

Ending Child Sexual Abuse

web conference series



Ms. Foundation for Women
Building women's collective power to ignite change

Policy changes that help and hinder our ability to end child sexual abuse (CSA)

Recording, slides, and other materials can be found at
<http://preventconnect.org/2012/11/web-conference-ending-child-sexual-abuse-9/>

Chat December 10, 2012

(names have been deleted)

- <http://preventconnect.org/2012/11/ending-child-sexual-abuse-9/>
- <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pub/preventingchildabuse.html>
- <http://www.bmsg.org/node/382>
- Media is SO influential---good and bad
- A previous web conference covered the BMG study as well. Worth listening to the author talk about the subject if you have a chance.
- I'll check it out

- <http://cjp.sagepub.com/content/19/1/40.short>
- Thank you
- also underscores why its so important to manage media and carefully craft messages and work with media as a partner to tell stories.
- Thank you. That was great information.
- National Sex Offenders Registry that is supported and monitored- up to date.
- more focus on funding education and innovation in responding to CSA
- everyone who works with children given mandatory training
- funded comprehensive sex ed
- initiatives in Stewards of Children training and other comparable curricula
- education beginning in headstart,pre-school
- appropriate, culturally refelctive, parent driven parenting classes
- make changes to AWA, particularly not registering employment

- Ongoing proactive prevention education programs mandated for all adults and older youth in youth serving or care capacities.
- Mandated back ground screening for all employees working with children in our schools
- More focus on child sexual abuse occurring with divorced parents when protective parents bring to Family Courts.
- Policy that any youth serving organization that receives federal funding have prevention policies in place
- comprehensive age appropriate sexuality education,
- Mandatory Training for pre-school, elementary, middle school & highschool on child sexual abuse- recognizing & addressing early "red flag" behaviors" ; CSA prevention for all students
- Some kind of requirements for youth-serving organizations re
- Local and national Representatives who take CSA seriously and respond with legislation that confirms their support for ending child sexual abuse
- prevention and awareness programs have been woefully impacted by budget cuts. In fact Child Protection Act of 2012 only added resources for law enforcement and national strategy leadership position
- stewards of children type training required for anyone who is a mandated reporter... expanding the currently required training so it includes red flags in possible perpetrators and tips for intervening as well as model policies for prevention.
- How can we get states on the same page, to use the same system?
- SOS presented on all college campuses as part of the university crediting system.
- Have counseling be covered under health insurance plans so survivors can get the help they need to heal and recover
- I agree education is critical and should be mandatory through a lifeskills model
- I teach prevention lessons in K-5 grade classes in my town, but only through the support of the principal and counselor--my state (Alaska) has no state health standards for teaching. This keeps us from being able to teach classes in middle and high school. CSA prevention needs to be worked into state education standards
- Ongoing assessment and evaluation of what is effective with child protective services reporting and response protocol for mandatory reporters.
- www.PreventTogether.org
- comprehensive sex ed
- Addressing the issue of fear and stigma in reporting CSA needs to also be addressed. Many people who suspect there is something happening fear stirring up the issue, afraid of mandatory reporting and if they report, will they lose their job, have to go to court, be held responsible in some way, etc... Until people are comfortable with reporting and how it can be a very

important piece in prevention, we won't get very far.

- Depictions of children in media and pornography
<http://preventconnect.org/2012/10/web-conference-ending-child-sexual-abuse-7/>
- What would be the main difference between risk reduction in child sexual abuse and prevention
- how can a nonprofit fund policy advocacy? with strict lobbying guidelines attached to federal grants, how can an organization find a spot where they are compliant with federal grant and influence policy on CSA prevention?
- 501(c)(3)s can do limited and some restricted lobbying. Check out www.afj.org -- lots of tools there
- @Kelly -- there is a certain percentage of budget that can be used for lobbying without penalty. There area number of guides to the details of this online. Also
- Fabulous. Thank you. I have a strong interest in doing this at the state and national level. Also I have alot of experience in media and strategic communications, so media is really of interest to me. Thank you!
- @emily -- thank you. great resource for me!
- Kudos to Christi Prevent Child Abuse NC for a great model! Very easy to understand.
- Thanks!
- Great job Christi!
- Evidenced-Based programming. Discovering what works.
- The barriers we have been confronted with is our local schools distance themselves from CSA prevention work
- Risk reduction focuses on reducing "risk of being a victim" for children; vs. prevention focuses on reducing perpetration
- Too much focus on criminal justice--policy makers will vote for what makes them look tough on crime. without regard for unintended consequences.
- strengths are that people are coming together for the conversation but funding specifically to creat the change is challenging.
- barrier= cost and territorial agencies/tension
- these school barriers are common in elementary schools. Strengths more people wanting to have conversations.
- more focus on identifying and criminalizing perpetrators than preventing CSA ...Prevention Coalition in Delaware tends to be more reactive, with some good exceptions.
- Our Rape Crisis programs hsave a strong understanding of "preventing perpetration" barrier
- agree funding is a huge issue from a staffing, knowledge and creation of an awareness model to support policy change
- A policy barrier in our state is the conservative (small "c") nature of the legislature. People have difficulty using the word "sex" in connection to

children. In the larger context our state is invested in local control which means small communities control the dialogue.

- Funders looking for the next initiative and not supporting proven evidence based programming. Lack of funding what we know works
- legislators don't understand prevention work- harder to quantify than treating survivors or locking up perpetrators
- Barriers to prevention are Father's Rights Organizations that have significantly influenced the beliefs of Family Courts and related personnel that child abuse/CSA does not overrule father's rights to unsupervised access to their children. This bias continues to put children back in the custody of CS abuser parents even after children come forward and forensic documentation validates their claims.
- When the listening meetings were held in N.C. how did they get the citizens to attend?
- Policy changes need to take place that protect children's rights over parent's rights when child sexual abuse is alleged and founded.
- a barriers is schools distancing from prevention of sexual abuse programs
- Of course shrinking resources at the state and local level are a barrier to the implementation of good policy.
- agreed. paradigm is flawed too much focus on the reactive as opposed to the proactive prevention elements
- A barrier is the inability to identify and partner on the local level
- Not all fathers are the offenders, there are mothers who also sexually abuse their children. There are also those who are wrongly accused of CSA and no way to restore the damage done once accused. It is a very fine line of making a definition by education of what is CSA and what is reportable and who is accountable for reporting or the lack of reporting such actions. This can assist in the development of educational prevention.
- communities are still frightened of having direct conversation about child sexual abuse; which makes it difficult to get into schools; day care etc. Also- CSA prevention work is fragmented & not systemic.
- How do we get policy makers to shift from intervention to prevention?
- There was also a past web conference on perpetration prevention as part of this series
- we write letters, visit their offices, have the information in hand and be passionate about what you believe.
- logistics question -- will the conference notes be available at some point for the entire group?
- VAWA has not been reauthorized yet. Intervention dollars have been maintained to some extent in the proposal but we've stopped talking about the significant cuts that been negotiated in prevention.
- @Rebecca -- you're so right. Perhaps the policy strategic planning that needs to be done is development of infrastructure and systems to mandate the

education.

- Powerpoint slides are available in PDF format at <http://preventconnect.org/2012/11/ending-child-sexual-abuse-9/>
- Can we talk about the "Dark Field" project in Germany?
- "that have been negotiated in prevention."
- We need to convince state and local governments that prevention is not only necessary, but more effective at preventing abuse and more cost effective than reactive actions. Unfortunately, the budget is one way they look at what programs they can afford to fund.
- A chat transcript and recording will be placed on <http://preventconnect.org/2012/11/ending-child-sexual-abuse-9/> within 24-48 hours .
- Policy is needed that can create and mandate a policy that teaches parents and community members that they are also "Mandated Reporters" possibly redefine not only what that may mean but what that entails - I think it's a hard concept to grasp but a shift in policy and the sexual abuse paradigm needs to change. I firmly believe if you empower the parents, neighbors, community they will be better equipped to not only handle but recognize and then report and help in the prevention of abuse
- Jamila, I agree completely. The issue is beginning the conversations.
- @ Bruce -- an important policy tool is doing a cost-benefit analysis of funds toward prevention v. responding after the fact.
- Bruce, thinking about the model that prevented here by Joan, I think. The public influences what the government focuses on. The public wants the limited dollars to go to supporting victims. So, do we also need to be thinking about how to shift the public's thinking. How do we do that?
- Alisa- I agree. Illinois was dealt a terrible blow when, due to budget cuts, we lost a large chunk of the preventative services provided by Child & Family Services. Why?? Because the services are not statutory. Organizations here are outraged, as they should be.
- Joan, can you send link/info about the online trauma-focused training you mentioned (through a medical school)? Thanks!
- I have worked with some parents and I know individuals that would rather tell others but they themselves have to be empowered to know that they have a effective voice and right with what happens sexual abuse affects everyone and until everyone realizes that then we are fighting at a deficit
- I agree Kittie as well
- barrier I believe that happens is there are no direct policies in place for families and individuals of color - especially on Reservations or
- Alisa, do you have a template for that cost-benefit analysis? What is the right indicator to look at to get people/legislators to shift there focus?
- Michael- I think the way to do that is to show the public what is to be gained by preventative services. They have to buy in to the concept in order to be

activated. That's going to take education at the grass-roots level and in the school system.

- Germany Project <http://www.iprc.unc.edu/G8/csappd.pdf>
- my phone is acting up so I apologize what I was stating is that there are no direct policies in place -local-state-national for individuals and families from communities of color
- There was, in the 70's and early 80's a hotline for parents to call if they felt as if they physically abuse their children. It was highly effective in stopping abuse - much like calling a sponsor to avoid a drink. This is an idea that has merit yet the cost to man the hotline would be difficult to maintain.
- I believe there is information on the PCAA website about cost benefit analysis
- @alisa - I love it. Great idea and going to work on a proposal for media education/summit.
- How do you address communities of color who carry traditions that are not necessarily evidence based.
- Nancy Feinberg - PAVE Bennington VT
- Some nice Media guides here <http://www.nsvrc.org/saam/media-resources>
- Sandy, here is a link to two online courses about trauma informed treatment. [Http://nearipress.org/free-online-workshops](http://nearipress.org/free-online-workshops)
- Thank you!
- Visit [http](http://)
- We have started a coalition in the northern region of Illinois. Perhaps its time to include the rest of the state. If anyone on this webinar is interested please contact PCA Illinois. Thank you for all of the great information!
- We can raise the level of awareness by talking to everyone in our sphere of influence including churches, faith based organizations and organizations such as parents who home school their children.
- Begin dialogue in the community with adult survivors of CSA to discover the barriers they have experienced in receiving help, having their voice heard and how they can become advocates in prevention education. From those discussions ideas for policy change can be developed.
- Thanks everyone for your great contributions
- Free public service announcements about csa at our local radio station
- This has been very inspiring and insightful. Thank you everyone!!~
- My thanks to all
- Thanks all.
- You will receive the evaluation via email in 30 minutes.
- Thank you, one and all.
- template PSAs on CSA and other child safety issues at www.PROJECTYOUTHSAFETY.org
- thank you all
- Thank You ALL!

- @kimberley H. that is a great idea
- thank you.
- Thank you for this very valuable training
- Great web conference. Thank you!