

TEXT CHAT CONTENTS

WEB DIALOGUE

Where's the Prevention Frame?
Seizing Opportunities to Advance Violence Against Women Prevention

Tuesday, January 23, 2007

2:00-3:30 pm EST (11:00 am - 12:30 pm PST)

Presenters

Larry Cohen & Rachel Davis, Prevention Institute

Host

David Lee, Prevention Connection

David Lee: Welcome to Prevention Connection's Web Dialogue. Please write in the text chat you name and organization.

Lynne Walter: Hi all! Lynne Walter, North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Lisa Weingarth: Lisa Weingarth, Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexaul Violence

Morgan Curtis: Morgan Curtis, Texas Association Against Sexual Assault

Peggy Helton: Peggy Helton, Office of the Attorney General, Texas

Edi Armstrong: Hi everyone. Edi Armstrong, Cattaraugus Community Action

Ingrid Bou-Saada: Ingrid Bou-Saada, North Carolina Dept. of Health & Human Services, Div. of Public Health

Tyrone Allen: Tyrone Allen, National Crime Prevention Council, Washington, DC

Julie Patrick: Julie Patrick - National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

César Alvarado: Hello all. I am with the Texas Coalition the Texas Council on Family Violence and 3 of my NEW Team members are taggin on

Jennifer Hardy: Jennifer Hardy, Shasta County Women's Refuge

Terri Granados: Terri Granados - Sexual Assault Response Center, Washington State

Joanne Brewer: Joanne Brewer, Boston Public Health Commission's Domestic Violence Program

Jill Endres: Jill Endres, Sexual Assault Prevention Technical Assistant and Trainer at the Ohio Domestic Violence Network

Audra Hixson: Hi, Audra Hixson- Penn State University

Chuck Derry: Hi everyone. Chuck Derry, Gender Violence Institute, Clearwater, MN

Cindy Dittus: Cindy Dittus, The Arc of Mississippi

M Caballero: Hi, Montserrat Caballero from the So. Az Center Against Sexual Assault in Tucson, AZ

Karen Heck: Karen Heck, The Bignham Program.

Heather Haskins (private): Heather Haskins, New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violen

Chad Sniffen: Chad Sniffen, California Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Sacramento, CA

Tammy Lemmer (private): Tammy Lemmer, Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Brie Akins: state sexual assault task force

Kari Kerr Welsh: Dual agency

Tammy Lemmer: Dual Coalition

Edi Armstrong: Dual agency

Morgan Curtis: State SA Coalition

Lisa Weingarth: Dual Coalition

Deborah Zelli: Dual state coalition

Chuck Derry: Consulting and training agency

Karen Heck: Health philanthropy

Terri Granados: SA

Melanie Matson: dual agency

Angie Turk: Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Cindy Dittus: advocacy agency for disabilities

Heather Haskins (private): I work in a State agency (Prevention) but also work on a collaborative project between 2 state agencies and a not for profit state coalition.

GayLynn Pack: Marion County Sheriff's Office, Children of Incarcerated Parents

Initiative

Tyrone Allen: Crime Prevention

M Caballero: did not see option, but we are a sexual assault agency

Gail Reid: Gail Reid:

Gail Reid: dual agency

Catherine Rivera: Catherine Rivera - rape crisis center

Paula Cicarelli: Rape Crisis Counseling Center

Toni Durbano: Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Chrys Ballerano: Chrys Ballerano: SA Coalition

Rachel TaalibDeen: Twenty-first Century Sisterhood, education, and prevention

programs for girls and young women

Laura Kalt: never received articles

GayLynn Pack: Could not get NY Times article, read the others

Dena Hester: Hi Monterserrat and Chad! Dena Hester from Arizona State Unive--I

don't think I got the recommended articles:(

Linda Spurlock: didn't recieve them

Gail Reid: Couldn't access the website

Angie Turk: NY restricted to subscribers

Tyrone Allen: difficulty accessing other articles

Edi Armstrong: Was unable to access one article

Sarah Holdwick: not a member of NY Times

Ben Atherton-Zeman: I was so relieved when Jackson wrote his article - the coverage was very frustrating!

David Lee: Did you have the same observations that we did to these events? Did they differ? How so?

GayLynn Pack: Yes, same observations. How did media miss the obvious?

Ben Atherton-Zeman: no gender analysis at all.

Heather Haskins (private): My first reaction to these headings is tha lack of accountability in the language ...

Lydia Guy: my anaysis regarding frame was very similiar to yours

Linda Spurlock: are we becoming so violent that there is no returning to what was normal?

Karen McGuire: didn't see the connection, please enlighten

Brie Akins: I agree, that if it involved race or religion they would have addressed those.

Casey Keene: i agree with ben - was very frustrated by the lack of gender analysis

Jill Endres: Yes, same reaction... completely ignored VAW

Chuck Derry: Frightening silence. Typical protection for men's violence agansit women and children

Morgan Curtis: I felt that it was a very typical media response to the events. It was disappointing but certainly not surprising. It was a reminder that we have a lot of work to do.

Joanne Brewer: Media hype as "school shootings" detracted from real issue, sensationalized and terrorized without offering helpful framework.

Susan Ramspacher: Seeing the Herbert article in NYT was great. We spread it around

Wendy Loomas: I noticed this trend since shootings before this - Pearl, MS was boys targeting girls, and others too

M Caballero: yes, there is no gender analysis and it seems to be presented in very general, what's wrong with kids, instead of why are girls being targeted

Catherine Rivera: frustrated as always with the media's lack of understanding//knowledge

Lynne Walter: Unfortunately, I wasn't surprised that the majority of mainstream media framed the sexual violence against girls and the violence against girls as "school" shootings.

Heather Haskins (private): "Fifth girl dies" -- someone killed her. She didn't actively die ...

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Just like during the Columbine and other "school shootings," when Jackson and Sut Jhally wrote a wonderful Boston Globe op-ed pointing out. So many years later and they still don't get it!

Karen Heck: I didn't find it surprising that the media didn't focus on the violence specific to women piece

Michelle Korty: It is really frustrating that we cover the truth about violence against women.

Ingrid Bou-Saada: frustrated -- similar reaction to op-eds

Sarah Holdwick: yes, but few seemed to recognize it was violence targeting women

Casey Keene: Was clearly a gender-based hate crime

Karen McGuire: elaborate on the specific targeting of women

Heather Haskins (private): "School shooting" -- the school didn't commit the shooting. A person chose to be violent. Where s he in thsi equation? In this language?

César Alvarado: same observations BUT not race analysis expecially with OJ. How many white men have killed women?

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Like Lynne, I wasn't surprised at their lack of gender analysis. Guess we have to fill in the blanks by writing our own pieces.

Heather Haskins: Oop! Sorry!:)

Jill Endres: as for OJ I do not feel that FOX acted responsibly

Sarah Holdwick: seems to be very little acceptance of violence against women as a hate crime

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Cesar, can you say more about race analysis?

Heather Haskins: I'm really struck by the closeness in dates, as well.

Tammy Lemmer: Frustrated that even with minimal Op Ed input, no major media

changed their coverage or analysis

César Alvarado: oh well, Ben

Chrys Ballerano: Only saw pieces by allies and femist orgs that had a gender-informed analysis.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: hey, there's water in my ear!

M Caballero: I agree with Cesar, that once again, there is a desire for gender analysis when it comes to violence against women, but no so much focus on race analysis

Ben Atherton-Zeman: :)

Lynne Walter: We (NCCASA) did write our own piece, a letter to the editor, addressing the fact that the shootings targeted young women and it was actually published.

Heather Haskins: ANd all of this violemnce against women has to be framed as men's violence against women, as well.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: well, I don't think there's a huge outcry for a gender analysis OR a race analysis.

Morgan Curtis: i don't think there's a huge outcry for any analysis that threatens the status quo

Angie Turk: INCASA sent letter to Indiana Supeintendant which was handed down and responded to by DOE to offer trainings on gender based violence

M Caballero: i mean with anti-violence advocates, not so much in the general public or mainstream media

Ben Atherton-Zeman: oh, got it!

Tammy Lemmer: COngrats, ANgie. I wouldlove to follow-up with you regarding your letter and the response tammy.lemmer@mcadsv.org

Angie Turk: Will do Tammy-aturk@incasa.org

Ben Atherton-Zeman: yes, Tammy, I think that's a great response - seizing the moment to send that letter. Since they're thinking about it anyway, and probably floundering and desperate to "do something" in the schools, you gave them that instrument. Well done!

Lynne Walter: César's point is right on--think of how many men of color who are rapists or murderers we can name off the top of our heads in 10 seconds...and then how many white men can we name? There absolutley needs to be an analysis of race with our analysis of gender (and analyses of other forms of oppression, too)!

Tyrone Allen: Thats a very good point!

M Caballero: absolutely - very needed

Ben Atherton-Zeman: yes, thanks Cesar and others. How many white men CAN we

name?

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Jackson's article was right to point out these two men were

white men.

Terri Granados: I can name 675 in the two counties we serve.

César Alvarado: ben,

César Alvarado: how many white men can we name without the fear-cloud of privillige

Lucy Rios (private): Experienced some frustration that coverage was what it was, however, as a movement, we need to monitor the media, develop our frame, and educate journalists on how they are not covering the whole story. Perhaps national organizations can provide leadership in this area.

Peggy Helton: Just the fact that we have a word in the dictionary that means hatred of women is very telling.

Morgan Curtis: excellent question cesar

Ben Atherton-Zeman: should we answer the question in the text chat?

Wendy Loomas: nada

Heather Haskins: I'm ashamed to say that our agency didn't address these incidents at

all

Laura Kalt: missed that opportunity

Lydia Guy: internal conversation + oped

Sarah Holdwick: Sorry to say, but we didn't respond at all outside of our agency

Jill Endres: community conversation

Joanne Brewer: Informal sharing, conversation

Morgan Curtis: yes, peggy, and the only similar work is a hatred of mankind and not of

men

Chuck Derry: We had a confernence for men in October and Jackson Katz was a speaker and spoke to this

GayLynn Pack: Talked among some women who recognize this but nothing from an organizational perspective.

Karen McGuire: did not have organized response

M Caballero: agency wrote an op-ed but it was not published; we also talked about it amongst ourselves

Edi Armstrong: Discussed at full staff meeting-Went no where from there

Chrys Ballerano: We discussed the events as an agency somewhat, but we were preparing for an agency move and new E.D. hire so we didn't go any further.

Tammy Lemmer: Internal discussion, and forwarding out of minimal analysis we saw...not enough!

Jennifer Hardy: We did nothing.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: I wrote Jackson to see if he was going to write an op-ed - the next day, his op-ed came out. I would have written one myself but it would have said much the same thing (although I'm not sure I'd be as articulate!)

Lynne Walter: NCCASA-letter to the editor, talked about it nonstop in the office, sent out op-ed pieces that "got it" to our members, did media interviews, our exec director attended the President's "School Violence" conference in DC

Morgan Curtis: we forwarded out the op-eds that others had written

Ben Atherton-Zeman: so basically not much.

Michelle Korty: We did nothing

Tyrone Allen: At the National Crime Prevention Council, we placed school safety information on our website, and dissussed internally

Linda Spurlock: no response

Angie Turk: Letter to superintendent of Indiana-offering traiing for educators and school safety specialists, community list-servs

Joyce Mahr: Joyce Mahr: Informal conversation in the center.

Kari Kerr Welsh: Unfortunately, we didn't address this

Lucy Rios: discussed it at staff meeting and shared it with member agencies

César Alvarado: nada

Ingrid Bou-Saada: conversation with friends and colleagues. Thrilled our coalition had

op-ed published

Toni Durbano: We distributed the op-ed pieces at trainings and community events

Chrys Ballerano: Personally, I shared the articles w/colleagues and friends and had an indepth discussion wiht my male partner who was emotionally blown away by the events for days, but doesn't usually look at these events from a feminist or gender-based perspective, but saw it very clearly as such in these cases and was outraged by the media's ignorance of that.

Karen McGuire: just to posit, have you thought that the focus first came to children as victims and then the focus on gender slipped under the rug?

David Lee: For those who seized the opportunity in your own organizations, what themes did you convey and why? How did you seize the opportunity?

Lynne Walter: Also sent our letter to the editor and our ED's notes on President's conference to Prevent Connect listserv

David Lee: What was effective? Why?

Heather Haskins: KAren - in my personal discussion of this, I found exactly what you just stated. The issue/focus seemed to be on victim ages rather than gender.

Julie Patrick: had conversations about normalization of voilence and the prevalence of sexual harm/exploitation in a lot of these violent actions

Ben Atherton-Zeman: I tell you what I didn't do - didn't give much thought to the fact that these were two white men who did this.

Morgan Curtis: it was also a great opportunity for individual conversations with people. In a person to person format I had some great conversations with people about the incidents and why it was a problem that they were not acknowledged for being gender-based violence

Heather Haskins: I also found that still so many people insisted on individualizing these as isolated acts of violenmce and not part of a larger social phenomenon

Chuck Derry: It was a glaring example how men's violence is invisible and their privilege is protected

M Caballero: since our agency is mixed prevention and intervention we actually had a chance to discuss prevention internally

Tammy Lemmer: What resposne came following the Prez. conference? Did VAW get addressed?

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Forwarding the op-eds was effective for me - people who read

them had many "a-ha" moments, realizing the gender connection.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: They had such strong feelings about the violence and had nothing to do with these feelings - this gave them a focus.

Chrys Ballerano: Several people in my spiritual community expressed appreciation for the way the Amish community responded to the shootings of the PA school girls.

Lynne Walter: As far as I know--there hasn't been any official gov response from the Pres. conference.

Lucy Rios: Generated discussion and deepened newer staff members understanding of the issue - otherwise, nothing else really happened

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Well done, Lisa Lederer!

Tammy Lemmer: It was short and simple. I think we're sometimes bogged down bythinking a press release or official announcement has to be longer.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: See, I spoke out against this but I had NO hope of "winning!" I was shocked when we won.

Heather Haskins: I second that, Ben! A definite victory within a tragic situation!!! Thank you, LISA and FVPF!!

Jill Endres: I was shocked as well. I like this kind of shock

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Frankly, it emboldened me to confront K-Mart about their recent sexist shirt - I had more hope that they'd withdraw the shirt. And they did!

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Not because of me - because of a national public outcry and a rally outside K-Mart in Toledo, Ohio.

Sarah Holdwick: Good point, Tammy. We can't expect that the general population will have the same level of knowledge and understanding about VAW that we do. Short and sweet can work!

Morgan Curtis: as a capitalist entity, i don't think FOX made their decision because they realized they were wrong or that they were contributing to the problem. they did it because they sensed that it wasn't going to "sell" as well as initially thought. The outcry helped but I don't think it changed the minds of the powers that be. what is great is that we might have educated more of the general public and helped them to take a stand against such a large entity

Lucy Rios (private): There was more outcry in our state regarding this OJ situation than there was than the death of young girls. As a Coalition, we did contact the press.

Karen Heck: I wouldn't be so sure that Kmart has withdrawn the shirt nationwide. They

still haven't replied to Hardy Girls' initial request.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: yes, but I have no problem getting them in their pocketbook.

César Alvarado: excellent points, Morgan!!!!

Edi Armstrong: I agree, Morgan. They are all focused on the bottom line, not on the facts behind why there was an outcry against it.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: so let's affect their bottom line!

Ben Atherton-Zeman: that can be our "frame."

Morgan Curtis: true enough... i certainly have no problem with that

Edi Armstrong: That is the only way we can reach them!

Morgan Curtis: it's all about speaking their language. and capitalists speak the language of money

Sarah Holdwick: interesting how profit and ethics are seen as mutually exclusive

Ben Atherton-Zeman: but we can appeal to both.

Lynne Walter: Let's make sure we name the "assaulting" in these cases for what it was--sexual assault. The sexual assault that these men perpetuated was also largely glossed over by the mainstream media.

Edi Armstrong: It is a sad statement about where we stand as a people.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: and for some, ethics will work. For others, we'll have to appeal to their bottom line.

Morgan Curtis: and we can support companies who don't let profits get in the way of ethics

Heather Haskins: I think, additionally, the fact that one of these targeted groups was AMish, so visibly resistant to violence, attracted on another level of vulnerability and marginalization ...

Ben Atherton-Zeman: yes, Lynne - instead of "Men's sexual assault" it was diluted - both the "men" and the "sexual" were overlooked.

Brie Akins: one thing that bothers me is the response to things like the K-mart T-shirts, that it is just for "fun" or it is "funny" and we just don't have a sense of humor...

Morgan Curtis: exactly, ben

Morgan Curtis: and brie

Joanne Brewer: Katz article was great- any discussion of "gender" as it relates to prevention really needs to point to the gender of perpetrators as much or more so than the gender(s) of victims.

David Lee: We will post some information about the shirts at K-Mart at www.PreventConnect.org

M Caballero (private): I appreciate that Katz points that they are white men - so often violence by men is assumed to be men of color -

Chuck Derry: I think this point that Jackson makes in this quote is critical in two ways.. it was white men and they assaulted and killed these girls just because they were girls. I think this needs to continue to be the frame of our language that addresses race and gender.

GayLynn Pack: I think one of the things that keeps women's organizations from framing their perspectives against crime against women is that women and their organizations are still marginalized and dismissed as hysterical when something like this happens.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: right on, Chuck!

Heather Haskins: What angered me so much was a local poll taht was takin on the OJ book - the majority of people said they would purchase it just to see if he confessed.

Karen Heck: The originators of the issue, Hardy Girls Healthy Women, has a petition people can download and have 10 people sign and send to the CEO. www.hghw.org

Tammy Lemmer: Question: For communities that got follow-up coverage-what language did you use, what was your appraoch (frame?)

Morgan Curtis: the fact that k-mart said we should have a sense of humor about those shirts speaks to exactly what's wrong with the shirt. the general public wants to see violence against women as a humorous topic

Morgan Curtis: anyone who doesn't agree that it's humorous is discredited

Edi Armstrong: Some people want to believe that this type of violence will never effect them, or anyopne they know-So it can be funny

M Caballero: i think that's one of the biggest problems - violence, especially against women is funny and/or sexy

Sarah Holdwick: right, that violence is a joke

Peggy Helton: Even the remark made by K-mart about the figures being brother and sister as if that would make a difference.

Jill Endres: especially when it is against women

Heather Haskins: and too often, people don't become involved UNTIL it affects their wivesm daughters, sister. t shouldn't have to come to that level!

Greta Tubbesing: For future forums, please send us your pictures and we'll post them to display while you talk!

Ben Atherton-Zeman: wow! that's awful about the facebook page.

Edi Armstrong: exactly-The 0-100 percent rule in action!

Morgan Curtis: which is part of the cultural backlash - VAW is a feminist issue. feminism isn't popular but anti-feminism is. thus, anything that is anti-feminist is funny because feminists don't have a sense of humor

Ben Atherton-Zeman: okay, it's sent.

M Caballero: and, of course, feminists are assumed to be women so the anti-feminism is part of the larger mysogyny

Morgan Curtis: true. [and to clarify, VAW is seen as feminist issue by the general public. i know it's everyone's issue]

Gail Reid: The reporting on the Duke case seems so biased - I'm not seeing much in the media from an advocacy viewpoint - any thoughts?

David Lee: t-shirt featuring "two panels of stick figures, with a male figure pushing a female figure out of a box." The shirt is captioned "Problem Solved."

Edi Armstrong: Right, Men are not femininists or there is something wrong with them

Nicole Blevins: I have also seen this same t-shirt at Goody's stores- unfortunately, its not just K-mart.

Sarah Holdwick: the stereotypes of feminists are part of the reason so many people don't identify that way even though their thoughts/actions would prove otherwise

GayLynn Pack: That's the "boys will be boys" thinking response to t-shirts.

M Caballero: karen's point is so right - replace the woman with another group and there would be more outrage

Ben Atherton-Zeman: yes, but some stores have immediately pulled them when they get complaints - not K-Mart, though. They waited until there was an actual protest outside their door.

Karen McGuire: if you want to address the issue of feminism that's a whole topic alone, try to relate feminist as humanist if you really want effects

Morgan Curtis: i think part of the problem is that the discrediting of feminism has also discredited the VAW movement by proxy. and it's trying to disconnect the two and show why VAW is everyone's issue

Heather Haskins: the bottom line is, whether people of color, race, faith, sexual orientation, or gender ... if a particular group tells you you're wrong, you're hruting themm, you're presenting them incorrectly, we have to accept that leadership and change our practice around how we do this work. Otherwise, we're knowingly and intentionally doing damage, whether it;s a t shirt, a joke, a policy, whatever.

Karen McGuire: can we try to imply something broader than victim in the course of our framework, the idea of opportunity as an underlying theme is better adapted to making change, people will turn you off when all they hear is 'victim'

Sarah Holdwick: good point Karen. I think that's why Katz' message is so powerful. VAW is a mens issue because men have women they love in their lives and those women experience violence

Chuck Derry: The cartoon nature contributes to the minimizing and marginalization. How do we talk about the power of humor and its historical use to objectify and oppress.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: I think Bob Herbert made that bridge quite clear in your quote from his article, Larry.

Karen McGuire: we in the conference understand the basis, but the general public is not as sensitive to the needs of our issue

David Lee: We will post pictures and articles on www.PreventConnect.org

Chuck Derry: We breath these norms like we breath second hand smoke

Lynne Walter: Responding to Gail about the gang rape at Duke--we (NCCASA) have had several pieces published in NC newspapers and have appeared on numerous local and national media shows. However, for everytime we get something published or are on the news, the defense attorneys or non-advocates have something published or are on the news 100 times. So, yes, there is a lack of balanced reporting. It's been a struggle.

Alisa Klein: Part of the concept of framing, I think, and certainly of social marketing, is not to necessarily create and impose frames on people. Rather, it is to address related values and the things that "work" and make sense for people so they can relate, empathize, be motivated to feel and act differently. How can we do this if "VAW" approaches are not where many, many people are coming from?

Karen McGuire: Pardon, it's one thing to complain, we ALL know this is bad, can we start to address how to manifest a more enlightened view?

GayLynn Pack: We need to do what a few grieving mothers did when they formed MADD. They changed our culture around drinking and driving. A few committed people can make a difference.

Karen McGuire: can we pick ourselves off the floor?

Morgan Curtis: yeah, i don't think anyone is saying that violence against women or children is ok

Julie Patrick: we need counter-normalization policies

Karen Heck (private): i agree, Karen. And, I think the strategy is getting business and men involved in lookinig at this as a public health crisis that is costing this nation billions of dollars.

Joanne Brewer: The public still harbors a huge sentiment of victim-blaming when it comes to adult women as victims.

Morgan Curtis: the problem is that people don't want to make the connection between their own lives or their own actions and the root causes or contributing factors to VAW

Jill Endres: good point morgan, nobody wants to give up their priviledge

Sarah Holdwick: yes, it's easier to blame than to take responsibility

Heather Haskins: At my agency, we keep asking the question ... what alternative is there to violence against women that makes it worth the change? We struggle with this daily ...

Joanne Brewer: I saw a GREAT article by Jessie Klein in the Journal of Homosexuality, Vol. 51 (4) 2006available at http://jh.haworthpress.com"Sexuality and School Shootings: What Role Does Teasing Play in School Massacres? "highlights the motives behind the recent school shootings as predominatly based in gay-bashing' and homophobia- the boys who killed had histories of having felt their "masculinity" was being threatened by teasing and being accused of being gay- felt they had to regain their masculinity, "proved" themselves with violence.

David Lee: What kinds of other things did you see in response to these events that you thought were valuable and why?

Audra Hixson: on our unversity campus where the "girls gone wild" tour is frequently hosted by fraternities/bars downtown, measures have been taken to not allow fraternities to sponsor this type of programming or any strippers, etc. due to the climate it creates and the VAW incidents. Some of the most vocal support of the fraternities right to have these programs have been sororities advocating for the "boys will be boys" issue- we must address this college culture and women's conditioning as well.

Karen McGuire: before people are going to Care about VAW they need to care about

violence against people, lets find ways to make women equal to people in our culture

Heather Haskins: I was shocked that the Amish were so criticized for the capacity to forgive the man who committed these murders! Talk about blaming victims!

Morgan Curtis: yes, Karen. you are exactly right

Ben Atherton-Zeman: to answer David: The "win" we had with OJ (and Congress) emboldened us re: other issues (K-Mart, etc.)

Julie Patrick: I thought the connection Katz made to the Montreal Massacre really helped frame things

David Lee: What are the barriers to responding with a prevention frame, such as in response to the events we have been talking about? For those of you who did respond, how did you overcome them?

Morgan Curtis: Forgive me for stating the obvious, but the biggest barrier is that we don't control the media or other forms of communication

Jill Endres: The people who are willing to listen aren't the people who need to hear the message

M Caballero: for some reason, anti-violence prevention is put in an entirely different category as any other kinds of prevention - don't know why

Brie Akins: the general public does not see VAW as an issue that pertains to them, therefore when it is brought up people think it is just "feminist whiners"

Edi Armstrong: It is very hard to reach the general public about these issues. They seem too busy with other things to understand how big the problem actually is.

Chuck Derry: Sense of helplessness due to overwhelming amount of woman hating. Not appropriatley organized to move more effectively.

Sarah Holdwick: even in our agency, prevention often takes a backseat to direct services

Lydia Guy: the barrier for our org seem to be trying to get the exact right frame as well as some difference in staff opioni including an oppression analysis

Morgan Curtis: the people in charge have a stake in framing these issues the way they frame them.

Linda Spurlock: I agree with Chuck

Laura Kalt: as a county govt. agency, we have a Communications Director who must approve anything written that goes out from our office - keeps us from seizing the

moment, and he sometimes objects to the commentary because he is uneducated.

M Caballero: yes - prevention often takes a backseat

GayLynn Pack: The only way that I could be heard is if I write the op-ed or put out the frame, but assign a male's name to it. In my case it would be my sheriff. People would take him seriously, but not me.

Heather Haskins: When it comes to violence of any kind, we are almost always reactive rather than proactive. Our state is now big on fatality reviews ... which is good for future prevention efforts ... except that I don't see it boosting prevention efforts. I onlyt see fatality review springing up everywhere and alot of finger pointing going on.

Joanne Brewer: We need more men raising the public's attention to the problem of VAW

Chuck Derry: Need to have identified men's groups speaking regularly to change the male cultural norms of silence and comolicity

Brie Akins: prevention requires examining our basic way of life, which is scary

Julie Patrick: that society is willing to spend more money on incareration and counter measures against violence than plugging money into prevention b/c it's harder to measure, to show its worth

Audra Hixson: gender violence is normalized and considered less of an issue on campus than race/sexual orientation/religious related violence

Karen Heck: The allies/messengers have to be business and men... They are the ones who can stop it

Sarah Holdwick: many people just simply don't believe violence is preventable

Lynne Walter: I think one barrier is timleness--it's difficult to respond immediately because there is so much other work we do, and the media isn't interested in issues that aren't timely. So, if you don't send an op-ed or letter to the editor right away, it isn't "newsworthy" anymore.

Gloria Krusemeyer: another basic problem: almost everyone resists change. Look at new year's resolutions for self-desired changes that usually don't happen.

Chuck Derry: How do we use our frames and voices to develop organizational practice and policy change

Casey Keene: When there were articles exposing the underlying gender-based violence issues, I noticed a HUGE public response saying "stop whining" and "get over it", etc. There has to be a way to communicate that these issues DO have large impact on all of our lives.

Heather Haskins: Too many of us only feel responsible for the violemnce that touches us personally.

Joanne Brewer: My friend's 8 year old asked for a WWF Smackdown video for Christmas- there's a prevention opportunity!!

Sarah Holdwick: and sometimes..it just seems so huge...

Gail Reid: I agree that we need to be more strategic. Our agency has organized a list of "talking oints" for the year and we are looking for opportunities to keep putting out the same focussed messages. We are also reaching our to specific journalists and developing those relationships.

Karen Heck: Exactly -- sherrifs, CEOs, sports heroes, etc.

Paula Cicarelli: My small voice in "Spring Break/Girls Gone Wild" haven could use a megaphone.

GayLynn Pack: Because Race and Religion include MEN.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: I'll buy you a megaphone, Paula. the "Spring Break/GGW" stuff is very scary.

Brie Akins: exactly GayLynn!

Ben Atherton-Zeman: And also is defended as "aw, c'mon, it's all good fun."

Heather Haskins: YES, Ben!! So true!

Brie Akins: back to it's just "fun" and "funny"!

Paula Cicarelli: I'm in Florida

David Lee: A copy of the text chat will be posted at www.PreventConnect.org

Jill Endres: we need to help people to understand that there can be humor without oppression

Ben Atherton-Zeman: yes, Jill!

Jill Endres: You are a great example of that Ben

Ben Atherton-Zeman: using oppression as humor is a cheap laugh at best. (thanks, Jill)

M Caballero: I think that most men that you talk to on an individual level would be outraged at violence directed at the women in their lives, because they see themselves as protectors - so that's one of the frames we need to change - women are in need of protection

Joanne Brewer: In our prevention efforts, we name the problem first and foremost as

Violence By Men

Heather Haskins: Complicity

Brie Akins: devaluation of women

Ben Atherton-Zeman: framing folks like Fox as "allies"

Ben Atherton-Zeman: instead of "the enemy"

Peggy Helton: Lack of equality

Angie Turk: The common beliefs and internaized myths surrounding violence against

women

Joanne Brewer: A violation of human rights

Lynne Walter: Women are viewed as "less than" by society (as are people of color, LGBTQQI people, people with disabilities, people of lower socioeconomic status)

Heather Haskins: Complicity is, for me, the main issue.

Laura Kalt: resistance to looking at men's definition of masculinity

Jill Endres: systematic oppression

Tammy Lemmer: Public health and safety crisis

Karen Heck: unquestioned mysogyny in the culture

David Lee: How would you describe the problem of violence against women

M Caballero: women are less than

Sarah Holdwick: violence as a socio-cultural issue

Chuck Derry: Male privilege and the concrete entitlements men expect at the detriment

of women.children and boys.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Not connecting men's violence against women with daily sexism

and objectification

Ingrid Bou-Saada: VAW=maintained/ing inequality

Alisa Klein: I think one of the things we need to change is how we offer numbers and evidence of the harm and the crisis at hand. I think we need to be using numbers, research, and evidence about what is working -- what potential solutions are, e.g. treatment for sex offenders DOES lower recidivism rates, etc.

M Caballero: unquestioned acceptance of men as violent beings

Lydia Guy: vaw is pervasive but preventable and we are all responsible for prevention

Joanne Brewer: Devaluing of anything labeled as female/feminine

Morgan Curtis: VAW as inevitable

Casey Keene: men's entitlement, women's oppression

César Alvarado: it is important to ask them (community, Survovirs, individuals) what

the problem(s) are for them. We can not decide for them!

Ben Atherton-Zeman: yes, Cesar.

GayLynn Pack: Men still define our world and roles

Morgan Curtis: yes, Cesar. Excellent point

Heather Haskins: It is up to the very men who AREN'T engaging in direct violence against women to chellenge those men and thos e patriarchal entities that are.

Chad Sniffen: I agree with Morgan, VAW as inevitable and even natural.

Gail Reid: I think much of it is ignorance of the general public re the scope and breadth of the problem. Especially when we have police depicting 40-60% of rape victims as "false reports."

Joanne Brewer: We address violence as learned behavior, not inevitable- therefore it can be un-learned

Chrys Ballerano: devaluation of women and life itself- we live in society that glorifies violence and death and sacrifices our children in war b/c we have been duped and buy into a consumeristic culture that ignores issues of race, class, and gender privilege in the name of freedom to be able to buy whatever we want and act irresponsiblywomen, as the mothers and daughters, are traditionally the nurturerers of life- if life and the planet itself becomes disposable, then women are the first to dispose.

Paula Cicarelli: patriarchial fear of the feminine?

Ben Atherton-Zeman: well said, Lydia! Our frames are too long!

Terri Granados: Go Lydia!

Tammy Lemmer: I challenge the premise that VAW is inevitable. That seams contrary to teh concept of soemthing as preventable.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: We need more pithy soundbites, like the ones Lisa L gives us.

Morgan Curtis: the problem is that VAW is presented as inevitable and it's not

Morgan Curtis: that was my point

GayLynn Pack: It's hard to reduce VAW to sound bites.

César Alvarado: yes, Morgan!

Tammy Lemmer: Thanks for clarifying, Morgan

Heather Haskins: Violence is not a pathology.

Morgan Curtis: no problem. things get confusing in these chats

Heather Haskins: That's a biggie for us ...

Alisa Klein: What about changing the dominant frame in this discussion -- from "Violence against women" to harm to our communities. I know this is controversial at best -- especially when the entire discussion by Katz and others is that we need to "name" things as wwhat they are, but for motivational and framing purposes, I'm not sure a new approach wouldn't be more effective...

Chrys Ballerano: I agree Alissa.

Sarah Holdwick: yes, it's not just a "women's issue"

Jill Endres: Yes in Ohio... Meijer

Edi Armstrong: That is one pof the most important changes that needs to take place.

Lynne Walter: Meijer's also in Michigan--did they drop the shirts there, too?

Brie Akins: there has to be a balance between what this is really about (violence against women) and how it is an issue that affects everyone

Chuck Derry: I like Heather's comment that we need to expect men who claim to be against violence against women that they routinely involve themselves in the solution.

Lynne Walter: I second Brie's point about balanca

Karen Heck: It's the chain Meijer in the midwest and yes, they pulled them nation-wide or that's what they said.

Karen Heck: Really we don't know unless people find them on shelves.

Chuck Derry: This K-Mart screening of shirts would be a good model of orgnizational practice change that could mobilize people.

Heather Haskins: We have a large movement heppaning here, in NY, focusing on

men's efforts, Call 2 Men groups, etc ...

Adam Shamoon: We just had Tony Porter speak in Chicago

Heather Haskins: Adam - he is wonderful! He's a huge ally with our agency!

Sarah Holdwick: i attended a conference in FL and to be honest i was shocked at the number of mens organizations present. nice to see! and here i was getting a bit cynical about mens involvement

Heather Haskins: and Ted Bunch of Safe Horizon - NYC. They really are doing some groundbreaking work around this issue.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Tony Porter and Ted Bunch are awesome!

Ben Atherton-Zeman: www.acalltomen.com

Ben Atherton-Zeman: is their website.

Karen Heck: The billion of dollars of costs of the health, criminal justice, business, human service systems are what is going to get people paying attention

Joanne Brewer: Another helpful frame is to look at violence as a tactic of power and control, in many settings and for many purposes

Tammy Lemmer: Way to go Alisa! The frame of how this affects families is increasingly well received by faith communities and others.

Morgan Curtis: i think alisa is making exactly the point that needs to be made. VAW impacts everyone at some level and we all have a responsibility to end it. it is a community problem

M Caballero: power and control can be such intangible concepts to try to explain - especially with soundbites

Chuck Derry: We might begin considering how we talk about the perpetrators as our relatives and our personal relationships to violence and oppression.

Karen McGuire: Heather's point about including men in the discussion is very important, but a problem arises in certain populations. For instance, our work on college campuses shows us that a good number of the women on campus do not necessarily support the involvement of men in this issue. In some instances, these men are often rejected by their peers. This is an issue that also needs to be addressed. We need to find a way to make it attractive to men to get involved in this particular issue.

Chrys Ballerano: I agree with Alisa- for people of color the violence in our society that is most problematic may not be seen as VAW but as violence of the police on young

men or the violence amongst youth boy on boy- girl on girl- mixed gender or not- gang warfare- we are almost distancing our selves further from our allies by using the language we are most accustomed to using even though it is a valid naming of a HUGE piece of violence that needs IMMEDIATE attention.

Chuck Derry: The only caution of course is how men's violence disappears.

Heather Haskins: I agree MOrgan and Tammy - and thank you for voicing that so clearly, Alisa!

Karen Heck: I think framing this as a public health crisis is important. that way there's a description of the problem and a comprehensive discussion of ways to address it.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: I think that SOME men will respond very well for a call to take this on - men like being responsible, "good guys."

M Caballero: home is not safe

GayLynn Pack: VAW was declared a public health issue years ago by Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and nothing changed how we as a community looked at VAW.

Chuck Derry: We would also need to incorporate discussion regarding the individual and collective benefits of violence

Alisa Klein: yes, "bystander" is a problematic term b/c of old connotation. it is also a passive term and that frame needs to shift too.

Susan Ramspacher: Alisa's comments make me think of a Lakota word - Wachitanka - which is about opening our minds and having or finding periphiral vision. I think this is what we are asking for - don't just focus on one but all

Adam Shamoon: I agree. We aren't only addressing VAW, we are addressing the larger issue of violence, which is mainly perpetuated by men.

M Caballero: well, collective benefit - we are at war right now - violence is used as a solution on a large scale

David Lee: WHat are ways in which you would explain why it matters?

Karen Heck: I think there's a lot more interest now and allies out there for pushing the public health approach and the calculating of the costs

Ben Atherton-Zeman: It matters because each man in the world knows women we care about.

Larry and Rachel: Text chat in, why this matters

Chuck Derry: Because of the suffering. We need ot tie gender privilege to women's suffering

Joanne Brewer: One reason is the sheer numbers of people this affects, both directly and indirectly

Karen McGuire: I agree with Ben, but the problem is that that particular approach has been played out with most people and does not necessarily create or generate action

Brie Akins: it is limiting to men. women fear them, they fear being accused of rape, men can't show emotions...

Peggy Helton: Because a society can not exist by oppression of its members.

Terri Granados: If we address it as a public health issue, or crisis, the media would be more apt to cover it.

Adam Shamoon: It's our sisters, mothers, daughters, partners, friends...

Ben Atherton-Zeman: It matters because men don't like being seen as potential rapists and batterers - if we help become part of the solution, we'll be feared less as a gender.

GayLynn Pack: It matters because we all have value and when one of us is hurt, all of us are hurt. But it's hard to get some people to see that.

Lydia Guy: there a several diff frames - for some you could empahsize the cost of noaction for other you empaisize the benifts of action

Morgan Curtis: it matters because there are real, human consequences to violence against women. real, human consequences to the social norms that perpetuate it, that frame VAW as humor, etc

Karen Heck: Bottom line? Because it's costing billions of dollars across the economy. It's the only thing that gets people's attention.

Angie Turk: From policy level to the individual level- a new paradigm

Sarah Holdwick: yes, ben, men know women who have been hurt by men's violence, and that hurts them too

Michelle Korty: It matters because this is our future-- not only adults today but adults of tomorrow

Alisa Klein: I think we needed to do this in the old days: present VAW as a calamitous problem -- we needed to do that to get people's attention and the women's movement of the 60s and 70s really raised consciousness, but we need more focus now on the ability to change things, on solutions, on positive actions, on training ourselves to act to intervene, etc.

Heather Haskins: FYI: A good program that I recently had the privledge to be trained on --www.mencanstoprape.org. It speaks to this issue of getting men, and particularly YOUNG men (high school and Jr. high) involved

Ben Atherton-Zeman: What consequences do each frame carry with them? Like Larry's question to me - treating corporations like allies allows them unearned privilege.

Adam Shamoon: Framing in an oppressive point of view. Many don't make the connection between VAW and cultural oppression...

Karen Heck: Sorry, the people's attention who can make the laws, pay for the public relations campaigns, get changes instituted in their businesses -- it's those people I mean bottom line applies to.

Morgan Curtis: it matters because the system really isn't working for anyone. it matters because change is possible

Karen McGuire: But we have to understand that our society does not teach people the value of an indivdiual's life... this is one manifestation of our overall disregard for the "other"

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Some folks question framed interventions that try to reach bystander men - say they use language that's too gendered, etc.

Alisa Klein: I alo think we need new frames that are not criminal justice-oriented. VAW is not just a CRIME -- it is harm to communities, to families, and certainly to individuals.

GayLynn Pack: We all have an oppty to pull this VAW into the frame of chld abuse in the month of April.

Chrys Ballerano: folks need to connect to the epidemic of violence on a personal level or they can fell ok in keep supporting the media that sells it through games, porn, visual TV images/etc and not think they have the power to interrupt it for the sake of their kids or their sibs, or their own sanity- its about engaging folks in their own power to speak out and make a difference

Heather Haskins: It matters because we're complicit in harming one another, directly or indirectly. What were doing isn't working ...

Tammy Lemmer: One caution: using affect on children is a huge vicitm blaming tactic towards moms Keeping the primary prevention focus is critical in this approach

Heather Haskins: Good point, Tammy

Morgan Curtis: it matters because men are inherently good and women don't deserve to be hurt

Kimberly Schneider: When talking of children. So many daycare/preschool centers are vigorously promoting nonviolence ideation. No weapons in school, no touching, no Halloween costumes that suggest violence. Children in preschool settings who play guns or karate are removed from the group. Why does this approach not continue during further educational settings.

Karen Heck: I agree approaching it from children's points of view and the time they can't spend studying, their drug and alcohol abuse to hide the pain and the later complications from those in health -- all well documented in teh ACEs study.

Chrys Ballerano: Power of Positive stories as contrasts to the focus on violence can be hugely powerful

Ben Atherton-Zeman: yes, Chris. Would you characterize the response to the OJ book as positive?

Ben Atherton-Zeman: sorry, Chrys.

Heather Haskins: http://copyranter.blogspot.com/2006/08/jimmy-choo-shoes-to-die-for.html

Tammy Lemmer: re: male teachers Oh, that's so sad to hear...

Heather Haskins: That link literally just came to my inbox. DOn't know if peopple can access it - but wow!

Chuck Derry: I would like to see more discussion about the benifits of sexism and the ties between men's violence and sexist privilege

Sarah Holdwick: yes, exactly, the violence alienates us from each other

Ben Atherton-Zeman: good points, Alisa!

Michelle Korty: Focusing on how adults in the community can make a difference by modeling what is healthy also appears to make a difference in how people react. Making them a part of the solution instead of part of the problem

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Why would men want to be close to children, except to sexually assault them?

Ben Atherton-Zeman: (the assumption runs)

Joanne Brewer: Yes, Chuck!

Lynne Walter: It matters because women are the majority and because there are more men who don't actively commit violence against women than there are who do.

GayLynn Pack: Thank you CHUCK!

Ben Atherton-Zeman: yes!

Heather Haskins: So true!

Morgan Curtis: go chuck!

Chrys Ballerano: combatting sexism seems more constructive to me than zooming in on only the VAW. the sexism piece is much more complex but also more compelling

Lynne Walter: Exactly, Chuck!

Alisa Klein: Very important framing -- tahnks Chuck.

Edi Armstrong: I agree, Chrys

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Most men "get" men's violence if we lead them through a basic exercise or two.

Heather Haskins: Men need to be invited into truly wanting this change ... not beat into submission through guilt and obligation.

GayLynn Pack: Good job, Chuck. Thank you.

Morgan Curtis: we can't fix a problem that we consistently water down. we must talk about what is true - whether that's men's violence against women or the existence of violence in general

Sarah Holdwick: exactly. how can you understand VAW w/o acknowledging male privilege?

Ben Atherton-Zeman: At the same time, there are some communities that have clearly said that frame won't work for their community.

Jill Endres: it is difficult for men because they have to actively give up thier priviledge, just like I do as a white woman to end oppression

Alisa Klein: I think we need to be confronting "power over" as a framing rather than "men's violence against women."

Heather Haskins: Trust and collaboration are difficult and scary, but they are the only routes to positive and potentially long-term change

Joanne Brewer: Men benefit in some ways from patriarchal and sexist practices, but they also are hurt in many ways, which might be a useful place to start

Ben Atherton-Zeman: I've heard Boston's Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence say that they have to refer to it as "family violence" or they'll turn off.

Linda Spurlock: elect a woman for president!

Edi Armstrong: too many people see mens behavior as simply human nature and as something that is unchangeable

Karen McGuire: It seems to me that there is not one "framing" that will work for all. Ben's comment makes this clear, and so does the varying approaches being talked about here. Perhaps we need to recognize that our framing needs to be more specific in terms of the audience we are each working with

Chrys Ballerano: yes

Sarah Holdwick: it must be culturally sensitive

David Lee: WHat are the important next steps to do this work

Gail Reid: I still think we need to find ways to engage young women in caring about this

issue!

Linda Spurlock: ELECT A WOMAN FOR PRESIDENT

Lydia Guy: develop an array of frames - with diff targets

Jill Endres: Working together, we are stronger when we all speak up together

Karen Heck: do another chat on the solutions piece

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Figuring out soundbite ways to reach men, as Larry suggests not all of them will be coming to our workshops!

Chrys Ballerano: continue this discussion and bring it to our broader, diverse communities

Karen McGuire: Linda, hopefully a woman that does not implicitly support VAW!

Heather Haskins: We have to stop looknig at this as a women's issue and call it a human issue

Lynne Walter: That's one of the big points about framing--you frame the issue in a way that will reach the particular audience/group you are speaking with.

Alisa Klein: I think that at upcoming conferences in the field there could be framing brainstorming sessions -- or perhaps a summit just for this purpose -- we could spend days finding new frames and talking about how to roll them out!

GayLynn Pack: We need to be more organized and present a unified response to local and national cases of VAW. Perhaps using this technology as a network alert to us all to respond.

Angie Turk: Dido to Karen...also continue sharing what has worked/what has not, talking points/letter templates, etc. etc.

Sarah Holdwick: support each other, take care of ourselves

Ben Atherton-Zeman: Encourage a variety of voices to speak - some messages reach some men and other voices will reach others.

Karen Heck: hmm, i don't know -- there's talk of condi rice? i don't think that's just the answer as much as I'd like to see a woman in there.

Edi Armstrong: Spread the word to as many people(community members as well as agencies)

Chuck Derry: I'd like to have more discussion on organizational and policy change ideas.

Heather Haskins: And we all have to take ownership for the solution

Ben Atherton-Zeman: And as Cesar said, encourage survivors to frame the issue and listen to their frames, their messages.

Edi Armstrong: I agree Heather

Ben Atherton-Zeman: this has been an outstanding forum, as usual! Thank you Rachel, Larry, David, Chad, Greta etc.!

Tammy Lemmer: Sharing successes with partnership building and allies

Chrys Ballerano: its challenging for me to come up with the "soundbites" on the spot but after some time of thinking, i'll get some to share next time.

Lynne Walter: We need to partner with unusual suspect partners to get the message about preventing men's violence against women out to more people, and to get this message out in more depth than just a workshop or a conference or two.

Ben Atherton-Zeman: I look forward to them, Chrys!

M Caballero: We need to continue this conversation in web dialogues like this one

Ben Atherton-Zeman: well done, CalCasa and Prevention Institute folks! This was awesome and very useful.

Michele Paladino: is anyone there?