So often when we talk about sexual violence and sexual violence prevention, we start by asking what potential victims can do to decrease the likelihood of assault. We provide advice about what to wear, what to drink, where and when to walk or drive or be. This way of thinking might serve to reduce risk of stranger assault... maybe... but it places responsibility for the assault not on the attacker but on the potential victim, and our first reaction on hearing of a sexual assault becomes, what did she do wrong? For me, I will tell you that the greatest risk factor for becoming a victim is being exposed to a perpetrator, and the question then becomes, how do we stop this exposure?

I think we can start by asking ourselves questions that might make a difference, questions like:

• Why do people commit acts of sexual violence?
• How can we create a culture which does not tolerate the denigration of women and children and the promotion of violence against them?
• What do victims really need to help their healing? What are victim blaming practices?
• Why do so many people get away with it so many times? A recent study found that most acquaintance rapists had raped five or more women before being charged.

Vermont Network Programs are engaging with community members to discuss these questions, focusing on prevention, intervention and restoration. They are taking actions to support victims and you can too.

Let me tell you first what victims don’t need. Sexual violence victims do not need us to honor them for just one month each year. They don’t need us to extol them for being victims. They don’t need us to highlight certain kinds of sexual violence as deserving our attention while we ignore other kinds. And they don’t need us to tell them that they will be alright.

I can tell you further what many survivors of sexual violence say they do need us to understand and to do: To understand that the assault is only the beginning...
Message from the Statewide Coordinator
continued from page 1

beginning of the trauma. Feeling and being safe is important (victim safety is community safety). Holding the perpetrator accountable is critical. Physical, emotional, financial, and spiritual restoration is needed. Laws, policies and protocols that hold victims’ best interest at heart, not the interests of offenders or systems, are terribly important.

It is critical to become better informed. You can start by reading the following articles and/or taking part in your community events (see calendar). And you can on turn your porch light on Friday and Saturday nights in April to show your support of Victims. Shine the light. Take back the night. Stop sexual violence.

Engaging Young Men in Ending Violence Against Women

A Personal Account

By Jenny Beaudin Ring, Legal Issues Coordinator

I was ambivalent about the Network’s Joint Task Force training this year; Engaging Young Men in Ending Violence Against Women presented by Washington, D.C. group Men Can Stop Rape. However, once David and Pat began presenting, I quickly became engaged, realizing that this was exactly what I had been craving. What I got out of the two-day event was an amazing, insightful experience that has changed both my professional and personal outlook on violence, on society, and on men.

I have identified my privilege in our society that, as a woman, I have been encouraged to take the time, and commended for finding ways, to heal from violence. Yet, the men I know who have also been affected by violence are not given the same message. In fact, the men I know who suffer as victims or co-victims and those living with survivors of domestic or sexual violence are not permitted a visible, safe place to talk about their experiences. Why is that? Has the women’s movement not offered that? Was it our job to? Have men insisted that they don’t want/need it? Isn’t healing from trauma a basic human need? Words aren’t pretty, but they are all around us and we are all responsible to some degree in perpetuating them.

So much of our behavior is predicated on societal expectations. Of course, women have a ‘box’ too. -- particularly when it comes to healing, we are expected to be emotional, seek support, discuss, cry, grieve – all things that contradict the model of manliness. It made me feel really sad. It had not occurred to me how painful it might be to grow up in a box that is different than my own – where expressing emotions is not ‘normal’; outlets to share experiences are not available, and where one constantly wears a stoic and ‘brave’ façade.

One of our tasks during the training was to identify the strongest man you know’. My mind went blank…I became acutely aware that most of the men in my life, though men that I love dearly, are not what I would consider ‘strong’. I was asked how I defined ‘strong’ -- I suggested characteristics like empathy, thoughtfulness, introspectiveness, the willingness to test your beliefs, and dedication to your life’s work, your family and friends. Does the fact that men are so restricted mean that they cannot fit my definition of strength? Not necessarily. My partner challenges those expectations daily. Also, I am privileged to work with many strong men in my professional capacity.

During the training, I found my mind straying often to my two small boys. One minute, I was optimistic - arguing that the participants are raising strong men which will result in slow but steady changes. The next minute, I was second guessing everything I’ve done as a parent. I don’t want my boys stifled by societal restraints, afraid to show emotion, or failing to be true to themselves. But how can I, as a parent, combat the
media, Walt Disney, my parents, pre-school, etc.? The task is daunting.

This conference strengthened the fact that violence is not just a women’s issue --- we are all affected -- women and girls, men and boys --- victims and survivors, co-victims, perpetrators, and their families, spouses, and friends.

We need to create positive role models – men and women of strength. We need to listen to each other’s stories and share our experiences. We need to work together to ensure that violence against women, men and children — against anyone — is not commonplace, is not acceptable, and is not tolerated.

To find out more about engaging young men in work to end violence against women:
Men Can Stop Rape: www.mencanstoprape.org
Teen Action Campaign: www.seeitandstopit.org
Family Violence Prevention Fund: www.endabuse.org

Women with disabilities experience abuse at a rate 2-10 times higher than women who do not have disabilities (D. Sobsey. 1994. The End of Silent Acceptance. Paul H. Brooks Publishing). The Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence has been grappling with how to reach women with disabilities for many years.

Addressing accessibility can be a weighty matter because doing it well requires reaching out to programs and services who we have not worked with in the past. Network advocates find themselves at more and more tables working in collaborations or building them. This can be a strain on programs’ resources particularly for the programs with a small staff size. Building collaborations with agencies and their staff to the point where there is a trusting relationship can take time and requires many opportunities to work together.

The Network Office received an Educational and Technical Assistance Grant to End Violence Against Women with Disabilities from the Dept. of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women to assist programs in meeting the following goals:

• Review programming and outreach materials for cultural and programmatic accessibility to women with all types of disabilities.
• Bridge relationships with organizations that provide advocacy for people with disabilities.

This project will help in building bridges between Network program advocates and advocates from Disability Advocacy organizations including Green Mountain Self-Advocates, which is the state-wide organization for 17 local chapters of people with developmental disabilities who speak for themselves. Also included in the grant proposal are the Vermont Center for Independent Living, and Deaf Victim Advocacy Services. Others will be invited to the table as work gets underway. The intention behind the project is to have representatives from Network programs and disability advocacy organizations build relationships and advise one another on serving either victims for the disability advocacy organizations or people with disabilities for the Network programs.

One way that the planning project will achieve this goal is by creating and testing self-assessment tools to look at accessibility and victim/survivor cultural awareness.

This project includes technical assistance on any disability-related question for all of the Programs. If Programs are running into questions, they are encouraged to call or email Karen Vastine (223-1302, ext 35 karen@vtnetwork.org). If she is unable to answer the question immediately, she has many local and national resources that she can draw upon for recommendations.

This is an exciting opportunity for the Network as a whole. The Programs will have a chance to build relationships with people who are just as dedicated to advocacy for people with disabilities as they are for victims and survivors of sexual and domestic violence. Given that people with disabilities experience abuse at such high rates, it is crucial that victims with disabilities know and feel that sexual and domestic violence victim advocacy organizations are for them.
As we go to press, there are many initiatives “under the golden dome” that would affect survivors of domestic and sexual violence. For up to date information about any of the bills highlighted below, check out the state’s legislative website at www.leg.state.vt.us. From there you can see lists of bills that have been introduced, read the text of bills and track their current status, find contact information for your legislators, see weekly agendas for all the House and Senate committees, find out about public hearings around the state, and more!

One very exciting development this session is the number of survivors of domestic and sexual violence who’ve been active in working with their legislators. Survivors and their supporters have been making calls, writing emails and letters, and providing amazing testimony. If you’d like to find out more about contacting legislators or providing testimony, please contact Sarah Kenney, the Network’s public policy coordinator, at sarahk@vtnetwork.org or call 223-1302 ext. 25.

Sarah also maintains an email legislative alert list. To receive periodic updates about the legislative process and action alerts about specific bills, email sarahk@vtnetwork.org and ask to be added to the legislative alert list.

Here are a few highlights:

Voyeurism (S.15)

The voyeurism bill has passed the Senate and been sent to the House Judiciary Committee. The bill prohibits a person from knowingly and intentionally viewing, photographing, filming, or recording the intimate areas of another person without their knowledge and consent when the person is in a place or under circumstances where she or he should have a reasonable expectation of privacy. A first offense would carry a penalty of up to two years and/or $1000 and a second subsequent offense would result in up to three years’ imprisonment and a fine of $5000. The House committee will likely take up the bill later in the session.

Stalking (H.373)

A new stalking bill has been introduced in the House, but has yet to be considered by any committees. It would tighten the language of Vermont’s stalking statute and would provide a new protection order (similar to existing Abuse Protection Orders available through Family Court) which would be available to victims of stalking. The Network supports this bill and would like to see the new protection orders extended to also protect victims of sexual assault.

Disclosure of Communications made to Interpreters (H.161)

The House Judiciary Committee passed H.161, which would extend the existing prohibition on disclosure of information obtained by interpreters for the deaf and hard of hearing to also cover interpreters for people with limited English proficiency. The bill will be voted on by the entire House and then – if it passes – sent to the Senate for consideration. The Network supports this bill.

Criminal Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of Vulnerable Adults (H.163)

The House Judiciary Committee is also continuing to take testimony on the vulnerable adults bill. The latest draft, which the Network supports, includes several tiers of crimes of sexual abuse, with different penalties for each. The different crimes are: sexual activity by a caregiver that involves lewd and lascivious behavior, sexual activity by a caregiver that involves a sexual act, sexual activity by any person that involves lewd and lascivious behavior without the vulnerable adult’s consent, and sexual activity by any person that involves a sexual act without the vulnerable adult’s consent.

Restoring Good Behavior Reductions for Minimum Sentences (S.24)

The Senate Judiciary Committee is considering a new version of the "Good Time" bill which is very different from S.24 as introduced. The Department of Corrections has proposed a new plan that would set up a one-time "payout" of all good time for all offenders who are currently incarcerated. This means that on July 1, 2005, every offender would get a credit of all the earned and automatic good time that would be coming to them over the rest of their sentence. Their sentence would be recalculated to incorporate all of that time, and from that point forward there would be no more good time accrued for anyone (except in work camps, which would continue to operate as they do currently). DOC has
called this proposal “true” truth in sentencing. The Network Legislative Committee has agreed to support this proposal.

Unemployment Compensation for Survivors of Domestic Violence (S.41)

The Network will testify in favor of this bill before the Senate Economic Development Committee on March 10th. This bill would allow survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking to have “good cause” to apply for unemployment compensation if they need to leave work as a result of the violence they are experiencing. The claims would not be charged to the individual employer and wouldn’t affect the employer’s experience rating. We anticipate that the need would be minimal (fewer than five people a year), but for those few survivors, this provision could be life-saving.

Reprinted with permission from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center’s publication entitled:

Global Perspectives On Sexual Violence:

Findings from the World Report on Violence and Health

“[The World Report on Violence and Health] makes a major contribution to our understanding of violence and its impact on societies. It illuminates the different faces of violence, from the ‘invisible’ suffering of society’s most vulnerable individuals to the all-too visible tragedy of societies in conflict...And in doing so, it reminds us that safety and security don’t just happen: they are the result of collective consensus and public investment.” — Nelson Mandela (Krug, et al., 2002)

A Closer Look

• In some countries, up to one-third of adolescent girls report forced sexual initiation (Jewkes, Sen, and Garcia-Moreno, 2002).
• Mass rape of women and girls is used as a weapon of war; between 10,000 and 60,000 women and girls were raped in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1992 to 1995 (Zwi et al, 2002).
• Sexual Violence against men and boys is a serious and understudied problem. Studies show that 5-10% of men report a history of childhood sexual abuse (Jewkes, Sen, and Garcia-Moreno, 2002).
• Women are subjected to sexual violence in health care settings—including sexual harassment, genital mutilation, forced gynecological procedures, threatened or forced abortions, and inspections of virginity (Jewkes, Sen, and Garcia-Moreno, 2002).
• Hundreds of thousands of women and girls throughout the world are forcibly trafficked and prostituted each year (Jewkes, Sen, and Garcia-Moreno, 2002).

Sexual Violence Risk Factors

Gender-based Inequality

Sexual violence is more likely to occur in societies with rigid and traditional gender roles: “in societies where the ideology of male superiority is strong – emphasizing dominance, physical strength and male honor – rape is more common” (Jewkes, Sen, and Garcia-Moreno, p. 149, 2002)...the concept of gender equality disrupts a deep-seated system of inequality, creating social unrest in the short-term but empowerment and greater equality for women in the long-term.

Male Entitlement

Men are more likely to commit sexual violence in communities where concepts of male honor and entitlement are culturally accepted and where sexual violence goes unpunished...Social ideology entrenched in male entitlement may deny women a fundamental

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right to refuse sex and fail to recognize marital rape as a problem.

Absent or Weak Sanctions and Services
Community tolerance of sexual violence is evidenced by the unresponsiveness of systems and services. Sexual violence that occurs in certain settings or forms is not recognized as “sexual violence” by law in many countries... Weak or absent social sanctions and services contribute to and exacerbate sexual violence. Unresponsive systems fail to hold perpetrators accountable and fall short of victims’ needs.

Poverty
Violence impacts certain groups disproportionately. Poverty increases people’s vulnerabilities to sexual exploitation in the workplace, schools, and in prostitution, sex trafficking, and the drug trade...

War
The rape and torture of women, men, and children as military tactics have been widely documented. Rape has been used as a weapon of war and conflict. “Rape is often used to terrorize and undermine communities, to force people to flee, and to break up community structures. Physical and psychological effects on victims are far-reaching” (Zwi, Garfield, and Lorette, p. 218, 2002). Refugees who flee conflict and persecution are at extreme risk for sexual violence in their new settings, including refugee camps. War often depletes economic and social resources and pushes many people into prostitution.

The Way Forward
Much can and has been done to address sexual violence, but “the world has not yet fully measured the size of the task and does not yet have all the tools to carry it out” (Krug et al., p. 254, 2002). While the report findings reveal gaps in sexual violence research, prevention, and intervention across the world, there are clear steps that advocates, researchers, and policymakers can take to help light the way forward...

- Increasing the capacity for collecting data on violence.
- Researching violence – its causes, consequences and prevention.
- Promoting the primary prevention of violence.
- Promoting gender and social equality and equity to prevent violence.
- Strengthening care and support services for victims.
- Bringing it all together – developing a national plan of action.

[For a detailed description of how to implement above recommendations go to www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/media/news/08_09_2004/en or request a hard copy at library@vtntnetwork.org ]

Summary
Sexual Violence is a human rights and public health concern that transcends boundaries and incurs a devastating global human cost. Gender inequalities, male entitlement, absent and/or weak social sanctions and services, poverty, and war put certain populations at greater risk of sexual violence... Change is possible through a commitment to the protection of human rights and a national sexual violence prevention strategy... Through the commitment of members of society at every level, new programs and policies can emerge to significantly eliminate sexual violence.

[Booklet is available in multiple formats at www.nsvrc.org or request hard copy at library@vtntnetwork.org ]

References


April Is Sexual Violence Awareness Month

Honor Survivors Day
Thursday, April 14, is a statewide event sponsored by the Vermont Network. All local sexual violence Programs will be creating a visual representation by raising a red flag for every estimated victim/survivor in their locality. One flag equals one victim of sexual violence equals one tragedy... red flags will fly all around the state.

Advocates from across Vermont will then caravan to the Statehouse and join together at 1:00 pm. Almost 3,000 red flags will be placed on the Statehouse lawn followed by a moment of reflection and silence in honor of all victims/survivors of sexual violence in Vermont.

Vermont Crime Victim Services Awards
The awards will be presented on Thursday, April 14 during National Crime Victims’ Week at the Vermont Statehouse in Montpelier at 2:30pm. The Vermont Center of Crime Victim Services and the Vermont Network are coordinating these awards. All are invited in recognizing victim activists who have inspired us, and programs or individuals whose work has been particularly innovative and pioneering.

Saturday, April 9: The Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services presents a concert to benefit the “Courage in Bloom” Memorial Garden Project: Tammy Fletcher and the Disciples, Contois Auditorium, Burlington, 7pm. Suggested Donation: $10

The Healing Fire Initiative
The Healing Fire Initiative began in Burlington in 2002 as a collaborative effort between sexual violence survivors, advocates, community agencies, college campuses, and supporters’ ideas and efforts. The main goal is to provide a place where survivors can find healing and comfort while being supported by advocates and friends, in addition to providing an opportunity to create public awareness and promote the message that sexual violence is not acceptable. To get involved or receive more information contact Gedakina at 802-457-2644 or gedakina@valley.net.

The Clothesline Project
The Clothesline Project is a program started on Cape Cod, MA, in 1990 to address the issue of violence against women. It is a vehicle for women affected by violence to express their emotions by decorating a shirt. They then hang the shirt on a clothesline to be viewed by others as testimony to the problem of violence against women.

Voices Against Violence
St. Albans, Vermont
The Clothesline Project will be displayed at various locations throughout Franklin and Grand Isle Counties: Main St. Bank North Display window in St. Albans from April 1-6, at St. Albans City Hall on April 7, at The Cold Hollow Career Center in Enosburg on April 14, at People's Plaza in Richford on April 21, and at the Alburg Parent Child Center on April 28.

Rutland County Women’s Network and Shelter
Rutland, Vermont
On Thursday, April 14 there will be an on-air live radio solicitation for raising support for sexual violence awareness. A benefit for RCWNS will be put on by the Five Seasons Salon from 5-8 pm on Wednesday, April 27. (Call 802-775-6788 for further details)

Clarina Howard Nichols Center (CHNC)
Morrisville, Vermont
On Monday, April 25, CHNC will be participating in a Johnson State College endeavor. We will present Sexual Violence 101, and a dialogue: Rape Myths and Facts with college students, faculty, and staff.

Our Healing Fire will be on the lawn of the Dewey Building at Johnson State College campus, from noon on Tuesday, April 26, with an opening ceremony, to noon on Wednesday, April 27, with a closing at 11:30 AM. There will be music and refreshments.

continued on next page
Volunteer Training coming up in May. (Call 802-888-2584 for further details)

**Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE)**  
**Bennington, Vermont**

On Saturday, April 2, PAVE presents singer songwriter Don White in concert, with silent auction and light fare making this fundraising benefit event a must. Tickets are $15.00 through PAVE. A raffle drawing of a beautiful king-size quilt hand-crafted by Marjorie Costello will take place during the concert. Sexual Violence Panel, a collaboration of local college students, health advocates, legal and law enforcement agencies, and PAVE, will address the issues of service and prevention.

(Call PAVE at 802-442-2370 for tickets or details)

**Sexual Assault Crisis Team (SACT),**  
**Barre**

Raffle tickets will be on sale for $2.00 each throughout April with drawing on April 30. Prize is a makeover and photo shoot with the Wig Goddess.

Saturday, April 16, will be Advocate Rejuvenation Day! From 1 – 5:00pm and open to all advocates (Network programs, States Attorneys offices, etc.). Presenters will be Patty Witham, Bobbi Gagne, and Keith Goslan; activities include yoga; guided imagery, inner child work, and other tools to reduce stress and increase wellness. Please call to register.

Sunday, April 17, is Survivors Day! at the SACT training center from 1:00–5:00 pm. Open to male and female survivors. Registration is recommended. The program will include tools for healing, a circle discussion, moving from self-harm to self-care.

**Thursday, April 28,** is Dine Out to Stop Sexual Violence. SACT is working with Washington County restaurants to have them donate a percentage of their sales to SACT.

(SACT training center is located at 4 Cottage Street, Barre at 802-476-1388)

**WISE**  
**Lebanon, New Hampshire**

We will be hosting our 2nd Annual Healing Fire from April 15–17. (For details call 603-448-5922)

Throughout the month there will be a display at the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center lobby, along with the airing of Public Service Announcements on sexual violence awareness.

Sexual Violence Awareness Movie / Discussion Series are held on Fridays, 6pm, at the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Auditorium G, with free admission and refreshments:  
- April 1 – A Rape In A Small Town
- The Florence Holway Story  
- April 8 – Nuts  
- April 15 – The Bandit Queen  
- April 22 – Boys Don’t Cry  
- April 29 – The Accused

**Umbrella**  
**St. Johnsbury**

Free Movie and Pizza Nights  
Mondays at 6pm at Youth Services:  
- April 4 – Fight Back  
- April 18 – TBA

The Clothesline Project will be ongoing throughout April, creating t-shirts at Umbrella, 8 – 4:30pm, and Youth Services and the Community Justice Center, 9 – 3pm. On Monday, April 11, 5:00pm, join Umbrella for a community event, Supporting Survivors – Unveiling Our Local Clothesline.

(Call for further details 802-748-8645)

**AWARE**  
**Hardwick**

On Thursday, April 7 from 10am-2pm, Central VT Wellness on Wheels will participate in Wellness Day with free blood pressure, diabetes and cholesterol tests, and massages available before and after the weekly free Community Dinner at the United Church of Christ, Main Street, Hardwick.

On Wednesday, April 13 at 3pm, a flag ceremony honoring survivors will be held at the Memorial Park, Main Street, Hardwick, with decorated cars, speakers, poetry, music, and silence. Following this event, from 4-6 pm, AWARE will sponsor a Healing Fire with a candlelight march from the Park.

AWARE sponsors an ongoing Survivors of Incest 12 Step support group (SIA), Thursdays from 10-11am at 88 High Street in Hardwick.

(Call 802-472-6463 for details)
WomenSafe
Bennington
On Tuesday, April 19, WomenSafe will host a Mother’s Day event at the United Methodist Church to celebrate Barbara Lane and her artwork, which will be featured on this year’s Mother’s Day card. Give a donation in honor of your mother, or another special woman, and a card will be mailed directly to her.

Video showing of Rape Is… will take place on Tuesday, April 26, from 1 to 2:30 pm, at the Addison County Parent Child Center followed by the interactive Clothesline Project.

The second annual Healing Fire will be on Wednesday, April 27, at the Spirit in Nature Trail with music and snacks.

(Call 802-388-9180 for further details)

Burlington Area
The following events are sponsored by the UVM Women’s Center, Women’s Rape Crisis Center, SafeSpace VT, UVM LGBTQA Services, UVM Campus Christian Ministries, and UVM Gender Violence Response Team:

On March 31 through April 1 there will be a Healing Fire at UVM Women’s Center, 34 S Williams Street. The opening ceremony will be Thursday at noon and the closing at sunset on Friday.

Learn what it means to move from victim to survivor; Tuesdays, April 5 and April 12, Empower Yourself: A Journey to Healing will be from 12:00 noon to 2:00pm. (Space limited—call to register 802-656-3882)

On Wednesday, April 6, at 5:30pm, there will be a rally and march, Take Back the Night, on the UVM Green, with a Speak-Out at 6:30pm, Contois Auditorium. Join us after the speak-out at American Flatbread. $4 of every pie sold goes to Women’s Rape Crisis Center! (For more info call 864-0555)

Race, Class, Gender & Sexuality: How They Are All Connected Left to Right on Monday, April 11, 7:00pm, at Campus Center Theatre. Political strategist, author and community organizer Suzanne Pharr will speak.

Searching for Angela Shelton will be shown at 7:00pm, on Wednesday, April 13 at Ira Allen Chapel. Filmmaker Angela Shelton toured the country interviewing 32 other women named Angela Shelton in an effort to survey the experiences of American women.

SafeSpace VT presents Run Against Rape, the first annual 5 km run, to be held on Saturday, April 23 from Leddy Park in Burlington (off North Avenue) to Oakledge Park. Registration is at 9am (all participants commit to raising $15+) with start at 11 am. (Call Connie Beal for info or to register at 863-0003 or connie@safespacevt.org)

Women at Noon Series at 34 South Williams Street presents Karen Vastine of the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence on Thursday, April 28 for talk/discussion, Sexual Violence Against People with Disabilities.

Throughout April there will be a Survivor’s Art Show at Wine Works (corner of St. Paul and Main Street). Join us an opening reception on Thursday, April 14, 5:00pm including jazz piano and appetizers.

Teal Ribbons, the national symbol for Sexual Violence Awareness, will be available at all event sponsors location and at all events. Pick up a ribbon and participate in raising awareness.

The Women’s Rape Crisis Center has continued the tradition of the Clothesline Project since 1997. The Project will be displayed at local campuses, including Saint Michael’s College and The University of Vermont during the third week of April.

Save The Date!

Finding Our Voice
8th Annual Conference for Survivors of Sexual Violence and Abuse
June 25th 2004
Burlington, VT

“The best part of the day for me was eliminating feeling alone. Overall, a great, re-energizing day!”

Support yourself as a survivor of sexual violence.

“The workshop was extremely empowering and full of helpful insights.”

Workshops and activities are designed to support survivors’ strengths and healing.

“What impressed me about the workshop was the positive attitude and joy communicated by the presenter.”

Call the Vermont Network office for more information or to register: 223-1302 ext. 30. TTY 223-1115
For Shelter and Beyond; Ending Violence Against Battered Women and Their Children

By Massachusetts Coalition of Battered Women Service Groups

This wonderful manual compiles short pieces by a diverse group of author/advocates. It’s at once an engaging and easy read (you could keep it in the bathroom and read one piece every time you go - really!) and as thorough and thoughtful an introduction to supporting women and children and making social change as I have seen. I wish someone had handed this to me when I first started working on a hotline, and I wish we could give a copy to every new advocate working with survivors of domestic violence.

Dilemmas of Desire: Teenage Girls Talk about Sexuality

By Deborah L. Tolman

Through relating the stories of 31 teenage girls, this book offers an intimate, often disturbing, sometimes inspiring, picture of how teen girls’ understand, experience and respond to their sexual feelings, and how society shapes and distorts this experience. Tolman outlines many of the dilemmas faced by teen girls including having to choose between their sexual feelings and their safety, and navigating a culture that continues to promulgate the belief that adolescent girls should be sexy for boys yet not have their own sexual desires.

Although this book is based on a study, it is reader-friendly. Tolman optimistically encourages the reader to consider the possibility that teen girls’ sexual desire is life sustaining, providing crucial information about the relational world in which they live.

Why Bad Ads Happen to Good Causes, and How To Ensure They Won't Happen To You

By Andy Goodman

A book length guide for creating more effective public interest print advertising! It is a great resource for anyone planning on creating any outreach materials.

The focus is on print ads for newspapers and magazines but has significantly informed my general poster creation. It outlines 10 clear steps to a successful poster/ ad campaign. Great tips, very easy to reference, and entertaining on top of it all!

Our Guys

by Bernard Lefkowitz

A compelling, eye-opening, thoroughly researched and deeply disturbing account of the “Glen Ridge rape” case, in which a group of popular high school athlete boys raped and terrorized a female classmate who has a developmental disability. When the sexual assault came to light, many in the town rallied around its star athletes and discounted the victim. This book is a rare glimpse into the myriad ways in which white, middle-class American culture condones sexual violence and sets up victims and perpetrators alike. It is also again in the media because one of the alleged perpetrators of the gang rape, Richard Corcoran, recently returned from a military post in Afghanistan and shot and wounded his wife (who had separated from him) and her partner, then fatally shot himself.

Thou Shalt Not Be Aware: Society’s Betrayal of the Child

By Alice Miller

A classic! The brutal reality of child abuse brought forth in this book shatters any complacency one may have had. The development of human nature and the Western world, with a welcome in-depth exploration of Freud, is presented for the lay-person to grapple with, forever altering our thoughts of the “traditional” methods of child-rearing. Alice Miller is a brilliant psychoanalyst whose work has helped create a world of self-conscious and self-loving individuals who do not need or know how to abuse others.

Compelled To Crime: the Gender Entrapment of Battered Black Women

By Beth E. Richie

Beth Richi conducted thoughtful and thorough interviews with women who, for various reasons, were incarcerated for serious crimes. Although somewhat academic, the research findings are broken up appropriately with the life stories of the female offenders. Richi does an amazing job of looking not at the crime, but at the interplay between gender, race, poverty, domestic and sexual violence and substance abuse and how different circumstances lead these women to prison. Impassioned and inspiring – highly recommended.
Sexual Violence: Some Stats and Facts

- An estimated 302,100 women and 92,700 men are forcibly raped each year in the United States.
- Of the victims/survivors who told us about their perpetrator, only 3% were assaulted by a stranger. That means that 97% of our callers knew their perpetrator prior to the assault.²
- In 2001, only 39% of rapes and sexual assaults were reported to law enforcement officials.³
- Women with disabilities are raped and abused at a rate at least twice that of the general population of women.³
- Rape is a crime committed primarily against youth. Of the women who reported being raped at some time in their lives, 21.6% were under 12 years old, 32.4% were 12 to 17 years old, 29% were 18-24 years old, and 16.6% were over 25 years old.⁴

∑ In 2000, of 482,384 child maltreatment victims, 93,338 (11.3%) were sexually abused.⁵
- In 2004, Programs of the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence served a total of 1208 women, children, and men who were victims of sexual violence, of which 383 were children and youth under the age of 18.⁶
- Individuals in dating relationships can obtain protective orders against their abusers in 30 states. Of those, 20 states, including Vermont, provide mechanisms for minors in dating relationships to secure such protection.⁷
- In 2004, the Vermont Network Programs’ violence prevention-education work throughout the state reached 23,507 kindergarten thru high school youth and 16,017 college students.⁶

Myth/Truth Posters Available for Sexual Violence Awareness

Choose from 4 different posters:
- Myth / Most rape victims are raped by strangers
- Myth / She didn’t say no. She didn’t fight. I didn’t rape her....
- Myth / She didn’t say no. she didn’t fight. I didn’t rape her ...(for lesbians)
- Myth / Sexual violence isn’t a men’s issue

Contact your local Network Program

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¹ California Coalition Against Sexual Assault, 2001 Report: Research on Rape and Violence.
² Women’s Rape Crisis Center, Burlington, VT www.stoprapevermont.org
⁷ National Center for Victims of Crime's Legislation Database.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>VERMONT NETWORK MEMBER PROGRAMS</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* = Shelter</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>AWARE</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 307, Hardwick, VT 05843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-472-6463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:aware@vtlink.net">aware@vtlink.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>*Battered Women's Services and Shelter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 652, Barre, VT 05641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 877-543-9498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:bwss@sover.net">bwss@sover.net</a></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Clarina Howard Nichols Center (CHNC)</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 517, Morrisville, VT 05661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-888-5256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:chnc@clarina.org">chnc@clarina.org</a></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>NEKCA Step O.N.E.</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 1004, Newport, VT 05855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 800-224-7837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:stepone@nekca.org">stepone@nekca.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>New Beginnings</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Valley Street, Springfield, VT 05156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-885-2050 or 802-674-6700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:newbeg@vermontel.net">newbeg@vermontel.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE)</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P. O. Box 227, Bennington, VT 05201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-442-2111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:pave1@adelphia.net">pave1@adelphia.net</a></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Rutland County Women’s Network and Shelter (RCWNS)</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 313, Rutland, VT 05701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-775-3232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:rcwnsreb@yahoo.com">rcwnsreb@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Safeline</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 446, Randolph, VT 05060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 800-639-7233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:safeline@valley.net">safeline@valley.net</a></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Sexual Assault Crisis Team (SACT)</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Cottage Street, Barre, VT 05641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-479-5577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:gagnepad@aol.com">gagnepad@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Umbrella</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>970 Memorial Drive, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-748-8141 or 748-8645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:zoe@umbrellavt.org">zoe@umbrellavt.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Voices Against Violence</strong></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 72, Saint Albans, VT 05753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-524-6575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:voices@cvoeo.org">voices@cvoeo.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Women Helping Battered Women (WHBW)</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 1535, Burlington, VT 05402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-658-1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:whbw@whbw.org">whbw@whbw.org</a></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Women’s Crisis Center</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 933, Brattleboro, VT 05302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-254-6954 or 800-773-0689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:wmnscc@together.net">wmnscc@together.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Women’s Information Service (WISE)</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79 Hanover Street, Lebanon, NH 03766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 603-448-5525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:peggy.oneil@wiseoftheupppervalley.org">peggy.oneil@wiseoftheupppervalley.org</a></td>
</tr>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Women’s Rape Crisis Center</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 92, Burlington, VT 05402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-863-1236 or 800-773-0689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:stoprape@sover.net">stoprape@sover.net</a></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>WomenSafe</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 67, Middlebury, VT 05753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotline: 802-388-4205 or 802-388-4205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTY: 388-9181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:info@womensafe.net">info@womensafe.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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| **Statewide Hotlines:**                             |
| [will connect you with closest local Program]       |
| 1-800-228-7395 (Domestic Violence)                  |
| 1-800-489-7273 (Sexual Assault)                     |

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<tr>
<th><strong>Network News</strong></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montpelier, VT 05601</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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