

#PowerInPrevention

Ending Child Sexual Abuse Web Conference Series



TEXT CHAT TRANSCRIPT

WEB CONFERENCE

Faith Communities Engaged in Ending Child Sexual Abuse

July 18, 2013

2:00-3:30 PM Eastern (11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Pacific)

Presenters and Guests

Victor Vieth, National Child Protection Training Center

Linda Crockett, Samaritan Counseling Center's Safe Church Project

Hosts

Joan Tabachnick, DSM Consulting

Cordelia Anderson, Sensibilities Prevention Services

Leona Smith di Faustino, California Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Participant names have been removed from this chat record, unless provided by the participant in text.

Hello Everyone! We will be starting shortly.

Slides are available at

http://www.preventconnect.org/2013/06/ecsa_2013_1_faith/

Can health professionals/advocates, et al. in a congregation act together with the clergy to provide resources for those trying to cope with violence?

Informative Presentation. Dr Sarabjeet Singh PhD.INDIA

Thanks Victor, very infomative talk...

If you know of other related research, please post that information here too!

Very interesting, thank you

I beleive that the MN Dept of Health was engaging faith communities in child abuse prevention...can Cordelia provide more information about that?

MN Dept of Health, Sexual Violence Prevention program used to have a number of working groups and one of those included Faith and how to work with and reach out to faith communities. This included those already doing prevention work in their organizations and those who wanted to start. I will find a link...thanks for bringing this up

Together we can heal millions of chidrens with working on same projects of STOP chid abuse world wide ! Please provide grant opportunity to regular work with this .

Email

Please let me know !

www.health.state.mn.us/injury/topic/svp/implement/action.cfm; for MN prevention plan for those in faith communities

Would be curious about how education for parents was delivered? How were parents recruited?

Can this program be adapted to much smaller faith communities?

Same with education for children - were these in groups? When? Recruitment?

Love what I'm hearing right now about working with congregations! Safe Church Ministry in the Chrisitan Reformed Church is now promoting "Circle of Grace" - a comprehensive program that teaches respect and abuse prevention - it has transformed communities and empowers people, also gives a common language to talk about it. You can find out more at

<http://www.archomaha.org/protestant/index.html>

Congregations really do need help with this - thanks!

It sounds like Safe Church is great for larger churches but how is this adapted for smaller congregations?

Please provide a copy of this presentation

Yes a copy of this would be wonderful.

A copy of the slides can be found at

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OAAIS is so excited to partner with SAIV here in Portland OR to bring "Safe Church" to our community.

Once a person acknowledges the pain or violence, is there continued support for the person?

SAIV = Spiritual Alliance to Stop Intimate Violence, founded by Dr. Riane Eisler and Nobel Peace Laureate Betty Williams. www.saiv.org

For Linda: therapeutic support at the Survivor's Retreat for those who have not done extensive healing work on their own prior to the retreat?

Will this PPT be sent out or available after the presentation?

Thank you.

great!

Another national campaign to ignite a faith based movement is "We Will Speak Out" - a campaign of IMA World Health with "Speak Out! Sunday on November 24, 2013. Great sermon guide "One in Three" available at their website. Encourage your church to start with this simple step www.wewillsspeakout.us

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http://www.preventconnect.org/2013/06/ecsa_2013_1_faith/

Anyone worked with Marie Fortune's organization, Faith Trust Institute? I know they work with not just Christian denominations, also Jewish and Muslim.

Thank you, David - I'm sure you've already shared that!

Diane, we haven't worked with Faith Trust/Marie Fortune, but sure appreciate and value their work.

Is there continuing education credits for Social Workers in any of your training (train the trainer) events? Just curious - that would be very helpful.

will we be addressing other religious communities, etc?

I have used some of the informatiion provided via Faith Trust Institute in some training I have done. This is a good place to get some resources.

Linda will be presenting on this topic at the National Sexual Assault Conference in Los Angeles, CA August 28-30, 2013. There will be an entire track on building a movement to end child sexual abuse sponsored by Ms Foundation for Women. Info at www.calcasa.org/nsac

Faith Trust has great resources!

www.faithtrustinstitute.org

Is it possible to get a list of the churches that have gone through your program?

I have been doing Child Protection training for churches for a number of years, in the USA & several other nations; most recently in Singapore.

After building trust with a church, having them invite us to do programs for children as well as adults showed a shift in the culture of the congregation

Excellent new collection of resources on DV and Religion from the Violence Against Women at VAWnet.org (listed under Resources on SAIV website too)

Victor Vieth is on the board of directors for an organization called G.R.A.C.E., Godly Resources for Abuse in Christian Environments, which is doing really great work within Evangelical/Protestant communities.

Resources for faith communities to prevent child abuse and neglect

www.dovesnest.net

I appreciate the list of resources, but as a clergyperson and an attorney who has represented survivors, I am seeing some resources that I would not endorse. I am not saying that they cannot resource at all, but if you are new to this, please recognize that you need to continue to evaluate as you move through a process. I am not speaking about push-back from people that don't want to change; I am speaking about making sure we are doing prevention work well.

Good point, Linda

I have a challenge of reaching the African American faith community, any suggestions

Linda you are exactly right.

I appreciate the acknowledgment that the faith community is a culture. As we address them as scuh, using our cross-cultural skills, I think we will be more successful in engaging with them

good point, need to have insiders in the churches who are allies.

Amen!

We do an abuse awareness Sunday on a different topic each year - this year the topic is involvement of those with a criminal sexual offense in church - resources are available at www.crcna.org/safechurch - click on the "Resources of Abuse Awareness Sunday" on the left sidebar.

How can I get a transcript of this webinar? It is so full of information, I would love to review the presentations.

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Thank you.

Victor has done work re traumatized children. This should also be part of training for church staff re mandated reporting so they recognize signs of possible abuse. Children can be so secretive and keep hurt to themselves.

Very good point

Great point about imposing own values

Even within one denomination there can be a huge amount of diversity in terms of their understanding of the dynamics of abuse - I've learned my lesson the hard way not to do my homework before going in - Listen, listen, listen.

It is sounding like this whole process is initiated by the local courts or child protective services. How does a small church in a transient area get started?

Thank you for the info in this webinar looking forward to the series. Lacy Scardasis Palatka, FL

Here is the abuse prevention policy in my congregation <http://www.kehillasynagogue.org/about-kehilla/policies-resolutions/abuse-policy/> www.health.state.mn.us/injury/topic/svp/implement/action.cfm; for MN prevention plan for those in faith communities

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Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development from Prevent Child Abuse Vermont is a good intro for parents and early childhood educators

on healthy sexuality for young children (0-12)

One concern: Risk Reduction is not prevention, per se. Linda's work is about work, but most faith communities think that policy alone is "prevention." As practitioners and leaders, we need to educate about this distinction

Health sexuality and theology: visit Religious Institute

Thanks..Prevention seems to involve healthy choices and getting enough information to make wise choices.

What is ONE action you can suggest for others to prevent child sexual abuse? education

work healthy relationship education into religious school curriculum

Educate-children as well as adults

Encourage stronger parental involvement.

Read the article by Mia Fontaine (Atlantic Mobile) - "America has an incest problem" to begin thinking about the most significant source of CSA

Implement policies that adhere to best practice for protecting children

Get comfortable that it exists and prepare yourself. Listen. God gave us one mouth and two ears.

Invite faith leaders to MDTs and be sure to make the conversation RELAVENT to them so they will return. Don't treat them like a "token."

start talking with other adults in own faith community to see who may have energy to get congregation to be a safe church

Educate parents on the importance of talking to their children and teaching them about healthy sexuality, as well as the prevalence of CSA and that it can happen to anyone

Ditto about reaching parents

Recognize that the faith community is NOT the enemy of the women's movement. We can partner together to help women and children stay safe. The chasm that

exists must be breached.

create a strong network of adults spending time with the children in your sphere of influence make CSA conversations common and comfortable

Adults should be taught to believe children and that they MUST hold other adults accountable.

Create a trust environment in the community: the church as well as the greater community so that there is a conversation among as many people as possible and the acknowledgement that child abuse is widespread and not just over there."

Begin to talk about inequity in terms of studies that indicate offenders often target person they believe will not be valued - any SV prevention has to deal with inequity

The toughest thing I have found is when parents uncover suspicious circumstances is what to do because so many people don't want to report and also the subtleties and proof

Linda, do you have a two person policy with the clergy as well?

Partner with other faith based organizations like the YMCA. Also, find pediatricians of faith to be advocates for training our churches.

Thanks, Victor, for some very concrete, useful ideas. Great insight I hadn't thought of about insurance companies writing the policies. OF COURSE!

Adults being educated on who the predators are. Sometimes we have "prettied" up who they are. I think seeing them for who they really are is essential in this whole puzzle

We are holding Community Cafes hosted by local churches in State College, PA.

One thing they really need to be aware of is that it isn't the stranger among us, often times it is those we know and know well

Yes! Churches being knowledgeable about the grooming process...and consider having policy about staff receiving large gifts (cars, houses, college tuition, etc) from church members.

no one addressed how to minister to the sexual offenders in your faith community.

Please complete the evaluation that will be emailed to you from Leona Smith shortly.

Yes, Peggy! Thanks!

To think about cultural transformation, visit center for partnership studies and enroll for web course with Dr. Eisler on "Master Course on Cultural Transformation" (Partnership vs Domination Model / families and nations) www.partnershipway.org

I would be interested in hearing on the topic Peggy Heller's topic

Great resource is the Jim Clemente report as part of the Paterno family report.

Look for registration to open in August!

Thanks for all of the great resources

Here is a blog post about the series.

[Http://www.preventconnect.org/2013/06/ecsa_series_2013_2014/](http://www.preventconnect.org/2013/06/ecsa_series_2013_2014/)

I really appreciated Linda's comment on discussing with Faith comm, that this is important as they are to share this mission in their communities (vs "your church isn't safe") I think this would help it to be better received in some churches

I hope to impress my pastor with the value of this program. How do I give him reference contacts?

Thank you for providing information especially on the Safe Church Project! What a fantastic response to an issue that definitely needs attention!

Thank you so much to all of you speakers and Prevent Connect!

Great job speakers

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Thank you

Looking forward to other sessions

Thanks!

Yes, thank you all!

Thank you!

Thank you.

Thank you very much

Thank you!

Thank you

And this element is essential especially for faith based communities because they can be most at risk because of the accepting environment and desire to believe all are redeemable. I offer a seminar to teach adults about child predators.

www.itsyourchoiceonline.com

This has been really informative. Thank you so much!

Thank you

Thank you!

this was definitely one of the most informative and comprehensive webinars I've attended out of many!

Despite the tech difficulties at the start. Thank you all!

