



March 2013 eNews

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Coalition Reminders:

Submit eNews items by the 15th!

Upcoming Calls:

- **Full Coalition Call:** Thursday, April 25th 2-4pmET
- **Policy Committee:** Tuesday, April 22nd at 2pmET
- **Public Awareness:**

NSVRC, Poynter's News University launch online course for journalists reporting on sexual violence. February 14, 2013. <http://nsvrc.org/news/press-releases/20186>. To take the free course, visit <http://nsvrc.org/elearning/reporting-on-sexual-violence>

Excerpt: The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) announced today it has teamed up with the Poynter Institute's News University to create a free, online course for journalists, educators and the public on how to report on sexual violence. The course will help journalists go beyond conventional reporting to help audiences learn more about the reality of sexual violence, and will help them cover the topic with context, accuracy and sensitivity.

Pete Yost. February 28, 2013. Study: Sentencing in child porn cases uneven. *The Washington Post*. http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/study-sentencing-in-child-porn-cases-uneven/2013/02/28/a97082b0-813e-11e2-a350-49866afab584_story.html

Excerpt: The U.S. Sentencing Commission says that the advent of the Internet has led to significant sentencing disparities in child pornography cases and that the existing penalty structure needs to be changed. In a study for Congress, the commission said Wednesday that federal law enforcement agencies handle nearly 2,000 child pornography prosecutions annually, up from 700 a decade ago. It attributed that increase largely to pornographers exploiting the Internet. The report says the current sentencing scheme fails to distinguish adequately among offenders based on how dangerous they are and is overly severe in some cases. The commission urged Congress to amend the law to take into account the volume of an offender's child pornography collection, the types of sexual conduct depicted in the images, the ages of the victims depicted, how long an offender has maintained a collection and how involved an offender is with others in an Internet "community" devoted to child pornography. One sign that the approach to sentencing needs to be changed is that judges are more frequently disregarding the sentencing guideline ranges for child pornography.

Tony Loftis. March 6, 2013. The Silent Crisis: Runaway Children. *The Huffington Post*. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tony-loftis/runaways_b_2820865.html

Excerpt: For every child that is missing from their home due to abduction (stranger or family), hundreds of children go missing from their homes for entirely different reasons. These children don't have exciting or scandalous stories to plaster across the headlines. Not everyone has grid-searches and search-and-rescue dogs or thousands of followers on Facebook. These runaway children represent the silent crises that go on every day.

Child abuse response conference draws experts from around country. New free materials from National Child Protection Training Center. February 28, 2013. <http://web.wmitchell.edu/news/2013/02/child-abuse-response-conference-draws-experts-from-around-country/>

Excerpt: A day-long examination of the way our institutions deal with child abuse drew more than 175 people to the Mitchell campus February 22 for "Failure to Protect: Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse," featuring experts from diverse institutions and organizations, who explored the successes and failures of churches, schools, residential settings, and social institutions when it comes to dealing with child abuse.

The purpose of this eNews is to provide members of the National Coalition to Prevent Child Sexual Exploitation monthly updates on trends, issues, studies, and work being done in the field of child sexual exploitation prevention. If you believe you are receiving this email in error or would like to unsubscribe from this service, please email: PreventTogether@gmail.com.

Petula Dvorak. February 4, 2013. Teenage quest for fame produces scary consequences. *The Washington Post*. http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/teenage-quest-for-fame-produces-scary-consequences/2013/02/04/6c6396f0-6f0a-11e2-8b8d-e0b59a1b8e2a_story.html

Excerpt: We got freaked out by kids sexting. We were shocked when some high school football players ordered prostitutes with their smartphones. Police locked up three boys — two 16-year-olds and a 15-year-old — from West Springfield High School last month for their alleged attempts at becoming the Mitchell Brothers 2.0 — porn kings of the burbs. This is the generation that has been born, fed, diapered and directed on camera. While my generation's childhood memories come down to a shelf of photo albums or a cardboard box of faded Polaroids, Generation Y has been documented since birth with thousands upon thousands of digital images. They are the real, live "Truman Show." And growing up in front of a camera has planted the seeds of some seriously scary consequences. What do you think kids want most in life today? Money? Marriage? Adventure? A cool job? Spiritual fulfillment? Nope. "Quantitative analysis revealed that fame was the number one value, selected as the most important value for participants' future goals," according to a study done by psychology professors at the University of California at Los Angeles.

**New from Stop Porn Culture:
Summer Events in Boston, MA.**

<http://www.stoppornculture.org>

Excerpt: Check out the new website from Stop Porn Culture featuring information about summer activities in Boston such as a Media Institute, an SPC training, and a feminist teach-in. Scholarships available! Join us and find out how to be an effective, joyful activist who feels connected, supported and ready to take on the porn culture.

<http://stoppornculture.org/index.php/ta-ke-action/attend-an-event/category/1-conferences-and-workshops>

John Stang. March 4, 2013. Online sex trafficking? Not if the Senate has its way. *The Crosscut*.

<http://crosscut.com/2013/03/04/olympia-2013/113278/online-sex-trafficking-not-if-senate-has-its-way/>

Excerpt: The Washington Senate took its second shot Monday to penalize Internet advertising for sex with minors, hoping the the bill will clear a federal hurdle that tripped up a 2012 state law. Last year, the Legislature passed a Kohl-Welles bill aimed at Backpage.com, whose national online advertising includes sex ads, some of which have been linked to underage prostitutes. Village Voice Media — until recently, the owner of Seattle Weekly — owns Backpage.com. Last September, it sold Seattle Weekly and its other alternative weeklies to a group of managers from Village Voice Media Holdings, who formed the Voice MediaGroup. The Weekly has since been sold again to Sound Publishing. This time around, Kohl-Welles' bill is targeting the criminals.

PreventConnect is planning to host a web conference on Shifting Boundaries! Please contact David Lee at david@calcasa.org if you have experience implementing this program!

PreventConnect is planning to host a web conference on Shifting Boundaries, a primary prevention program that has both a classroom curricula and school-wide interventions that is designed to reduce dating violence and sexual harassment among middle school students. In addition to having the researcher as presenter, we would include the perspective of a prevention practitioner that has implemented this program. Shifting Boundaries: A Summary of Findings from a National Institute of Justice Experimental Evaluation of a Youth Dating Violence Prevention Program in New York City Middle Schools: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/236175.pdf>. The National Institute of Justice has released a study by Bruce Taylor, Ph.D., Nan D. Stein, Ed.D., Dan Woods, Ph.D., Elizabeth Mumford, Ph.D., which examines the impact of a dating violence prevention program for middle school students in a large urban school district. Researchers concluded that a comprehensive school program was effective in reducing dating violence and sexual harassment.

Ruben Rosario. March 6, 2013. Film Documents the global reach of trafficking in children. *Pioneer Press*. http://www.twincities.com/crime/ci_22734978/ruben-rosario-film-documents-global-reach-trafficking-children?source=rss

Excerpt: Welcome to human trafficking on a global scale. Its disturbing scope is vividly captured in "Not My Life," a documentary narrated by actress Glenn Close. A shorter online version is at <http://teachunicef.org/explore/media/watch/feature-film-not-my-life>

NSVRC announces new research: Plummer, C. (2013, March). *Using Policies to Promote Child Sexual Abuse Prevention: What is Working?*. Harrisburg, PA: VAWnet, a project of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence. <http://nsvrc.org/publications/articles/using-policies-promote-child-sexual-abuse-prevention-what-working>

Excerpt: This Applied Research paper reviews both international and U.S.-based policy efforts to promote sexual abuse prevention and offers considerations for policy development in communities and organizations. Listen to the accompanying podcast interview with Alisa Klein—<http://nsvrc.org/elearning/20352>

Free NEARI Press Webinar: Ancient Ways: Indigenous Healing Innovations applied to Sexual Behaviors in the 21st Century with Geral Blanchard on April 2, 2013 from 2-3pmET.

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/3405866258612634112>

Excerpt: Geral Blanchard combines traditional indigenous wisdom with contemporary neuroscience and psychotherapeutic innovations to create a comprehensive model for psychological healing. Blanchard encourages the exploration of robust therapeutic growth that requires a strong spiritual component, immersion in nature, and recovery strategies that are steeped in community relationships, rituals, and ceremonies.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month!

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/>

Excerpt: April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time we recognize that we each play a part in promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in communities!

Jennifer Bleyer. March 20, 2013. Patty Wetterling questions sex offender laws. *The CityPages*.

<http://www.citypages.com/2013-03-20/news/patty-wetterling-questions-sex-offender-laws/full/>

Excerpt: That's what Wetterling used to believe about sex offenders, too. Yet over the course of two decades immersed in the issue, she found her assumptions slowly chipped away. Contrary to the widely held fear of predatory strangers, she learned that abductions like Jacob's are extremely rare, and that 90% of sexual offenses against children are committed by family members or acquaintances. While sex offenders are stereotyped as incurable serial abusers, a 2002 Bureau of Justice study found that they in fact have a distinctly low recidivism rate of just 5.3% for other sex crimes within three years of being released from prison. Though the term "sex offender" itself seems to reflexively imply child rapist, a broadening number of so-called victimless crimes are forcing people onto the rolls. According to Human Rights Watch, at least 28 states require registration for consensual sex between teenagers, 13 for public urination, 32 for exposing genitals in public, and five for soliciting adult prostitutes. Restricting where sex offenders can live, in many cases forcing them into homelessness and disconnecting them from family and social support, hasn't had any quantifiable reduction on the rate of sexual abuse. And many sex offenders are really children themselves: Juveniles make up more than a third of those convicted of sex offenses against children, and their high amenability to treatment suggests that their youthful mistakes don't predict a lifetime of abuse to come.

Catherine Buni. March 20, 2013. Conversation Starters. *Brain, Child Magazine*.

<http://www.brainchildmag.com/2013/03/conversation-starters/>

Excerpt: *What happens when a small group of public school staff and parents start talking about preventing sex abuse?* It is confusing. Why do so many seemingly normal people sexually assault children? The research suggests that there is no one reason why sex offenders abuse. Media focus on creepy predators lurking in locker room showers or on the Internet, but they are the exception. One study indicates 34% of offenders are family members, 59% acquaintances. Upward of 94% are male, with 30-50% still children or adolescents themselves. "Not all people who abuse are the same and not all of the reasons they abuse are the same," says Joan Tabachnick, a national consultant on offender treatment. "What we do know, says Tabachnick, is that the cost of child sexual abuse is huge, both socially and economically. We know that when an organization or a community creates a culture where sexual abuse is talked about and not tolerated, where inappropriate behaviors are discussed and addressed through organizational policies, and adults are educated about healthy sexual development—people are less likely to offend. Some may even get help. Some, of course, simply move on to places where silence is still the norm. Despite prevention's complicated, unfolding terrain, Rohdenburg is confident, hopeful even. She says she believes a culture that rejects violence against children and women is possible.

The NSVRC is partnering with the Media Education Foundation for National Sexual Violence Awareness Month 2013 to offer reduced pricing on select films exclusively to Sexual Assault Awareness Month activity organizers. <http://mediaed.org/saam/>

Charles Lane. March 11, 2013. 18-year-olds are too young to be in porn. *The Washington Post*.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/charles-lane-miss-delaware-teen-usa-too-young-to-be-in-porn/2013/03/11/bcbc6d12-8a7a-11e2-8d72-dc76641cb8d4_story.html

Excerpt: Eighteen is, for most purposes, the age of majority. When Congress set 18 as the minimum age for porn “actors” in 1984 and, four years later, required producers to document performers’ ages and identities, lawmakers’ goal was to fight child pornography by defining it precisely. Still, I would think that having sex with a stranger for money and on camera belongs on the short list of risky behaviors that one can’t legally engage in before age 21. That list includes: buying a handgun from a federally licensed dealer; gambling in most casinos; working as a stripper in a bar; and smoking pot in Colorado. Such rules reflect the sensible judgment that some choices can’t be fully entrusted to men and women still transitioning to adulthood. If you doubt this wisdom, consider King’s explanation for doing the film: ‘I thought it would be fun, and I needed the money.’ News stories about King noted that she was in foster care between the ages of 12-18. Not spelled out was the fact that DE law prescribes foster care for children whose parents abused them sexually or physically, or neglected to provide them food, clothing and education. Nor do we know whether King suffers from post-traumatic stress, as foster children do at a disproportionately high rate. It’s a fair guess, though, that she suffered a lot in the first 2/3 of her life and that all the tiaras in the world could never compensate.

Larry Magid. March 13, 2013. Safe to Compete: Protecting Children from Abuse in Sports Programs. *The Huffington Post*.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/larry-magid/safe-to-compete-protectin_b_2875325.html

Excerpt: On March 19th and 20th, NCMEC is sponsoring a conference called Safe to Compete: Protecting Child Athletes from Sexual Abuse, where it will convene more than 50 youth-serving organizations, including the YMCA, Special Olympics, USA Swimming, USA Gymnastics, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America to talk about the issue of preventing abuse of children in sports programs. <http://www.safetocompete.org/> NCMEC CEO John Ryan said "one of the deliverables of the summit will be to bring these leading national youth organizations to the Center and develop what we are calling sound practices so that parents can ask the right questions and that they can be assured that these organizations have the appropriate policies in place."

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children would like to share a few innovative and model programs to help communities increase awareness about the issue of child safety enabling them to better address these problems in their community. Please take a brief survey about these programs:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1134948/Child-Safety-Resources-Survey-Model-Innovative-Programs>

Take 25 - www.take25.org - is a grassroots campaign designed to raise awareness of the issues surrounding missing and exploited children, created by NCMEC in honor of National Missing Children’s Day. Annually recognized on May 25th, the Take 25 campaign encourages parents, guardians, educators, community members, law enforcement and other trusted adults to take 25 minutes out of their day to talk to children about safety.

Masonichip International - <http://www.masonichip.org/> - The Masonic Child Identification Program includes Abduction Awareness and "Safe Kids" Education benefits to all children and parents who attend events and participate. Comprehensive Safety ID packages are generated “at no cost” to participants, and the Masons set up the equipment and enlist the volunteers necessary to generate individual completed identification packages.

Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County (YCW) www.youthcrimewatch-miamidade.org educates and trains students in violence and crime prevention strategies. Children also learn that good citizenship and personal responsibility include watching out for family, friends, schools and community. The foundation of the YCW program is built upon a “school safety survey” which is administered at the school during the first few months of the school year. It asks respondents to rank their particular safety concerns – those issues, which they believe have the potential to cause harm to themselves or their schoolmates.

Disclaimer: While NCMEC does not, as a matter of policy, provide reviews of unsolicited materials, we do appreciate knowing about educational materials that are available to families. And, in our role as the clearinghouse federally mandated by the U.S. Congress to assist families and law enforcement in cases of missing and exploited children and having a 28-year history in safety-education, each quarter, we are happy to share with you Innovative & Model Programs to help individuals and communities learn about issues and resources regarding missing and exploited children and how to address those issues in their respective communities.