



# SpeakingOut News

July 2010

SpeakingOut

**against Child Sexual Abuse, Inc.**

(A Non-Profit Organization)

**"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves..."**

(Proverbs 31:8)

## Child Sexual Abuse Awareness & Prevention

We also touch on Healing!

### About SpeakingOut

#### Inside this Issue:

Message from the President/Founder	2
Message from SpeakingOut Volunteers	2
Do You Know the Facts?	3
Coming Soon... "A Safe Place" Workshop	4
Making A Difference (How You Can Help)	4

**SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse, Inc. (AKA SpeakingOut)** is a non-profit organization that was founded by Susan Suafoa-Dinino in Oak Ridge, Tennessee in March 2008. SpeakingOut is working to uncover and reveal the hidden crime of Child Sexual Abuse. Every single day across America, countless numbers of children of all ages are sexually abused. Statistics show that this crime is very real & more rampant than ever in today's society.

We are working vigorously to remove two of the greatest obstacles in protecting children from Sexual Abuse... Denial and Lack of Education. Child Sexual Abuse is everyone's problem, and it will take everyone fighting this fight to aid in the prevention of this horrific crime. As we raise public awareness by educating all who will listen, we are working to break down the barrier of denial and thus foresee that society will play a huge role in raising awareness and making America a safe place for children.

It is our belief that, in most cases, Parents are not educated on this topic until after a child has been sexually abused. And "the systems" in place that are supposed to protect children from sexual abuse can only do so much until after an allegation of Child Sexual Abuse has been made. At that point, the child has already been violated. SpeakingOut is working proactively to change the order of when parents, caregivers, etc... get educated on this topic. Our organization is working to create a paradigm shift in society's thinking about Child Sexual Abuse. The point is to get educated before it happens, so that we have a better chance of protecting children from this crime.

Child Sexual Abuse is a very sensitive topic and not something most people want to talk about or think about. However, by not talking about Child Sexual Abuse, we as a society, make it very easy for sexual predators of children to do what they do. Consider This... Children who are violated in this horrific way have no choice but to think about it & in most cases will not tell anyone. These children suffer alone. It is imperative for the safety of children... all Children, that we talk openly in our homes and publicly about this crime... and it is a Crime!

- ⇒ **Our Primary Purpose...** To Raise Awareness on Child Sexual Abuse in an effort to Aid in Prevention. We are not a Reporting Agency, nor do we offer Legal Advice.
- ⇒ **Our Intent...** It is NOT our intent to raise panic; rather to Raise Awareness.
- ⇒ **Our Primary Focus...** On the Home (Parents & Grandparents).
- ⇒ **Other Focal Points...** Churches, Daycares/Caregivers, Schools & Anyone who works with or around children.
- ⇒ **Our Approach...** To be proactive; Prevent & Stop Child Sexual Abuse before it happens. Presented from a Parent's Perspective & in some areas, a Survivor's Perspective.

*America...  
A Safe Place  
for Children!*



SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse

## Message from the President/Founder



"In the year 2000, I was faced with a very real issue in which I was unfamiliar...the horrifying truth & reality of Child Sexual Abuse. As with most people, I was naïve & uneducated on this topic. So I began to research this horrific crime. But what I found was so disturbing that I have never felt so helpless. Since that time, I have been trying to figure out a way to help children who are Sexually Abused. Every single day across America, countless numbers of children are sexually violated. And there are so many obstacles to overcome in order to help just one child, much less the multitudes of Sexually Abused children. The task seemed impossible once I read the statistics and learned about the failures of the systems in place that are supposed to protect children. The truth is that we live in a fallen world in which many children are robbed of their innocence by Sexual Predators. And they prey on children of all ages. As a Mother of 2 wonderful sons, it is my belief that children should be loved and cherished, but more often than you or I would like to believe, they are molested and raped. This sickens me. My heart aches for these hurting children.

Most of the children who are Sexually Abused will never tell anyone. And the majority of children who do disclose are not being believed and/or protected by "the system". According to MASA (Mothers Against Sexual Abuse), "only 25% of Child Sexual Abuse cases are ever reported; 5% of those will never go to court; 50% of those children will be returned to the alleged abuser." You do the math. I have felt for a long time that I have to do something... that I must speak up for these most innocent of victims... Children. But I have also felt that there was no way I could make a difference. Over time, I've come to realize that I can no longer focus on what I cannot change & began to focus on what can be done. I believe whole heartedly that we can help "one child at a time" by "SpeakingOut". We can make a difference! It's time to "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves..." (Proverbs 31:8).

The way I see it...its time to uncover this hidden crime. The safety of children... all children depends on it. By SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse, we can show the multitudes of hurting children across America that someone does care, thus encouraging children to "tell" on their abuser. In addition, we can begin to take a more proactive approach to this crime by aiding in the prevention of it... stopping it before a child is violated. And last but not least, we, as a society, will send a message to all who prey on innocent children that we will no longer sit idly by while they harm unsuspecting, innocent children. We will reveal not only what they do to children, but how they silence them.

I have found that the things that are most important in life require a lot of time, hard work, endurance, sacrifice and dedication. I am committed to do everything I can to help children by SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse. But I cannot do it alone. I need your help. These children need your help!

I hope & pray that you will find it in your heart to support this Mission. We accept one-time and monthly donations. Please keep in mind that each "statistic" represents a real child. With your help, SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse, Inc. will continue working vigorously to Aid in the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse in America." — **Susan Suafoa-Dinino**

## Message from SpeakingOut Volunteers

"Victims of childhood sexual abuse live in deafening silence. Every person who speaks out helps create a safer atmosphere for survivors to come forward. When educators teach, courageous victims share their stories and people respond, society moves closer to ending abuse. Can you help SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse keep children safe?" — **Gayle D-Ambrosio-Crabtree, Director/Board of Directors, Jefferson City, TN**

"Before I met Susan Suafoa-Dinino, I had no idea the numbers of children being subjected to sexual abuse were so out of control... and growing higher every year. I think it has been kept behind closed doors far too long and I am looking forward to helping SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse, Inc. make people more aware of this most despicable crime against our future leaders! With your help, we can get it out in the open and break the cycle." — **Susan Otto, Volunteer-Administration, Greeneville, TN**

"I think sometimes child sexual abuse is the 'elephant in the room'. We all know it's there, but everyone avoids talking about it. Everyone but Susan Suafoa-Dinino, founder of SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse, Inc. Her personal drive and determination for this crusade is nothing like I have ever seen before. She totally throws herself into this cause, trying to bring child sexual abuse out from the darkness and into the light. No child should ever have to deal with the 'elephant in the room' (child sexual abuse), and with the help of Susan and SpeakingOut, I hope and pray that they never will." — **Kathy Ely, Volunteer-Accountant, Knoxville, TN**

## Do You Know the Facts?

**Truth and Reality...** Child Sexual Abuse is a huge issue in today's society...all across America. The statistics are staggering, and we urge you to keep in mind that each "statistic" represents a real child. Here are just a few facts that every adult in America needs to be aware of...



**It is estimated that  
1 in 5 Boys  
&  
1 in 3 Girls  
will be sexually violated at some point during their childhood  
(before the age of 18)**

For some children, it is a one time violation, and for others, it is an ongoing occurrence throughout their childhood. Most children will never tell anyone during their childhood, which means these children suffer alone. You may be surprised to learn how many victims of childhood sexual abuse never speak of their abuse until some point well into their adulthood. And then there are those adults who, to this day, have never spoken of the horrible violation(s) committed against them as children. The shame that seems to be attached with being a victim of this type of violation is a shame that does not belong to the victim, but rather the perpetrator and only the perpetrator. **It is NEVER the child's fault**, regardless of age, circumstances or who their perpetrator is. When an adult sexually violates a child of any age, regardless of their reason, he or she has abused the authority that adults have over children, and in the most horrific way.

How we, as a society, look at and handle this crime against innocent children plays a huge role in how child & adult victims feel and respond. We must do a much better job at placing the blame where it belongs. We must stop sweeping this issue under the rug because it is an uncomfortable and disturbing thing to think about. Unfortunately, the problem will not go away by itself. As adults, we must step up and take action. Everyone can do something to fight against this crime.

**The majority of children who are sexually violated  
(approximately 95%)  
know the person that is abusing them,  
and in many cases, love and trust that person.**



Because of this fact, many people have the mindset that this is a personal issue that should not be discussed openly or outside of the home. Far too many adults keep it a secret even when they know a child or their child has been violated. They don't want anyone to know. This thinking is incorrect, harmful & does absolutely nothing to help the child. **The molesting, raping & exploiting of children of any age is a CRIME and should be handled as such.** As adults, our # 1 Priority must be to protect children... all children. We are responsible for their safety and wellbeing.

***“The World is a dangerous place to live, not because of the people who are evil,  
but because of the people who don't do anything about it.”***

*Albert Einstein*

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**Susan Suafoa-Dinino**  
(President/Founder)

**Tel: 865-230-8600**

**Email: susansd@speakingout-csa.com**

**Mailing Address:**  
**P.O. Box 5826**  
**Oak Ridge, TN 37831**

**Visit Our Website...**  
**[www.speakingout-csa.com](http://www.speakingout-csa.com)**

**Follow Us on Twitter...**  
**[www.twitter.com/  
speakingoutcsa](http://www.twitter.com/speakingoutcsa)**

**Coming Soon...**

**"A Safe Place" Workshop**

**Child Sexual Abuse  
Awareness/Prevention Workshop**

**Educational & Interactive Session**

**Certificate of Completion for Training  
will be provided upon completion.**

**Open to the Public**  
(Parents/Grandparents, Churches, Teachers, Day-  
cares/Caregivers & Anyone who works with or  
around Children)

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*Be sure to visit our website & click on  
"Testimonials" to see what others are saying about  
the crime of Child Sexual Abuse and SpeakingOut.*

## **Making A Difference**

**With Your Help...**

**We Can Make A Difference in the Lives of Children,  
as well as in the lives of Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse!**

**Be sure to visit our website for more information on how you can get involved.  
(Go to [www.speakingout-csa.com](http://www.speakingout-csa.com) & Click on "How You Can Help")**

**Make Your 2010 Pledge Today to STOP Child Sexual Abuse**

**Advertise in our Monthly Newsletter... SpeakingOut News**

**Corporate Sponsorships & Church Partnerships**

**Volunteer Needs (Includes Open Positions)**

**Wish List - Immediate Needs**

**Support Our Cause Just By Shopping Online**

**Donate Your Used Cell Phones, PDA's & Ink Cartridges**

**Step Up With Mary Kay**