

# Imagining the Solution

**Kia ora, talofa lava, gidday – welcome to the third edition of the Tauwi TOAH-NNEST newsletter “Imagining the Solution” which focuses on primary prevention strategies, activities and programmes to help build communities free of sexual violence.**

Thanks to all those who took the time to complete the **Primary Prevention Stocktake Survey** – we received 53 replies from a range of specialist sexual violence intervention and prevention agencies, community stakeholder organisations and statutory agencies.

**We have a date for the first national Sexual Violence Prevention Hui – it will be October 26<sup>th</sup> 2012 in Wellington. Book it in!**

This newsletter focusses on the prevention of child sexual abuse and local programmes with bar staff to stop sexual violence. There are some interesting resources to share, and a review of the recent Bystander Intervention conference in Boston, USA.

Please [get in touch](#) with queries or sexual violence prevention activities to share for future newsletters.

**Te Ohaakii a Hine – National Network Ending Sexual Violence Together (TOAH-NNEST) is a nation-wide network of community organisations, whanau, hapu, iwi and individuals who are specialists in providing sexual violence prevention and intervention services. TOAH-NNEST is committed to ending sexual violence in our communities, and while working towards this, to minimising the occurrence and impacts of sexual violence.**

**TOAH-NNEST has a Te Tiriti o Waitangi based structure with two houses: Nga Kaitiaki Mauri (tikanga Maori) and Tauwi Caucus.**

**This newsletter is produced from Tauwi Caucus, and will include Bicultural activities. The Tauwi Prevention Project is co-ordinated by Sandra Dickson and managed by Dr Kim McGregor, Prevention Portfolio Holder.**

**The Tauwi Prevention Project is fortunate to be supported by an Advisory Group of community stakeholders:**

**Shasha Ali (Shakti's Ethnic Family Services)**

**Cornelia Baumgartner (Kidpower Teenpower Fullpower Trust)**

**Ken Clearwater (Male Survivors of Sexual Abuse Trust)**

**Hannah Cranston (Wellington Sexual Abuse Network)**

**Tom Hamilton (Rainbow Youth)**

**Sheryl Hann (It's Not Ok, Ministry of Social Development)**

**Sonya Hogan (Ara Taiohi)**

**Ruth Jones (Disability Representative on Taskforce for Violence within Families)**

**Ann Kent (Abuse and Rape Crisis Support Manawatu)**

**Georgia Knowles (National Rape Crisis)**

**Liz Paton (Family Planning)**

**Sue Paton (Alcohol Advisory Council ALAC)**

**Gurmeeta Singh (Counselling Services Centre)**

**Aimee Stockenstrom (Auckland Sexual Abuse Help)**

**Poto Williams (WAVES Trust)**

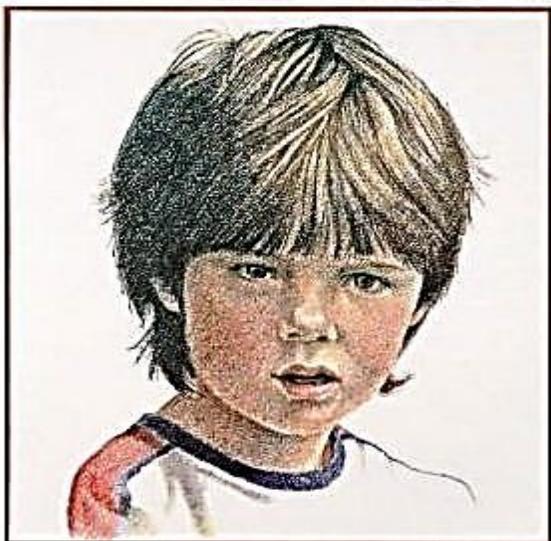
**Tusha Penny (New Zealand Police)**

**Elizabeth Kerekere (Bicultural Advisor, sexuality education)**

## Preventing Child Sexual Abuse – Not Like Any Other Kind of Prevention

When we use the [ecological model](#) to think about primary prevention of sexual violence, what we are really doing is acknowledging that creating a world without sexual violence requires multiple shifts on multiple levels. We need to change social norms, community institutions, relationship behaviours and individual characteristics. This complexity sounds obvious – yet much prevention activity in the past thirty years has focused on “risk reduction” for individuals – in particular teaching young women how to avoid being raped. Ineffective as this strategy has been in reducing sexual violence, it becomes even more problematic when we think about child sexual abuse. Children cannot control the risks of being sexually abused – it is the caregiving adults around them who must work towards creating “sexual safety,” in the same way we expect caregiving adults to create “road safety” and “water safety.” Even though some children still get killed on the roads, drown or get targeted for sexual abuse because other people do not behave safely, there are many helpful things caregiving adults can learn to do to improve sexual safety for their children.

### What's Wrong with Bottoms?



Jenny Hessel ILLUSTRATED BY Mandy Nelson

Some of the factors which can assist with building sexual safety for children were covered in last newsletter's draft [Healthy Sexuality Model](#), in particular teaching children the names of their body parts, supporting them to develop a sense of bodily autonomy, including the right to say no to any kind of touch they do not want, and learning that some parts of their body are private. Books like “What's Wrong with Bottoms?” can be useful for talking about bodies with children.

Maggy Tai Rakena is the Manager of Canterbury based agency, [START Inc](#) and the Tauwi Caucus Children and Young Person's Portfolio Holder. START's work is focused on sexual abuse recovery work with child, youth and adult victims of sexual crime, and they are a key partner in Canterbury Solutions to Sexual Violence (CSSV) which has a prevention focus. CSSV produced a [brochure](#) which has been distributed widely throughout Canterbury and has been used by Child Youth and Family as a preventative resource.

Maggy shares the [prevention experiences of START](#), and describes her vision of a community doing “[ideal](#)” work to stop the sexual abuse of children. She also shares some resources which START developed for Canterbury schools to [assist with assessing children's behaviour at different ages](#), and deciding when to refer to specialist sexual violence intervention agencies. This resource is easy-to-use and provides sound information for working with the community to prevent and respond appropriately to child sexual abuse.

***Showcasing the Local - The exciting sexual violence primary prevention initiatives taking place around Aotearoa New Zealand.***

Each edition, “Imagining the Solution” will talk to people doing the work to change social norms and prevent sexual violence. This month, we look at four local projects:

**Rachel Harrison** from **CAPS Hauraki** talks about [their multi-faceted campaign](#) to encourage adults in Hauraki-Thames to prevent the sexual abuse of children. She has some lessons in community readiness and some wonderful resources to share including a [Booklist](#) of recommended reading, a [Resource Kit](#) for agencies to deal with disclosures, [some awareness raising “nuggets”](#) and a [community poster](#). You can email Rachel to hear more at [hfvn@paradise.net.nz](mailto:hfvn@paradise.net.nz)

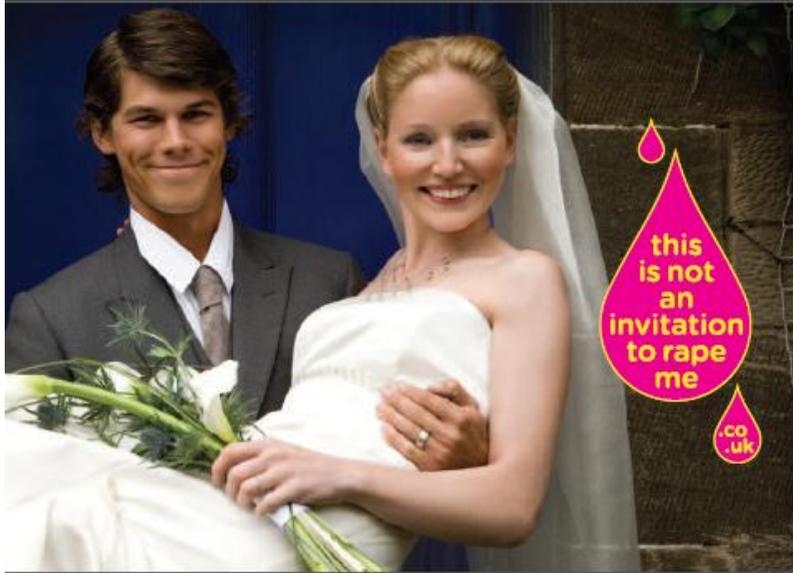
**Sarah Scott** from Parenting Support Development within the Ministry of Social Development has worked with experts in child development and sexuality to create a short film around children’s sexuality which was part of a TVNZ 7 series “Raising Children in New Zealand.” The short film encourages parents to establish safe environments for children to talk about their bodies and gives some ideas of how to respond well to ordinary exploration. You can watch the five minute film [here](#).

**Rape Prevention Education Whakatu Mauri** has developed a sexual violence prevention package for bar staff with input from New Zealand Police, ALAC and Hospitality Association New Zealand, and professional education co-ordinator Marama Hetaraka has taken it on the road all over the North Island. She talks [here about Safer Communities All Night](#), and some of the challenges in national delivery. If you’re keen to take up Marama’s invitation to see the package in action, email her at [marama@rapecrisis.org.nz](mailto:marama@rapecrisis.org.nz)

The **Wellington Sexual Abuse Network** delivers a package to encourage bar and hospitality staff to intervene in precursor situations to sexual violence and disrupt rape-supportive social norms. “It’s Our Business” has won [a community education award](#) for strengthening community. Sexual violence prevention co-ordinator **Hannah Cranston** describes the [“ethical bystanding” approach WSAN takes](#) and shares some [activities](#). You can email Hannah with any queries at [wsanprevention@xtra.co.nz](mailto:wsanprevention@xtra.co.nz)

**Do you have an exciting sexual violence primary prevention campaign or activity to share? [Let us know](#) for the next newsletter.**

[Rape Crisis Scotland](#) has been responsible for a number of innovative prevention campaigns to challenge social norms which support and enable sexual violence to be perpetrated against women. In 2008, [This Is Not An Invitation to Rape Me](#), adapted from an earlier version in the United States, used a supporting [campaign pack](#) and a range of images to undermine ideas that women ever “ask for it.”



In 2010, a [public awareness campaign](#) designed by Rape Crisis Scotland was broadcast across Scottish television to challenge ideas that women's clothing can invite sexual assault. [Not Ever](#) asked **When is a skirt more than a skirt?** The accompanying [short film](#) is a great resource for talking about victim-blaming with community groups and at just 30 seconds, there is time to show it in nearly every educational setting.

Most recently, Rape Crisis Scotland have produced a variant on the ["10 Top Tips to End Rape"](#). Subverting the idea that women are responsible for keeping themselves safe from sexual assault, this [document](#) encourages us to put the blame for rape with the perpetrator. It could easily be adapted for other contexts and other potential survivor groups.

## 10 Top Tips to End Rape

- 1 Don't put drugs in women's drinks.
- 2 When you see a woman walking by herself, leave her alone.
- 3 If you pull over to help a woman whose car has broken down, remember not to rape her.
- 4 If you are in a lift and a woman gets in, don't rape her.
- 5 Never creep into a woman's home through an unlocked door or window, or spring out at her from between parked cars, or rape her.
- 6 USE THE BUDDY SYSTEM!  
If you are not able to stop yourself from assaulting people, ask a friend to stay with you while you are in public.
- 7 Don't forget: it's not sex with someone who's asleep or unconscious – it's RAPE!
- 8 Carry a whistle! If you are worried you might assault someone 'by accident' you can hand it to the person you are with, so they can call for help.
- 9 Don't forget: Honesty is the best policy.  
If you have every intention of having sex later on with the woman you're dating regardless of how she feels about it, tell her directly that there is every chance you will rape her.  
If you don't communicate your intentions, she may take it as a sign that you do not plan to rape her and inadvertently feel safe.
- 10 Don't rape.

## **Mentors in Violence Prevention – Bystander Intervention Conference, 31 May – 1 June 2012**

[Mentors in Violence Prevention](#) is a US based organisation which has been running programmes since 1993, training college and high school student-athletes and other student leaders to use their status to speak out against rape, battering, sexual harassment, gay-bashing, and all forms of sexist abuse and violence. They pioneered the use of the “bystander intervention” in sexual violence prevention, approaching people not as potential victims or perpetrators, but as potential bystanders who can decide to intervene and disrupt rape-supportive attitudes and behaviours.

Jackson Katz, an MVP founder, opened this conference by stressing the importance of male leadership in sexual violence prevention. His view is that while most men do not use violence, too many men do not speak up when violence supportive behaviours occur and that mobilising these men - the silent majority – is key to dismantling rape culture. MVP have utilised the bystander intervention approach because it is a way of mobilising far more people, particularly men. Their notable successes include now training all US Air Force staff and new Navy recruits in bystander interventions; working with over 400 high schools and universities; and training male athletes in all major professional sports leagues.

The recent **Bystander Intervention Conference** featured a number of speakers and panels discussing bystander interventions in different settings across race, class, gender and sexuality. The focus was on what works to change attitudes and behaviours. They also showed several short films, including New Zealand’s [Who Are You?](#) Most films focussed on people, often sports leaders or others with leadership roles, stressing how important it is for bystanders to take action, or saying how unwelcome sexual violence was in their place.

The [agenda](#) describes the speakers and panels, and you can read my notes on the conference [here](#). Academic Advisor David Lee from [Prevent Connect](#) has a slightly briefer version [here](#). MVP have kindly agreed to let me share the links to [view the conference here](#).

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We are grateful to the following academics for their support with this project:

**Dr Nicola Atwool, University of Otago**

**Professor Victoria Banyard, University of New Hampshire, USA**

**Professor Moira Carmody, University of Western Sydney, Australia**

**Dr Pauline Dickinson, Massey University**

**Dr Janet Fanslow, University of Auckland**

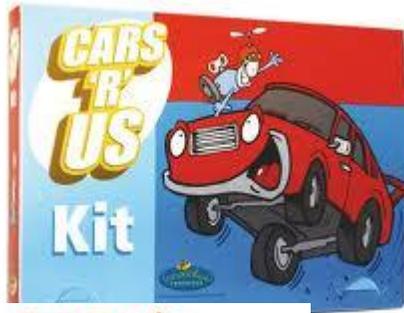
**Associate Professor Nicola Gavey, University of Auckland**

**Associate Professor Jan Jordan, Victoria University of Wellington**

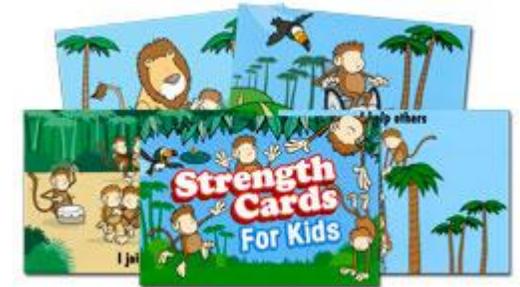
**David Lee, Director of Prevention Services, PreventConnect, Calcasa**

**Dr Teuila Percival, University of Auckland**

**Dr Neville Robertson, University of Waikato**

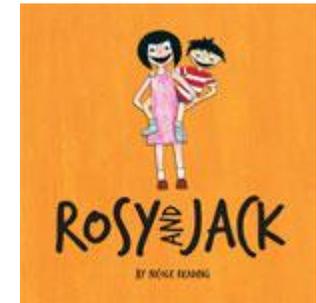


[Innovative Resources](#) is an Australian based company which offers materials that promote a strengths-based philosophy, use straightforward language and require no special training. A number of their resources are used regularly at START to enable conversations with the children and young people START see. [Strengths Cards for Kids](#) are for primary school aged children to explore emotions and self-esteem.



[Cars 'R' Us](#) is designed to help children explore goals feelings and responses. [Our Scrapbook of Strengths](#) is designed to help group work – including with family – identify and acknowledge existing strengths, while [Views from the Verandah](#) can be useful for exploring and planning for the future

Innovative Resources also produce books which specifically discuss sexual abuse, such as [Rosy and Jack](#), to address guilt and self-blame, and offer hope of recovery and healing.



### Changing Perceptions of Sexual Violence Over Time - Sarah McMahon in consultation with Karen Baker

This research examines how the perceptions of sexual violence held by the public in the USA have changed over time. It suggests that despite significant progress, the public still has areas of serious misunderstanding: in particular in their perception of the causes of sexual violence; their definitions of sexual violence; and their ideas about victims and perpetrators. It makes suggestions in terms of future conversations:

1. Shift educational efforts to the causes of sexual violence – discuss continuums of behaviour which support and sustain sexual violence to move beyond ideas of sexual violence as an individual problem.
2. Address subtle victim blaming – use complex examples to explore views about alcohol or relationship status and rape.
3. Engage communities – use inclusive means to move beyond potential perpetrators and victims – bystander education to change peer and community norms. Use social norms marketing. Use shared language, such as “safety” and “respect”.
4. Develop culturally-specific interventions – one size does not fit all – talk with community.

You can listen to Karen Baker talk about this research [here](#), or read the research [here](#).



[Scarleteen](#) is the most popular sex education online resource for young people, receiving about 750,000 visits every month. While they explore [consent](#) and include resources around recovery from rape, this is predominantly a strengths-based sex-positive resource for “imagining the solution.”

A reader recently pointed me to an [interesting Scarleteen analogy between pizza and sex](#). Interpreting this requires caution and knowledge of the group you’re working with. Food and sex both have strong and important values in different cultures, so this analogy will not always be culturally appropriate.



The article argues sex is often conceptualised in western popular culture using sporting metaphors – “scoring”; “getting to first/second/third base”; lesbians and gay men “play for the other team” etc etc. Sporting analogies often support norms which encourage a view of sex as something you try and “get” from someone else, and set some kinds of sex above others – home base is undoubtedly the goal.

The pizza model, on the other hand, allows sex to be considered as something you negotiate with others. It allows for difference – people can like a slice now and then, or enjoy a pizza in one sitting. People can eat pizza by themselves or with other people – both are fine. It allows for context - you might not want to eat pizza with the person you’re with now, because you’re planning to eat pizza later with someone else. Our tastes in pizza often vary over time, because there are lots of different kinds of pizza available which people like.

Perhaps most importantly the pizza analogy allows us to think about how we ensure, when we’re with someone else, we both get what we want. If a pizza with salami is your idea of culinary disaster, but you have to have olives every time, unless you talk about that – negotiate with the person you’re sharing the pizza with – dinner is unlikely to work out well. Talking about how we make decisions about eating pizza might be a way in, with some groups, to talking about how we make decisions about sex. After all, it’s fine to turn down eating pizza just because you don’t feel like it. And it’s fine to build the best pizza you’ve ever tasted by sharing what you like and want in that moment with someone else.

**We hope you’ve enjoyed the third edition of “Imagining the Solution.” As always, if you have ideas to share or issues you would like to see us cover, [get in touch](#). I will be spending my next few weeks reading about the innovative and exciting prevention activities groups around the country are carrying out, as described in the stocktake survey. I’m looking forward to reading your responses. Ciao for now, Sandra**

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