

MONSTERS WALK THE EARTH

How Child Sex Predators Get Their Prey and Fool Adults

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Dedicated to you, K.S.

I will never forget the horror on your face and never lose hope for your survival.

M.D.

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PREFACE

MONSTERS AMONG US

... as a society we tend to believe one of two things when it comes to sexual offenses: it won't happen to me or anyone close to me, or as I constantly hear, "I can tell if someone is a sex offender."

Dr. Anna Salter²

A psychologist who specializes in both child sex abuse recovery and offender treatment

Well, it happened to me, as a seven year-old child, before I was even old enough to know what sex or rape was. And it happened to at least three other children that I am aware of who lived on the same street of the Army town where I grew up, all of us at about the same time. Three of us were under age 12 at the time of the abuse. We were each from different homes. And about two dozen of the 40 homes on that street had kids living in them, so a child sex abuse victim lived in every sixth home where a child lived, at a minimum.

There were two abusers I was aware of and they weren't outsiders. They lived among us. They were unrelated, living in different homes, acting independently of each other. Both were entrusted with children who were their own, as well as those who were unrelated. My parents knew the man who bound and raped me, and threatened me into silence with a gun to my head and a knife to my throat, but they did not know he did that. They respected him for his professional position as a uniformed military officer. So unknown child sex abusers lived in every twentieth house on the street I grew up on, at a minimum. None of the adults could tell who they were.

Of us four victims, only one of us spoke up as a child to name the abuser, so only one set of parents knew that "it" had happened to someone close to them. That abuser was arrested; I never saw him again after the police drove him away. The other one, the one who abused me and another child, my friend, in my presence, was not arrested. He remains free today, almost 40 years after he committed his crimes. His many friends recently threw him a big birthday party. He remains active in his church community, his wife by his side. He boasts publicly about his grandchildren, the ones who play in his back yard to this day.

Michael Dolce

ONE

THE ENORMITY OF THE TASK AT HAND

- epidemic – *adj.* ... 1. affecting or tending to affect a disproportionately large number of individuals within a population, community, or region at the same time.
2. excessively prevalent.³

Child sex abuse is an epidemic and needs to be called that, constantly, to remind us of the enormity of the task that we truly face. The numbers are as shocking as they are heartbreaking. New cases of confirmed child sex abuse are reported to law enforcement and child welfare authorities some 60,000 to 80,000 times a year in the United States alone.⁴

But authorities understand that the true number of new abuse cases each year “is far greater, because the children are afraid to tell anyone what has happened, and the legal procedure for validating an episode is difficult.”⁵ Some estimates are that child sex abuse crimes are underreported or are delayed in being reported by as much as 85 percent.⁶ Further, underreporting is an international problem, indicating that the problem is endemic to the crime, not simply a matter of particular cultural or law enforcement sensibilities confined to the United States. As described by the World Health Organization:

The dynamics of child sexual abuse differ from those of adult sexual abuse. In particular, children rarely disclose sexual abuse immediately after the event. Moreover, disclosure tends to be a process rather than a single episode and is often initiated following a physical complaint or a change in behaviour.⁷

It is also apparent that the rate of child sex abuse is not particularly getting much better, if at all. As studied and determined by the federal government, the estimated incidence of sexual abuse of children (that is, the number of children per 1,000) was only slightly smaller between 1986 and 2006, at 1.9 and 1.8 per 1,000 children, respectively. In raw numbers, complaints of child sexual abuse were higher, at 135,300 compared with 119,200 child victims, on either end of that 20 year period.⁸ Similarly, the percentage of child abuse victims who suffer sexual abuse as a component of that abuse has remained essentially the same, fluctuating “only slightly” according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.⁹

In addition to this annual data, the longitudinal data is equally distressing. While estimates vary, there seems to be consensus among experts that 25 to 30 percent of girls, and 16 to 20 percent of boys, will be sexually abused before reaching age 18.¹⁰

And as if the number of child sex crime victims was not bad enough, experts also agree that, “Only a fraction of those who commit sex offenses are held accountable for their crimes.”¹¹ That fraction totals almost 800,000 registered sex offenders in the United States.^A So there are, in fact, probably millions of sex offenders walking free on our streets, many of them hunting our children.¹²

So there is much work to be done to stop the epidemic.

^A The number includes both offenders against adult victims and child victims.

TWO

WHO “THEY” ARE – WHAT YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT CHILD SEX ABUSERS

Know your enemy and know yourself and you can fight a hundred battles without disaster.

Sun Tzu
The Art of War

It is self-evident that to combat any enemy, at least successfully, one should learn as much as possible about that enemy, exactly who they are, where they commit their misdeeds, exactly what they do, how they do it and why they do it. There is substantial anecdotal evidence, however, that many adults -- including those employed by institutions that have a legal duty to act affirmatively to prevent child sex abuse -- do not want to know the details of who sex abusers are and therefore remain purposefully uneducated and ill-equipped to keep children safe. Those who show such apathy are employed in our schools, day care centers, residential communities, religious facilities, and even law enforcement and child welfare agencies. Far too many of them find the thought of getting to know as much as possible about child sex abusers to be too disturbing, too confusing and too ugly even to look at. This willful ignorance is a systemic problem that has resulted, and continues to result in, the creation of countless avoidable child victims.

We do not have the luxury of being able to look away from the enemy, that is, if we want to keep our kids safe, not only because of how much is at stake, but because the opponents who seek to molest and rape our children, are, more often than not it seems, well-informed, determined and cunning. As a result of their skill and the inaction of otherwise well-meaning adults, child sex abusers victimize hundreds of thousands of our children every year.

Properly educated, those to whom the welfare of children are entrusted, would know the succinct warnings of many experts about abusers, including this simple statement of who we are dealing with:

Paedophiles are individuals who prefer sexual contact with children to adults. They are usually skilled at planning and executing strategies to involve themselves with children.¹³

Knowing that pedophiles “prefer” sexual contact with children is not nearly enough to combat them and, in fact, that information, simplistically presented, almost trivializes the nature of the problem. Despite the stated “preference” for sexual contact with children that is used to define pedophilia, the fundamental question that bears on understanding what is involved in combatting these predators is this: What really motivates someone to sexually abuse a child? Is it really just “sex”? Or does it take something more to cause child sex predators to be willing to harm an innocent child, face the risk of decades or even life in prison, and face the profound scorn of society, to bear the modern-day equivalent of the “scarlet letter,” the label “sex offender” or “sex predator”? In fact, are the predators actually motivated by a drive for sex with children, as some

believe, so that we are fighting against a true “sex” crime? Or is it, as others believe, that sex crimes against children are really about violence and control?

We know that the overwhelming majority of time child sex predators do not leave physical marks or exert any meaningful physical force at all, so the argument goes that sex crimes are truly ones of sex.¹⁴ But many who have studied the issue carefully and comprehensively start to see the question of force in context, concluding, “Force, as it is typically understood, is often not involved, but perpetrators use deception, threats and other forms of coercion.”¹⁵ Experts and predators alike paint a compelling picture that sexual abuse of children is more about power and control than it is about sex, even when violent force is not present.

Abusers themselves often describe their crimes in terms of control, even leaving out any real reference to sex. One convicted child sex abuse perpetrator, who was 23 years-old when he raped his girlfriend’s four year-old daughter (his second known victim; he had been in and out of prison for the first victim already), described why he abused the four year-old repeatedly, even after telling himself he should stop, and even after the child revealed the abuse the first time he committed it (he had convinced her mother that she was lying after the first attack):

[Interviewer]: Why did you not stop yourself after the first time?

[Abuser]: *Honestly I had control of the situation. I was out of control in life. I felt like I didn’t have any control in the relationship. I didn’t have any say so. So I was looking for a way to feel powerful. That was my way. I was able to do what I wanted.*

...

He then clarified his answer to emphasize that it was control of the child that mattered to him, a need that overpowered any fear he had of getting caught and returning to prison:

[Interviewer]: Did you think you would get caught since you said you had control over the situation?

[Abuser]: *I had control not over the situation but over her. That fear was definitely there. ...*

The abuser’s description of control is all the more significant in light of his acknowledgement later in the interview that he felt sexual attraction to teen and pre-teen girls before committing his crimes:

I did have fantasies if I was watching T.V. or something and I saw a teenage girl or a pre-teen on T.V. I would feel aroused. ... I would be attracted to what I saw. I guess I always wondered what it was going to be like.¹⁶

He made no mention of these fantasies when explaining why he raped the little four year-old girl.

Notably, there are significant psychological differences between rapists of adults and those of children, but control and violence are described to be at the center of those “sex crimes” too. Dr.

Ron Sanchez, Supervising Psychologist at Utah State Prison, described the rapists he treats this way:

The rapists tend to have a little different personality structure than say the child molesters or the pedophiles. Rapists generally tend to be more assertive, aggressive, have trouble with anger, perhaps come from a disordered family, violence, a lot of fights at school, oppositional defiant kind of a problem. Almost to a man they have difficulty expressing feelings.

When asked why he believes the men he treats have raped women, Dr. Sanchez stated:

I think that certainly the act is an act of aggression, of power and control. There are a wide variety of explanations I guess. But one is to strike out an act of revenge. Even though they may not know the victim, even though the rapist might want to project an image of being invulnerable or being, you know, having a very tough exterior that many of them are very sensitive to rejection. They are very insecure about themselves and their own masculinity and what it means to be a man. ... I think sex is part of it. I think it's just a vehicle for their aggression. There again, it's not just about sex. Many of these individuals at least on the surface have a relationship with women and are having sex on a regular basis. But for some reason, they have chosen to go out and victimize people in this fashion. So it's other things besides sex.¹⁷

So do child sex offenders go undetected for so long simply because the typical child sex abuser lacks an obvious disaffection from society or the outward anger and aggression that many rapists of adults have? The available data suggests that the answer cannot be as simple as that. First, child sex abusers are often, if not usually, prolific in their crimes, abusing dozens, scores, hundreds, and even thousands of children.¹⁸ So, at the least, there are repetitive opportunities to detect what they are doing; there is some reason why that fact is not leading to the exposure of these criminals sooner.

Further, while many child sex predators would have an easier time accessing and controlling their victims because they are related to them and often live in the same home, the fact is that about one-third of sexual abusers are family members of the victim.¹⁹ The remaining two-thirds victimize children over whom they would have much less control, particularly after abuse first occurs. Those predators meet their victims largely as neighbors (an estimated one in four of child sex abuse victims are victimized in their neighborhoods) and as educators (15 percent of child sex abuse victims are abused in their schools.)²⁰ So the predators would not, most of the time, have the level of immediate control over their victims that they would have if they only victimized children in their homes or families. So predators are silencing these victims in some other manner beyond what that access would provide.

In addition to these factors, predators are sexually abusing children at all ages. Any doubt that we are dealing with true monsters is laid to rest considering that an estimated 25 percent of child victims of completed rape are under age 10.²¹ Given that the remaining child victims of completed rape (let alone other forms of sex abuse), some 75 percent of all victims, are in the age range of 11

to 17 and therefore have greater ability, developmentally-speaking, to realize when something being done to them is wrong and to seek and obtain help, it is clear that this fact is still not leading to more predators being exposed and stopped.

So one thing is clear: regardless of where child sex abusers access their victims, regardless of their relationship with the victim and regardless of the age of the victim, child sex abusers are adept at repeatedly accessing and silencing their victims. So they are certainly what the experts say they are, “skilled at planning and executing strategies to involve themselves with children,” and they are achieving the control over their victims that they seek to achieve. (Tragically, the control that they achieve is profound and can be very long-lasting, well into the victim’s adulthood. As one survivor put it, “... I am a survivor of incest ... There are two parts to me. One part ... graduated in the top 1% from [college], and the other part of me is the scared, ashamed and abnormal me. ... It is difficult to use the word survivor because although he is now dead, he still has a hold on me.”)²²

Who child sex predators are probably appears best in their descriptions of themselves; how they explain who they are. A group of child sex abusers, having been caught and now being in treatment, described themselves in this list:

- *I am probably well-known and liked by you and your child.*
- *I can be a man or a woman, married or single.*
- *I can be a child, adolescent, or adult.*
- *I can be of any race, hold any religious belief and have any sexual preference.*
- *I can be a parent, stepparent, relative, family friend, teacher, clergyman, babysitter or anyone who comes in contact with children.*
- *I am likely to be stable, employed, respected member of the community.*
- *My education and my intelligence don't prevent me from molesting your child.*
- *I can be anybody.*²³

But even this description, which give a pretty clear picture of who the abusers may be, does not make clear how they are actually effective in committing their crimes and avoiding detection. It tells us that they are typically already involved in the lives of their victims, but not someone one would readily suspect of being a danger. Even the experts have no better ability to spot a child sex abuser in advance. As psychologist Dr. Anna Salter candidly acknowledges:

I've been doing this for more than 20 years, and I can no more identify a sexual offender than an untrained person. Sexual offenders, particularly child molesters, do so for a variety of reasons and rarely leave telltale signs in their public behavior. We want to believe that child molesters look different on the outside and that we

can detect such differences when, in truth, we see them as loyal friends, good employees and responsible community members.²⁴

All of this knowledge about who child sex abusers are and how hard they are to identify among us, should tell us, therefore, that the best approach to combatting them is not trying to figure out who they are in advance. We certainly cannot rely solely on whether someone has been arrested or convicted previously for committed a sexual offense against a child before allowing them access to our children – we would miss probably 90 percent of the predators. Rather we should focus on defeating their tactics and depriving them of opportunities to offend against our children.

THREE

THE TASK AT HAND: DEFEATING PREDATORY TACTICS

There is no foolproof solution, but I do feel that more time should be spent on deflection, not detection. You would be as successful flipping a coin rather than trying to guess someone's propensity for committing a sexual offense. I would argue that looking at structures that limit the risk of a sexual offense would be more beneficial. A parent, church administrator or youth organizer needs to ask themselves the question, "Is this an attractive situation for a pedophile or other sexual offender?"

Dr. Anna Salter²⁵

The most knowledgeable people about the tactics child sex abusers use to prey on children are, obviously, the abusers themselves. As chilling as their statements can be, we need to pay close attention to them. This is especially true for those who operate any institution or organization that involves children. In an article jointly-written by convicted child sex abusers in treatment, they have described the process that precedes actual abuse of a targeted child:

Child molestation usually begins with a sex offender gaining a child's trust and friendship. The offender then begins "testing" the child's ability to protect themselves by telling sexual jokes, engaging in horseplay, back rubs, kissing or sexual games. If the child appears comfortable with or curious about this type of behavior, (and most healthy, normal children are) the offender will slowly increase the amount and type of touching to include more direct sexual touching. ... Many children do not understand that what is happening is sexual or wrong.²⁶

In further detail, the predators provided this list of how they gain access to their victims, while simultaneously working to fool the adults who would otherwise get in the way of their grotesque agenda:

- *I pay attention to your child and make them feel special.*
- *I present the appearance of being someone you and your family can trust and rely on.*
- *I get to know your child's likes and dislikes very well.*
- *I go out of my way to buy gifts or treats your child will like.*
- *I isolate your child by involving them in fun activities so we can be together – alone.*
- *If you are a single parent, I may prey on your fears about your child lacking a father figure or stable home life.*

- *If my career involves working with children, I may also choose to spend my free time helping children or taking them on “special outings” by myself.*
- *I take advantage of your child’s natural curiosity about sex by telling “dirty jokes”, showing them pornography and playing sexual games.*
- *I will probably know more about what kids like than you do; i.e. music, clothing, video games, language, etc.*
- *I make comments like “Anyone who molests a child should be shot!” or “Sexually abusing a kid is the sickest thing anyone can do.”*
- *If I am a parent, it is even easier for me to isolate, control and molest my own children. I can sexually abuse my children without my wife ever suspecting a thing. I gradually block the communication between my children and their mother, and make it look like I’m the “good guy.”*
- *I may touch your child in your presence so that he/she thinks you are comfortable with the way I touch them.²⁷*

The predators themselves also describe the messages they give to children to gain their silence once they have abused them:

- *After I’ve begun molesting your child, I maintain their cooperation and silence through guilt, shame, fear and sometimes “love”.*
- *I convince your child that they are responsible for my behavior.*
- *I make sure your child thinks no one will believe them if they tell on me.*
- *I tell your child that you will be disappointed in them for what they have done “with” me.*
- *I warn your child that they will be the one who will be punished if they talk.*
- *I may threaten your child with physical violence against them, you, a pet or another loved one.*
- *I may be so good at manipulating children that they may try to protect me because they love me.²⁸*

A few important things need to be noticed in analyzing these predatory tactics:

1. As to their interaction with their intended child victims, they first build a relationship and build trust by providing the attention that children need and desire. It is not as simple as luring in children with candy and gifts – that is just one tactic and one that is not always

used in isolation. Children who lack adequate attention and care from responsible adults to meet their needs are more vulnerable to these tactics.

2. They create opportunities – if allowed to do so – to be alone with their child victims before actually abusing them.
3. They make sure the child knows that they are known to the parent.
4. They work to create the appearance that they would not abuse a child.
5. As to both their child victims and the adults who would stop them, their goal is to gain trust.

Dr. Anna Salter puts these tactics in full context of what the predators must do before secretly abusing a child, and warns against the failure to see it for what it is:

We don't give sexual offenders enough credit, but they are much better at it than we assume. ... whether it be preying on children of single parents, assuming roles of authority with direct unsupervised contact with children, or targeting children with low self-esteem, the deceiver knows he/she must be careful to construct a scenario conducive to their exploits. This is part of what makes detection very difficult – can't predict private behavior based on public behavior. People often cite “niceness” as the reason why they trust an individual. Author Gavin DeBecker said, “Niceness is a decision – a strategy of social interaction; it is not a character trait.”²⁹

Illustrating Dr. Salter's warnings, one offender described convincing his four-year old victim to participate willingly in the “game” he staged:

*I went to the bedroom. I put on an adult movie. I was home alone with her. I knew that eventually she would come into the room. So when she did I was in there playing with myself. She asked me what I was doing. I told her I was playing. I asked her if she wanted to play. I showed her how to masturbate me and...uhm...lick me, and then I would lick her and go in on her.*³⁰

Again, the predatory tactics work if responsible adults believe that they can spot who the abusers are, rather than defeating the opportunities for them to offend. Among the primary methods to defeat all of the tactics outlined by the abusers themselves, without ever having to spot them in advance, are these:

1. Recognize that the most vulnerable children are those lacking for due attention to meet their emotional needs and work to fix that problem.
2. Ensure that any non-relative's time with children, especially any “special” or out of the ordinary time, is conducted with at least one other adult present at all times. Institutions

that care for or cater to children must adopt and enforce such “two adults” policies. Any predator who realizes that he or she will not be left alone with a child will move on.

3. Recognize that predators, like roaches, run from light. Any institutional that cares for children should make sure all areas where children go must be visible at all times to multiple adults. For example, doors and rooms should have windows; when windows are not practical for any reason (such as bathrooms) it should be a dischargeable offense for one adult to be alone with a child or even multiple children in that room. The importance of zero tolerance policies like these should be impressed on all employees and volunteers, along with a strict duty to report any known or suspected abuse.^B
4. Counteract predatory messages before they are delivered to a child:
 - a. Educate and counsel children in advance of a problem arising what is and is not appropriate touch by adults. This can be as simple as reinforcing to all children that no adult, absent a medical setting where a parent is present, should touch them in an area of their body that a bathing suit covers, and that no adult should ask children to touch them in any such area.
 - b. Educate and reinforce to children that they are never responsible for an adult’s actions and will never be punished for revealing those actions. Assure them that they will be believed and be protected no matter what.
 - c. Educate and counsel children in advance of a problem arising that even if someone is nice to them with gifts and privileges, they must speak up if physical boundaries are breached. And because the person who may breach the boundaries may be in a position of authority, children should be counseled in advance to identify multiple, unrelated adults in their lives who they can turn to in order to disclose any abuse (that is, responsible adults in and out of their school, in and out of their religious facility, in and out of their family, etc.)
5. Institutions that care for children should be wary of how the legitimate access to children that their employees and volunteers may have can be misused “after hours” and establish and enforce policies against it. For example, school teachers could be barred from driving children home alone at the end of the school day or after extra-curricular activities, even with parental consent.

Experts concur on these types of tactics. For example, the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry offers parents this advice on preventing and stopping child sexual abuse:

^B While training all employees and volunteers on how to spot signs of child sex abuse and predatory tactics, it is important that institutions equally stress the need to report any suspected abuse to law enforcement immediately. Despite any efforts to learn about abuse and how to prevent and respond to it in their environment, only law enforcement and child welfare officials would have the level of skill and resources necessary to investigate reports of abuse adequately. Delays cause loss of evidence. See, O’Connor, Tom, *Understanding the Psychology of Child Molesters: A Key to Getting Confessions*, The Police Chief, vol. 72, no. 12, December 2005.

Parents can prevent or lessen the chance of sexual abuse by:

- Telling children that if someone tries to touch your body and do things that make you feel funny, say NO to that person and tell me right away.
- Teaching children that respect does not mean blind obedience to adults and to authority, for example, don't tell children to, Always do everything the teacher or baby-sitter tells you to do.
- Encouraging professional prevention programs in the local school system.³¹

Further succinct advice was provided by a task force established by the Missouri legislature to address child sex abuse in that state:

Children need to be taught basic and age-appropriate information on boundaries, inappropriate touches and their right to determine who touches them and how. Even a simple strategy such as teaching a child the anatomically correct terms for their body parts decreases the chances that someone will molest them because that child now has the language to describe what is happening to them.

...

All organizations that serve children and families must operate under the assumption that some people who sexually abuse children may want to work for them. These organizations have an obligation to create an environment that is inhospitable to people who want to sexually violate children.³²

And here is critical, very effective advice from the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center for any institution that takes children into its care:

Adopt a “two deep” supervision policy to defeat predators’ efforts to be alone with children in order to victimize them; that is, ensuring that at least two adults are always present with children. Preferably, the adults should be unrelated.³³

As for teaching children personal safety boundaries and expectations in the environment, age appropriate materials are readily available and are inexpensive for individuals or institutions to access. See, e.g., the *Safer, Smarter Kids* program, available from www.laurenkids.org “... a series of child abuse prevention education curricula designed to empower children to protect themselves in situations where someone could abuse them. Children are armed with protective principles and vocabulary to express their feelings and talk to a trusted adult”; and *Safeguarding God's Children*, available from www.churchpublishing.org. “...an in-depth educational and training program for preventing and responding to child sexual abuse in everyday life and in ministry.”

It is also critical to recognize the limits of traditional security measures, particularly background checks on applicants for employment to work with or around children. Child safety experts and law enforcement officials make clear what those limits are, related to the data described above as

to how few predators are reported to law enforcement and so few convicted (*supra* Part 1). Child safety experts advise:

Although a background check is important, it will only reveal those who have been convicted of a crime against a child. This is problematic because most sex offenders, even some who have abused hundreds of children, have never been charged much less convicted of a crime.³⁴

Law enforcement acknowledges:

The reality is that most true pedophiles have been molesting children for years, dating all the way back to their own childhood. Few pedophiles are caught the first time they molest a child.³⁵

The fact that the foregoing methods work to defeat the ability of child sex predators from gaining access to their victims and silencing them, child sex predators in treatment have provided their own advice on what adults must do to defeat them. Among the advice they offer:

- *Don't expect your child to be able to protect themselves from me or assume that they will be able to tell you that I am abusing them.*
- *Communication: listen, believe and trust what your child tells you. Children rarely lie about sexual abuse.*
- *Education: teach your child healthy values about sexuality. If you don't teach your child... I will.*
- *Watch for any symptoms of sexual abuse your child might demonstrate.*^c
- *Give your child specific information about where on their body they should not be touched or touch others.*
- *Let them know that people who touch children's private parts need help because they have a problem with touching.*
- *Remind your child that "secret touching" is never the child's fault. Talk to your child about the ways someone might try to "trick" them into going along with the secret touching" or not telling you that it is happening to them.*
- *Make sure your child knows that you want them to tell you immediately if something should happen and that, despite what anyone else may tell them, they will not be in trouble.*
- *Get to know your child's friends and the homes in which your child plays.*
- *Be wary of older children or adults who want to spend a lot of time alone with your child.*

^c For a discussion of signs of child sex abuse, see Part Four, *infra*.

- *Learn about the prevention program that your school uses and discuss it with your children. Have “safety talks” with your children several times a year.*³⁶

Some case examples illustrate how the failure to implement such measures to readily and relatively easily defeat the aims of the predators resulted in tragedy:

CASE EXAMPLE ONE: State v. Stephen Budd, Elementary School Teacher

I pay attention to your child and make them feel special.

I go out of my way to buy gifts or treats your child will like.

I take advantage of your child’s natural curiosity about sex by ... playing sexual games.

A recent criminal case in Palm Beach County, Florida, showed how a fourth-grade teacher, Stephen Budd, created an environment that made children feel special for participating in sexual games with him. As the prosecution was described, “The prosecutors said Budd used a popular classroom reward system called ‘Budd Bucks’ or candy to reward his student victims for the sexual acts under the teacher's desk at the Catholic school during the 2006-07 school year.” The result of creating the “Budd Bucks” and providing select students access to the teacher’s desk was the exact impact that predators want. As one victim testified, “we felt really special” [being his favorite students]” and “Budd bucks were the cool thing, and I of course I said yes.”³⁷

Educating students in advance about the type of tactics that were described in this trial would have helped ensure that the abuse did not occur. Likewise, providing a second adult in classrooms, a volunteer parent or teacher’s aide, would have also defeated Stephen Budd’s ability to abuse his students by making the environment impossible for him to commit his crimes.

CASE EXAMPLE TWO: A.B. v. Mobile Home Park

I pay attention to your child and make them feel special.

I present the appearance of being someone you and your family can trust and rely on.

I isolate your child by involving them in fun activities so we can be together – alone.

A.B. was a 14 year-old girl who lived with her mother in a rented mobile home in a mobile home park. The park, and the mobile homes in it, were owned and operated by a national rental community company.

The park’s maintenance employee invited A.B. into one of the vacant mobile homes when she returned home from school on the pretext that he needed her help to clean up the mobile home for a new tenant who would be moving in. This made A.B. feel important and special. But once he had her inside the locked mobile home, he grabbed her from behind when she was leaning into an oven to clean it and raped her on the kitchen floor. This was the first of at least six such attacks she suffered at his hands, each time in a vacant mobile home.

A.B. eventually found the courage to disclose what was done to her and the police were called. When interrogated, the maintenance worker confessed and was later convicted based on that confession.

Once sued by A.B., the park's owner defended on grounds that the worker's background check was clear and therefore there was no way of knowing he was a danger to children. It was true that the maintenance worker had no prior history of arrests or convictions for any crime, let alone sexually assaulting children. In fact, he lived in the park himself, with his wife and young daughter, so everyone believed that he was a good, hard-working, family man.

The park owner ultimately had to admit its liability and pay for A.B.'s damages, however, based on these facts:

- The owner was aware that vacant mobile homes in its parks across the country, and others like them, if not properly secured and managed, attracted very personal crimes, providing the space and privacy that criminals desire to perpetrate their crimes without detection. It is well-known that vacant mobile homes were places where children are victimized by drug crimes, rape and even murder. Children are particularly vulnerable to becoming victimized in the vacant mobile homes of the parks where they reside because they live, roam and play near those vacant homes; as such, predators do not need to transport neighborhood children any significant distance in order to abuse them in private.
- It was well known that mobile home park employees who live on-site become familiar to children, often becoming like extended family members, as did the predator in this case. (The park's own expert witness had published articles on this very point, as well as the fact that 25 percent of child sex abuse victims are abused by neighbors. He had also testified in a prior case that predators are "hard to spot.")
- The park owner deliberately advertised to attract young families to its rental community, including single parents (divorcees were specifically targeted in ads) with "latch key children," but undertook absolutely no effort to evaluate, let alone guard against, risks to child safety that existed while a single parent was still at work.
- The on-site management office had only one key to each vacant mobile home and that key was maintained by the maintenance worker.
- The park owner provided its on-site manager with a comprehensive procedure manual and related written policies totaling over 300 pages. The detail was astonishing, even providing a three page description on how to answer the telephone. However, there was no policy against employees taking children into vacant mobile homes and, in fact, not one single page among the more than 300 pages of its management policies said a word about child safety. It did, however, have policies barring nepotism and dating between supervisors and subordinates. Restrictions were placed on those relationships, but no restrictions were

placed on the nature of permissible relationships between employees and residents or minors.

- There were only two references to safety at all in the 300 plus pages: an outline of fire procedures; and a statement that everyone was responsible for safety and were invited to make suggestions for improved safety.

Clearly, the park owner failed to pay any attention to child safety, despite affirmative efforts to profit by attracting single parent households with “latch key children” to its rental community. Had it bothered to evaluate safety risks, the risk presented by vacant mobile homes was obvious. The risk was easy to mitigate, by establishing a policy that children were not allowed in vacant mobile homes, including with unrelated park employees. All of this was achievable without ever having to attempt to determine who the unknown predators were.

CASE EXAMPLE THREE: R.H. vs. Church

I pay attention to your child and make them feel special.

I present the appearance of being someone you and your family can trust and rely on.

I isolate your child by involving them in fun activities so we can be together – alone.

If you are a single parent, I may prey on your fears about your child lacking a father figure or stable home life.

R.H. was a 14 year-old male, being raised alone by his mother; his father was completely absent from his life. R.H.’s mother joined a church and took her son with her. The leadership of the church preached that congregants should maintain a very insular life within their community, interacting with “outside” society only as necessary, such as for work, but never socially. Similarly, the tools of “outside” society to “corrupt” youth were expressly rejected, like rock-and-roll music and alcohol.

Single mothers were specifically encouraged to allow male members of the congregation to help them with their households and to mentor any children they were raising alone.

Church leadership enforced their views by restricting the right of “corrupted” members to participate fully in services, shunning and even publically ejecting members who were deemed to be violating what was preached chronically or seriously. Those who were allowed to participate fully in the community therefore, were viewed as good influences, not “corrupting” ones.

D.M. was a single, adult male, who was part of the congregation, with no restrictions on his participation, thus he was seen as a good influence. Consistent with church leadership preaching, he infused himself into the lives of R.H. and his mother, helping with household chores and “mentoring” R.H. He volunteered to drive R.H. to various places while his mother was at work, and even to church-related functions out of town. Consistent with church preaching, R.H.’s mother permitted all of this happen.

Unknown to R.H.'s mother, D.M. started to "groom" her son for abuse and secrecy, encouraging him, for example, to listen secretly to the rock-and-roll music the church condemned and providing him with alcohol. In short order, D.M. began touching and rubbing R.H. on his legs while driving him places, before escalating to raping him in the back of his panel van. D.M. then threatened to expose R.H. for listening to rock-and-roll music and drinking alcohol, as well as making threats of physical violence, if he told anyone about the abuse.

It was established in litigation that certain church leaders knew that D.M. had previously been summarily fired from a job as a school bus driver for unspecified reasons that related to child safety. It was not clear if that information was widely disseminated among church leadership as a whole. D.M. had not, however, been criminally charged or convicted at any time for any crimes. The church officials refused in litigation to reveal anything that they knew about D.M.'s past based on the clergy-penitent privilege and asserted that they could not have revealed to other congregants anything they learned about him in the context of that privilege.

While none of the abuse of R.H. occurred on church grounds or at church functions, and even though D.M. held no official position with the Church, liability was nonetheless established based on the foregoing facts. The Church implicitly placed D.M. into a position of trust and essentially directed R.H.'s mother to allow him into that position away from any scrutiny that would be present at church facilities or functions, including in ways that would cause R.H. to be alone with him. Further the fact that at least some church officials were aware of the suspicious circumstances of D.M.'s discharge from employment as a school bus driver compelled them to investigate further before encouraging and endorsing his "mentoring" of R.H.

The Church's conduct in this case, regardless of their intentions, plainly violated the core precepts of how to avoid creating an environment that predators will find conducive to their malicious goals.

CASE EXAMPLE FOUR: M.S. v. High School

M.S. was a special needs high school student, age 16, challenged with Autism Spectrum Disorder and social communication difficulties. As a result, his developmental age lagged behind his chronological age.

M.S. attended an off-campus school-sponsored dinner/dance event. Many adults were present; his parents were among the chaperones. The event was crowded, with about 200 students and adults present. M.S.'s parents noticed during the event that a woman appearing to be much older than their son was walking hand-in-hand with him and was otherwise very physically close to him, as if they were on a date. Upon investigation, they discovered the woman held a teaching position in the school in the special education program. They demanded that she leave their son alone; her reaction was belligerent and defensive, causing them to conclude she was intoxicated or on drugs. They had to seek the assistance of two other adult school staff members to get the teacher away from M.S. Later in the evening, however, they found her again with their son, this time trying to dance with him. They took M.S. home at that point.

The next day, M.S.'s parents wrote to the school's assistant principal, describing the events in detail, including the following statements about the specific physical contact between M.S. and the teacher that they had witnessed:

- “They were walking ‘hand in hand,’ at times with their arms around each other.”
- The teacher “was ‘all over’ M.S.”
- The teacher “sat down next to him, not letting go of him.”
- M.S.'s mother “asked [the teacher] repeatedly to please let go of his hand (she was clasping his hand, which was positioned on his leg)” and “to please keep her face away from his, as she was touching the side of his face with hers.”
- After leaving with M.S., “he talked about the ‘crazy lady’ that was ‘all over him,’ that slapped his bottom on the dance floor.”

The assistant principal asserted to the police two years later that he took no action against the teacher as a result of this written complaint, and did not report the matter to the police at the time, because the complaint from the parents contained “no information about inappropriate touching.” How it is that the assistant principal did not find allegations of “inappropriate touching” between an adult teacher and minor student in the foregoing quotes is simply inexplicable.

In response to their complaint, M.S.'s parents were assured that the matter would be fully investigated and their son would be kept safe and receive counseling for what he had been through. Over a year later, the parents discovered that this was not true; that the teacher had remained on staff and, while not in any classroom with M.S., continued to see him at least once a week in the hallways and had chaperoned field trips with M.S. At that time, M.S. specifically disclosed to a psychologist that the teacher had actually touched his penis through his clothing at the event.

The psychologist called the police, who then discovered that the matter had not been reported to any legal authorities; rather, the assistant principal conducted his own “investigation” by: (1) speaking to the two staff members M.S.'s parents had approached for help, who confirmed they helped, but did not witness any interaction between the teacher and MS.; and (2) speaking with the teacher herself, who tearfully denied any wrongdoing. The assistant principal directed that the teacher not be assigned to M.S. for any classes and ended his investigation there.

Among other failures, the assistant principal did not speak with any of M.S.'s teachers about his behaviors after the dinner/dance. Had he done so, he would have found that at least one teacher was so concerned about M.S. after the dinner/dance, that she wrote to his parents to report that he was unable to complete class work because “he was distracted by thoughts and acting ‘out of the ordinary’ all period yesterday. Something is definitely going on with him.”

The assistant principal's misconduct in this case obviously began with his failure to recognize blatantly inappropriate touching by the teacher and how that touching constituted, at the least, overt “grooming” behavior that could have escalated to higher levels of offense. He failed to

recognize that such conduct in a public location demonstrated a powerful compulsion on the part of the teacher to engage in sexually abusive conduct. He failed to recognize that M.S. might have initially failed to report all details of the inappropriate touching, as do many abuse victims. And he appears to have been swayed by the “tearful” reaction of the teacher, demonstrating a failure to understand how manipulative and skilled child sex abusers can be in making adults believe that they are safe around children. In light of the facts, he should have, but failed to alert law enforcement immediately.

Upon confrontation by the police some two years after the fact, the teacher refused to answer any questions and hired a criminal defense lawyer. She then resigned the day before a scheduled administrative hearing at the school where she was supposed to provide her response to the complaint that she had sexually abused M.S. Notwithstanding, the sex crimes prosecutor assigned to the case confirmed, in writing, that the delay in reporting caused a prejudicial impact on the ability to prosecute the teacher successfully; that the teacher would have been charged had the case been reported immediately; and that as a result no criminal action could proceed against the teacher.

FOUR

SIGNS THAT A CHILD MAY HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY ABUSED

All available data indicates, unfortunately, that some children will be sexually abused despite the best of efforts to deprive predators of the opportunity to do so. When it does occur, children will sometimes exhibit behavioral abnormalities that reveal they have been abused, even if they are not vocalizing it. It is critical for all who work with children to recognize the signs for two main reasons. One, such signs can indicate the need to report possible abuse to authorities who can investigate further and get necessary help for the child. Two, to act to mitigate any risk that the child victim will act out what was done to him or her on other children in the environment, which is a known risk, despite the fact that not all child victims do so.

Pediatric mental health providers note that, “Often there are no obvious external signs of child sexual abuse,” but there are many possible behavioral indicators that some abused children, but far from all, might exhibit.³⁸ These indicators include:

- Unusual interest in or avoidance of all things of a sexual nature
- Sleep problems or nightmares
- Depression or withdrawal from friends or family
- Seductiveness
- Statements that their bodies are dirty or damaged, or fear that there is something wrong with them in the genital area
- Refusal to go to school
- Delinquency/conduct problems
- Secretiveness
- Aspects of sexual molestation in drawings, games, fantasies
- Unusual aggressiveness, or
- Suicidal behavior.³⁹

Some children, particularly younger children, between approximately ages three and six, may also exhibit regressive behaviors as a reaction to sexual abuse; bed wetting, thumb sucking, fear of the dark, or clinging to a favorite toy that was previously abandoned.⁴⁰

The World Health Organization, among others, has also warned about sexualized behavior and child-on-child sexual abuse as a reaction to having been sexually abused previously by an adult, finding specifically that:

There is a growing body of research on sexualized behaviour in children and its relationship to sexual abuse. Although the majority of sexually abused children do not engage in sexualized behaviour, the presence of inappropriate sexual behaviour may be an indicator of sexual abuse. Generally speaking, sexualized behaviour in children could be defined as problematic when:

— it occurs at a greater frequency or at a much earlier stage than would be developmentally appropriate (e.g. a 10 year-old boy versus a 2 year-old boy playing with his penis in public, or a 6 year-old girl masturbating repeatedly in school);

-- it interferes with the child's development (e.g. a child learning to use sexual behaviours as a way of engaging with other people);

-- it is accompanied by the use of coercion, intimidation or force (e.g. one 4 year-old forcing another to engage in mutual fondling of the genitals or an imitation of intercourse);

...

-- it reoccurs in secrecy after intervention by caregivers."⁴¹

Due to these risks, governmental agencies that license child care facilities regularly provide instruction on identifying and reacting to signs of child sex abuse, including child-on-child sex abuse.⁴² Failure to recognize the signs for what they are and react accordingly can have devastating results, as the next case example illustrates.

CASE EXAMPLE FIVE: A.W. v. Day Care Center

A.W. was a four year-old female child who was placed in a long-established, well-reputed day care center each day while her parents went to work. Another child, T.W., a five year-old male child, approached A.W. in a play area and jammed his hand down the front of her pants and started rubbing her vaginal area. A.W. protested, pulled away, and told one of the day care workers what T.W. did to her. In response, the day care worker put T.W. in "time out," cautioned him that "we keep our hands and body parts to ourselves." She sent A.W. back to play. Incidents of this type continued every day for six months, as T.W. continued to victimize A.W. in this manner, also sticking his hands into the rear of her pants and fondling her posterior. A.W. was not alone; T.W. behaved this way towards at least seven other children, both male and female, during the six month period.

The day care worker continued to respond to T.W.'s behavior with ordinary discipline of "time outs" and verbal reprimands. Later, she complained that T.W., "daily sexually acts out on other children" and that she was "unable to adequately supervise him and watch all the other children." At the same time, both she and two of her superiors failed to take action to get help for T.W. or act to protect his peers, including A.W. because they, "considered the actions of the child as a 'normal developmental phase and it was normal.'"

The day care center worker simply did not appreciate the gravity of the abuse she witnessed being perpetrated by T.W. on multiple other children, every day, until it escalated literally to T.W. performing oral sex on another child in the middle room. Only then did they call the police, recognizing that T.W. was likely the victim of sexual abuse himself (but as they waited for the police to arrive, as a final act of ignorance, they put both T.W. and the child he performed oral sex on in "time out.")

As a result of disregarding A.W.'s calls for help, and equating what was done to her as no different from ordinary misbehavior for six months, A.W. herself developed severe behavior problems, including attempting to sexually act out on her siblings and stuffed animals, and engaging in chronic masturbation. She withdrew emotionally from her parents, isolated from her peers and avoided playing with them, and exhibited violent outbursts toward her parents and other authority figures. She is expected to require at least weekly mental health counseling well into adulthood and is deemed at high risk for substance abuse and suicidal behavior by her teens.

IN PARTING

WHAT IS AT STAKE

Both individual adults and institutions that take children into their care, must take heed of the potential impact if they fail to take proper measures to defeat the ability of child sex predators to use their institution to access and brutalize children. The impact of abuse on victims is so profound, it should be clear that efforts to defeat predators must absolutely be a priority at all times, with no excuses. Few mistakes that institutions can make can result in such profound impact as allowing a child to be sexually abused.

There are millions of us who have endured child sex abuse. Many of us are surviving, and even thriving, though having paid an incredible price for achieving that and having lost so much that can never be recovered. But even as we celebrate those of us who achieve strength and success in recovery, we watch those in our community who struggle to grasp for the title, “survivor,” feeling more like they are still victims. And we all know, all too well, that child sex abuse can inflict extremely vicious physical and mental health damage on children and the consequences can last a lifetime. Some of us never make it, because what is to be endured is simply too much sometimes.

Like “R.S.,” child sex abuse victims have endured surgical repair of their genitalia after being raped. Like “A.M.,” child sex abuse victims have grown to become so full of rage that they are a danger to others. Like “S.C.G.,” child sex abuse victims have suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder into their adult lives and are even afraid to leave their homes. Like “S.G.,” child sex abuse victims have developed dissociative identity disorder, their sense of self shattered into multiple distinct parts, unable to integrate into one person. Like “Kay,” child sex abuse victims have developed eating disorders that have destroyed their internal organs and killed them. Like “Jeff,” child sex abuse victims have placed the barrel of a gun to their own chests and, as his mother explained through her tears, “put a bullet where it hurt most, in his heart.”⁴³

For the victims of child sex abusers, our very lives are at stake. And it is painfully clear that the epidemic will not end until all of our society’s institutions face our enemy, as we had to, and do all that is possible to deprive them of a safe haven to create another victim.

Because this clearly has not happened yet, because so many institutions continue to fail our children miserably, another child will join our ranks just minutes from now.

END NOTES

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² Schaber, Richard J. (ed.), *Interview with Dr. Anna Salter*, Risk Reporter, Vol. 1, Issue 3; available from www.churchmutual.com, 2002.

³ "epidemic." Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 10th Ed., 1998.

⁴ In context with other childhood afflictions, these numbers are truly staggering. For example, there are about 250,000 children diagnosed with cancer each year, *worldwide*, of which about 16,000 are in the United States. American Childhood Cancer Assoc., www.acco.org/about-childhood-cancer/diagnosis/childhood-cancer-statistics/. About 25,000 children in the U.S. are diagnosed annually with diabetes. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/risk/age/youth.html>.

⁵ *Facts for Families*, No. 9, American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, www.aacap.org/App_Themes/AACAP/docs/facts_for_families/09_child_sexual_abuse.pdf, March 2011.

⁶ Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault, <http://www.mecasa.org/index.php/special-projects/csa>; and *Statistics About Sexual Violence*, National Sexual Violence Resource Center (2011) (available at: www.nsvrc.org.)

⁷ *Guidelines for medico-legal care for victims of sexual violence*, World Health Organization at p. 75, <http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/924154628x.pdf>, 2003.

⁸ Sedlak, A.J., et al. (2010). *Fourth National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect (NIS-4): Report to Congress*. Washington, DC: U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, 2010, at p. 3-4

⁹ *Child Maltreatment 2013*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau at p. 23, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2013.pdf>, (2015).

¹⁰ See, e.g., *Report from the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children*, Missouri Kids First, at p. 6, http://www.msbanet.org/files/governmental_relations/MoKidsFirst_Report_FINAL.pdf, 2012 (The rate of sexual abuse for girls is estimated to be 5 times that of boys.); Sedlak, A.J., supra n. 9 at p. 4-3; and *Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Overview*, National Sexual Violence Resource Center (2011); available at: www.nsvrc.org.

¹¹ *Report from the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children*, supra n. 10 at p. 6.

¹² See nationwide tabulation at: <http://www.parentsformeganslaw.org/public/meganReportCard.html>.

¹³ *Guidelines for medico-legal care for victims of sexual violence*, supra n. 8 at p. 76.

¹⁴ *Id.* at p. 76.

¹⁵ *Report from the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children*, supra n. 11 at p. 6.

¹⁶ Rocha, Daniela, *Interview with a sex offender*, The College VOICE (Mercer County Community College, West Windsor, NJ), <http://www.mcccvoice.org/interview-with-a-sex-offender/>, March 29, 2010.

¹⁷ *No Safe Place: Violence Against Women – Interview: Ron Sanchez, Ph.D.*, PBS - KUED, Salt Lake City, Utah, <http://www.pbs.org/kued/nosafeplace/index.html>, (March 27, 1998),

¹⁸ O'Connor, Tom, *Understanding the Psychology of Child Molesters: A Key to Getting Confessions*, The Police Chief, vol. 72, no. 12, December 2005.

¹⁹ *Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Overview*, National Sexual Violence Resource Center (2011); available at: www.nsvrc.org; Black, M.C., et al. *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Summary Report*. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, at p. 22, http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs_report2010-a.pdf; and *Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Overview*, National Sexual Violence Resource Center (2011); available at: www.nsvrc.org.

²⁰ *Sexual Violence Against Youth & Young People*, National Sexual Violence Resource Center (2011); available at: www.nsvrc.org.

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- ²¹ Black, M.C., et al., *supra* n. 19 at p. 25.
- ²² This statement was made to the author in an on-line support group; based on the rules of confidentiality that apply to that group, neither the site, nor the pseudonym used to identify the participant, can be revealed.
- ²³ *Protecting Your Children: Advice from Child Molesters*, Center for Behavioral Intervention, Beaverton, Oregon, (Article “developed and written by child molesters in treatment”); available at: <http://www.co.marion.or.us/SO/Probation/protect.htm>.
- ²⁴ Schaber, Richard J. (ed.), *supra* n. 2.
- ²⁵ Schaber, Richard J. (ed.), *supra* n. 2.
- ²⁶ *Protecting Your Children: Advice from Child Molesters*, Center for Behavioral Intervention, Beaverton, Oregon, (Article “developed and written by child molesters in treatment”); available at: <http://www.co.marion.or.us/SO/Probation/protect.htm>.
- ²⁷ *Protecting Your Children: Advice from Child Molesters*, *supra* n. 26.
- ²⁸ *Protecting Your Children: Advice from Child Molesters*, *supra* n. 26.
- ²⁹ Schaber, Richard J. (ed.), *supra* n. 2.
- ³⁰ Rocha, Daniela, *supra* n. 16.
- ³¹ *Facts for Families, No. 9*, *supra* n. 5.
- ³² *Report from the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children*, *supra* n. 10 at p. 8.
- ³³ *Suffer the Children: Developing Effective Church Policies on Child Maltreatment*, Jacob’s Hope, Jacob Wetterling Resource Center, Vol 2, Issue 2, June 2011.
- ³⁴ *Id.*
- ³⁵ O’Connor, Tom, *supra* n. 18.
- ³⁶ *Protecting Your Children: Advice from Child Molesters*, *supra* n. 26.
- ³⁷ Freeman, Marc, “Former teacher sentenced to three life terms for sex crimes,” and “Former West Palm Beach Catholic school teacher stands trial on sex crimes against students,” Sun-Sentinel, May 28, 2015 and June 2, 2015.
- ³⁸ Miller, K. L., Dove, M. K., & Miller, S. M. (2007, October). *A counselor’s guide to child sexual abuse: Prevention, reporting and treatment strategies*. Paper based on a program presented at the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, Columbus, OH; see also, *Guidelines for medico-legal care for victims of sexual violence*, *supra* n. 8 at pp. 77 -78.
- ³⁹ *Facts for Families, No. 9*, *supra* n. 5.
- ⁴⁰ *Symptoms and Behaviors Associated with Exposure to Trauma*; The National Child Traumatic Stress Network; available at www.nctsn.org/trauma-types/early-childhood-trauma/Symptoms-and-Behaviors-Associated-with-Exposure-to-Trauma.
- ⁴¹ *Guidelines for medico-legal care for victims of sexual violence*, *supra* n. 7 at pp. 77 -78.
- ⁴² See, e.g., Child on Child Sexual Abuse Needs Assessment, Florida Dept. of Children and Families (Dec. 2009); [http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/kb/Implementation/Final%20Child-On-Child%20Sexual%20Abuse%20Needs%20Assessment%20Literature%20Review%20\(2\)%20\(2\).pdf](http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/kb/Implementation/Final%20Child-On-Child%20Sexual%20Abuse%20Needs%20Assessment%20Literature%20Review%20(2)%20(2).pdf).
- ⁴³ Each case cited involves a child sex abuse survivor who was either represented by the author, in treatment with the author, or, in the case of “Jeff,” his mother was involved with the author’s political efforts to repeal the statutes of limitation on civil and criminal prosecution of cases related to child sexual battery.