

Sexual Violence Prevention E-News

October 26, 2005

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1. Please come to the next Sexual Violence Prevention Network meeting, November 4, 2005 from 10:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Prevention Topic: *Strategic Communications for Action Against Sexual Violence*

Presenter: Michael Goldberg, ActionMedia

This mini-workshop will help those of us working in the field of sexual violence prevention to recognize the many forms of media at our disposal, and to apply our communication resources strategically and effectively by focusing on real world results. The workshop will provide a simple template of questions to guide us in developing our communications messages and strategies, and give us practice in getting our prevention messages across to the media, community leaders, friends, colleagues, and others who can make a difference in preventing sexual violence.

Agenda (note new time and format):

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - Registration, networking/ resource set-up

10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - Welcome, introductions, and information/resource sharing

(Also: A member presentation from Stop it Now! Minnesota)

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Lunch and small group discussions

12:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. - Presentation

2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Wrap up and evaluation

Location

MDH Snelling Office Park

1645 Energy Park Drive

St. Paul MN ([map](#))

RSVP Required (lunch will be provided). Contact [Amy Kenzie](#), 651/281-9810 by Tuesday, November 1, 2005. Please make requests for special accommodations by Tuesday, October 25, 2005 (provide name, telephone number and type of accommodation needed).

Be sure to bring resources to announce and/or share! Thanks!

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2. Prevention Connection Web conference: The Violence Against Women Prevention Partnership, Thursday November 10, 2005

Prevention Connection Web Conferences are a series of on-line conferences that explore efforts to end violence against women before it happens in the first place. Join *What is Collaboration Math? Enhancing Cross-Sector Partnerships for Preventing Violence Against Women*, where prevention experts will present on a range of topics to build the capacity of local, state, territorial, national and tribal agencies and organizations to develop, implement and evaluate effective violence against women prevention initiatives.

What is Collaboration Math? Enhancing Cross-Sector Partnerships for Preventing Violence Against Women

Presenters: Larry Cohen, Lisa Fujie Parks and Rachel Davis of [Prevention Institute](#).

Thursday November 10, 2005

11am -12:30 pm PDT (2-3:30 pm EDT, 1-2:30pm CDT, 12-1:30pm MDT)

Cost: Free

Register with [Prevention Connection](#).

Additional information is available from [Prevention Connection](#) or by contacting [David S. Lee](#), MPH, Prevention Connection Manager, (888) 922-5227 x309 - (916) 446-8802 (TTY)

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3. Building Strong Programs Through Parent Leadership Videoconference, November 16, 2005

[Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota](#), in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Human Services Children's Trust Fund, is offering a videoconference workshop for anyone interested in learning how to strengthen services by partnering with the parents they serve. Workshop presenters in Saint Paul and Crookston will be simulcast to sixteen different locations in Minnesota.

The videoconference will be held on Wednesday, November 16, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Early registration is required. For more information, please contact [Jennifer Bertram](#), at [Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota](#), (651) 523-0099 or (800) 621-6322, or use the [registration form](#).

4. 2006 Prevention Conference RFPs due on November 28, 2005

Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota (PCAMN) is pleased to announce the fifth annual Minnesota Conference on Child Abuse Prevention. Through this conference, we intend to inspire and equip practitioners, parents, parent leaders and volunteers to get involved with child abuse and neglect prevention in communities across Minnesota. The conference is a key component of PCAMN's child abuse and neglect prevention focus and takes place each April during Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The 2006 Minnesota Child Abuse Prevention Conference
The Power of Prevention: Joining Forces to Promote Healthy Families
Thursday, April 27, 2006
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the
Continuing Education and Conference Center
University of Minnesota
St. Saint Paul Campus
1890 Buford Drive
St. Paul, MN

Request for proposals can be accessed at PCAMN. Proposals should be sent by November 28, 2005. If you have any questions, contact Jennifer Bertram, (651) 523-0099.

5. Protecting Children and Ministering to Sexual Offenders: A Faith Perspective

From Stop It Now! News.
Contact Stop It Now! for additional information.

Protecting Children and Ministering to Sexual Offenders: A Faith Perspective

By Reverend Debra W. Haffner (Reverend Debra W. Haffner is the director of the Religious Institute on Sexual Morality, Justice, and Healing and an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister.)

As a sexuality educator and as a minister, I help people learn to treat each other with dignity and respect. I believe that our sexuality is a sacred gift to be celebrated with holiness and integrity. I am pained by the brokenness, oppression and loss of meaning that too many people experience about their sexuality. The sexual abuse of children and adolescents is a soul-scarring desecration of their sexuality and their spirituality.

Two years ago, the Unitarian Universalist Association asked me to begin a project to help its congregations address issues of sexual abuse prevention and the inclusion of persons with a history of sex offenses into the congregation. I interviewed dozens of congregations, clergy, and sex offender treatment specialists. I also had

the opportunity to work with the staff and board members of Stop It Now! and learned a great deal from their excellent resources. This winter, the UUA published the results of this work as an online manual called [Balancing Acts: Keeping Children Safe in Congregations](#).

Any congregation that includes children, teenagers, and families, regardless of its denomination, needs to be addressing sexual abuse prevention, and many of them will need your help. Given the prevalence of child sexual abuse, many congregations and clergy are faced with the decision of if and how a person with a history of sex offenses can safely be included in the adult life of the congregation. They need to understand that the treated sex offender who is known to the congregation and who agrees to abide by a limited access agreement for participation is much less of a risk to children than the adult or teenager whose sexual interest in children is known only to themselves.

Thus, congregations also need to develop and implement policies to keep all adults, teens, and children safe from sexual abuse and harassment. Faith communities can offer a lifespan sexuality education program consistent with their own values that includes a program to help parents educate their children about healthy sexuality. Such education provides children with the skills they need to understand their own development and to reach out for help if it is needed. This education also allows a community to talk with children and teens about behaviors that may lead them to abuse other children as well. And faith communities need to offer support to their adult congregants who have suffered sexual abuse and violence.

As people of faith, we must hear the cries of those who suffer from the failure of religious communities to address sexuality issues, including the spiritual devastation that sexual abuse brings. I invite you to think about how you can help faith communities promote sexual morality, justice, and healing.

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6. Teleconference Bibliography: *Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault: How are they Related?*

The following bibliography was prepared by Susan Vickers and Ilene Seidman for the October 5, 2005 teleconference, *Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault: How are they Related*, hosted by the American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence. If you would like further technical assistance with rape-related legal matters, please feel free to contact [Susan Vickers or Ilene Seidman at Victim Rights Law Center](#). Outlined below is a brief list of key resources from the teleconference.

For a legal history of marital rape in the United States law

- ▶ Michelle Anderson, *Marital Immunity, Intimate Relationships, and Improper Inferences: A New Law on Sexual Offenses by Intimates*, *Hastings Law Journal*, vol. 54, 2003.
- ▶ Hasday, Jill Eliane, *Contest and Consent: A Legal History of Marital Rape*, *California Law Review*, vol. 88, 2000.

For statistics on marital rape prevalence and an introduction to the needs of marital rape survivors

- ▶ Bergen, Raquel Kennedy. [Marital Rape. Violence Against Women Online Resources](#). Publication Date: March 1999.

- ▶ Bergen, Raquel Kennedy. *Wife Rape: Understanding the Response of Survivors and Service Providers*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications Inc., 1996.
- ▶ Russell, Diane E. H. *Rape in Marriage*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1990.

For a general review of the past 30 years of rape law reform and the civil legal needs of rape survivors

- ▶ Seidman I. and Vickers, S, *The Second Wave: An Agenda for the Next Thirty Years of Rape Law Reform*, Suffolk University Law Review, Vol. 18, 2005.

For a general review of the issue of rape prosecutions in the criminal justice system

- ▶ David P. Bryden and Sonja Lengnick, Rape in the Criminal Justice System, 87 J. Crim. L. & Criminology 1194 (1997).

For specific data on criminal justice outcomes

- ▶ Violence Against Women: *The Response to Rape: Detours on the Road to Equal Justice*, Report Majority Staff of the United States Senate Judiciary Committee, 103 Congress, May 1993.

For a reliable statistics on rape prevalence and an excellent introduction to the needs of rape survivors generally

- ▶ Kilpatrick, C.N. Edmunds, & A.K. Seymour, *Rape in America: A Report to the Nation*. Arlington, VA, National Center for Victims of Crime; Charleston SC, Medical University of South Carolina (April 1992).

For introductions to the history of rape crisis centers

- ▶ Gornick, Janet, Martha Burt, Karen Pittman. Structure and Activities of Rape Crisis Centers in the Early 1980s. *Crime & Delinquency* 31 (1985): 247-68.
- ▶ OSullivan, Elizabethann, Abigail Carlton. Victim Services, Community Outreach, and Contemporary Rape Crisis Centers. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 16 (2001): 343-61.

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7. Healthy Relationships Resource: The Center for the 4th and 5th Rs

The Center for the 4th and 5th Rs serves as a regional, state, and national resource in character education. A national movement, character education is essential to the task of building a moral society and developing schools that are civil and caring communities.

Also see *The Twelve Component Assessment and Planning* (Davidson, Lickona, and Khmelkov), a planning and assessment tool constructed for use with the 12-Point Comprehensive Approach to Character Education. *The Twelve Component Assessment and Planning* provides outcome indicators for each component of the comprehensive approach. It may be used in its entirety, or one component at a time.

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