

From Ideology to Inclusion:
**Evidence-Based Policy and Intervention
in Domestic Violence**

*The founders, pioneers and today's most respected experts,
together in this historic, one-of-a-kind conference!*

Featuring Presenters From
National Family Violence Legislative Resource Center
www.nfvlrc.org



Erin Pizzey,
Shelter Move-
ment Founder



Linda Mills,
PhD, LCSW, JD



Murray
Straus, PhD



Don
Dutton, PhD



Jennifer Langhinrichsen-
Rohling, PhD

And also featuring:

Phillip Cook * Christina Dalpiaz * Lt. Richard Davis * Nicola Graham- Kevan, PhD

John Hamel, LCSW * Janet Johnston, PhD * Greg Merrill, PhD

Marlene Moretti, PhD * Tonia Nicholls, PhD * Amy Slep, PhD

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5 Plenary Presentations + 15 Breakout Sessions. Topics Include:

Current Policy Issues * The Patriarchal Paradigm * Research Trends * Male Victims * Female Perpetrators

DV in the LGBT Community * Mandatory Arrest * DV in Ethnic Minority Groups * Restraining Orders

DV and Child Abuse * DV and Child Custody * Co-Ed Shelters * Gender-Inclusive and Research-Based Interventions

Services for All Victims * DV and Adolescents * Family Treatment * Working with Victimized Children

CATALOGUE OF CONFERENCE PRESENTATION MATERIALS (Articles & PowerPoint's) Pages 8 -15

Friday/Saturday, February 15-16, 2008

**Clarion Hotel Mansion Inn
Sacramento, California**

Continuing education units available for LCSW's, MFT's, PhD's, Batterer Intervention Providers
and Family Court Mediators/Evaluators * MCLE credits available for attorneys

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NFVLRC Conference Speakers Bios—February 15 & 16, 2008



Jon Aaronson, Ph.D., LPC

For over 25 years as a Family Court Counselor and private practitioner in Dane County (Madison) Wisconsin, Dr. Aaronson has conducted custody/access evaluations and mediation, co-parent therapy, collaborative family law coaching and child advocacy, and parent coordination. He provides training on aspects of high conflict divorce, including child alienation and domestic violence, to other mental health professionals, childcare workers, advocacy counsel, and to Guardians *ad Litem* for the Wisconsin State Bar. Dr. Aaronson received a Bachelor's degree from Harpur College (SUNY-Binghamton) and his Master's from Michigan State University, both in Political Science. In 1986, he earned a PhD in Counseling and Guidance from UW-Madison.



Michael Carolla, MFT

Michael Carolla, MFT, is the Executive Director for Touchstone Counseling Services in Pleasant Hill, California. In addition to his anger management and domestic violence treatment programs, he has developed with his staff a "families in divorce" counseling and mediation system. This program is intended to help individuals and families in high conflict divorce situations to establish new functional family systems in the changing family structure. Mr. Carolla speaks regularly to psychotherapists, family court professionals and others on the challenges of working with high conflict couples, and on a variety of topics related to child custody and family violence, including post-separation and divorce interventions such as "wraparound" visitation. Some of his intervention strategies are outlined in his chapter included in *Family Interventions in Domestic Violence: A Handbook of Gender-Inclusive Theory and Treatment*, edited by John Hamel and Tonia Nicholls (Springer, 2007).



Karen D. Cohen, M.S., MFT

Karen D. Cohen, L.M.F.T., CGP, is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who has been in practice since 1987. At her private practice in Pasadena and Sherman Oaks, California, she works with clients diagnosed with issues of trauma, alcohol and chemical dependency, dual diagnosis, affective disorders, anxiety and personality disorders. She is a certified group psychotherapist and facilitates multiple intergenerational family group treatment in both inpatient and outpatient settings. She has presented workshops and training seminars on multi-intergenerational family group treatment to mental health professionals and graduate school programs. Ms. Cohen is a co founder for Americans for Elder Care Reform, and the current director counseling programs for Project SISTER, a sexual assault crisis counseling programs for survivors of childhood sexual assault. For 17 years she was a clinical program director for an outpatient drug and alcohol treatment program, and has facilitated numerous groups for adult and adolescent males and females suffering from substance abuse or dependence who have also been either victims and/or perpetrators of family violence and childhood sexual assault.



Philip Cook

Philip Cook is a noted journalist who has received awards for his reporting from the Associated Press and the Professional Journalism Society among others. His work objectively examines and explains relevant research results, the feelings and problems of interviewed victims, and provider and media response to the issue. He has examined scores of national and international domestic violence and family programs and evaluated their potential for helpful replication.

His presentations on the subject of male abuse victims have received high praise from a diverse spectrum of society such as "Dear Abby", leading domestic violence experts, attorneys, physicians, law enforcement, and numerous mental health professionals. He has served as a founding board member of Stop Abuse for Everyone, an organization dedicated to helping victims of domestic violence regardless of gender or sexual orientation. Mr. Cook has appeared on numerous national radio and television shows such as MSNBC, Fox TV's "The Crier Report," "The O'Reilly Factor," The Sally Jesse Raphael Show," "The Montel Williams Show," "The Home and Family Show," and numerous talk radio programs. He is the author of the pioneering book, *Abused Men: The Hidden Side of Domestic Violence* (Praeger, 1997). His articles on domestic violence have been published in several publications, including the Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment and the book, *Family Interventions in Domestic Violence: A Handbook of Gender-Inclusive Theory and Treatment* (Hamel & Nicholls, 2006).



Christina M. Dalpiaz, MS

Christina Dalpiaz is a certified Victims' Advocate and Founder as well as Executive Director of CHANCE (Changing How Adults Nurture Children's Egos), a nonprofit agency based in Denver, Colorado. Herself a survivor of domestic violence, she is an international speaker and was voted Child Advocate of the Year in 1998 by the Aurora Family Violence Response Team. She is the author of several peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters, as well as the nationally-recognized book, *Breaking Free, Starting Over: Parenting in the Aftermath of Family Violence* (Praeger, 2004). Her dedication to helping families is actually a second career; Dalpiaz previously served in the U.S. Naval Reserves and retired as a Lieutenant Commander.



Lt. (ret.) Richard L. Davis

Richard L. Davis is a retired police lieutenant. He has a graduate degree in liberal arts from Harvard University and another in criminal justice from Anna Maria College. He is a member of the International Honor Society of Historians and the American Society of Criminology and an adjunct instructor for Quincy College at Plymouth, MA. Lt. Davis is also the vice president for Family Nonviolence, Inc. (www.familynonviolence.com) in Fairhaven, MA, and the author of the books *Domestic Violence: Facts and Fallacies* (Praeger, 1998) and *Domestic Violence: Intervention, Prevention, Policies, and Solutions* (Taylor & Francis, 2008). Many of his articles have appeared in newspapers, journals, and magazines concerning the issue of domestic violence and its intersection with the criminal justice system. Lt. Davis has online columns concerning domestic violence at www.policeone.com, and www.nycop.com. He may be reached at rldavis@post.harvard.edu.



Sarah L. Desmarais, Ph.D. Cand.

Sarah L. Desmarais, M.A., is a Ph.D. Candidate in Law and Forensic Psychology at Simon Fraser University. With a background in social and applied cognitive psychology, her broad research focus is on factors affecting decision making in varying forensic contexts. Specific topics of interest include decision making in the context of intimate partner abuse and the legal system, as well as the assessment and management of risks in psychiatric patients. Since 2005 Sarah has been a research associate with the Forensic Psychiatric Services of the BC Mental Health and Addiction Services. There she is involved in a multi-site implementation and research program for a structured professional judgment scheme which provides clinical guidelines for the assessment of risks through consideration of client strengths and needs (*START*; Webster et al., 2004). She is also Project Manager for an international research team whose focus is to reduce violence associated with violence perpetration, victimization, and self-harm among persons with mental disorders. Sarah is completing her dissertation which examines factors affecting the perceived credibility of intimate partner abuse reports, specifically investigating whether the observed phenomena are context-specific or instead may be characteristic of behavioral reports more generally.



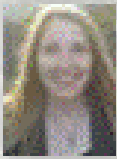
Claudia Ann Dias, MSC, JD

Claudia provides education and training in the fields of substance abuse, family violence, cultural awareness, sexual harassment and communications skills to both public and private sectors. She has taught at the high school, community college and university level. She has provided a PC 1000 Drug Diversion Program and a Domestic Violence Intervention Program for offenders, and provides a 52-week program for Child Abuse offenders. Her program at Changing Courses in Sacramento, California has been featured on the newsmagazine 20/20 and on Oprah for her work with perpetrators, male and female, of family violence. She is a frequent guest lecturer at colleges, universities and law schools throughout the country. She is an expert witness on the subjects of family violence and substance abuse. She is currently working on a training video focused on family violence. She is an attorney, with mediation in family law being her primary focus.



Donald Dutton, PH.D

Donald Dutton received his Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Toronto in 1970. After receiving training as a group therapist at Cold Mountain Institute, he co-founded the Assaultive Husbands Project in 1979, a court mandated treatment program for men convicted of wife assault. He has published more than 100 papers and several books, including the *Domestic Assault of Women* (UBC Press, 1995), *The Batterer: A Psychological Profile* (Basic Books, 1995), and *The Abusive Personality* (Guilford Press, 2002). *The Batterer* has been translated into French, Spanish, Dutch, Japanese, and Polish and Dutton has frequently served as an expert witness in civil trials involving domestic abuse and in criminal trials involving family violence. He is currently professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia. His latest work, *Rethinking Domestic Violence* (UBC Press, 2005), includes an examination of how the gender paradigm developed in domestic violence research and policy. His other recent books include a review of recent research on personality disorder, developmental neuroscience and intimate abusiveness (*The Abusive Personality*, 3rd ed., 2006), and an explanation and the psychology of genocide and military massacres (*Transformations to Evil: State Initiated Violence*, Praeger, 2007).



Nicola Graham-Kevan, BSc, Ph.D.

Dr Nicola Graham-Kevan is an associate fellow of the British Psychological Society as well as a fellow of the International Society for Research on Aggression. She is the founder and president of the International Family Aggression Society. Dr Graham-Kevan has a PhD (title: “Violence and Control in Heterosexual Relationships”), MSc Forensic Psychology, and a BSc in Psychology with Law. She works at the School of Psychology, University of Central Lancashire, UK. Dr Graham-Kevan has been researching partner violence risk factors for over 10 years and has published in journals such as *Violence & Victims*, *Aggressive Behavior* and *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. She has also contributed two book chapters to J.Hamel and T.Nichols (Eds) *Family Interventions in Domestic Violence*. She can be contacted by email at ngraham-kevan@uclan.ac.uk, or by post at The School of Psychology, University of Central Lancashire, Preston, Lancashire, UK.



Stanley Green

Victims’ Resource Advocate Stanley Green is the first male survivor of domestic violence to have given the opening keynote address at a professional conference on family violence. Mr. Green also participated in the first workshop on male survivors of domestic violence conducted at a professional conference in New York City. Mr. Green has appeared on ABC News 20/20, The Oprah Winfrey Show, and numerous regional and international television and radio shows, including an interview by Television de Nacional de Chile and a radio interview by Beverly Anderson-Manly, the former First Lady of Jamaica and former delegate to the UN Commission on the Status of Women. Mr. Green has testified nine times before the National Advisory Committee on Violence Against Women, which is co-chaired by the U.S. Attorney General and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and was awarded a scholarship by the Office on Violence Against Women to attend the Symposium commemorating the tenth anniversary of the passage of the Violence Against Women Act. Mr. Green has served on the Legislative Committee of the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs and has conducted gender-issues trainings for the U.S. Army Academy of Health Sciences, the YWCA, Native American tribal government and training entities in the U.S. and Canada, and family services programs in the U.S. and Canada.



John Hamel, LCSW

John Hamel, LCSW, a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, has been a court-certified Batterer Intervention Provider since 1992, headquartered in the Greater San Francisco Bay Area. His clinical services include family violence assessments and treatment programs for abusive men, women and families. Mr. Hamel has provided consultation and training to mental health professionals, batterer intervention providers, victim advocates, attorneys and law enforcement, and serves as an expert court witness in criminal and family law courts. His articles on partner violence have appeared in *Violence and Victims*, the *Family Violence & Sexual Assault Bulletin* and *International Journal of Men’s Health*. Mr. Hamel is the author of *Gender-Inclusive Treatment of Intimate Partner Abuse: A Comprehensive Approach* (Springer, 2005), and co-editor, with Tonia L. Nicholls, of *Family Interventions in Domestic Violence: A Handbook of Gender-Inclusive Theory and Treatment* (Springer, 2006). He is currently editing a new book, *Domestic Violence Therapy: A Casebook for Mental Health Professionals*, to be published by Springer in 2008.



Janet R. Johnston Ph.D.

Janet Johnston is a professor in the Department of Justice Studies, San Jose State University. For almost three decades, she has specialized in counseling, mediation and research with high-conflict, litigating divorcing couples and their children with special attention to domestic violence, child abduction and alienated children. Developing multi-disciplinary partnerships with the court and a continuum of services within the community for divorcing families and their children is also one of her special interests. She has published more than 60 papers, co-authored two books (*Impasses of Divorce* and *In the Name of the Child*), two treatment manuals (*High Conflict, Violent and Separating Families* and *A Safe Place to Grow*) and a book of therapeutic stories for children (*Through the Eyes of Children*). Often a featured speaker, she has presented at hundreds of scientific and professional meetings for mental health professionals, attorneys, judges, and court administrators throughout the USA, Canada, Australia and Europe. Jan Johnston has also been the recipient of a number of honors for distinguished service, research and outstanding scholarship from the Association of Family & Conciliation Courts (2007; 2000; 1996; & 1993), from the Academy of Family Mediators (2000) and from San Jose State University (2007).



Jennifer Langhinrichsen-Rohling, Ph.D.

Jennifer Langhinrichsen-Rohling, Ph.D., is a Psychology Professor at the University of South Alabama. She obtained her Bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Brown University and her Master’s and Ph.D. degrees in Clinical Psychology from the University of Oregon. She completed her clinical internship at the Palo Alto VA/Stanford Medical Center, and a two-year NIMH funded fellowship in marital violence at SUNY-Stony Brook. Her research focuses on gender, intimate partner violence, and at-risk adolescents. She has published over 70 empirical papers and book chapters on these topics in journals including *Violence and Victims*, *Journal of Family Violence*, *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *Journal of Family Psychology*, and *Psychology of Women*. For the past three years, she has been developing, implementing, and disseminating data on a domestic violence prevention/relationship enhancement program she designed called *Building a Lasting Love*. She has targeted the program toward high-risk pregnant teens and adjudicated male youth.



R.L. McNeely, Ph.D., JD.

R.L. McNeely, PhD., JD, is a professor of social welfare at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and a practicing attorney. His published books as well as peer-reviewed journal articles have focused upon issues of work and family, aging and race, and on numerous aspects of domestic violence. His work in the field of domestic violence inspired a NBC documentary, "Of Macho and Men," and he has appeared on CBS Morning News discussing domestic violence as a human issue, rather than a women's issue. R.L. McNeely is also a Research Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America. He has testified before Congress on the issue of domestic violence, serves as a domestic violence consultant for the U.S. Army and, as an attorney, has successfully represented individuals falsely accused of domestic violence.



Greg Merrill, LCSW

Greg Merrill served as the Director of Client and Advocacy at Community United Against Violence, a San Francisco community-based organization serving the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community, from August of 1996 until January of 1999. In this capacity, he oversaw a 24-hour hotline and counseling and advocacy services and authored several national reports on same-gender domestic violence. From February 1999 until January 2005, Mr. Merrill served as the founding Social Work Supervisor for the UCSF Trauma Recovery and Rape Treatment Center at San Francisco General Hospital. Providing outreach, clinical case management, and brief psychotherapy to victims of interpersonal violence, this center won the National Public Health Association's Safety Net Award in 2004. Since July of 2000, Mr. Merrill has taught continuing education for the National Association of Social Workers in the area of domestic violence. Over 2,000 social workers in California have completed his course. He lives in Oakland with his domestic partner, Roger, and their 5 year-old son, Charles.



Linda G. Mills, B.A., J.D., M.S.W., Ph.D.

Linda G. Mills is professor of social work, public policy and law at NYU, where she also serves as Senior Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and University Life. Dr. Mills' research focuses on trauma, violence and recovery. She is the author of numerous scholarly articles and books in the field of domestic violence, including *Killing Her Softly: Intimate Abuse and the Violence of State Intervention* which was published in *Harvard Law Review* in 1999, and *Insult to Injury: Rethinking our Response to Intimate Violence* published by Princeton University Press in 2003. Her forthcoming book on intimate violence will be published by Basic Books in Spring, 2008. Dr. Mills is the director of NYU's Center on Violence and Recovery, which she founded in 2004 to study violence and to develop alternative research-based interventions. In connection with this effort, Mills is currently the Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation study evaluating two treatment programs in Nogales, Arizona: Batterer's Intervention Program and Peacemaking Circles (a restorative justice treatment program for domestic violence crimes--the first of its kind in the country). Dr. Mills' work is often featured in the popular press, including the *New York Times Magazine*, *Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today* and *Glamour*. She has also appeared on Oprah, O'Reilly Factor and on the Gerardo Rivera show.



Marlene Moretti, Ph.D.

Dr. Moretti is a Professor in the Department of Psychology at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia and an expert in the field of developmental psychopathology with a keen interest in adolescence. Her research focuses on the importance of parent-adolescent attachment as a determinant of mental health and social well-being. She currently leads a multi-site Canadian Institutes of Health Research program on adolescence, gender and aggression and has published extensively in the fields of developmental psychopathology, social-clinical psychology and intervention. Dr. Moretti serves on a number of government committees promoting the development, training and delivery of effective intervention and advancing mental health policies to support youth and their families. She is a coauthor of the book, *Girls and Aggression: Contributing Factors and Intervention Principles* (Kluwer-Plenum, 2004), and co-wrote the chapter, "Parental Attachment and the Self from a Systemic Perspective," included in *Clinical Applications of Attachment Theory* (Guildford, 2003). She also co-wrote "Family Lessons in Attachment and Aggression," a chapter included in *Family Interventions in Domestic Violence* (Springer, 2007).



Rick Muller

Concerned about gender discrimination in the family court system, Rick Muller has conducted research on retraining orders in Sacramento County, described in an article co-written with John Hamel, Tonia Nicholls and Sarah Desmarais, currently under review. He is a graduate of the University of California at Santa Barbara where he earned a B.A. in Environmental Studies in 1976 and is certified by the California Association of Building Energy Consultants as a professional energy plans examiner. In his current position as Energy Resources Specialist, he works for the California State Architect's Office located in Sacramento, California where he specializes in the use and interpretation of computer performance modeling of buildings. Rick is currently involved in researching and assessing proposed environmental design grant criteria for "high performance" public schools and community colleges. In 2003, he prepared a peer-reviewed article concerning the incorporation of construction waste diversion in large-scale construction projects, "The Capitol Area East End Office Complex: a Case for Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion," available on the California Integrated Waste Management Board's web site.



Myrna Murdoch

As a Commissioner for Fatherhood for the State of Hawaii, Myrna helps promote father friendly programs. A strong advocate for mediation and alternate dispute resolution, Myrna has presented internationally in Canada, Belgium and the U.S. for the Association of Conflict Resolution and Family Mediation Canada in the Hawaiian art of mediation, Ho'oponopono, sharing this Hawaiian technique of alternate dispute resolution with a globally diversified audience. Myrna was a driving force in the formation of SR40, the Hawaii Legislative task force created to investigate the misuse of legal interventions available to the Family Court, including the long-term use of interventions such as temporary restraining orders; the selection, use, and accountability of custody guardians ad litem and other personnel; the use of acceptable national standard of care for the best interests of the children and families in Family Court; and other issues that impact the timely and fair resolution of cases. She can be reached at (301) 559-3120.



Lee Newman

Mr. Newman is happily married with an adult son and daughter as well as a 13 year old grandson. He raised his children from his first marriage as a single parent during most of their childhood, while remaining self-employed to tailor his schedules to theirs. After many years developing and running his varied businesses he tried his hand at management within a large international company and found that it was not where he felt he was "making a difference." In 2000 he decided to join AmeriCorps in an effort to use his skills while he determined if his desire to pursue a degree in Behavioral Science after over 30 years was still a viable choice. At the end of his service and as a result of his experiences in AmeriCorps as a Domestic Violence Advocate in 2002, he developed The Violence Intervention Program, which soon became the NH Chapter of Stop Abuse for Everyone. After 4 years with SAFE he was asked to become the Executive Director of the organization.



Tonia Nicholls, Ph.D.

Tonia Nicholls obtained a Ph.D. with a specialization in Law and Forensic Psychology from Simon Fraser University in 2002. The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research funded her three-year postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Psychiatry, University of British Columbia and the BC Institute Against Family Violence. Currently, she is Senior Research Fellow at the Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission, BC Mental Health & Addiction Services. Tonia's primary affiliate is BC Mental Health and Addiction Services where she was recently appointed an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry. Her scholarly work has earned her "Brain Star" awards from the Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health, and Addictions (Canadian Institutes of Health Research), the American Psychological Association Award for Distinguished Professional Contribution by a Graduate Student, and the Canadian Psychological Association President's New Researcher Award. Nicholls is the author of several peer-reviewed journal articles, and is co-author with Donald Dutton of the groundbreaking paper, "The gender paradigm in domestic violence research and theory: The conflict of theory and data," which appeared in *Aggression and Violent Behavior*. She also has published two books, including co-editing with John Hamel *Family Interventions in Domestic Violence* (Springer, 2007).

**Patricia Overberg, MSW**

Ms. Overberg began working with victims in the early 1960's through a program of the Providence, RI School System. She found that many of the children who had emotional, academic and acting out problems came from violent homes, and she worked primarily with their mothers. During that time, Ms. Overberg went back to school and got her bachelors degree. From there she went to Miami, attended Barry University and worked with the elderly, many of whom were being battered by their children. After graduating with an MSW, she drove to California with the goal of living and working in different parts of the state, which she says she has "pretty well accomplished." After working with the mentally ill at a YWCA, she then spent the remainder of her career working with family violence, sexual assault, rape and stalking victims. From 1984 to presently, she has had positions as the CEO of various organizations, including the Valley Oasis in Lancaster where she opened the first and only shelter for battered men in the country. She is now working with an agency in Salinas which was first called the Women's Crisis Center and is now known as the Central Coast Crisis Center, and advertises that it serves all ages, genders and families in need.

**Erin Pizzey**

Erin Pizzey was born 1939 in China. After being captured by the Japanese, she left with family on the last boat out of China in 1942 and lived in the Middle East prior to her arrival in England in 1946. In 1971, Erin opened first refuge specifically dealing with all victims of domestic violence. She is the author of *Stream Quietly or the Neighbours Will Hear*, the first book on domestic violence, published in 1974. In 1979, she came to the United States at the invitation of the US government, embarked on a Salvation Army sponsored tour of 21 cities to help set up shelters for victims of domestic violence. Erin moved to the United States in 1982, to open a shelter and lecture on the subject of family violence. During this time, she also wrote and published novels. She continued to work with domestic violence victims when she moved to Italy in 1987 and was the Guest of Honour at the 1994 Rome International Conference of Supreme Court Judges. In 1997 Erin returned to England and continued her career as a journalist and novelist, and more importantly to work for victims of domestic violence. That same year, she was the honoured guest at a luncheon on Capital Hill in Washington, DC, sponsored by Congresswoman Lindy Boggs. Erin has spoken to numerous men's domestic violence victim groups. More recently, in March 2007, Erin opened first Arab refuge for victims of domestic violence in Bahrain.

**Moises Prospero, Ph.D.**

Moisés Próspero, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor at the Utah Criminal Justice Center, College of Social Work, University of Utah. He has worked in the field of domestic violence for over 15 years as a service provider and researcher. Presently, he is a researcher that investigates international family violence, mental health, help-seeking behaviors and violence intervention programs. His studies have been published in leading peer-reviewed journals, such as the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *Journal of Family Violence*, and *Violence and Victims*. He can be reached at moises.prospero@socwk.utah.edu, or at (801) 587-7666.

**Amy Slep, Ph.D.**

Amy M. Smith Slep, Ph.D. is a Research Associate Professor at Stony Brook University on Long Island, New York. Dr. Slep is an expert on partner violence and child abuse. She is especially interested in understanding connections and distinctions between partner and child abuse; anger escalation and de-escalation in families; prevention of partner and child abuse; and developing empirically-supported definitions of maltreatment. She has received over 17 federal grants and published over 40 journal articles and chapters. She is a licensed clinical psychologist and lives on Long Island with her husband, two sons, and her two Newfoundland's.

**Murray Straus, Ph.D.**

Murray Straus, Ph.D., is the Professor of Sociology and founder and Co-Director of the Family Research Laboratory, University of New Hampshire (since 1968). He has previously taught at the Universities of Minnesota, Cornell, Wisconsin, Washington State, York (England) Bombay (India), and the University of Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). Dr Straus received his Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, 1956. Dr. Straus is the author or co-author of more than 200 publications on family violence. He has held office in several scientific societies, including President, Society For the Study of Social Problems (1989-90); President, Eastern Sociological Society (1991-92. and Vice President 1976-77); President, National Council on Family Relations (1972-3); Member of the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1971-73); Chairperson of Task Force on Corporal Punishment of the American Psychological Association Division 37, 1992-94. Dr. Straus has been honored with the Ernest W. Burgess Award of the National Council of Family Relations for outstanding research on the family in 1977; American Sociological Association award for contributions to undergraduate teaching in 1979; Distinguished Contribution Award, New Hampshire Psychological Society, 1992; Citizen Of The Year, National Association of Social Workers, NH chapter, 1994; and Research Career Achievement Award, American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, 1994. Dr. Straus is also the author or co-author of over 200 articles on the family, research methods, and South Asia; and fifteen books. Among the most well-known of his books are: *Beating the Devil Out of Them: Corporal Punishment In American Families* (Lexington/Jossey-Bass, 1994); *Physical Violence in American Families: Risk Factors and Adaptations to Violence in 8,145 Families* (Transaction Press, 1990); *The Dark Side of Families: Current Family Violence Research* (Sage, 1983); and *Behind Closed Doors: Violence in the American Family* (Doubleday, 1980).

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February 15-16, 2008, Clarion Hotel Mansion Inn, Sacramento, California

CATALOGUE OF CONFERENCE PRESENTATION MATERIALS

(Articles & PowerPoint's)

FRIDAY

F0 Introductory Remarks

John Hamel, LCSW, Conference Co-Chair

The conference Co-Chair, a family violence researcher and court-approved batterer intervention provider, summarizes the history of domestic violence policy and legislation in California and the United States, beginning with the landmark *Thurman v. City of Torrington* case. After acknowledging the important accomplishments that followed, including passage of the Violence against Women Act, Mr. Hamel discusses some of the shortcomings of current policy on domestic violence. Setting the tone for the presentations that follow, Mr. Hamel argues that current policy has been limited largely because of its dependence on ideologically-based, rather than research-based, models of education, prevention and intervention.

F1 The Dynamics of Intimate Abuse: A New Paradigm

Linda Mills, Ph.D, JD

Challenging every assumption we make about the problem of domestic violence and how we treat it, Mills refutes with research, how we, as a society, think about this widespread problem and what we are doing about it. Through a survey of the images that dominate our current approach to domestic violence, Mills recasts the problem in a new light, radically reframing the issue by recognizing the importance of the intimate, dynamic, and relational nature of this problem. A new paradigm is presented for policymakers and treatment providers--both in how the problem is conceptualized and how it should be addressed.

F2 Male Victims: The Hidden Side of Domestic Violence

Philip Cook and Stanley Green

Mr. Cook, the founder of the movement to recognize and provide services for abused men presents an overview of the history of the movement since publication of his book *Abused Men: The Hidden Side of Domestic Violence* in 1997. He details the progress or lack of progress in this regard across the professional spectrum: law enforcement, legislative, social service, mental health, news media, etc. He also suggests specific practical steps that can be taken to improve services and recognition for LGBT and heterosexual male victims of intimate partner violence.

Mr. Stanley Green is a survivor of intimate partner violence. He has appeared on numerous radio and television programs in the western hemisphere—including ABC News 20/20 and The Oprah Winfrey Show—and speaks about his personal experience and the experiences of other male victims.

F3 Challenges Posed by Same-Gender Intimate Partner Violence: What Do We Do With Male Victims and Female Offenders?

Gregory Merrill, LCSW

In this presentation, data is reviewed on the prevalence and patterns associated with intimate partner violence (IPV) in same-gender (that is, gay or lesbian) partnerships. Although most evidence suggests the problem is very similar in prevalence and severity, male victims and female perpetrators may have a particularly difficult time accessing necessary treatment services. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community agencies may be reluctant to address this issue because there is a pressure to keep the community's "dirty laundry" under wraps particularly at a historical time when its members seek the right to marry. Battered women's agencies may also be reluctant to acknowledge female-on-female violence since it violates the current feminist paradigm. Recommendations and concrete policy and practice strategies are reviewed to attempt to bridge the theoretical and gender divides.

F4 Mandatory Arrest: Professional and Personal Perspectives

Part One: *Alternatives to Mandatory Interventions*

Linda Mills, Ph.D., JD

Mills argues that we need to reconsider the mainstream feminist position that mandatory arrest and other interventions in domestic violence cases always serve the best interests of victims of domestic violence. Drawing on empirical evidence from numerous fields, Mills contends that our reliance on criminal justice has had several unintended consequences that have not always been responsive to the people involved. Indeed, mandatory interventions come dangerously close to replicating the dynamics in the abusive relationship and therefore should be used with caution and with a sensitivity to the parties involved.

Part Two: *Mandatory Polices: A False Premise*

Lt (ret.) Richard Davis

Some domestic violence advocates suggest that law enforcement officers are indifferent to the plight of domestic violence victims. These allegations, however, are most often based on anecdotal evidence or data from clinical subgroups of battered women which is then generalized to the general population. In all assault cases, regardless of relationship, law enforcement officers must be trained to recognize the *context and circumstances* of individual incidents. While a single push or chronic battering are both assaults, logic, reason and contemporary research dictate that there is a dramatic diversity of the *needs for and requests from* those who are assaulted. In this presentation, Lt. Davis shows how mandatory and preferred arrest policies, by designating every act of family conflict the same as violent battering, by their very nature exclude context, circumstances, impartiality and common sense – all of which are the foundational cores of judicious community policing.

Part Three: *The Unintended Consequences of Mandatory Arrest: Does the Justice System Help or Harm Families?*

Laura P.

Laura P., an educated, professional career woman in a stable, long-term marriage, tells her own story of the impact that California's pro arrest policy has had on her and her family. Due to an unfortunate accident, and the need for her to seek immediate medical treatment for an injury, Laura's husband was arrested against her wishes, put in jail, and charged by the District Attorney with a felony. Laura explains the terrible impact that this experience has had on her personally, as well as on her entire family. Nearly three years later, the negative ripple effects are still evident: emotionally, financially and career-wise. Laura P. is a trained marriage and family therapist, feminist, and is well aware of the need for help and protection for true victims of family violence. However, she uses her story as a plea for legal and justice system reform, in order that families like hers do not have to suffer unnecessarily, while women and families who are most in need of help can receive it.

F5 30 Years of Research on Partner Violence: Denials and Distortions of the Evidence

And What to do About it

Murray Straus, Ph.D

In this presentation, one of the most significant and respected figures in the field debunks a number of established myths about intimate partner violence. Part 1 summarizes results from many studies which show that: (1) Women perpetrate and initiate physical attacks on partners at the same or higher rate as men. (2) Most partner violence is mutual. (3) Partner violence has multiple causes, only one of which is to preserve a patriarchal societal and family system. (4) Motives for partner violence are parallel for men and women. (5) Self-defense explains only a small percent of partner violence by women. (6) Men cause more fear and injury, but about a third of the injuries and deaths are inflicted by female partners. Part 2 provides empirical evidence that these research results are often denied, suppressed or misrepresented. This includes publications of the National Institute of Justice and scientific journals. Part 3 argues that ignoring this overwhelming evidence has crippled prevention and treatment programs and suggests ways in which prevention and treatment efforts might be improved by changing ideologically-based programs to programs based on evidence from the past 30 years of research.

F6 Female Perpetrators: The Latest Research

Tonia L. Nicholls, Ph.D and Sarah Desmarais, Ph.D. Candidate

Until recently there has been all but a complete black-out of research and policy concerning the perpetration of aggression by women against their intimate partners. This reflects a broader societal neglect of the issue of women's aggression and men's victimization experiences. Three decades of research confirm that the prevalence and incidence of aggression by women and men in romantic relationships is highly comparable. The field is now moving to a consideration of the nature of aggression perpetrated and the extent to which women perpetrate "clinically significant" abuse versus low-level or minor aggression that is unlikely to result in physical injuries or harm. Further debate involves the extent to which women's motives for abuse are distinct from men's and the need to contextualize women's aggression. This session reviews a growing body of literature that can increasingly inform our understanding of women's aggression and the extent to which this abuse presents a risk of harm to victims.

F7 Domestic Violence in Ethnic Minority Populations

Part One: *Reflections on Racial Differences in Perceptions of Domestic Violence: Black Women Have to Be Tough*

R.L. McNeely, Ph.D, J.D.

Blacks and whites often have clashing perspectives on many issues that are puzzling to both races. One of these clashing perspectives is in respect to differing perceptions of domestic violence, including murder and rape. Arguably, this as well as other differing perspectives flow not only from stark present-day demographic realities but also from historical differences between the races, including in particular contrasts in the socially-sanctioned roles of women. This presentation sets forth some reasons for race-related cosmological differences, explaining, for example, why many African Americans greeted O.J. Simpson's not-guilty verdict with ecstatic cheers while whites sat in stunned disbelief. The influence of pre-existing discriminatory cognitive schemas is considered to be of comparatively minimal importance in explaining these differences.

Part Two: *Interventions for Perpetrators & Victims of Partner Violence: A Latino Perspective*

Moisés Próspero, Ph.D

This presentation provides a dyadic Latino perspective on interventions provided for perpetrators and victims of intimate partner violence (IPV). Quantitative measures (e.g., coercion, type of violence, re-offense rates) and qualitative interviews (e.g. narratives of violent episodes, family experiences) conducted on both males and females residing in various victim shelters and perpetrator treatment centers reveal the adverse effects of IPV on Latino families, as well as

the gaps in treatment services. The effects of unilateral violence (female only perpetration versus male only perpetration) and mutually violent couples on the Latino family are also examined. Finally, the perspectives from Latino/a victims and perpetrators are compared with non-Latino perspectives. Based on the various findings, recommendations for culturally appropriate treatment approaches are discussed, with a specific focus on interventions for Latinos that differ from traditional gender-based strategies.

F8 The Use and Misuse of Restraining Orders in Child Custody Cases

Part One: *Findings of the Hawaii Restraining Order Task Force*

Myrna Murdoch. NOTE: Presentation Materials Available For Part Two Only

The intention of a restraining order is to protect a victim of either physical or verbal abuse from the perpetrator, yet too often the real victims are the children. For many years, TRO's have often been issued upon mere allegations of verbal abuse, resulting in the forcible exclusion of one parent from his or her parenting role, a practice that is contrary to sound social and economic policy. In this presentation, the findings of SR40 are discussed, a Hawaii Legislative task force created to investigate the misuse of legal interventions available to the Family Court. In this high stakes arena, where custody of children and the allocation of family assets are decided, there is evidence of rampant misuse of TRO's. At the initial filing for the dissolution of the marriage, it is common for the filer to concurrently apply for and get a TRO against the other spouse. This serves as a method to eject the other spouse from the household as well as isolating them from the children. Children often feel totally abandoned by the parent against whom a TRO has been placed.

Part Two: *A Study of Restraining Orders in Sacramento*

Rick Muller

This presentation discusses the results of a recent study which analyzed a representative population of requests for temporary orders of protection filed in the Sacramento, California Family Court over a two-year period. Although female defendants in the study population were alleged to be somewhat more violent than male defendants, there was in the low-level violence cases a strong bifurcation in court response favoring female defendants. Very little bifurcation, however, was revealed in medium and high-level violence scenarios. This study may have important legal and public policy implications. First, it indicates equal protections rights have been compromised. Second, in light of current laws that curtail child custody by parents who engage in partner abuse, any discrimination against males in a domestic violence matter could affect a father's ability to obtain custody of his children. Finally, perceived or real discrimination against males in the adjudication of restraining order requests may encourage false allegations to gain advantage in custody disputes and may discourage males from applying for domestic abuse protection.

F9 Connections between Partner and Child Physical Abuse

Amy Slep, PhD

It has been increasingly understood that partner and child physical abuse co-occur, but until recently, we have been unable to address critical questions including how prevalent various patterns of co-occurrence are. Furthermore, various patterns of co-occurrence in families may have implications for effective treatment. For example, a man who is violent toward both his partner and his child would likely be best served by a different treatment approach than a man who is violent toward his partner, not his child, and married to a partner who is violent toward both him and the child. This presentation focuses on understanding patterns of violence within families consisting of a couple and at least one child. The connections between partner and child abuse, including common and unique risk and protective factors are addressed. Factors distinguishing individuals engaging in both partner and child aggression are discussed, and intervention implications are highlighted.

F10 Providing Services for All Victims - Stop Abuse For Everyone: The reasons behind the mission

Lee Newman NOTE: Presentation Materials Not Available For This Session

The recently appointed Executive Director of SAFE International and the Founding Director of SAFE-New Hampshire presents unique perspectives as a survivor of intimate partner abuse and a provider of direct services to all victims, with a particular focus on traditionally "under-served" populations. His personal and professional experiences have caused him to reach out to men as well as women, not only those who are victims but to the abusive partners as well. Domestic abuse and related concerns are human issues and should not be strictly approached as gender specific issues. Lee tries to bring new perspectives into this discussion, as well as looking at the dangers of gender biased outreach and education. A plan for inclusive service providers to lead us into the future of greater healing for men, women and their families are discussed, along with the challenges that new perspectives must overcome.

F11 Screening and Substantiation of Different Types of Domestic Violence: Implications for Developing Parenting Plans and Court Orders for Custody and Visitation.

Janet Johnston, Ph.D

Premised on the understanding that domestic violence encompasses a wide range of behaviors that can be classified into different types, this presentation addresses the need for a differentiated approach to developing parenting plans after separation when domestic violence is alleged. First, the problem of substantiating allegations of violence and what to do with unsubstantiated claims is discussed. Second, a method of assessing risk [called the PPP] is proposed that screens for the *potency*, *pattern*, and *primary perpetrator* of the violence, and illustrated by case discussion, as a foundation for generating hypotheses about the type of and potential for future violence as well as parental functioning. Third, a series of parenting plans are proposed, with criteria and guidelines for usage depending upon this differential PPP screening and the availability of resources within the family and community. Principles for shifting from one plan to another as the case changes over time and for resolving conflicts in complex cases are illustrated with case examples.

SATURDAY

S1 Biased Assimilation, Belief Perseverance, Groupthink and the Social Psychology of the Domestic Violence Movement

Donald Dutton, Ph.D

Social psychological studies of groups and individuals reveal how both ward off ideas and data that disconfirm strongly held beliefs. Biased assimilation and belief perseverance refers to the differential processing of belief consonant and belief dissonant data. Groupthink refers to how social influence factors enhance this assimilation bias. We examine, with several examples, this processing feature both in social science studies of domestic violence and in government responses to the problem. All bias exists in one direction and is not, therefore, simply random error. It exists in the direction of the "paradigm" of domestic violence (i.e. male = perpetrator, female= victim) which has its roots in Mackinnon's Marxist notion of gender relations, and hence, associates maleness with oppression and domination and femaleness with victimhood. These broad associative complexes color all perceptions of intimate violence as being instrumental and dominating for males, and self defensive and acceptable for females. The numerous shortcomings of this view are discussed with examples.

S2 Gender-Inclusive Systemic Therapy for Domestic Violence

Part One: Overview of Research and Basic Treatment Considerations

John Hamel, LCSW

Intimate partner abuse is a complex problem with multiple etiological roots. Traditional theory and treatment, which favors batterer intervention for men and victim services for women, sacrifices clinical effectiveness for political correctness and ignores these fundamental realities: (1) Men and women can be both perpetrators and/or victims; (2) Both genders are physically and emotionally impacted by abuse; and (3) Child witnesses are affected regardless of perpetrator's gender. Treatment has also been stymied by grossly overstated victim-perpetrator distinctions. Most partner abuse is mutual, and the victim of one person's abuse may be the perpetrator to another within the same family system. Mr. Hamel presents assessment and treatment approaches that take into account these realities, as well as the dual needs of victim safety and clinical effectiveness. Based in research, the *gender-inclusive approach* also takes into account the remarkable efforts by women's advocates on behalf of victims, and is anchored in core feminist principles of justice, respect and equality.

Part Two: Challenging Stereotypes of Family Violence

Claudia Dias, MSC, JD. NOTE: Conference Presentation Materials Available For Part One Only

Research and clinical experience tell us that very little of the dance of domestic violence concerns the dynamics of patriarchy and male privilege: the toxic behaviors of both parties are explicitly intertwined. Key to effective domestic violence treatment is in understanding anger, rage and aggression as survival tools. People of both genders use these tools because they work: we want to be heard, be understood, be right, motivate others; we want to feel safe and in control and powerful. It is demeaning and disrespectful to women to assume that women would not use these very effective tools. Anger, rage and violence often give us the results we want. But they are expensive tools, costing us dignity, respect, freedom, families, jobs, homes: the list is endless. The key to understanding any behavior is to examine the benefit the person gains from using the behavior and the price paid to attain that benefit. The key to resolving the behavior is to teach alternative means of attaining that benefit.

S3 Research-based Interventions for Partner Violence Perpetrators

Nicola Graham-Kevan, Ph.D

The literature on violence tells us that for interventions to be effective they must address individual offence-related risk factors such as hostile attribution bias and poor emotional regulation. Therefore perpetrator treatment should be preceded by a thorough assessment of the risk and needs of the individual. The range of potential risks and needs to be assessed should be informed by both the partner violence and the general aggression literature, as well as a functional assessment. Only then can the treatment be tailored to meet individual perpetrator needs. An award winning program from the UK developed for habitually violent men will be used to illustrate how these principals can be put into practice. A checklist for policy makers and clinicians is presented which will allow them to assess for themselves the evidence base for the interventions they utilize and hence invest their time and resources more strategically.

S5 A History of the Domestic Violence Movement in the Western World

Erin Pizzey

The presenter begins with the early history of the domestic violence movement, and her efforts to open the first shelter for women and their children in 1971. The early history of the feminist movement in England is discussed, and the ensuing battle between advocates who conceptualized domestic violence as a human and family issue rather than a gender issue, and those who used the movement as a means of funding and advancing a radical political ideology based on Marxist teaching. This presentation describes in detail the importance of this ideological split, and how the needs and wishes of women have often been ignored. The presentation ends with a general description of where we are now and suggestions for the future.

S6 Family Roots of Adolescent Violence in Relationships and Effective Interventions:

A Developmental and Relational Perspective

Jennifer Langhinrichsen-Rohling, Ph.D and Marlene Moretti, Ph.D

Dr. Jennifer Langhinrichsen-Rohling's talk focuses on understanding adolescents as potential perpetrators and victims of intimate partner violence (IPV). She considers the degree to which relationship skill enhancement and emotion regulation strategies should be promoted as intimate partner violence prevention strategies. Dr. L-R then describe the development of a relationship-enhancement, IPV prevention program called *Building a Lasting Love* that she designed for at-risk adolescents. Data related to the effectiveness of conducting this intervention with pregnant teen girls, who are living in poverty, are described. Dr. L-R also speaks about her on-going efforts to modify the program for adjudicated adolescent boys who are residing in an alternative sentencing program. In addition, the policy implications of her clinical work are articulated.

In her presentation, Dr. Moretti discusses: 1) how experiences within families are related to risk for aggression and violence in adolescents' close relationships with peers and romantic partners; 2) the impact of maternal versus paternal partner violence on the use of aggression and violence by adolescents in relationships; and 3) the development and evaluation of a manualized, group format intervention for parents and caregivers of teens at high-risk for aggression and violence. The lessons that adolescents learn in their families about intimacy, conflict, and aggression go far beyond simply modeling the behavior of their parents. It is argued that attachment representations are an important vehicle through which lessons learned within the context of interparental and family violence become internally consolidated and enacted in the relationships of adolescents with peers and partners. The Connect Program – a brief and structured intervention – is described, including evidence of program effectiveness and province wide training and dissemination.

S7 Interventions in Disputed Child Custody Cases

Part One: *Domestic Violence and Child Custody: Family Court Professionals' Knowledge and Beliefs*

Jon Aaronson, Ph.D

Researcher Donald Dutton challenges Family Court professionals' understanding of domestic violence – derived from training within a closed, victim advocate “gender paradigm.” Contrary to behavioral science findings of domestic violence among the general population, this binary mind-set only admits evidence of abuse perpetrated by male batterers on female victims. The result, Dutton argues, is Family Court professionals' receptivity to case facts that only confirm a gender-based belief system, which often overrides a fuller consideration of the best interests of those children most in need or protection from the full spectrum violence occurring between custody/access litigants. Recent research findings support the first part of Dutton's proposition: The beliefs of child custody evaluators, Guardians *ad Litem*, and judges about intimate partner violence appear more ideological than reality-based. Specific ways in which this bias can play out within the Family Court system are highlighted. Implications for children of divorce who witness violence perpetrated by mothers as well as fathers are noted.

Part Two: *Innovative Interventions in Child Custody Disputes Involving Accusations of Domestic Violence*

Michael Carolla, MFT

As we move toward a more ‘co-parenting’ ideal, parents seem to be using every ounce of ammo available to win custody of their children, including accusations of partner violence and child abuse. The courts must make appropriate custody and treatment decisions even when unable to separate fact from accusation. Can family court professionals help provide options that allow for uncertainty, rather than force the courts into “yes or no” decisions? We must also consider cases where the facts are not in dispute, and abuse has been clearly substantiated. Does this mean that the parent in question has little or nothing to offer the child? Is the child always in danger with a parent because that parent had been violent with the spouse, is a substance abuser, or suffers from a mental health or physical health issue? How can the child in question still have “the healthiest relationship possible” with that parent? Several modalities and treatment options are discussed, including anger management/domestic violence and parenting groups, co-parenting

counseling, “wraparound” therapeutic visitation and parent-child reunification counseling. These options can help parents to learn the skills necessary to better parent and co-parent, and also provide a reasonably safe process for these families to move forward into a healthy, newly-structured family relationship.

S8 Couples and Family Interventions - Multifamily Group Process: The Moveable Family of Origin Genogram as an Intervention Tool Towards Breaking the Cycle of intergenerational Family Violence.

Karen Cohen, MFT

In this presentation, multifamily group treatment is explored, with a focus on the moveable family of origin genogram as an effective intervention tool to treat family violence. This type of genogram is designed to demonstrate to families how the intergenerational process of violent learned behavior can be unlearned. This safe therapeutic technique applies concepts derived from both family therapy and cognitive behavioral therapy techniques to visually show how a family unit can be restructured from dysfunctional to functional. Multiple family group process provides group support through feedback to model and practice new communication and behavioral skills to improve problem solving in various stages of cyclical, unresolved family conflict. Evidence of the effectiveness of this treatment modality has come from empirical studies spanning over 15 years with mandated treatment referrals from Los Angeles County Child and Family Services and a subsequent ongoing voluntary after care program.

S9 Working with Children of Abuse

Christina Dalpiaz, MS

Most people suppose that domestic violence refers to a physical altercation between two adults and rarely consider its impact on children. This oversight gravely underestimates the influence that other forms of abuse (i.e., emotional or psychological) have on the families as a whole. The presenter, herself a survivor of physical and emotional abuse by an ex-partner, redefines domestic violence as family violence, and will reevaluate its players by showing the correlation between witnessing violence and subsequent behavioral problems. The primary focus is on how to work effectively with both perpetrating and victimized parents so they can effectively raise their children in a positive environment. This presentation explains how counselors and others working with family violence can reframe power and control as positive forces for change, break down parent resistance and provide skills that enhance parenting strategies. Case examples are used to allow the audience to see these abused families as real individuals and not just statistics.

Sponsor

The **California Alliance for Children and Families** www.CAFCUSA.org is a gender-neutral 501(c)(3) organization based in Sacramento, California. It is dedicated to ensuring that the family laws of California provide equal and fair treatment to all affected parties: men, women and children alike...Its goal is to bring about policy and training reforms to ensure that California's family laws are balanced, fair and just.

Co-Sponsor

The **Family Violence Treatment & Education Association** www.FAVTEA.com, based in the San Francisco Bay Area, consists of researchers and mental health professionals, all specialists in the field of family violence. Its goal is to reduce violence in the home and to build safe, healthy and productive relationships.

Featuring Speakers From:

The **National Family Violence Resource Center** www.NFVLR.org. NFVLR was created with the purpose of providing state and national legislators with unbiased and scientifically sound information and model legislation regarding family violence.

