

Sexual Violence Prevention E-News

December 22, 2005

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1. New Paper Reviews Sexual Risk and Protective Factors

Sexual Risk and Protective Factors: Factors Affecting Teen Sexual Behavior, Pregnancy, Childbearing, and Sexually Transmitted Disease provides an exhaustive analysis of the more than 400 factors that can effect teen sexual behavior. Of note is the [Sexual Risk and Protective Factors: A Matrix of Those Factors Affecting Teen Sexual Behavior, Pregnancy, Childbearing, and Sexually Transmitted Disease](#).

Sexual Risk and Protective Factors is an analysis by Douglas Kirby, Ph.D., Gina Lepore, B.A., and Jennifer Ryan, M.A.

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2. Sex Between Young Teens and Older Individuals is Linked

to Nonvoluntary Sexual Intercourse and Lower Contraceptive Use

[New findings from Child Trends](#) show sexual activity between teens aged 15 and younger with individuals who are three or more years older is correlated with risky health outcomes including unprotected sex and teenage childbearing. Also, while most are voluntary, these relationships are more likely to be nonvoluntary than other teen sexual relationships.

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3. Homeless, Runaway & Throwaway Youth: Sexual Victimization and the Consequences of Life on the Streets

[*Homeless, Runaway & Throwaway Youth: Sexual Victimization and the Consequences of Life on the Streets*](#), by the Research and Advocacy Digest from the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, focuses on the intersection between sexual victimization and homeless youth, and provides an overview of research on this topic area. Numerous abstracts are detailed and discussed.

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4. Creating Partnerships with Faith Communities to End Sexual Violence

[*Creating Partnerships with Faith Communities to End Sexual Violence*](#), by Cynthia Okayama Dopke, is a new, interreligious resource produced by the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs. The resource is designed to build partnerships between community organizations and faith-based communities and to involve faith groups in the prevention of sexual violence and utilizes a community development model. Included are reflections by Rabbi Cindy Enger, Carmen Español, Farhiya Mohamed, Nancy Murphy and Bettie Williams-Watson.

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5. Webcast: Dating and Violence Should Never be a Couple

Save the date: Tuesday, February 7, 2006, 2:00-4:00 p.m. (EST), for a free online webcast: Dating and Violence Should Never be a Couple. More information to come in mid-January or stay current by visiting the [Association of Schools of Public Health](#). The webcast is targeted towards HRSA, DHHS, ACF grantees and other professionals who work with adolescents. Archives from previous webcasts also available, including: *Lost Boys: From Childhood Sadness to Adolescent Violence* (November 2000) Dr. James Garbarino, Co-Director, Family Life Development Center, Cornell University, and other public health continuing education presentations.

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6. Minnesota Fatherhood and Family Services Summit

Minnesota Fatherhood and Family Services' [Summit 2006 Annual Winter Conference](#) is geared toward fatherhood and family-services practitioners and advocates. Whether you work with children, mothers, fathers or other family members, this conference will have something for you.

[Summit 2006 Annual Winter Conference](#)

St. Cloud Civic Center

St. Cloud, MN

Mon.-Tues. Jan. 23-24, 2006

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7. Request for testimony: Research Project about Native American and Alaska Native Women and Sexual Assault

Amnesty International is a worldwide human rights activist movement with more than 1.8 million members in more than 150 countries and territories. Amnesty is researching the prevalence of sexual assault against Native American and Alaska Native women examining what is being done to address these crimes. They are being assisted in this project by the Tribal Law and Policy Institute, a Native American owned and operated non-profit corporation organized to design and deliver education and

research which promote the enhancement of justice in Indian country and the health, well-being, and culture of Native peoples.

Amnesty will be publishing a report that will describe violence against Native American and Alaska Native women across the country. The report will talk about specific examples, and will let describe how tribal, state and federal justice systems respond to sexual assault against Native American and Alaska Native women. The report will include recommendations based on conversations with Native American and Alaska Native survivors and service providers.

Amnesty is interested in hearing about the experiences of Native American survivors and their families. Testimony will help document the prevalence of sexual assault against Native American and Alaska Native women, and will help identify patterns and problems. Complete confidentiality is guaranteed. If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please contact [Bonnie Clairmont](#), (651) 644-1125 of the Tribal Law and Policy Institute or [Carol Pollack](#), (866) 634-6519 of Amnesty International USA by January 31, 2006.

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8. Call for Artists: Stepping Beyond Violence

The Healing Garden will be a public space for all to enjoy, dedicated to those healing from lives touched by violence. A key feature of the Healing Garden will be a pattern of stepping stones, laid in concentric circles around a central focal point. Each stepping stone will be created by an individual touched by violence - whether as a survivor, friend, family member or healer. The stones will be created from ceramic tiles - broken and refashioned in a new mosaic design - symbolizing the beauty that can be reclaimed from the broken. By creating a visible place honoring victims and those who support them, it will increase acceptability for seeking help, and overcoming shame and blame. Artists are encouraged to submit a design for the Healing Garden.

The winning designer will be awarded \$2000 to create, deliver and install the sculpture in the Healing Garden.

Vision

- ▶ A focal point designed to draw attention to the center of the garden.
- ▶ An expression of the hope and healing found in transforming life's hardships into experiences of power, learning, and beauty.
- ▶ A unifying symbol of community, understanding and support.

Materials

Materials are required to be weather resilient and maintenance-free.

Size

5 foot maximum diameter, no height limit.

Submissions

- ▶ Entry is open to all, \$10 entry fee per artist.
- ▶ Artists may submit the concept for sculpture in one of the three options:
- ▶ A maquette (three-dimensional miniature mock-up of the sculpture approximately 1/10 the size of the finished sculpture).
- ▶ A drawing scaled 2 in=1 ft of the sculpture showing different views.
- ▶ An actual photograph of the completed piece.

All entries must be accompanied by a written physical description of the sculpture. Artists may also submit a vision statement about the piece. All entries should include the artist's name, address, phone, email, bio and artist statement.

Call for Artists: Stepping Beyond Violence

Proposals for Public Sculpture - Healing Garden in Zumbrota

Award - \$2000

Working Together, a community collaboration dedicated to prevention, reduction and healing from violence, is launching a public sculpture competition for East Park in Zumbrota, Minnesota. The sculpture will be installed as a focal point for a Healing Garden in the summer of 2006.

The deadline for entries is March 30, 2006 at 5pm.

The decision of a panel of judges, selected by Working Together, will be final. The winner will be announced on April 7, 2006. The deadline for completion/final installation is September 7, 2006.

A public dedication ceremony for the completed Healing Garden will take place in September. All entries will be on display through the month of June. Comments from the public will be invited. The winning sculpture becomes the property of the City of Zumbrota.

Entries may be mailed or dropped off at:

Crossings

320 East Ave.

Zumbrota, MN 55992.

Questions may be directed to [Marie Marvin](#), (507) 732-7616,

9. The Minnesota Men's Action Network: Alliance for the Prevention of Sexual Violence

Sexual violence: whose problem is it anyway?

For the past 30 years, women have done courageous work establishing and maintaining rape crisis centers, 24-hour hotlines, and safe houses. They have led the way in working with policy makers across the country to revise and reform institutional responses to sexual violence, including assault and harassment. They have advocated prevention approaches through community awareness and educational programs in multiple sectors of society. Some men have been involved in prevention efforts as advocates, elected officials, concerned citizens, or community professionals, however, large numbers of men have been passive bystanders to the violence and the precursors to violence around them.

What men can do

Men are in a particularly unique position to help change the social norms that create the environment in which sexual violence occurs. Since men commit over 90% of the violence, we need men to help with the solution. A broad network of men is needed to align with the voices and historically groundbreaking activities of women to prevent sexual violence. Our communities, friends, and families need:

- ▶ Men with the strength, concern, and commitment to prevent sexual violence.
- ▶ Men who will promote fair and safe relationships.
- ▶ Men who create and support healthy sexuality.
- ▶ Men who will promote organizational practices and institutional policies that respect the dignity of every human being, not as sexualized objects to use, exploit, and discard, but as persons with inalienable rights and opportunities to choose the circumstances of their lives.

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has chosen to make the prevention of sexual violence a priority and to build a prevention effort that promotes male leadership. Frank Jewell from Men As Peacemakers in Duluth and Chuck Derry from the Gender Violence Institute in Clearwater have been hired by MDH to develop a network of men and male leaders to get involved in primary prevention practices. The Minnesota Men's Action Network will largely focus on organizational practices and policy changes that can influence the social norms that contribute to sexual violence. We will work with women to make the changes necessary for our communities to become safe places for all

people -- women, children and men.

Goals for 2006

- ▶ Organize a network of 500 MN men who will initiate local and statewide action to prevent sexual violence.
- ▶ Work with identified communities to develop local sexual violence prevention activities.
- ▶ Offer presentations, training, and organizational workshops throughout the state.
- ▶ Develop web based information, resource links, and statewide networking opportunities.
- ▶ Hold a state conference in the fall of 2006 to organize, educate, and activate MN men.

Contact us to get involved

There are multiple ways men can participate, depending on available time and resources. Sign up at [Men as Peacemakers](#). Send [Men as Peacemakers](#) names and contact information of men or men's groups who you think may be interested in participating in this effort. [Men as Peacemakers](#) contact them and give them an opportunity to be involved.

For further information contact [Frank Jewell](#), (218) 727-1939 or [Chuck Derry](#), (320) 558-4510.

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