

THE LINK

The Official Newsletter of the International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN)

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FOCUS TOPIC: Institutional Abuse

International Responses to Child Maltreatment: Institutional Abuse

Professionals in all countries struggle to define child maltreatment and determine the most appropriate response. To promote greater dialogue among our members regarding effective ways to address child abuse and neglect, we have established a regular case review feature. In each issue, we ask representatives from five or six countries to share with readers how professionals and community advocates in their country might respond to a specific case.

To continue the dynamic dialogue initiated through the ISPCAN Virtual Issues Discussion on Institutional Abuse of Children, several members were invited to address a specific case of institutional abuse. Members from Brazil, Hong Kong, England and the United States responded by discussing how the case would be defined in their region or country, the type of response that would be expected, and the intended outcomes of the specific intervention provided. The case presented was prepared by Dr. David Wolfe based on his extensive research in this area.

Case Scenario

A young boy lives at a group home run by the local Diocese and is educated within the Roman Catholic school system. He is not a strong student and is thought to have a severe learning disability. The boy reports that Father Smith, a priest on the school faculty, has sexually abused him over a number of years. The abuse began when he was attending school and Father Smith was his teacher. Father Smith repeatedly touched him improperly, such as stroking his chest and back. These acts often occurred on school property, as well as on church and residential property. In return, Father Smith would promise the boy money whenever necessary.

One of the worst incidents occurred when the boy was 14 years old. Police officers found the boy intoxicated in public, and a fine was imposed upon him for under-aged drinking. He did not have sufficient money to pay the fine, and asked Father Smith for guidance and help. Father Smith indicated that he would pay the fine on the boy's behalf, which he later did. When the boy went to visit Father Smith for the money, the priest was cooking dinner and offered him some food. The priest offered him beer, which the boy tried to decline. Father Smith insisted that he was "safe" in his residence, so he stayed. He was about to leave the residence when the priest asked him to come closer and led him to the priest's bedroom. Father Smith squeezed his arm and told him to get naked and get into bed. The boy did not feel that he had a choice and did as he was told. When the abuse was over, Father Smith told the boy to keep quiet about the incident.

Defining the Nature of the Problem

In Brazil the case would be defined as sexual and psychological abuse of the child. In Hong Kong, the case would initially be defined as a suspected child sexual abuse case that would be investigated and discussed in a multidisciplinary case conference. Involved parties would each present an assessment of the nature of the case and together develop an action plan.

Under English and Welsh legislation, the child would be

defined as a "child in need," a child whose development is impaired or likely to become impaired unless some remedial action is taken. In this context, a full assessment of the child's needs, including the learning disability and difficulties at school, and the alleged sexual abuse would be undertaken.

In the United States, the report would be investigated as a sexual abuse incident in terms of the adult/child sexual interaction and as a lack of proper supervision and/or guardianship by the custodial facility. Because of the nature and duration of the incident, law enforcement participation would be required, especially when interviewing the child and the perpetrator. Under no circumstances would there be an alert to the local Diocese prior to initiating a planned civil or criminal investigation.

Nature of the Intervention

In Brazil, the child's school, the priest's church institution, and the civil and legal society would be responsible for ensuring that the child receives psychological treatment as a sexually abused adolescent. Meanwhile he would be kept at school with a focus on maintaining his regular social life as an adolescent. The priest would be arrested and required to accept psychological treatment for his abusive behavior.

If personnel in the residential setting received this disclosure in Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Procedures for Handling Child Abuse indicates that referrals should be made to the Child Protection Special Investigation Team (CPSIT) or to the police unit directly. The case would be investigated first by social workers for social intervention and if necessary, by the police for legal intervention. CPSIT would conduct and videotape an interview with the child that would be admissible in court. If the case was established as child sexual abuse, the Social Welfare Department Family and Child Protective Services Unit (FCPSU) would follow up with the case and if required, the department Clinical Psychologist would assess and treat the boy.

In England and Wales several agencies would be involved, in particular education, social services and the police, with social services taking a lead role. An assessment of the child's needs would examine all aspects of his health and development, including the learning disability. The police would take the lead on criminal investigation of the priest and would try to secure prosecution without a trial to avoid the child having to give evidence in court. Agencies are encouraged to place child protection in the context of wider family support services. In this case, there would be a strong emphasis to address the emotional sequelae of the maltreatment. If convicted, the priest would likely be imprisoned for between two and five years and would have his name placed on the Sex Offender's Register. There are few treatment options for perpetrators of sexual maltreatment in England and Wales.

In the U.S., the child protective intervention would focus on assessing the child's immediate safety and the child's short and

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Dear Colleagues, Chers Collègues, Queridos Colegas,

At the time of this writing, several catastrophic world events are taking place. While I hope that by the time you read this message, much of the active devastation will

be over, there is reason to worry about its immediate and long-term impact on children. We know that at times of societal hardship, regardless of its cause, children become more vulnerable to abuse or neglect by their caregivers. Those of you who are closest to affected children will feel the impact the most. Can ISPCAN facilitate contact between those of you struggling with similar issues? For example, there may be many similarities in the difficulties facing war orphans regardless of the children's country of origin. We can support each other and share solutions as we help children and their families struggle through their turmoil.

In Kimberly Svevo's report you will have read about ISPCAN's plans with National Partners. Did you know that the number of Partners has now risen to 16? ISPCAN is also forging various forms of alliance with organizations such as the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), World Bank/The Human Development Network, US Aid, Fogarty International Center/NIH, as well as maintaining very active partnerships with the UNICEF and various NGO subgroups, the World Health Organization (WHO), the US Dept. of Justice, and the Oak Foundation. All of these alliances increase the impact of the child protection work we are trying to achieve.

In the last issue I wrote that our "Guidelines for Guidelines" project was working on a revision and planning its final presentation for May 2003. A number of factors have intervened and now our aim is to have a presentation of a more refined version available at the ISPCAN European Conference in August 2003.

I hope you have found of interest the increased membership benefits described by Kimberly. We appreciate the many members who have contacted us expressing a desire to become more involved and many of you have indeed become active through our Faculty and other programs. It is a pleasure to see such commitment and I look forward to more involvement from all of you within the ISPCAN community as we continue to strengthen and expand our work with children.

May you enjoy health and strength as we go forward. I hope to see a number of you at either the European Regional Congress (28-31 August 2003), whose theme is Promoting Interdisciplinary Approaches to Child Protection, or the first ISPCAN Arab Regional Conference (tentatively scheduled for Amman, Jordan, in December 2003).

Regards,

Marcellina Mian, MD, ISPCAN President, Canada

World Perspective - Sixth Edition

The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) has developed *World Perspectives on Child Abuse: An International Resource Book* five times in just over one decade. All of these efforts have sought to bring attention and understanding to the worldwide problem of abuse and neglect of children. In the first survey (1992), 80 persons reported for 30 countries. In the second edition (1996) there were 53 respondents for 37 countries. Beginning with the third edition (1998) survey emphasis was placed on obtaining one key respondent from as many countries as possible, resulting in 94 contacts and an aggregate of 47 countries represented. In the fourth study (2000) 105 countries were contacted and 58 responses were received and reported. In the fifth (2002) study there were 115 countries contacted and 67 responses collected.

The Sixth Edition of *World Perspectives* is currently under development and will be available for distribution at the 15th International Congress on Child Abuse to be held September 2004 in Brisbane, Australia. As in the past, this edition will include a detailed summary of the survey data as well as general child well-being indicators maintained by a number of international health and child rights organizations (e.g., WHO, UNICEF). Through the efforts of ISPCAN members and our growing network of national child abuse professional societies, we anticipate gathering policy data from professionals working in a minimum of 75 developed and developing countries. In order to insure data quality, we will develop a data dictionary providing all respondents with clear definitions of all survey terms. Both the survey and the dictionary will be translated into French, Spanish, and Russian to maximize the ability of a diverse range of professionals to respond to the survey and offer case examples in their mother language.

While the survey and indicators data will offer a useful and rich profile of child maltreatment worldwide, the Sixth Edition will include a number of additional features:

- an annotated bibliography summarizing the content of key journal articles and government reports that have been issued in the past year that document the impacts of promising programs and policies;
- feature articles on international surveys that have been completed on various aspects of violence such as corporal punishment, physical violence, child labor and sexual exploitation; and case studies that summarize the innovative procedures professionals have followed in designing and implementing promising interventions or research methods, particularly within restricted budgetary conditions.

All ISPCAN members are invited to be part of this process either by providing information on their specific country or providing us summaries of relevant research that has been completed in region. Assistance also is needed in translating the survey and identifying key contacts in a larger number of countries. Those interested in contributing to this project should contact the ISPCAN Secretariat (ispcan@ispcan.org).

New National Partners Offer a Profile

In 1999, ISPCAN launched the National Partner Program, establishing affiliations with national child abuse and neglect prevention organizations around the world to further the common mission of ISPCAN and its partners. At present, 16 organizations have joined this program. The following provides brief descriptions of three of these Partner agencies that have yet to be introduced to the membership via The LINK.

African Network For The Prevention Of And Protection Against Child Abuse And Neglect (ANPPCAN) - Ethiopia

ANPPCAN - Ethiopia, is an indigenous child advocacy NGO founded in November 1990 and is a member of the African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), a pan-African organization with 15 national chapters.

The organization aims to create a child friendly society where children can live freely without abuse, neglect or exploitation; to improve the psychosocial conditions of child abuse victims and their families; create greater awareness of child abuse and children's rights; and to increase the children's participation in the promotion of child rights through arts, education, and other social activities.

ANPPCAN-Ethiopia carries out a range of activities. These include: counseling services and legal aid for victims of child abuse and neglect; rehabilitation services for the victims of child labor and child prostitution; programs to reducing the effects and occurrence of harmful traditional practices (e.g. female circumcision); prevention and control of HIV/AIDS; juvenile justice programs; non-formal education programs for children in need who do not attend school; and general disease prevention programs for poor communities.

ANPPCAN undertakes research on issues of child abuse, neglect and exploitation. To date, studies have investigated the child rights situation in Ethiopia; child abandonment; street mothers and their children in Addis Ababa; child labor; the impact of children's rights advocacy in schools; family violence; and local and professional perceptions of children's needs.

ANPPCAN - Ethiopia is made up of a General Assembly of 300 members, an Executive Committee and a Secretariat. The Executive Committee is the decision-making body of the organization; it consists of a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, treasurer and three members. The General Assembly is composed of lawyers, psychologists, sociologists,

pediatricians, nurses, educators, journalists, artists and other professionals.

African Network For The Prevention And Protection Against Child Abuse And Neglect (ANPPCAN) - Uganda

ANPPCAN-Uganda is an NGO whose membership is open to individuals from a range of disciplines. The organization is committed to the prevention of and protection of children against various forms of abuse and neglect through research, advocacy, service delivery, and networking with other CAN organizations. It is a member ANPPCAN, a pan-African organization with 15 national chapters.

ANPPCAN-Uganda's goals include the following: to serve as a national center for the prevention and protection of child abuse and neglect; to provide a forum for the exchange of research information on the problems affecting children in Uganda; and to generate funds and other resources for research and action in the field of CAN.

The organization was formed in 1995, and its governing structure is made up of a General Meeting of the entire membership, which is the supreme policy making body of the organization. An Executive Board executes the decisions reached by the General Meeting.

Some of the activities embarked upon by the organization include awareness campaigns, such as a seminar on children in situations of armed conflict that was held in June 2000. The organization also publishes CAN training materials and networks with other local organizations that share its commitment to address the problem of child abuse.

Danish Society For Prevention Of Child Abuse And Neglect (DASPCAN)

The Danish Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (DASPCAN) is an NGO officially registered with the Danish government, networks with other CAN organizations in Denmark.

The goals of the organization include the promotion and facilitation of knowledge on the nature and scope of the child abuse problem, and to support an interdisciplinary network of profession-

ISPCAN's National Partners include the following organizations:

- Against Child Abuse (ACA), **Hong Kong**;
- Association Française pour l'Information et la Recherche sur les Enfants Maltraités (AFIREM), **France**;
- African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), **Ethiopia**;
- African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), **Nigeria**;
- African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), **Uganda**;
- American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), **United States**;
- British Society for the Study and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (BASPCAN), **United Kingdom**;
- Cameroon Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (CASPCAN), **Cameroon**;
- Danish Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (DASPCAN), **Denmark**;
- German Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (GESPCAN), **Germany**;
- Japanese Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (JASPCAN), **Japan**;
- Malaysian Association for the Protection of Children (PPKM), **Malaysia**;
- National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN), **Australia**;
- National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NASCAN), **Sweden**;
- National Organization for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NOPCAN), **Belize**; and
- South African Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (SASPCAN), **South Africa**.

als involved in child abuse and neglect cases. To achieve these goals, DASPCAN undertakes a range of activities which include conferences, seminars and training programs. Since its inception, the organization has held a range of conferences and seminars that have addressed various themes, including mother-infant attachment and bonding-failures; the child abuse spectrum; children experiencing difficult life situations and the sexual assault of children.

In addition, DASPCAN promotes and undertakes research. It also has a publication program, which includes *the DASPCAN News* newsletter. An annual DASPCAN Award is also given to an individual who demonstrates excellence in the field of CAN.

The governing structure of the organization is made up of a General Assembly voted for a two-year term. The board administers the organization and is headed by a chairman, a co-chairman, and others but not exceeding 9 members.

Child Abuse in Eastern Europe

With Poland hosting the 9th ISPCAN European Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect later this year, Agnieszka Morawska, Chair of the Organizing Committee, was asked to describe the history and development of a professional response to child abuse as a societal issue in Poland and Eastern Europe:

Child abuse, as a social problem and visible public policy issue, has been emerging throughout Eastern Europe for the past 20 years. In Poland, the professional response to child abuse began in the 1980s with the establishment of the first non-government organization (NGO) focusing on child abuse – the Committee for the Protection of Children's Rights. By the late 1980s, a number of NGOs began developing a range of child abuse interventions as part of their general work to support children and families.

In 1991, the Nobody's Children Foundation (NCF) was established. This organization was the first NGO in the country dedicated to the prevention of child abuse. By 1996, NCF had opened two centers in Warsaw that provided direct assistance to abused children and their families. In addition, NCF developed and facilitated the implementation of an interdisciplinary approach to child abuse, initiated a research program, and published a range of books and leaflets on various aspects of child abuse.

More recently, there has been a substantial increase in the professional response to child abuse. In 2000-2001, a consortium of agencies – NCF, the Polish State Agency for Solving Alcohol-Related Problems and the "Blue Line" hotline for victims of family violence – organized the first Polish community education campaign titled: "Childhood without Violence." In addition, "Bad Touch," the first campaign aimed at preventing child sexual abuse, was launched by a commercial TV station, in collaboration with the NCF. The country now has its own quarterly journal *Child Abuse – Theory, Research, Practice* and the NCF launched the "Child Under the Umbrella of Law" program. This program is aimed at changing legal practice as it relates to child victims of abuse and other crimes. It is also intended to promote child-friendly interviewing and investigations in criminal and civil law matters involving children.

From 1995 to 2001, NCF cooperated with the Batory Foundation in supporting the "Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program for Central and Eastern European Professionals," which was run by the Soros Foundation and the Children Mental Health Alliance. The program supported groups funded by the Soros Foundation who were planning to, or had just implemented, local projects aimed at providing assistance to abused children in the following countries: Albania, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Yugoslavia, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Macedonia, Moldova and Russia.

The program's primary objective was to organize meetings, training sessions and conferences for local service providers from these countries around key clinical issues in addressing the problem of child abuse. As part of this international program, a number of conferences were arranged in Poland:

- Child Sexual Abuse – Diagnosis and Treatment, November 1999 - a conference for Eastern European gynecologists and the first conference in Eastern Europe that addressed this topic.
- Child Abuse – Social Work with Families, November 2000 - a conference for Eastern European social workers.

Although the program ended in December 2001, NCF and the Soros Foundation have continued to cooperate on another international program and support an Internet site designed to provide local professionals throughout Eastern Europe access to the emerging literature on best practice standards and promising interventions. The site also offers opportunities for professional exchange and ongoing consultation.

In addition to this work, there are numerous European NGOs working in the field of child protection throughout Eastern Europe (e.g. UNICEF, Save the Children, NSPCC, ECPAT, EPOCH, Oak Foundation, La Voix de l'Enfant, Focal Point). In addition, many international bodies such as the Council of Europe, Council of the Baltic Sea States, and WHO are actively involved in initiatives developed for the benefit of abused children.

Agnieszka Morawska

Chair of the Organizing Committee

9th ISPCAN European Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, Poland

The 9th ISPCAN Regional European Conference on Child Abuse And Neglect

Warsaw, Poland, August 29-31 2003

For only the second time in the 25-year history of ISPCAN, a regional conference will be held in Eastern Europe. The 9th Regional European Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect will take place 29-31 August, 2003, in Warsaw, Poland. The conference, organized under the auspices of ISPCAN and honorary patronage of Poland's First Lady Jolanta Kwaniewska, will provide a unique opportunity for professionals from this region to exchange experiences and to discuss new research.

The theme of the 2003 European

Conference is "Promoting Interdisciplinary Approaches to Child Protection." Promoting interdisciplinary approaches is seen as essential for a region where the phenomena of child abuse has largely gone unnoticed for many years. Specifically, the Conference will cover a wide range of issues dealing with child abuse and neglect. Interdisciplinary procedures and practices, legal aspects of child protection and prevention policies will be examined, as will the efficacy of treatment and support services. Other topics

include child abuse and neglect, such as: child sexual exploitation, street and abandoned children, physical abuse and corporal punishment.

Aims and objectives

For many years child abuse was a hidden social problem in Eastern Europe. There is still much work to be done in raising awareness, and providing professionals with the knowledge and skills they need to work effectively in this difficult field. Thus, the specific aim of the Conference is to improve the

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ISPCAN 2003 Calendar of Events

ISPCAN Training Workshops

Multidisciplinary Training Seminar on CAN in Thailand

Theme: Building a Caring Society for Child Care and Protection Project

Dates: June 2003

Venue: Thailand

Organized by: The Center for the Protection of Children's Rights

Contact: Sanphasit Koompraphant at cpcr@internet.ksc.net.th

A Training Seminar Presented by College of DuPage, National Louis University and Benedictine University with the support of ISPCAN

Theme: Community Partners in Child Protection, A Multi-Disciplinary Approach

Guest Speaker: Dr Barbara L. Bonner

Dates: 6-7 June 2003

Venue: College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Illinois, U.S.A.

Contact: Anna Quintanilla at education@ispcan.org

Description: This special seminar designed for students and professionals will increase attendees' clinical awareness and skills on the topic of child abuse and neglect, and sexual victimization.

APSAC 11th Annual National Colloquium

Dates: 23-26 July 2003

Venue: Orlando, Florida

Description: Invited speakers from ISPCAN will present at the APSAC Cultural Institute on cultural issues in child maltreatment. Seminars offered at the Institute are designed to help professionals acquire the skills needed to work with diverse populations and to understand the impact of culture on experiences of child maltreatment.

Contact: Tricia Williams

Phone: (405) 271-8202, Fax: (405) 271-2931, E-mail: tricia-williams@ouhsc.edu or visit <http://www.apsac.org>

South Asian Regional Workshop on CAN

Dates: November, 2003

Venue: (Tentative): Calcutta, India

Description: Child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment

Contact: Sibnath Deb, email: sibnath@vsnl.net

Upcoming Conferences & Congresses

9th ISPCAN Regional European Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

Theme: Promoting Interdisciplinary Approaches to Child Protection

Dates: 29 -31 August 2003

Venue: Warsaw, Poland

Description: The Warsaw Conference will provide a unique opportunity for Eastern European professionals to exchange experiences and adopt new methodological tools. The Conference will be open to multidisciplinary professionals including psychologists, social workers, physicians, educators, legislators, and law

enforcement officers. Speakers will include prominent specialists in the field of child abuse both from the region, USA and Western Europe.

Contact: Agnieszka Morawska

Organizing Committee Chair Phone: (+48 22) 616 16 69 Fax: (+48 22) 616 03 14

Website: <http://www.ispcan2003.info>

E-mail: poland@ispcan2003.info

1st ISPCAN Arab Regional Conference on CAN

Theme: Child Protection in the Arab World: Practices and Policies

Dates: December 2003

Venue: Amman, Jordan

Description: The main topics are: Child abuse and neglect, Does it exist in the Arab Countries? Child Rights in Islam. Detection and Management of CAN, a multi-disciplinary approach. Prevention of CAN, (Primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention.)

Chairperson: Ms Maha Khatib General Director Jordan River Foundation. Dr Hala Hammad, (Deputy Chairperson),

Dr Hani Jahshan, (Secretary)

Contact: Dr. Hani Jahshan and Dr. Hala Hammad

E-mails: jahshan@go.com. or halah@jrf.org.jo

ISPCAN African Regional Conference on CAN

Theme: Child Trafficking and Child Sexual Abuse in Africa

Dates: 23-27 March 2004

Venue: Enugu, Nigeria

Description: With the relentless spread of AIDS, denial of protection, developmental and participatory rights of children, the conference will provide and opportunity to develop, communicate, and share knowledge, skills and expertise for all professionals in the field of child protection in Africa.

Contact: Prof. Peter Ebigbo

E-mail: pebigbo@infoweb.abs.net

ISPCAN 15th International Congress

Dates: 19-22 September 2004

Venue: Brisbane, Australia

Organized by: International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect and The National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (National Partner of ISPCAN)

Theme: "We want to share ideas and experiences from across the global community about protecting children and in a way that welcomes children and young people as valued participants."

Congress registration contact information:

SECRETARIAT OFFICE

C/- ICMS PO Box 3496 South Brisbane Qld 4101 Australia

Tel: + 61 7 3844 1138

Fax: +61 7 3844 0909

Email: ispcan2004@icms.com.au

Website: <http://www.congress2004.com>

The IXth ISPCAN Regional European Conference on Child Abuse And Neglect

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professional response to child abuse from prevention to identification, intervention and therapy. The intention is also to use the Warsaw Conference as a means of significantly strengthening interagency cooperation among all organizations working in the region. The Conference's long-term goal is to establish the ground work for an effective, interdisciplinary child protection system that can coordinate efforts for abused children and their families across Eastern Europe.

Audience

The conference is open to professionals from a many disciplines including psychologists, social workers, physicians, educators, legislators and law enforcement officers. Speakers will include prominent specialists in the field of child abuse from all over the world. Acknowledged experts who have confirmed their participation include: Prof. David Finkelhor (University of New Hampshire), Prof. Barbara Bonner (Department of Pediatrics, Oklahoma University), Prof. Danya Glaser (Department of Psychological Medicine,

London), Prof. William Friedrich (Mayo Medical School, Rochester), Prof. Kevin Browne (University of Birmingham), Prof. Tilman Furniss (University Hospital of Muenster), Prof. Kim Oates (The Children's Hospital at Westmead), Prof. Mark Chaffin (Department of Pediatrics, Oklahoma University), and Prof. Kari Killen (Norway).

Further details are available at the Conference website at: <http://www.ispcan2003.info>.

DONOR RECOGNITION

Recognizing Contributions of Time and Resources during October 2002 - March 2003

ISPCAN Honorary Ambassador
(contributions of \$ 50,000 & Above)

The Oak Foundation World Health Organization

ISPCAN Distinguished Benefactors
(contributions of US \$15,000 - \$49,999)

ICCO: Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation

UNICEF

ALCOA Foundation

U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (Ron Laney)

ISPCAN Donors
(contributions of US \$2,500 - \$14,999)

The Center for Child Protection at Children's Hospital - San Diego, CA

Microsoft Corporation

Children at Risk

Illinois Women's Funding Federation
Target

ISPCAN Individual & Corporate Donors
(contributions of US \$500 - \$2,499)

Norton Antivirus (Symantec)

Arthur Andersen

Carolyn O'Kell Jones

ISPCAN Friends (Contributions of \$35 - \$499)

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Viki Simpson
Jun Kato
Stephen J. Wirtz
Jonathan Gould
Marla Brassard
Patricia Lai Sheung Ip

Yolanda Duralde
Barbara Walling Boat
Mel Del Degan
Oko Michael Davies
Matthew Galvin
Chin Yere Ekwenye

Maria Gasza
Ruth Kempe
Sudiyanto
Abang Bennett Abang
Barbara Bonner
Kimberly Svevo

ISPCAN Volunteers

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Chris Mollet
Andrea Pontes
de Carvalho
Greg Thompson
Nicole Fabry
Wayne Arner
Megan Guilfoyle

Eric Lopez
Ken Roades
Mort Stern
Tessa Cole
Nicole Lund
Gloria Varona-Williams
Erin Okamoto
Rynee Moore

Interact Volunteers
(Neuqua Valley High
School in Naperville)
Mandeep Kaur
Germaine Gill
Stephanie Chin

NEW ISPCAN MEMBERS

ISPCAN warmly welcomes new members joining from October 2002 through March 2003

Argentina

Rosana Canale

Armenia

Naira Avetisyan

Australia

Christine Norrie

Anne C. Piper

Gwenda Schreiber

Bulgaria

Meglena Achkova

Cameroon

Mballa Irene Ena

Canada

Mireille Cyr

David Downer

Jeanette Lewis

Marsha Runtz

Larry S. Sanders

China

Qing Ju

Croatia

Ana Karlovic

Denmark

Finn West

Egypt

Tarek El-Sayed Ismail

Omar

Finland

Sarimari Tupola

Gambia

Oko Michael Davies

Peter Bekoe Koranteng

India

Dipty Jain

Italy

Elisabetha Zaglia

Japan

Ryoichi Yamano

Tomoko Yamashita

Latvia

Sandra Sebre

Agnese Strauta

Malaysia

Abang Bennett Abang

Taha

Namibia

Gerhild Kolling

New Zealand

Melanie Phillips

Gaye Sheridan

Reino Unido

Russell Wills

Nigeria

Patience Nwamuo

Norway

Charlotte U. Johannessen

Eili Knudsen Innes

Trude Lockholm

Philippines

Mariella S. Castillo

Cynthia P. Daniel

Jennifer Gilmore

Regina P. Ingente

Georgia D. Regaldo

Danielle G. Saique

Saudi Arabia

Sulaiman A. Al-Sanie

Spain

Ester Mas Marques

Sweden

Ulf Sterner

Taiwan

Joseph Jou Yu Lu

The Netherlands

Marianne Rauhe

Turkey

Ayse Arman

Serpil Ugur Baysal

Tolga E. Dagli

M. Selim Ozkok

Gonca Yilmaz

United Kingdom

Melanie Phillips

Gaye Sheridan

Ukraine

Tatyana Denisova

USA

Michelle Amaya

Bronwen J. Anderws

Cathy Baldwin-Johnson

John Briley

Paula Browder

Toni Cardenas

Amy Cawman

Mark Dias

Cheryl Donovan-Hunt

C. Jason Earle

Deborah Gardner

Debrea B. Hecht

Michael Hoag

Steven Horvath

Lisa Jones

Dennis Greg Jurs

Wanjiru Kemoli

Suzanne Lohrback

David McKay

Shana Peiffer

Sangita Rangala

Rayna Rogers

Norell Rosado

Deanna St. Germain

Lise Schirmer

Joanne Selinske

Steve Spaccarelli

Paul Stern

Irene Y. Tien

Thanh Tran

Toby Tyler

Patricia Voorhes

Brenda Watson

Jeffrey Wherry

Henry Wolf

Ashley Youne-Roesler

Amy Hammel Zabin

Call for Nominations

2004 ISPCAN Awards

ISPCAN is pleased to announce the Call for Nominations for the following ISPCAN Awards.

The **C. Henry Kempe Award** will be awarded to an outstanding young professional or organization working in the field of child abuse and neglect.

The **Kempe Lectureship** will be awarded to someone who has made significant contributions to the welfare of children demonstrating teaching experience. The recipient will be asked to present his/her lecture at the 15th International Congress in Brisbane, Australia.

The **Distinguished Career Award** will be awarded to recognize an outstanding professional who has contributed long-standing dedication to the field of child abuse and neglect.

The **Distinguished Service Award** will be presented to recognize an ISPCAN member for his or her commitment to ISPCAN or an ISPCAN National Partner.

New this year - the **Multidisciplinary Team Award** will be presented to a multidisciplinary team which has made substantial progress in the treatment or prevention of child abuse and neglect in its local community. Information on good multidisciplinary models will be collected and shared with members as a result of this exciting new project.

Awardees will be announced at the Congress in Brisbane and will receive a certificate, acknowledgement on the website and in *The LINK*.

For more information on 2004 ISPCAN awards and for a nominations application, use the ISPCAN website link: <http://www.ispcan.org/awards.htm>

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION

Is it possible to really involve youth in child abuse prevention efforts in a meaningful way?

Those organizing the 15th ISPCAN International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect believe youth participation can be more than simply words on paper. The 2004 Congress, to be held in Brisbane, Australia, will include specific strategies for engaging children and youth in all aspects of the event. Several ISPCAN partners have made similar commitments to engaging youth, with very promising results.

For example, Against Child Abuse (ACA) in Hong Kong, has engaged youth in its campaign to keep children safe from exploitation via the Internet. ACA has created a number of "Child Safety" Ambassador positions where children and young people are trained to educate other young people about safe surfing and the dangers of the Internet. The program is the equivalent of a personal safety program for the Internet. This group has developed and successfully undertaken a survey of 1,500 students in order to assess their use of the Internet, Internet safety and exposure to pornographic materials.

In a joint project organized by ACA, the Hong Kong Committee on Children's Rights and UNICEF, ACA mobilized the community by actively training volunteers, including youth, to convey child safety, child protection and child's rights messages.

Twenty students have been selected and trained as Child Ambassadors this year to help promote children's rights. Some

of the Ambassadors have met with UN Committee representatives while others have taken part in a visit to Thailand to better understand child rights issues and programs in that country. A group of Ambassadors also has met with the Chief Executive of Hong Kong and the Secretary for Home Affairs. The group has joined with other local child rights-related projects to lobby for change.

In another country, The National Organization for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NOPCAN) of Belize is involving children in the development and production of a series of videos designed to improve cross-cultural understanding. In order to help children better understand their culture and to develop a better understanding and appreciation of other cultures, NOPCAN has just finished filming a children's documentary highlighting the Garifuna culture in Belize. The video, released in October, is the first of a series of four documentaries that will feature a range of ethnic groups.

Do you have other examples that illustrate the ways in which young people can be actively engaged in planning and implementing child abuse prevention strategies? If so, please forward your comments to Adam Tomison (adamt@aifs.org.au) or post them on ISPCAN's Listserv (ISPCAN@ispcan.org).

Examples contributed by

Priscilla Lui, ACA Executive Director, Hong Kong

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Message from the Secretariat



Greetings Members,

As we continue to struggle with global challenges and regional concerns, it is a good time to remember our collective commitment, to protect children. My hope, and one that I am certain you share, is that all of our efforts, individually and collectively, will move the world a bit closer to a healthy and tolerant society.

In 2002, ISPCAN included 1661 members from 106 countries. So far, with the invoicing process nearly complete, ISPCAN now numbers approximately 1,500 members in more than 100 countries. Over the coming year, we will be working to expand our membership and the Society's presence in all regions of the world. We will facilitate the work of all our members and their colleagues by providing ongoing training, access to publications, the listserve, and other educational programs. Through our National Partners Program, we will continue to network with thousands of professionals who are members of these organizations or working to establish

similar professional organizations in their countries. Finally, we will continue to educate a wide range of professionals through the distribution of *Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal* in various universities, medical schools and major libraries throughout the world.

We are proud to have you as ISPCAN members. And we are very excited about our growing array of member services and programs such as our LIST-SERVE, our newsletter, *The LINK*, our Fact Sheets, our new Virtual Issues Discussions, and our collaborative projects, such as the ISPCAN/WHO Guidelines, which will be shared with members in August 2003.

These accomplishments are particularly impressive in light of major challenges we have faced over the past years. First, we realize that many members did not receive their 2002 journals in a timely manner, primarily due to a change in the journal's production and distribution system. We apologize for this problem and the journal's publisher, Elsevier Science, is offering some compensation for each member affected by this issue. Second, several members

who renewed late had a double credit card charge for their membership fee. To the extent we have identified all those affected, we have credited and resolved this problem. Finally, the 2002 International Congress, which for various reasons did not attract the number of participants we had expected, resulted in some serious financial penalties for the Society, penalties that required us to tap into our modest fiscal reserves. Our volunteer leaders and staff are working hard to compensate for this loss by managing our programs and finances carefully, without compromising, our members require and rely on.

Please know that we are aware that many of you are facing political, war-related, economic and social system challenges in your work to protect children. Our goal in the coming year is to serve you well so that you may serve your children well. We request your understanding and patience, and promise to work even harder to meet your needs.

Kind regards,

Kimberly Svevo, CAE
ISPCAN Executive Director, U.S.A.

International Responses to Child Maltreatment: Institutional Abuse*(continued from page 1)*

long-term risk for emotional and psychological trauma. In this scenario, the child would be considered unsafe and removed from the group home. The child's emotional-psychological risks would be considered high and counseling considered for the child. The counselor would have to recognize that the public nature of the investigation and protection process may be horrific for the child. Understanding the child's fears would be key to successful long-term treatment. The same safety and risk assessment should include other children who lived now or in the past at the group home.

Intended Outcomes of Intervention

If the Brazilian intervention is successful, the boy will continue to attend school and have a regular social and emotional life. The priest would be arrested. In Hong Kong the intended outcome of the intervention is to establish whether the boy and/or other children were abused and/or are at risk. If abuse has taken place, the goal of the intervention is to ensure that no further abuse transpires, to provide necessary services to the child and his family, and to provide necessary services to the suspected abuser.

In England and Wales there are two broad aims of intervention. The first is to encourage the child's optimal health and development; the second is to protect other children from maltreatment by the priest. In the U.S., the facts of the case would be verified through standard and ordinary civil and criminal investigation procedures, including medical exams. Child protective service has the responsibility to ensure that the priest

never has contact with children in his official capacity in any licensed or regulated facility. A root cause assessment would be made to examine specific issues such as the incident's predictability and the culpability of the management and administration. This is the central question to address when investigating the lack of supervision and guardianship aspect of this report.

Conclusion

In each country the problem is defined as one requiring a multidisciplinary response to establish the nature of the problem and to develop an appropriate intervention. Most countries report the capacity to address the psychological and developmental needs of the child in this case, though services for sexual offenders may be less available. In some countries, mechanisms for responding to these cases have only recently been established. For example, in Hong Kong the handling of child sexual abuse began receiving more attention in the mid 1990s when laws were amended, a task force set up, and case handling procedures were introduced. As awareness of institutional abuse increases, additional efforts in training, multidisciplinary collaboration, and prevention will be required in many countries.

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