Violence and Sexually Transmitted Disease/HIV Testing and Diagnosis Among Adolescent Females* looks at more than 1,600 sexually active 9th to 12th grade female students who filled out Youth Risk Behavior Surveys in Massachusetts in 1999 and 2001.

Dating violence victims are more likely to be tested for and diagnosed with an STD or HIV than girls who do not experience dating violence, even after accounting for other sexual risk behaviors. In fact, one in 12 dating violence victims reports a sexually transmitted disease, compared to one in 30 girls who do not experience dating violence. Girls who experience dating violence are three times more likely to be tested for an STD and HIV, and 2.6 times more likely to report an STD diagnosis, than girls who do not experience dating violence.

“We are seeing a staggering proportion of teenage girls experiencing physical or sexual violence from dating partners,” Michele R. Decker, MPH, Harvard School of Public Health and one of the study’s authors, told Reuters. “Violence against women has been linked with numerous negative health outcomes, and I think through this study we are seeing further evidence of the tremendous health consequences of this violence.”

Authors recommend further research, and the development of community-based programs that address dating violence and STD/HIV risk. They encourage clinic staff to discuss relationship dynamics with patients and screen them for dating violence, noting that discussions about barriers to using condoms and other contraceptives may prompt patients to disclose dating violence. Medical professionals should make information about dating violence support services available to all patients, regardless of whether they admit to being abused, they say.

*Pediatrics* is the journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics. In addition to Decker, the study’s authors are Jay G. Silverman, PhD, of the Harvard School of Public Health and Anita Raj, PhD, of the Boston University School of Public Health.

Also available: [\*Teen Dating Violence: A Review of Risk Factors and Prevention Efforts\*](#)

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### **3. Coaching Boys into Men**

The [\*Coaching Boys into Men Playbook\*](#) is a tool to help coaches deliver a critical message to young men: Help end violence against women by treating everyone with the same honor and respect that they give their teammates.

Recognizing the unique role coaches play in the lives of athletes, you can help leverage that role as a Founding Father and encourage coaches not just to win games, but instill respect for girls in their athletes as well.

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## **4. How to contribute to the UN Secretary-General's study on all forms of violence against women**

On 22 December 2003, the General Assembly of the United Nations requested the Secretary-General to conduct an in-depth [study on all forms of violence against women](#) (resolution 58/185). The goals of the study are to:

- ▶ Highlight the persistence of all forms of violence against women in all parts of the world, and the unacceptability of such violence.
- ▶ Strengthen political commitment and joint efforts of all stakeholders to prevent and eliminate violence against women.
- ▶ Identify ways and means for better and more sustained and effective implementation of Government commitments and obligations to combat all forms of violence against women, and increase accountability.

The study will be completed in June 2006 and presented to the United Nations General Assembly at its 61st session in the fall of 2006. The UN Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) is responsible for the preparation of the study. A Task Force made up of both NGOs and UN agencies, of which the Center for Women's Global Leadership is a part, has been working closely with the Division for the Advancement of Women to devise ways that NGOs can provide input into the study.

It is important for women's organizations and groups involved in anti-violence against women advocacy and policy development to contribute to the processes related to the study. Please consider the opportunities for input below and engage wherever possible:

- ▶ The DAW has requested written NGO input in the form of brief papers (3 pages maximum) that draw from the organization's experience, flag trends and highlight key issues requiring attention,

and give examples of good practice in combating all forms of violence against women. Please see the NGO Input form for more information on how to submit, and please feel free to pass this invitation through your networks. You may also wish to consult the study outline to inform your input. Input is due to the DAW by 15 October 2005.

- ▶ An online discussion will be held for three weeks, during the last week of September and the first two weeks of October, to increase opportunities for civil society to contribute ideas and recommendations. Please check the study website (<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/index.htm>) for updates as the dates approach.
- ▶ NGOs on the task force have prepared an NGO Calendar of Events, highlighting events at the regional and international level which will be taking place over the next year and which may provide opportunities to publicize the study and solicit additional NGO input. Interested NGOs who are attending these events, or others related to violence against women, are encouraged to raise awareness of the study at these venues.
- ▶ Also, on 6-7 September 2005, the Division for the Advancement of Women will hold a one and one-half day consultation in New York for representatives from NGOs, Member States and UN entities. All are invited to attend. The purpose of the consultation is two-fold: to highlight the linkages between violence against women and the achievement of the goals of the Millennium Declaration in the lead-up to the 2005 World Summit (which takes place immediately after the consultation), and to provide a forum for Member States, NGOs and UN entities to consult on the study and discuss key issues that require priority attention. Please consider attending; and check the website for updates.

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## **5. Two news items from the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault**

The [Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault](#) (MNCASA) is pleased to announce our new Sexual Violence Prevention Coordinator Dresden Jones. Dresden joins MNCASA from The Council on Crime and Justice and has many years of experience doing prevention work. Dresden has worked with youth doing truancy prevention, and has also worked with young and adult women doing sexual assault prevention, HIV/STD prevention and early pregnancy prevention through the Lifelong AIDS Alliance in Seattle, Washington. She also worked as an HIV case manager at The Minnesota AIDS Project. Most recently, Dresden worked on the Racial Disparities Initiative at The Council on Crime and Justice.

MNCASA is moving to St. Paul. The current phone number will be effective only until the evening of Thursday August 25th. The new phone number (listed below) will be effective Friday August 26th, however, the MNCASA phone system will most likely be still in transit. The actual physical move is Monday August 29th. So, assuming all goes well, MNCASA should be up and running on August 30th!

Please update your address books with the information below, and remember to mark your calendars for the MNCASA Open house on September 29th from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

New MNCASA address:

Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MNCASA)

Kelly Inn

161 St. Anthony Avenue Suite 1001

St. Paul, MN 55103

Phone: (651) 209-9993

Fax: (651) 209-0899

Toll Free: (800) 964-8847

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## **6. September 7, 2005 Web conference: Prevention Connection - *The Violence Against Women Prevention Partnership***

[Prevention Connection](#) is a national project of the [California Coalition Against Sexual Assault](#) to conduct web conferences, moderate a ListServ and lead online discussions to advance primary prevention of violence against women. Prevention Institute will facilitate five web conferences to build the capacity of local, state, national, and tribal agencies and organizations to develop, implement, and evaluate effective prevention of violence against women initiatives. More information and archives from previous web conferences are available at [Prevention Connection](#).

***The Violence Against Women Prevention Partnership* web conference**

Wednesday, September 7, 2005 (new date)

Topic TBD

2:00-3:30 PM EST (11 AM -12:30 PM PST)

Cost: Free

Presenters: Larry Cohen, Rachel Davis and Lisa Fujie Parks of Prevention Institute

**Registration required**

Web: [Prevention Connection](#)

Phone: [David S. Lee](#), Prevention Connection Manager, (916) 446-2520 ext. 309

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## **7. September 23, 2005 Training: *Breaking the Silence: First Steps in Strengthening the Community***

Did you have dreams or plans for your children to grow up to be victims of domestic and sexual violence, or to be the perpetrators of these crimes?

No one does - but the statistics show the reality that it can happen to your family. 1 out of 12 men commit acts that fit the legal definition of rape or attempted rape. On average, offenders in treatment disclose over 100 victims. 1 in 3 women will be raped in her lifetime, 1 in 4 of our daughters and 1 in 7 of our sons will be sexually abused before the age of 18.

No one is immune to this violence. It affects us all! The pain, survival, and lasting effects for the victims costs us all money as does treatment and housing for the offenders.

It will take a community to end the violence. Come and learn how to end the violence and to help those already affected. Hear from local survivors, including Linda Walker, Dru Sjodin's mom. Hear how they lived as most of us do, believing it "only happens to someone else...not our family". Until it happened to them. Come and learn how to help your community and your family.

September 23 2005, Northern Lights Casino

Day long training presented by a coalition of: [Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota](#), Pine River - Backus Family Center, [RememberSuz.org](#), Sexual Assault Program of Beltrami, Cass & Hubbard Counties and others.

Cost : \$15 including lunch.

Limited space and limited scholarships available.

### **Contact**

[Kim Zimmerman](#) at the

Sexual Assault Program of Beltrami, Cass & Hubbard Counties for registration information.

( 800) 708-2727

## 8. September 28, 2005 Training: MN Network on Abuse in Later Life

The [MN Network on Abuse in Later Life](#) (MNALL) will be providing a training: *Building Partnerships with Marginalized and Underserved Communities*.

### *Building Partnerships with Marginalized and Underserved Communities*

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Registration at 8:30 a.m.)

District One Hospital, Classrooms A & B

Faribault, MN

Co-Sponsored by Hope Center, Faribault, MN and The Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women

### **Agenda**

Registration, Information and Introductions (Lunch Provided)

What is domestic/sexual abuse in later life? Adult protective services of Minnesota, MNALL identifiers, barriers, advocacy, referrals and connections in the:

- ▶ Latina Elder Community, Nadine Lujan, Elder Care Rights Alliance
- ▶ Asian Elder Community, Naly Yang, MN Coalition for Battered Women
- ▶ Deaf/Hard of Hearing Community
- ▶ Immigrant/Refugee Community
- ▶ Rural MN Elder Community, Jan Sinna, Hope Center

### **Who should attend?**

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Advocates, Adult Protection Personnel, Health Care Persons-including Nursing Home, Home Health Care, Parish Nursing and Clinic Personnel, Faith Communities, Social Workers, Senior Service Providers, Law Enforcement, Prosecutors, Community members.

### **Registration**

\$25.00, MNALL Members: \$20.00 -

5 hours CEU

**Send registration by September 26, 2005 to:**

*Snail mail*

MNALL

PO BOX 4565  
St. Paul, MN 55104

or

Hope Center  
Faribault, MN

*Phone:* (507) 332-0882

or

*E-mail:* [MNALL](mailto:MNALL)

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