

#PowerInPrevention

Ending Child Sexual Abuse Web Conference Series



TEXT CHAT TRANSCRIPT

WEB CONFERENCE

Statute of Limitations & It's Connection to Prevention

November 14, 2013

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

Presenters and Guests

Donna Dunn, Executive Director, MN Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Randy Ellison, Author "Boys Don't Tell," OAASIS

Hosts

Cordelia Anderson and Joan Tabachnick, Ms. Foundation for Women
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.

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- Slides are available at http://www.preventconnect.org/2013/10/ecsa_2013_4_statute/
 - Hello, joining in from Ohio. Thanks for offering this important webinar!
 - Thanks for the link for the slides!
 - <http://survivinginnumbers.tumblr.com/>
 - www.sol-reform.com
 - If you have questions as we go along, just type them here and we will get to them in the Q&A after the speakers finish their presentations.

- new statutory language for MN's civil statute of limitations
https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=541.073&year=2013&keyword_type=all&keyword=child+victims+act
- Congrats Donna and all in MN!! Keep up the great work.
- Joni Drake, Calif Tribal TANF Partnership/Kene Me-Wu Board Member, Stockton, CA
- Shanta Kamath, we would love to connect with you about work we're doing in the South Asian community around healing from CSA.
email sujatha baliga at sbaliga@nccdglobal.org
- HOW ARE YOU LETTING PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS?
- Trying our best to get out there and put a face to the issue and share our stories as best we can. Whether people realize it or not, everyone knows someone who is being or has been abused
- being an advocate to survivors, street ministry and women's prison ministry, anyway that I can get the message out. I am a rape survivor and did not speak up for 20 years so I know how important it is to speak up when rape occurs
- In addition, every article in our major newspapers which covers newly filed lawsuits
- also mentions the three year window - the papers have been great in reinforcing this.
- In MN through MNCASA we are also developing a theatrical production in which will be talking about SOL from perspective of some survivors who are involved in SOL action
- Illinois has a new law that removes the criminal statute of limitations for all sexual abuse that occurs after 1/1/14. The civil statute of limitations was also removed for those who were abused under the age of 18.
- <http://sol-reform.com/News/home/>
- <http://oaasisoregon.org>
- The meeting before the meeting!
- In MN we have no criminal statute of limitations IF there has been DNA collected. Not always going to be the case in CSA cases!
- working with and supported by advocates (presence, prep & debrief) ,
- lots of discussion about what they can expect and maybe more importantly what they might not want to expect
- If you have questions or comments, write them here!
- In states where there is no SOL, does anyone know how successful criminal prosecutions have been where there has been a significant passage of time?
- Diane, way to go Illinois!
- always believe the victim and make it clear that it is never their fault and they are not alone.
- hooray illinois!
- another shout out to Illinois - good work!
- I sometimes think that it is somewhat unfair to expect a survivor, as the "victim" be the one who must find the strength to stand up and fight this battle. We as a community, whether we directly experienced it or not, need to become outraged and act. It is about what kind of society we want to live in.
- How do I get a certificate of attendance?
- I agree with you Rebecca
- Great point Rebecca!
- Info on change in SApril 1, 2013
- Sorry! Change in SOL legislation in KS this year -
<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/2013/04/01/187431/kansas-governor-signs-bill-eliminating.html>
- When a survivor wants to come forward as a part of reclaiming power, it is good to have a whole movement in place for them to participate. It should be at the survivor's

- request that information about this option is presented, so that they won't feel pressured to do the work for the advocates or others who have supported them.
- A new documentary on the survivors experience with the legal system, both civil and criminal www.pursuitoftruthfilm.com
 - is it recommended to speak with survivors of your own story of survival?
 - as an advocate?
 - As an advocate, I would never recommend telling your own story b/c then it becomes all about you when it should be about the survivor.
 - just checking as this is what we were taught. I feel I need to speak out where would I start?
 - What state are you in Margie?
 - Texas
 - as an advocate, I wouldnt tell your rnite story but i do think it is ok t let the clients or survivors know that you have been through a somewhat similar situation-they connect with you on a more personal level and maybe more apt to trust you in a deeper level
 - So individual....your counselor, sponsor, journal, support group?Find a safe place.... with people who get your issues
 - you need to remember the survivor is looking to you as the professional advocate for survivors. If you can distance yourself from the agency you representy, professional, the story on; or if you aren't connected to a survivor agency, then drive on.
 - I think a little bit of self-disclosure is helpful, as long as it's for the benefit of the survivor and the focus is kept on them
 - out and proud survivor of child sexual abuse. i've found my own "outness" is really helpful to those I work with. I can share basic details without making it "all about me."
 - Erin...I agree as long as it is about giving hope to survivor and NOT about the "advocates" healing (Mostly)
 - Margie, one other point you may consider; if you have been a survivor for a number of years, and not just within the last few years, you might have credibility in telling your story.
 - great advice ya'll
 - I agree completely Rebecca
 - Good point Rebecca.
 - I stayed silent for 20 years as a teen age victim, I feel I need to make my voice known
 - the ripple effects were devastating to me as well as my family, this issue has become my calling.
 - My start point was with a therapist until there was point to speak out publically.
 - Speak About It is a performance that address consent and sexual assault prevention for college students. We use a compilation of skits and true stories, some from survivors, about their experiences with sex. We would love to share your stories in our performance. For more information, check out speakaboutitonline.com
 - @Margie, finding your voice is a powerful process. Also, distinguishing your need to find your voice and working with other's that are going through the process.
 - Well you are speaking out, right here and now, Margie. You get to choose how and where and when you disclose, see how it works when you do it, and go from there.
 - @ Shanta
 - Thank you all
 - WHAT IS ONE ACTION YOU CAN SUGGEST FOR OTHERS WHO WANT TO TAKE ACTION AROUND STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS?
 - Good, because I like all your comments, too, Rebecca.
 - I love the support happening here.
 - you all are the best. I will be doing all I can to make awareness wherever I can

- We can also build discussions about statute of limitations in our general discussions about prevention, mobilizing and movement building - and social justice
- Thank you I will be thinking about his for a while! Seeing how I can help bring voice to this issue.
- Thank you everyone! This has been an amazing learning experience with so many great perspectives.
- Thanking all the speakers, ya'll were great!!!
- In Brazil any child abuse will be considered rape, according the criminal code. In this case (minors of 18 years old) the prosecution will act independently of the child's wish. Either the police or the prosecutor may start the criminal case. But overall I don't believe there are government initiatives to help the survivals in terms of psychological assistance. But I do believe the judges with whom I worked with here are pretty tough on the matter. In any case the case can be filed at ANYTIME, with no limitation of time. Just thought it would be interesting sharing it (I'm a Brazilian attorney)
- what a great audience! Love the chat. The collective energy is amazing.
- Thank everyone for taking part. It is a learning experience for us all.
- Wonderful! New to all this and hope to do as much as I can for the issue!
- thanks everyone!
- Thank you for a wonderful presentation!
- thank you for sharing your knowledge and expertise