



NEW ZEALAND
Family Violence Clearinghouse

Newsletter

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Welcome to Volume two, Issue one of the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse Newsletter - the first for 2006.

The focus of this issue is violence towards children. This includes items relating to child abuse and neglect, the discipline and physical punishment of children, child advocacy, and the links between child and partner abuse. This is an area where the generational consequences of violence within families come to the fore and the truism that 'children are our future' is central to the concept of family violence as a generational phenomenon.

Unfortunately, however, a certain level of double standard still exists under New Zealand law, whereby violence towards children is condoned in the form of physical discipline. As our item on page 4 points out, the bill for the repeal of section 59 of the Crimes Act 1961 is currently before the Justice and Electoral Reform Select Committee. This bill is open for submission until 28 February 2006, and I would encourage you all to be proactive in supporting the repeal of section 59. After all, if our laws continue to legitimise parents resorting to violence in their attempts to 'socialise' their children, how can we expect future generations of New Zealanders to do otherwise? This is not an attempt to introduce anti-smacking legislation; it is a community social policy statement relating to family violence.

The other item in this issue that I would particularly draw your attention to is the recent Save the Children New Zealand publication, *Insights: Children and young people speak out about family discipline*, on page 3. It is rare that children's and young people's opinions get a voice and the simple clarity of their insights into their own lives deserves our attention.

I do hope that, not only these pieces, but this entire issue both inspires and informs.

Thank you - Kia ora,

Nick Fahey, Project Manager

The New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse provides a free information service for the family violence sector. Please help by letting us know about new or current family violence research projects, publications, programme evaluations, conferences, training opportunities, or any other information that may be of interest to others. Contact us at the address below. Thank you.



Puawaitahi - a collaborative approach to dealing with child abuse

Three years ago, a new facility for children and young people affected by abuse opened in Auckland. This facility is the first of its kind in Australasia.

Today, the multi-agency centre is celebrating its

successes in working towards ensuring that children and young people who are victims of abuse, and their families, get the best possible treatment and support.

At Puawaitahi, a range of services and professionals are co-located for investigating and treating child abuse. The centre aims to provide coordinated case management and improved inter-sectoral collaboration, while modelling good practice in the area of responsiveness to child abuse and neglect.

The Puawaitahi centre, located opposite Starship Children's Hospital on Grafton Road in Auckland, consists of health professionals employed by the Auckland District Health Board (paediatricians, clinical nurse specialists, social workers, and administrators); a Police Child Abuse Team (one Detective Sergeant and eight officers); and a Specialist Services team from Child, Youth and Family (therapists, psychologists, and evidential interviewers). There is a Child, Youth and Family social worker jointly funded by the ADHB and CYF to address systemic issues between the two organisations. A Community Liaison, who will work across all the services, building collaborative internal and external relationships, has been piloted at the centre. The ADHB family violence coordinator and specialist trainers have recently moved into the same premises. The services are funded separately by the government agencies involved (ADHB, Department of Child, Youth and Family and NZ Police). The centre provides services to children and young people in different, but overlapping, areas within the Auckland metropolitan region.

The service developed from a need identified by professionals and community members which was further explored and articulated in research completed in 1999 at the University of Auckland. The research examined child sexual abuse investigations and criminal justice processes, interviewing child complainants and caregivers about their experiences, as well as analysing court documents. It concluded there were several problems with responses to child abuse, including unacceptable delays in investigation and treatment; a lack of inter-agency collaboration and a lack of consistent messages/approaches; and insufficient support for families. The research highlighted the adverse effect on children and families of the fragmented approach to child sexual abuse. It was recommended that New Zealand look at the model used by Child Advocacy Centres in the USA. From these recommendations, the model for Puawaitahi was developed over several years and finally became a reality in 2002.



The focus of the service is on child protection, children and young people's physical and mental health, crimes against children, and therapeutic services for victims. Each agency continues to receive referrals through the usual channels, but the agencies collaborate to ensure the best outcomes for the children and young people seen.

Services provided within Puawaitahi include specialist medical and nursing assessment and treatment, psychological assessment and intervention, forensic interviewing, and criminal investigations. Puawaitahi staff provide coordinated case management and connect families with the support and information they need. There is a focus on building relationships with community agencies who work with children and families. Puawaitahi also has a growing commitment to the education and training of professionals and community service providers.

From its opening in November 2002, until August 2005, there have been a total of 17,382 visitors to the Puawaitahi Centre, including clients, families and professionals. Staff saw 2,395 new children and young people up to age 17, of which 71% were female and 29% were male.

While there has been no formal evaluation of the service, there is accumulating clinical evidence that the model works well. Case management is streamlined; delays are reduced; families are getting more consistency in service and information; improvements are made in the interagency collaboration; joint training and stronger professional relationships are beneficial to those working in the area; and there is greater accountability between the agencies. There is considerable interest from statutory agencies and other service providers throughout Australasia. The centre is currently in discussion with the University of Auckland with an aim to carry out a formal research evaluation.

'Courageous Practice in Family Violence' conference

This past October 2005 in Auckland, the National Network of Stopping Violence Services (NNSVS) conference was well attended and presented a range of new ideas, successful practices and challenges for the future of the family violence prevention sector. A number of workshop presentations and papers are available from the Preventing Violence in the Home website at www.preventingviolence.org.nz. A DVD containing 8 hours of conference keynote speeches and workshop presentations is available for \$50 (community organisations) or \$75 (others). For more information, contact NNSVS national office on 04 802 5402, or email: info@nnsvs.org.nz

Insights: Children and young people speak out about family discipline

A recently released study looking at children's perspectives on family discipline sends a strong message to parents that physical punishment does not work.

Researcher Terry Dobbs conducted focus groups with 80 children and young people between the ages of five and 14 from around Aotearoa New Zealand, asking them about their experiences and understandings of family discipline.

The findings reveal that the vast majority of New Zealand parents physically punish their children. More than nine out of ten (92%) of the children interviewed said they had been, or that they believed children were smacked. However, physical punishment was not necessarily effective because many children said they did not fully understand the family rules and expectations, nor did they understand the disciplinary measures which were often inconsistent and delivered without clear instructions about what they had done wrong and how they could change their behaviour.

Dobbs claims that the level of physical punishment reported by many children was 'harsh and/or dangerous', where children were hit around the face or head, or implements were used (p 2). Children said punishment was often delivered by parents who were angry, and that the hitting became more severe over time. Fathers and other male family members were more likely to be ones who physically punished. Children reported being hurt, feeling sad, angry, scared, resentful, and powerless. They also voiced a desire to take revenge on parents and siblings, and said they would be bad intentionally after being smacked or treated unfairly. Dobbs states that "children's experiences of physical punishment are not that of a 'mild smack' or a 'loving tap' and do not support the proponents of 'safe smacking' as a useful disciplinary tool" (p 9).

The study points to the fact that "physical punishment, threats and withdrawal of material possessions is less effective in teaching children good behaviour than a more inductive style...that involves reasoning, explanation, setting up local consequences and limit setting" (p 9).

Children in the study said they thought discipline was necessary, but wanted clear messages about what was expected of them, and parents who weren't angry, treated them fairly, and listened to their children before they did anything. The study found, however, that as the age of children increased so did their acceptance of physical punishment, with older boys accepting the use of this form of discipline more than girls of any age.



The research was commissioned by Save the Children New Zealand, who were concerned that children's voices were often missing from the debate around family discipline and effective parenting. Save the Children believe that children and young people need to be consulted about issues that affect them, and as this research shows, children's perspectives can challenge the assumptions many parents make. Save the Children support the removal of the legal defence for physical punishment (section 59 of the Crimes Act 1961), pointing to Article 19 of United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCROC) that states governments should protect children from violence.

An executive summary of the report can be downloaded from www.savethechildren.org.nz/new_zealand/newsroom/insights.html

Copies of the full report can be purchased from Save the Children New Zealand, phone: 04 385 6847, or email: info@scnz.org.nz

A Useful Website:
Gr8Mates
www.gr8mates.org.nz



This website is designed for teenagers supporting friends who have had an unwanted sexual experience. Developed by Auckland Sexual Abuse Help, the site's home page includes descriptions of several scenarios that young people could be faced with. Some scenarios include, a friend: who discloses that her boyfriend has forced her to have sex; who seems withdrawn and depressed; who is being pressured for sex at a party; or who has been sexually abused by a relative. From here, the website offers a range of practical steps young people can take to support their female or male friends, as well as plenty of information to encourage understanding about the realities and effects of sexual abuse. Gr8Mates suggests ways for friends to 'check out safety', and help their friend consider the options like going to the police, a counsellor or Child, Youth and Family. People using the site can also email questions to Auckland Sexual Abuse Help.



Bill to remove the right to assault children

As the law currently stands, parents and caregivers who are charged with assaulting a child in their care can argue that the assault was justified because they were using reasonable force to discipline the child.

The legislation that provides a legal defence for parents who hit or assault their children is section 59 of the Crimes Act 1961 which states that “[e]very parent of a child and every person in the place of a parent of a child is justified in using force by way of correction towards the child, if the force used is reasonable in the circumstances”.

Children’s advocates and family violence practitioners have long petitioned for section 59 to be repealed, arguing that no piece of legislation should allow anyone the right to hit another person. Advocates for non-violence also argue that repealing section 59 is a vital opportunity to make a real difference towards ending violence within families and protecting children, as well as sending a strong message that the use of physical force is unacceptable.

In a review of New Zealand case law, Hancock¹ found that “section 59 has led to acquittals for acts of serious assault” and there was a fundamental incompatibility between section 59 and the intent of the Domestic Violence Act 1995. Someone charged with assaulting a child who has a protection order could still use section 59 as a defence.

Last year, the Green Party spokesperson for children’s affairs, Sue Bradford, drafted a bill to repeal section 59, entitled the Crimes (Abolition of Force as a Justification for Child Discipline) Amendment Bill. The explanatory note of the Bill says that the current law “acts as a justification, excuse or defence for parents and guardians using force against their children”, and the effect of repealing section 59 will be to put children “in the same position as everyone else so far as the use of force (assault) is concerned”. Bradford maintains that the current law sends a “very disturbing message to society that violence against children is acceptable”.²

The Private Members Bill has passed the first reading in Parliament, and is now in the Select Committee process. This means anyone is entitled to contribute a submission to the Select Committee, stating their views on the Bill and the issues it covers. Written submissions close on 28 February 2006, and oral submissions will be heard by the Justice and Electoral Select Committee later this year. The Bill may then go through redrafting and has to successfully pass through two more readings in Parliament (at which time it will be debated by MPs).

UNICEF NZ have produced a short guide to making a submission to support the repeal of section 59. There is a link to this guide from the New Zealand Family Violence

Clearinghouse website news section at <http://www.nzfvc.org.nz/NewsItem.aspx?id=37>

A guide to making a submission, issued by Parliament, is available by contacting your local MP or online at www.clerk.parliament.govt.nz/Publications/Other

For the text of the Bill, see www.greens.org.nz/searchdocs/other8780.html

¹ Hancock, J. (2004). Application of section 59 of the Crimes Act in the New Zealand Courts. *Presentation to Children’s Issues Seminar* (p 19). Wellington, New Zealand.

² From Green Party website, www.greens.org.nz/searchdocs/other9410.html accessed 15 December 2005.



The Body Shop recently launched their ‘Kids Are Unbeatable’ campaign to support the repeal of Section 59 of the Crimes Act 1961. Stores throughout New Zealand are gathering signatures for a petition that will be used to support a submission to the Select Committee by The Body Shop New Zealand Director, Barrie Thomas. Information about positive parenting and preventing child abuse is also available free from The Body Shop stores during this campaign.

Review of the research on child discipline

A report into the discipline and guidance of children, recently released by the Office of the Children's Commissioner, and published by the Children's Issues Centre, concludes that physical punishment is a health risk for children, and should be avoided.

The report's authors reviewed international theoretical works, research findings, and legislative developments in order to draw conclusions about the impacts and effectiveness of the physical punishment of children. They claim that it is difficult to draw the line between moderate punishment and severe punishment, the latter of which has been shown to have long-term harmful effects on children. The use of physical punishment is associated with negative outcomes for children and young people, such as aggressive and disruptive social behaviour; poorer academic performance and self esteem; depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation; poorer moral internalisation; alcohol and drug abuse; eating disorders; and violence (towards parents or partners).

The report's research findings show that boys, children between the ages of three and five, and children with challenging behaviours, are at a greater risk for severe physical punishment. Mothers were found to use physical punishment more, but some researchers cautioned that when the actual time spent with children is considered, fathers are more physically punitive. Physical punishment was also more likely to be used by parents who are depressed, who have drug and alcohol problems, or who have hostile personality characteristics. When examining who uses physical punishment, the authors maintain "[a] picture emerges of parents in stressful situations, facing money/employment issues, family violence or coping with large numbers of children, or parenting alone. The wider context of society and its sanctioning of physical punishment also contributes to the use of physical discipline" (p xii). The authors claim there is no evidence to indicate that physical punishment results in compliance.

Parenting styles also affect children's behaviour. Authoritative parenting styles which includes involvement, responsiveness, reasoning, warmth and firm boundaries are found to be associated with children's "healthy social adjustment" (p xvi). Whereas, an authoritarian style, using assertion and demands for complete obedience, and the permissive style, where there is low monitoring and expectations, are both associated with poorer outcomes for children.

The report includes an outline of disciplinary actions that have been shown to work, including: explaining to children why behaviours are unacceptable; talking about feelings; listening and involving children in decision-making; drawing attention to the effect of children's behaviour to encourage empathy; having achievable standards of behaviour explained

to children and rules that are consistently enforced; praising, drawing attention to, and giving positive consequences for good behaviour; distracting children from bad behaviour; ignoring mildly unacceptable behaviour (to avoid attention-seeking through bad behaviour); using time-out in a boring but safe place; and grounding or temporarily withdrawing treats while making it clear that it is a consequence for unacceptable behaviour.

A full review of the literature, and a summary report written for parents and professionals, are available from the Office of the Children's Commissioner or online at: www.occ.org.nz/childcomm/resources_links/reports_publications

Smith, A., Gollop, M., Taylor, N., & Marshall, K. (2005). *The discipline and guidance of children: Messages from research*. Wellington: Children's Issues Centre and Office of the Children's Commissioner.

Physical punishment linked to partner abuse

A key piece of research on physical punishment, published in February's issue of the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, found that people who were physically punished as children are more likely to physically and verbally abuse their partner as adults. They are also more likely to be controlling in their relationships and less able to see their partner's point of view.

The research findings are from a longitudinal study in which 188 young married couples without children living in the state of Washington, USA were interviewed three times during the first two years of their marriage.

Informed by social learning and symbolic interactionist theories, the authors claim that problem-solving strategies used in adult relationships are based on what behaviours are learnt, or not learnt, as a child. When parents respond to bad behaviour by physically punishing children, children learn to use force to deal with conflict, and do not learn how to anticipate the other person's responses or understand their point of view. The authors maintain physical punishment "teaches aggressive and controlling strategies for solving the problems of living together and hinders the development of important problem-solving skills, specifically the ability to role take with others" (p 244).

The authors note that their research helps to explain the intergenerational transmission of violence, and shows that "the hurt of physical punishment extends far beyond the immediate pain of the spanking" (p 245).

Cast, A., Schweingruber, D., & Berns, N. (2006). Childhood physical punishment and problem solving in marriage. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 21(2). 244-261.



Child protection capacity: Research identifies gaps in community services

Child Abuse Prevention Services (CAPS) recently released a report on the capacity of non-government services working in the area of child protection.

CAPS interviewed over 200 workers, examining the range of services that work to protect children and young people from harm and



**Child Abuse
Prevention Services**

maltreatment, or assist with healing from the effects of harm. Most participants worked in social service agencies, either at a national social work service or a local community-based child and family service. Others were from family violence prevention services, education, health and mental health services, youth work, counselling and therapy.

In the report, the authors discuss funding issues, community relationships, good practice, and the social and policy context of child protection work. A supplementary report looks at increasing the capacity of the non-government child protection sector through education and training.

A central finding of the research revealed that it is necessary to have a comprehensive range of services for children, young people and their families across the spectrum from prevention to crisis. However, significant gaps were identified in many communities. These gaps were especially seen in the availability of services for young people; help for parents; mental health services for children, young people and parents; respite care; and services for particular populations – refugee and migrant communities, children with disabilities, and family/whanau in remote rural areas. The report claims that a lack of specialist services (such as child psychiatrists, addiction services, or treatment for perpetrators of sexual abuse) means that child protection is critically compromised in some areas. CAPS suggest a need to develop better service provisions in the field of developmental and policy work for children and young people.

The research also found many child protection agencies are working cooperatively with other agencies, despite the lack of formal child protection-focused forums or networks operating around the country where staff can debate child protection issues and develop strategies. There was some concern voiced about relationships with Child, Youth and Family (CYF), noting that CYF was often not part of the community networks, and non-government agencies found it difficult to work collaboratively with them when they had mutual clients. The report suggests “the relationship with CYF is a fundamental relationship affecting the child protection capacity of non-

government agencies. It needs a period of joint intensive and focused work to find the best ways to build and sustain an effective partnership” (p 26).

Considering the research findings, CAPS Chief Executive, Liz Kinley says the report shows there is a vigorous non-government child protection sector that is “energetic, well-focused and committed”. Ms Kinley states that CAPS will follow up the report with continued advocacy for vulnerable children and their families, working to “actively promote increased service capacity and service development that builds on community knowledge about what is needed and strengthens effective working partnerships of community and government agencies.”

The report is available from CAPS national office. Contact janet@capsnz.org.nz or phone 04 801 2704.

A Useful Website:

Australian National Child Protection Clearinghouse
www.aifs.gov.au/nch

The Australian National Child Protection Clearinghouse is an information, advisory and research unit focused on the prevention of child abuse and neglect in Australia. The website includes materials of interest and assistance to those working in the area of care and protection, child advocacy, and family violence in New Zealand.

Fact sheets relating to child abuse statistics, social and economic costs of child maltreatment, the evaluation of programmes, and abuse reporting can be downloaded from the website. These fact sheets reference international as well as Australian data. The website provides access to research databases relating to child abuse and neglect, good practice examples in the area of prevention and support programmes operating throughout Australia, and curriculum and training materials. The Clearinghouse also produces research reports, conference presentations and newsletters that are available on their site.

Successful partnership addresses the child and partner abuse overlap

On Auckland's North Shore, a successful project between Safer Families (formerly North Shore Women's Refuge Society) and Child, Youth and Family (CYF) shows the benefits of collaboration between government and non-government agencies. The North Shore collaboration focuses on keeping children and their families safe. This collaboration emerged from the recognition of the overlap of partner and child abuse that was highlighted by a child's death. The project, which has been in operation since mid-2004, aims to assist and support women so that they can protect their children, without being blamed or punished for the abuse perpetrated by their partner. An additional aim of the project is to hold abusers accountable for their violence.

The North Shore collaboration involves the secondment of a Safer Families social worker to the local CYF office. The Safer Families social worker works full-time together with the CYF social workers to ensure family violence issues are identified and dealt with, and that the mother's needs are considered. The Safer Families social worker is assigned as a co-worker to CYF cases where partner abuse, as well as child abuse or neglect, are suspected or known. Both social workers visit the family involved. The Safer Families social worker provides mothers with information about how domestic violence affects children, assists with safety planning, and refers to support services, making it clear that as a community social worker, she has no statutory powers. As long as the case remains open with CYF, on-going support is provided to the mother by the Safer Families social worker.

A further role of the Safer Families social worker is to assist CYF social workers to recognise, understand, and know how to respond to family violence in ways that keep both children and women safe. The Safer Families social worker offers mentoring and expert advice, and is a domestic violence resource for the CYF office.

Ann Casey, Practice Leader at the CYF Takapuna office, believes the project has made a difference for the community and within CYF. Ms Casey said that having the secondment position in the office gives family violence a higher profile, and since the project started, social workers have realised that a lot of CYF cases have a component of family violence. A check for family violence now happens with all cases. There has been positive feedback from CYF social workers who appreciate the information and support. Ms Casey noted that CYF social workers realise they are in a position of power, by having statutory powers to remove children, which can mean some families are unwilling to engage with CYF. This project has shown that, in situations where there is mistrust of state authority, the support of the Safer Families social worker can mean mothers are more willing to work with CYF staff. Ms Casey also maintains that the project has seen a focus on the accountability of abusive men. CYF social workers

will investigate to ensure men attend stopping violence programmes or keep to non-violence agreements made in Family Group Conferences.

Safer Families Manager, Tracey Swanberg, believes the partnership has significantly improved the way the statutory care and protection agency is able to work with mothers, supporting them to be protective parents rather than removing children because of the mother's failure to protect. Ms Swanberg said that by working with mothers, Safer Families was able to assist CYF with their work, and receive a better outcome for families. She said it is rare that children are removed from mothers. Moreover, Safer Families has benefited from a better understanding of the care and protection system. Ms Swanberg claims that the success of this collaboration, as well as others in the North Shore area, is due to strong professional relationships and open on-going communication between the agencies involved, as well as having the right people with a good analysis involved.

A Useful Website:
Social Policy Evaluation and Research Committee
<http://www.spear.govt.nz>

SPEaR

Social Policy Evaluation & Research Committee
w w w . s p e a r . g o v t . n z

The Social Policy Evaluation and Research (SPEaR) committee, hosted by the Ministry of Social Development, oversees social policy research across all government agencies. The SPEaR website aims to be a 'coordination hub', providing information for both the government and non-government social research and evaluation sector. SPEaR is in the process of developing good practice guidelines for social policy research and evaluation around contracting, ethics, research involving Maori, and research involving Pasifika peoples. Currently the good practice background papers and draft guidelines are available on the website, along with social research news and events, and a bulletin, released quarterly. The SPEaR Linkages fund provides awards for scholarships, exchanges, workshops and seminars. Applications for this fund, with funding rounds three times a year, can be downloaded from the website.

Upcoming Events

14 - 16 February 2006

10th Australasian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect in Wellington, New Zealand.

Sponsored by Ministry of Social Development, Department of Child, Youth and Family Services and the Office of the Children's Commissioner. Website: www.nzfv.org.nz/acan

21 February, 21 March, or 27 April 2006

Working with Domestic Violence: An Introduction (One-day Training Workshop) in Wellington, New Zealand.

For information, contact: National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges 04 802 5078 or training@refuge.org.nz

23 - 24 February 2006

AIIJA Family Violence Conference in Adelaide, Australia.

Website: www.aija.org.au/fv06/flyer.pdf

For information, contact: delwyn.gillan@law.monash.edu.au

1, 3 and 13 March 2006

Professor Karlen Lyons-Ruth, Ph.D., Leading Researcher, Writer and Clinician on Attachment and Trauma (on 1 March in Auckland; 3 March in Christchurch; 13 March in Wellington, New Zealand.) Hosted by Doctors for Sexual Abuse Care. Website: www.dsac.org.nz

8 - 10 March 2006

National Tangata Whenua Stopping Violence Hui in Te Maturanga Maori (CPIT), Christchurch, New Zealand.

For information, contact: Tania Rangiwhehu 03 381 8472 or te-punaoranga@xtra.co.nz

9 - 10 March 2006

Becoming "other than we have been" in conversations about men's violence to women with Art Fisher in Christchurch, New Zealand.

For information, contact: Cathy McPherson at 03 366 4132 or narrativechch@hotmail.com



NEW ZEALAND

Family Violence Clearinghouse

New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse

University of Canterbury

Private Bag 4800

CHRISTCHURCH

Phone: 64 3 364 2296

Fax: 64 3 364 2744

E-mail: administrator@nzfv.org.nz

Website: www.nzfv.org.nz

6 - 8 April 2006

Fourteenth International Nursing Conference of the Nursing Network on Violence Against Women International in Portland, Oregon, USA.

Sponsored by NNVAWI and the Center for Health Disparities Research, Oregon Health and Science University School of Nursing. Website: www.nnvawi.org

21 - 23 May 2006

Strengthening Practice: The First National Australian College for Child and Family Protection Practitioners Professional Development Conference in Sydney, Australia.

Website: www.croccs.org.au/events/htm

For information, contact: croccs@bigpond.net.au

21 - 24 May 2006

Prevent Child Abuse America National Conference in San Diego, California, USA.

Website: www.preventchildabuse.org/ConferenceEvents

7 - 9 June 2006

Third International Conference on Therapeutic Jurisprudence in Perth, Australia.

Presented by Australian Institute of Judicial Administration, et al. Website: www.therapeuticjurisprudence.org

9 - 12 July 2006

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

Theme: Organizing for Collective Power

Website: www.ncadv.org

3 - 6 September 2006

ISPCAN in York, UK. Website: www.ispcan.org/congress2006

12 - 13 September 2006

"Positive Ways: An Indigenous Say" National Conference in Darwin, Australia.

Hosted by Victims of Crime NT.

For information, contact: vocalnt@bigpond.com.au

16 - 18 October 2006

Strengths-Based Practice Conference - "Weaving the Threads" in Brisbane, Australia.

Hosted by Kyabra & Lighthouse Resources.

Website: www.strengths2006.com.au

22 - 24 October 2006

Résovi's International Conference "Violence Against Women: Diversifying Social Responses" in Montreal, Canada.

Organised by Résovi which is a research component of the Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Family Violence and Violence Against Women (CRI-VIFF).

Website: www.criviff.qc.ca/colloque/accueil_ang.asp

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