



SpeakingOut News

October 2012

SpeakingOut

against Child Sexual Abuse, Inc.

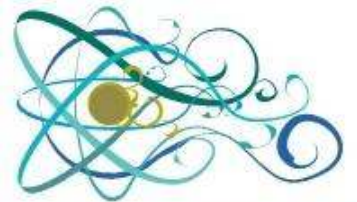
[A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization]

“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves...”
Proverbs 31:8

We NEED Your Support!
Make Your Charitable Online Donation Today through our website at www.speakingout-csa.com
(Just Look for the PayPal Donate Button. You do not necessarily need to have a PayPal account to make a donation.)

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SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse

Child Sexual Abuse Awareness & Prevention

We also Touch on Healing!

SpeakingOut on Behalf Of

All Children who have ever been (Child & Adult Survivors), are being or will be sexually abused.

Primary Purpose

Raise Awareness on Child Sexual Abuse in an effort to Aid in the Prevention of this Horrific Crime

Vision

Raise Awareness all Across America

Primary Focus

On the Home (Parents & Grandparents)
“Child Safety begins at Home”

Other Focal Points

Churches, Daycares/Caregivers, Schools, Healthcare Professionals & Anyone who works with/around Children

Available For

Speaking Engagements
CSA Awareness/Prevention Workshop called “A Safe Place”
Information Table Set Up

Presented From

A Parent’s Perspective and in some areas, a Survivor’s Perspective

America... A Safe Place for Children!

No More Secrets... No More Silence!

The Crime of Child Sexual Abuse Thrives off of Secrets and Silence.

**Help us change this by
*SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse!***

Together, We CAN make a Difference...for the Children!

Recognize the Signs/Symptoms

It is the responsibility of EVERY Adult to be familiar with possible signs & symptoms of a child who is or has been sexually violated. It is also mandated and the responsibility of EVERY Adult to report even the suspicion of a child being sexually abused...which includes Rape, Incest, Molestation and/or Sexual Exploitation. Although SpeakingOut's primary goal & mission is to aid in the prevention of this crime committed against innocent children (Awareness / Education / Prevention) of all ages, we are just as dedicated to providing education to the public on how to recognize when a child is or has been violated.

Please note that the Signs & Symptoms listed below may be indicators of other kinds of abuse or distress that the child may be experiencing & do not necessarily point towards sexual abuse. It is also possible that some of the Signs & Symptoms may be indicators of some type of medical issue. This is not an all-inclusive list, but should give you a good idea of what to look for.

Disclosure by the Child

Not Guaranteed . Possible, but not likely. Sexual Abusers know how to silence children. More information on page 4.

Physical Evidence

Unlikely...

Unless a child is brutally raped, there may not be enough evidence.

Any evidence that is there may be dismissed as potentially being caused by something else.

Children are so resilient and their bodies heal so quickly that what evidence may be there will not be there for long, in most cases.

-
- ◆ Gradual and/or sudden changes in behavior (Isolation, Becoming Inverted, Withdrawal, Fearfulness, Agitation, Excessive Crying, Depression)
 - ◆ Aggressive/Disruptive Behavior
 - ◆ Excessively Active
 - ◆ Cruelty to Others/Cruelty to Pets
 - ◆ Change or loss of appetite
 - ◆ Recurring nightmares; Disturbed sleep patterns; Fear of the dark
 - ◆ Sudden Change displaying immature behavior for their age
 - ◆ Regression to more of an Infantile Behavior (Bed Wetting, Thumb Sucking, Excessive Crying)
 - ◆ Torn or stained underclothing
 - ◆ Vaginal or rectal bleeding, pain, itching, swollen genitals, vaginal discharge or an STD (Sexually Transmitted Disease)
 - ◆ Unusual interest in and/or knowledge of sexual matters
 - ◆ Expressing affection in ways that are inappropriate for a child of that age
 - ◆ Inappropriately exposing their body / genitals at home and/or in public
 - ◆ Sexual Acting Out / Inappropriate Sexual Play (with Self, Other Children, Adults, Pets, Toys)
 - ◆ Excessive Masturbation
 - ◆ Fear of a certain person or an intense dislike of being left somewhere or with someone

Observing a Child at Play

Watch & Listen! You may be surprised at what you can learn by observing a child during playtime. This is applicable primarily with younger children that still play with toys. This is why so many Therapists use Play Therapy when dealing with younger children. * Vivid Imagination vs. Truth *

Another Thought... Knowledge on sexual acts / behaviors that is advanced for the child's age may show up in a child's drawings.

*Continued on
Next Page*

Recognize the Signs/Symptoms (Continued)

*Continued from
Previous Page*

- ◆ Trying to avoid a familiar adult
- ◆ Fear of people of the same sex and/or age of the one who is abusing or has abused them
- ◆ Afraid of places similar to where the abuse occurs or occurred
- ◆ Overly compliant behavior
- ◆ False Maturity / Mature Appearance and/or Behavior, inappropriate for their age (Acting or Dressing Older) / Heightened Sense of Responsibility / Devotion to Duty
- ◆ Unusual / Strange / Inappropriate interaction between a child & a specific person
- ◆ Unhealthy / Odd attachment to a specific person
- ◆ Change in behavior only around a specific person
- ◆ Difficulty walking or sitting
- ◆ Wearing many layers of clothing
- ◆ Afraid to be left alone
- ◆ Excessive daydreaming
- ◆ Unable to go to the bathroom or refuses to go; more than likely only around a certain person
- ◆ Pretending to be sick or actually becoming ill / Recurring Health/Medical Issues
- ◆ Loss of or lack of interest in friends, school, sports, other activities, etc...
- ◆ Difficulty learning in school / Inability to concentrate / Short attention span / May appear to have a learning disorder / Appears to be Hyperactive (may even be diagnosed as ADD / ADHD)
- ◆ Hesitant to change clothes for gym class
- ◆ Fear of participating in Physical Activities at school

Additional Information (Teens / Pre-Teens)

- Extreme and/or unexplained Anger
- Running Away
- Delinquent Behavior
- Low Self-Worth
- Self Destructive Behavior / Self-Harm / Self-Mutilation (Cutting, Burning)
- Seductive / Promiscuous Behavior
- Low Self-Esteem vs. Something to Prove
- Eating Disorders
- Addictions (Drugs, Alcohol, Sex, Pornography)
- Anxiety
- Mood Swings
- Happened or Happening to a "Friend"
- Sudden change in school performance & behavior
- Arriving at school early / Staying late
- Unexplained and/or excessive Fear
- Lack of trust in self & others
- Difficulty forming relationships / Poor Peer Relationships / Avoidance of Relationships
- Signs of PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder)
- Suicide Thoughts / Attempts and/or Suicide

Why Most Children Don't Tell

- ⇒ Fear (Being Threatened & Manipulated)
- ⇒ Love and/or Know the Person Abusing Them (Don't want their "loved one" to get into trouble; Want their Acceptance / Approval)
- ⇒ Shame
- ⇒ Embarrassment
- ⇒ Guilt
- ⇒ Lack of Understanding
- ⇒ Confusion
- ⇒ Blame Themselves
- ⇒ Have been taught to Respect Adults (Authority Figures)
- ⇒ Thinks/Feels like everyone knows (That people can tell just from looking at them)
- ⇒ Don't want to Upset a Loved One
- ⇒ To Protect a Loved One or Pet from Abuse or Harm (Mom, Brother, Sister, Dog, etc...)
- ⇒ Don't Think Anyone will Believe Them (That's what they are being told)
- ⇒ Fear of what a loved one might do to the abuser
- ⇒ Feel it is a Private Matter that should not be talked about
- ⇒ Think maybe its Normal; Happens to all Children
- ⇒ Knows its Abnormal; Feel Very Alone; Highly Unusual Thing
- ⇒ They told someone once & was either not believed and/or not protected



Something to Think About

For many children who do tell, they are either not believed and/or not protected. Unfortunately, this in turn has the potential to shut down a child about their abuse for a long time, if not permanently. Why would that child every tell again?



NOBODY TALKS ABOUT THIS KIND OF THING... NOT EVEN ADULTS

How Sexual Predators Silence Children

By knowing all the reasons why most children will more than likely not tell anyone. Sexual Predators (Child Molesters & Pedophiles alike) are likely to use some or all of the following methods...

- **Dominance**
- **Intimidation**
- **Manipulation**
- **Threats**
- **Instilling Fear**



- **Gaining Child's Trust and/or Love**
- **Playing on Emotional Needs of Child**
- **Displaying Affection & Care**
- **Offering Gifts**
- **Playing Games & Being Fun**
- **Brainwashing (aka Mind Control)**

IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND

The lack of decision-making skills, knowledge & abilities of a "Child" (meaning Birth to 17 Years of Age) is exactly what Sexual Predators take advantage of.

Sometimes Used by Sexual Predators of Children

"This is Our Little Secret."

"I do this because You're Special."

"I do this because I Love You."

Ongoing & Upcoming Events (Knoxville, TN)

Serenity Shelter

(A Program of Knox Area Rescue Ministries)

Ongoing Weekly Sessions

This new SpeakingOut Program at Serenity Shelter began August 10th. Topics of discussion to date...

“SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse, Inc. has recently partnered with Knox Area Rescue Ministries’ Serenity Shelter. Serenity Shelter is a program that provides restoration and recovery to women with various life struggles. SpeakingOut’s President, Susan Suafoa-Dinino is providing a weekly group session with the ladies of Serenity to educate and inform regarding the facts and myths surrounding Child Sexual Abuse and to process some of the personal struggles faced by some of the women at Serenity surrounding sexual abuse. The ladies of Serenity have welcomed Susan into their home and their lives and are eager and willing to learn.” ~*Barbara Davis, Program Director, Serenity Shelter (September 2012)*

1. Personal Experiences of Susan Suafoa-Dinino, President/Founder of SpeakingOut, with the crime of CSA
2. Overview on SpeakingOut & What We Do
3. Message to Survivors
4. Truth & Reality of Child Sexual Abuse
5. The Statistics
6. What Child Sexual Abuse Is
7. Signs & Symptoms of the Sexually Abused Child
8. Why Most Children Don’t Tell
9. How Sexual Predators Silence Children

Upcoming Topics of Discussion...

- Information on the Abuser
- Information on “The System”
- Message to Parents on Prevention

***Coming together as Leaders
in our Homes, our Churches & the Community
to address the issue of Child Sexual Abuse in America!***

LaunchPoint

(A Program of Knox Area Rescue Ministries)

“LaunchPoint is a four-week program designed to help homeless men and women begin a new life journey. Ultimately, LaunchPoint is about restoring hope - reconnecting the individual to the dreams that he or she once had but were lost when the individual's life path went off track. During the four-week period, a class of 20 participants begin discovering God's plan and purpose for their lives, develop their own life plan with realistic goals, and learn to implement their life plan in manageable steps.” (Source of Information: <http://www.karm.org/index.php/Join-Us/launchpoint.html>)

“Thank you, Susan, for your kind and compassionate approach to addressing childhood trauma. Your honest, straight forward approach allowed many participants in our program to break their bondage to secrecy as they revealed painful life experiences with each other. At the end of our four week program, many individuals stated your conversation with them made a lasting impact on their lives. I look forward to your continued participation with our program.” ~*Clark Stevens, Ph.D., LaunchPoint Director, Knox Area Rescue Ministries (In reference to August 9th SpeakingOut Presentation to LaunchPoint Group)*

*** Upcoming SpeakingOut Presentation on Wednesday, November 7th ***

Sponsor of this Month's Newsletter

SAVE THE DATE

MaleSurvivor

13th International Conference:



A World of Healing

November 15 - 18, 2012

Co-Sponsored by
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

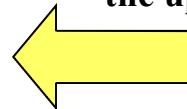
10th Avenue at 58th Street, New York City

Information pertaining to the conference
will be posted on the MaleSurvivor website at

www.malesurvivor.org

IVAT (Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma) , co-host for
Continuing Education credits

We are proud to announce that
SpeakingOut against Child Sexual
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the upcoming MaleSurvivor
13th International
Conference.



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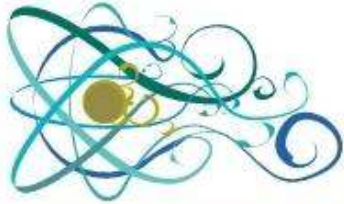
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SpeakingOut

against Child Sexual Abuse, Inc.
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(President/Founder)



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A Safe Place for Children!
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Board Members

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Samantha Stewart (U.S.) samantha@speakingout-csa.com
Gayle D'Ambrosio-Crabtree (TN)

Non-Board Member Volunteers

Melani Marquez (HI) melani@speakingout-csa.com
Anthony Suafoa (HI) anthony@speakingout-csa.com

Information / Details on Open Volunteer Positions & the Deadline to Apply Coming Soon!

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Did you know that you can support our cause just by Shopping Online?

Here's how it works...

SpeakingOut is affiliated with CGBG - Charity Give Back Group
(formerly know as CVN - Christian Values Network)
An Online Shopping Mall with hundreds of Online Stores

Becoming a member is FREE & will only take a few minutes of your time. You will be prompted to search for and select your Chosen Charity. Be sure to type in... SpeakingOut. By doing so, you will find... SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse, Inc. Then every time you log in through CGBG and purchase any of your everyday and/or holiday items online through www.cvn.org, a percentage of the purchase price will be sent directly to SpeakingOut!

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