

ADVOCATE

A Publication of the Support, Advocacy, & Resource Center

Spring 2013

Survivor Point of View:

Dirty Secret

By: Tamara

There's nothing worse than being hurt by the ones you love. Oh everyone is injured by their family and those close to them; however, this is different. This blows all other pain out of the water. It's a pain that shapes your whole life and leaves it in shattered little pieces.

I've never known how to have a real relationship and no matter how much I try that part of me remains broken. It wasn't supposed to be this way... if only I had been loved. A fine line between love and hate has been the dynamic of my male relationships; starting with my first one with my father. I'll always love him and yet, I will always hate him for what he did to me then and how no one in my family will ever acknowledge it. They will never acknowledge me.

Silence... that's what childhood is like for a survivor of this kind of abuse. That silence has hollowed out my

adult life. I never feel safe to speak, and I never feel safe enough to feel. Alone and alienated from the rest of the world. Isolated from all understanding and all acceptance. Shamed from birth with this unwanted defect. I am freak: hideous and disgusting.

How does it affect me? It is absolute torment. I have nightmares almost every night. Sometimes they are so frightening I shiver or I vomit upon awakening. Its like the memories will never go away. They will never leave me alone.

I've had all sorts of the classic symptoms of sexual trauma, like bulimia, cutting, suicidal thinking, sexual promiscuity, and drug and alcohol addiction. All of them just left me more sick, more empty, and more worthless feeling. They never take away the problem: the guilt you carry for being part of something so grotesque. They alleviate it long enough to sleep a night or distract you for a moment, but it's not enough to keep my depression at bay. Not enough to keep my thoughts

from eating away at me.

I get jealous when I see adult women with their fathers laughing and content. They can achieve a type of intimacy that doesn't poison their souls. A peace and joy knowing that figure is never going to hurt them or betray them. A father that protects them from harm. I was never protected from anything; all intimacy means to me is poison.

I hate all men and I can't trust people. I don't have any real friends. No one can know who I truly am. I carry my secret still in silence. The sickening secret that sometimes my own mind can't even believe. I am a victim of incest.

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Incest Abuse

Definition of Incest

Sexual contact or acts between people who are related genetically, by marriage, by living arrangements, or in whom a child perceives a trusting relationship (E.G. parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins, step-parents, or foster parents). This usually takes the form of an older family member sexually abusing a child or adolescent.

(As defined by Safehorizon.org)



All forms of child sexual abuse can have severe long term effects on the victim, but incest abuse is especially damaging as the offender is someone in the victim's primary support system. The severe long term effects of incest abuse can include:

- Intense feelings of shame, blame and guilt. Many victims blame themselves for not being able to stop the abuse, or for not disclosing that the abuse was happening.
- Skewed views of sexuality. Victims may take sexuality to one extreme or the other. They may withdraw from voluntary sexual activity because it creates anxiety or other negative feelings or becoming highly sexually active because it is the only way they know to get attention or to feel in control.
- Negative opinions about themselves or their bodies that can lead to serious depression, guilt, and low self-esteem.

How do incest victims handle their abuse?

Incest creates much mental and physical stress for victimized children. They are forced to develop unusual methods of maintaining a small sense of security and control during abusive situations, including:

- Separating themselves from the experience by blanking out, or by being somewhere else in their minds during the abuse (dissociating).
- Making certain parts of their bodies numb or deadened to pain, or creating pain to distract them from the pain of the abuse (biting their lips, holding their breath, or cutting.)
- Using alcohol or drugs to numb themselves to emotional and physical pain during or after the abuse.
- Pretending to be asleep during the abuse and making their bodies go limp.

(Information gathered from www.taasa.org)

Although the healing process may be a long and difficult road, many incest survivors can overcome their abuse and go on to live healthy rewarding lives. Crisis agencies and counselors can be very helpful guides on the healing journey. If you are a survivor that is seeking to begin healing please call the Support, Advocacy & Resource Center at (509) 374-5391 and speak with one of our advocates.



What should I do if I think a child may be the victim of incest?

Listen

Many child victims of sexual abuse fear that no one will listen to them or believe them if they report the abuse. The difficulty of reporting can be even harder for the child if they are the victim of incest at the hands of a family member. The most important thing you can do for the victim is listen to their story and believe them.

Report

If a child has reported incest abuse to you or you suspect that a child may be the victim of incest, you should report your suspicions to child protective services or law enforcement right away. If you are unsure if an action or behavior is reportable or are unsure about how to file a report please call SARC at (509) 374-5391.

Support

The investigation process can be a very difficult time for the victim, especially as many things may change in the victim's life (the offender may be removed from the home, the child may be removed from the home, the family may face financial hardship if the offender was the primary bread winner). It is very important to support the victim through this hard time. Many times the child may blame themselves for the offender being removed from the home, for the family's financial hardship, or may even blame themselves for the abuse. As a support person for the victim it's important to listen to them, reassure them that they are not to blame, and let them know that you still care about them. These three steps can go along way in helping a child recover from abuse.



The Cops and Kids is a special event in which children are given a Walmart gift card and paired up with a police officer. The card is used to purchase Christmas presents for the child's family members while allowing the children to spend some quality time with a police officer. This year the program offered 26 children from our agency the opportunity to participate in this great event.

Special thanks to all who donated to this wonderful program!

Fraternal Order of Police Tri-City Lodge # 207
Mark Weber, Kennewick Police Department
CHIPS, Blimpies, Kennewick Walmart
Kennewick Police Department
Pasco Police Department
Richland Police Department
West Richland Police Department
Washington State Patrol
Benton County Sherriff's Office
Franklin County Sherriff's Office

Thank You!

Our agency is thankful to have so many people reaching out to help families in need for Christmas this year. We would like to extend thanks to those who were able to sponsor or donate to a Christmas family. Your kindness has provided items to the families to make their holiday season a little brighter.

Tribe of Judah Motorcycle Club,
The Douglas Family, Costco,
Calvary Faith Walk Church, Envirocon,
Parish of the Holy Spirit, RES Group,
Dessert Hills Middle School Staff,
The Ford Family, Arnulfo Tejada and Family,
The Sandstone Café, 911 Dispatch,
Battelle, Tri City Americans,
Sterling Bank, Julie Ahlers, Dessert Thunder,
The Frank Sullivan Group from Enviorcon,
SARC Staff, Volunteers, and Board Members,
Marissa Sandoval, Diane Branson,
Kimberly Spencer, Eagle 106.5 Toy Drive

April 2013: SARC Community Events

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month. During the month of April, we plan a variety of community events to demonstrate our agency's commitment to ending sexual violence. The Crime Victim Service Center is also busy planning an event to recognize the National Crime Victim's Rights Week, April 21-27, 2013. SARC encourages all the readers of the *Advocate* to get involved with their community events during the month of April. We need to send a strong message to people that sexual violence is not tolerated and we are prepared to make a change. We invite you to pair up with a local advocacy center to engage in their events or plan your own. SARC invites community members from Benton and Franklin Counties to participate in the events below.



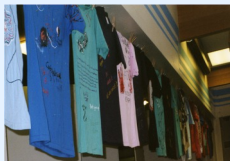
Strides of Strength April 20, 2013



Strides of Strength is a walk designed to empower victims and survivors of crime and to give our community the opportunity to publicly demonstrate their commitment to preventing crime. With each step we provide strength and support to crime victims. The Support, Advocacy & Resource Center and the Crime Victim Service Center will be partnering together for this wonderful event. This year SARC is hoping to gain more community group involvement. SARC will be holding group registration, so please get a group together and get involved in this great event! Community members who attend will also have the chance to win prizes! The prizes are as follows:

- *Largest group will win \$200 cash
- *Second largest group will win \$100 cash
- *All other groups or individuals attending will be able to enter in a raffle to win \$50 cash (Each group member will get a ticket entered so those with larger groups will have a higher chance of winning. Each participant must register to be eligible to win.)

Please call (509) 374-5391 for more information. Registration for the event will start at 10:30 AM and the Strides of Strength walk will begin at 11:00 AM. These exciting events will be held at The Lord of Life Church at 640 North Columbia Center Boulevard, Kennewick, WA 99336.



Clothesline Project:

The T-shirts that are displayed for this project are designed by victims of sexual assault. The design represents their journey through dealing with sexual violence and their recovery to follow. The clotheslines are displayed around the community at the local libraries in Benton and Franklin Counties. Along with the Little People Project, the Clothesline Project is a great visual to remind people how sexual violence impacts victims in our community. Each story told is unique and powerful. Come and check out our local libraries from April 1 to April 5 to see for yourself! If you are a survivor and would like to participate in this wonderful awareness project please come in to the SARC office and design a t-shirt!

Pancake Breakfast



Please attend the 9th annual benefit Pancake Breakfast supporting Safe Harbor Crisis Nursery and Kids Haven at the Support, Advocacy and Resource Center. The Pancake Breakfast will be on June 1st at Jefferson Park on George Washington Way in Richland, WA. The event will run from 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM. The cost is free although donations are welcomed. We hope to see you there!



Kids Haven Benefit Auction April 2013



We are inviting you to participate in our twelfth annual online auction to benefit abused children. All proceeds raised through this event will be used for counseling and advocacy services for children who have been physically or sexually abused. Kids Haven is a joint program of our local city and county governments and the Support, Advocacy & Resource Center.

Our benefit auction will be held *online* from April 12 to May 4, 2012. Please visit www.biddingforgood.com/SARC to view all of our great auction items. Help us raise funds this year to keep this valuable program going!

How You Can Help

***Become a Sponsor**

***Donate an item or service to the auction**

***See something you like? Bid on it!!**

Please call or email Mitzi or JoDee for questions (509) 374-5391 or jgarretson@frontier.com or mveng@frontier.com.



End-of-Auction “Cinco de Mayo” Celebration Dinner

Please join us for a festive evening of food, silent auction, on-line auction, games, and fun to benefit the Kids Haven Program at the Support, Advocacy & Resource Center. We will celebrate the last day of online bidding on May 4th, 2013 from 6:00-9:30 PM at the Richland Community Center (500 Amon Park Dr., Richland, WA). Tickets are \$50 each, they include entrance to the event, fabulous authentic Mexican dinner, and two beverages; wine, beer, margarita, or non-alcoholic drink. For more information or to purchase your tickets please call (509) 374-5391 or email jgarretson@frontier.com. We hope to see you there!



Little People Project:

Each wooden figurine of a child in the Little People Project represents one of the approximately 500 children who were involved in an investigation of abuse in the last year in Benton and Franklin Counties. They are placed throughout the community to raise awareness about child physical and sexual abuse. The Little People will be placed at the Columbia Center Mall, Washington State University Tri-Cities, and Columbia Basin College during the week of April 11-19. You can sponsor a Little Person by purchasing a “little heart” for \$10. The “little heart” will have the sponsor's name as well as an inscription saying, “helping little hearts heal”. Each sponsor is also listed by name or organization on a sign that goes on display. The Little People Project is a great visual reminder of how often child abuse occurs within our community. If you would like to sponsor a Little Person, please contact Brandi or Denise at (509) 374-5391. We appreciate your support and participation.





Crime Victim Service Center

The Vigilant Corner

Spring 2013

Crimes

- Assault
- Child Physical Abuse
- DUI/DWI Crashes
- Elder Abuse
- Fraud
- Hate Crimes
- Human Trafficking
- Identity Theft
- Kidnapping/Missing persons
- Property Crimes
- Robbery
- Survivors of Homicide or victims of Attempted Homicide
- Vehicular Assault

All crimes other than sexual assault or domestic violence.

Dear Readers,

My name is Norma Torres, the new General Crimes Advocate with the Crime Victim Service Center. I am so excited to be writing my very first Vigilant and I hope you find the information helpful. This issue will be about Identity Theft within families.

When you hear the words, "Identity Theft," the first thing that may come to your mind is, "No! that can't happen to me, no way!" The reality is, identity theft can happen to anyone including you. Identity theft also occurs within families. Here is a real life story that will leave you speechless....

Identity Theft Among Family Members - What Can You Do If This Happens To You: *Real Identity Theft Cases*

"My dad has been taking out credit cards in my name, my brother's name, my sister's name, and my mom's name. Now I fear that he may be doing the same to my 14 year old brother. I just received my credit report and it said my brother's name in the AKA column. That would not appear there accidentally. I wonder if he's been using my social security number and my brother's name to apply for credit. By the way, my sister is autistic and is mentally handicapped and he has a credit card in her name.

I've been hoping for some time that he'll eventually take the credit cards out of my name. He has run up high balances on the cards in my name, about \$10,000; however, he keeps current on the payments. This has affected my ability to obtain credit; on the car loan that my husband and I recently obtained, we got stuck with an 18% rate in part due to the credit card activity he has taken in my name. He has paid off a couple of the cards in my name and I was hoping he'd do the same with the last few. I thought he was taking care of this until I saw my brother's name on my credit report.

It's very difficult in how to handle this situation. My mom is in a bad relationship with him; he has actually threatened to kill her in the past, so obviously this makes her very reluctant to do anything. She has talked to a lawyer and he told her that she is legally responsible since she knew that this has been going on. But because of his threat, she hasn't been able to do anything. I do want him to close out all of the accounts that he illegally obtained in other people's names.

He is a farmer and began the "credit card business" as a way to pay off farm debt. He is very addicted to credit cards-they are what his life revolves around.

He has probably close to 50 credit cards in his own name. I know that if I would try to press charges for credit card fraud against him, he would probably threaten me.

I am very afraid of him. I really don't know what to do as this situation has really gotten out of hand. "

Personal Story Provided by:

[Web Nation®](http://www.creditinfocenter.com/identity/familyfraud.shtml), Inc. all rights reserved.

<http://www.creditinfocenter.com/identity/familyfraud.shtml>

Another Personal Story Continued on Page 7

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Identity Theft Among Family Members - What Can You Do If This Happens To You

My girlfriend was recently called at work about an account at Pier One Imports that she was late on. The only problem was she did not have an account with them. Well through digging and digging they discovered that her sister had opened an account in her name. The store did not verify anything at all. They opened an account in my girlfriend's name, with her SSN, home address, etc, etc, etc.. The mailing address was my girlfriend's, and the BILLING address was her sister's (I would think this would raise a flag).

The account is 3 months overdue, no payments have ever been made.. and now she is being told that in order to not be liable she has to either pay the account off or file charges against her sister.

Well she won't do the latter because it would cause family problems. But she doesn't have the extra money to be paying off a debt that was not hers to begin with.”

Story Provided By:

[Web Nation®](http://www.creditinfocenter.com/identity/familyfraud.shtml), Inc. all rights reserved.

<http://www.creditinfocenter.com/identity/familyfraud.shtml>

Additional Real Life Examples of Family Identity Theft

Case 1: *“My adult daughter used my information without my knowledge to open several credit cards and buy a car. She hasn't paid on any of these accounts and now the bank and credit card companies want me to pay.”*

Case 2: *“My father has a gambling problem. He opened several checking accounts in both my name and my brother's name. Then he wrote bad checks for his debt. He's 68 years old and my family thinks we should just pay off the debt. I know that if we do, he'll just do it again.”*

Case 3: *“My ex-husband is using my 8-year old son's SSN to open credit cards. He even got a driver's license using his information.”*

Case 4: *“My friend apparently went through my papers one day and found my SSN. She has several credit cards that she applied for in both of our names. I found out when I applied for a card and it was denied. She says she will pay off the cards but can only afford \$20 a month. The credit card companies want all of it now. I can't afford to pay these off. It is more than \$10,000. She won't sign a letter saying these are really her cards because she is afraid they will arrest her.”*

WHAT
itrc
Identity Theft Resource Center

WOULD YOU
DO?



What is Identity Theft?

Identity theft is when someone steals the personal information of someone else, information such as social security numbers, names and credit card numbers.

Identity fraud can be used for many things such as health care (by stealing medical information) and employment (by obtaining someone else's social security number).

There is another type of identity theft commonly referred to as, "**synthetic identity theft**". Synthetic identity theft is the act of stealing and or using partial information of the victim. The identity information being used by the thief may also be completely or partially fabricated, or made up.

Child identity theft is also a common type of identity theft. Children have no public information, public records or any other information associated with their social security number, making the identity of a child very valuable.

Children are being targeted 35 times more often than adults.



Information Provided By:

<http://gpluspro.hubpages.com/hub/Identity-Theft-Statistics-2012>

Identity Theft Statistics

- Identity theft is the fastest growing crime in America.
- The number of identity theft incidents has reached 9.9 million a year, according to the Federal Trade Commission.
- Every minute about 19 people fall victim to identity theft.
- It takes the average victim an estimated \$500 and 30 hours to resolve each identity theft crime.
- Studies have shown that it's becoming more common for the ones stealing your identity to be those closest to you. One study found 32% of identity theft victims discovered a family member or relative was responsible for stealing their identity. That same study found 18% were victimized by a friend, neighbor or in-home employee.
- Most cases of identity theft can be resolved if they are caught early.
- Financial institutions – like banks and creditors – usually only hold the victim responsible for the first \$50 of fraudulent charges.

- Only 28% of identity theft cases involve credit or financial fraud. Phone, utility, bank and employment fraud make up another 50% of cases

Signs of Identity theft:

- Credit card gets declined for an unknown reason
- Mystery charges start appearing on credit or debit card statements
- Merchandise you didn't order is delivered to your home
- A debt collector calls you for a debt you've never heard of
- Monthly billing statements stop showing up
- Your friends receive emails from your address that you never sent
- Your credit score takes an unexpected dive
- The personal information appearing on your credit report is inaccurate

Information Provided By:

*7/12/2012. 8 Signs Your Identity Has Been Compromised.
<http://www.dailyfinance.com/2012/07/12/8-signs-your-identity-has-been-compromised/>
 And <http://www.transunion.com/personal-credit/identity-theft-and-fraud/identity-theft-facts.page>*

Signs your Child is a Victim

- You get calls from collection agencies, bills from credit card companies or medical providers, or offers for credit cards or bank account checks in your child's name, even if your child has never applied for or used these services.
- Your child, or your family, is denied government benefits because benefits are being paid to another account that is using your child's Social Security number.
- The Social Security Administration, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), or some other government agency asks you to confirm that your child is employed, even though your child has never had a job.
- After you file a tax return listing your dependent child's name and Social Security number, you get notice from the IRS that the same information is listed on another tax return.
- Your child gets a notice from the IRS saying he or she failed to pay taxes on income, even though your child has no income.

Protect Your Child

- Keep documents that show a child's personal information safely locked up.
- Share your child's social security number only when you know and trust the other party. Ask why it is needed, what it will be used for, and how the information will be secured.
- Only use computers with updated antivirus and firewall protection.
- Safely dispose of personal information by shredding paper documents and removing personal information from computers, cell phones and other electronic devices before disposing of them.
- Teach your kids about privacy issues, online security and sharing information online.
- Limit the chances that your child's information will be stolen or misused at school.



*Retrieved from: Warning Signs of Child Identity Theft.
<http://www.identitytheftassistance.org/pageview.php?cateid=94#ShareSafetyTips>
 Protecting Your Child From Identity Theft. By: Leslie Kish. October 23, 2012. <http://www.bbb.org/blog/2012/10/protecting-your-child-from-identity-theft/>*

Protecting Yourself From Identity Theft

To protect your information from family members, friends, and other acquaintances with access to your home, computer, or office, be sure to:

- Invest in a safe or locked file cabinet to store all bank statements, tax returns, credit card statements, or other information that might include account numbers, passwords, or Social Security numbers.
- Opt-out of credit card offers so that you don't receive mail that family members and household guests could use to establish credit in your name.
- Be careful with your purse, wallet, and checkbook when you have visitors. An identity thief needs nothing more than a credit card account number and expiration date to rack up huge charges on your credit cards.
- Adopt a healthy suspicion of your teenage children and their friends. Even the best-raised teenagers will push boundaries and defy their parents. Until your children prove that they are responsible, keep them far away from your wallet, purse, account information, and Social Security numbers.
- Be sure to turn the computer off or logout when you are not using it, and establish different user names and passwords for each person who uses the computer.
- Don't keep financial files—especially those that include Social Security numbers or account numbers—on your computer's hard drive. Sophisticated computer users might be able to hack into them, even if your computer files are password-protected.
- Don't choose passwords that are obvious, like birth dates, pets' names, or phone numbers. Your roommate, visiting cousin, or child is likely to know this information.
- Adopt a need-to-know approach to your personal information. While your spouse might need to know your credit card account numbers or passwords, your teenage children probably do not.
- Be wary of who you choose to watch your house when you leave town. Sure, it's easy for your neighbor to collect your mail, but this could expose your home to risk. When leaving town, request a "vacation hold" on all mail from the U.S. Postal Service by calling 1-800-275-8777.
- Whenever possible, opt for automatic deposits instead of physical checks to stop would-be-thieves from cashing paychecks or tax refunds.
- If you live with a family member or roommate you do not trust, consider diverting your mail to a post office box.
- Consider having regular "identity checks" by enrolling in a product to make sure that the identities of you, your spouse, and your children have not been compromised.
- Follow the same precautions with your office to prevent dishonest coworkers, clients, and employees from stealing your personal information.
- Call the Crime Victim Service Center for more information or support regarding Identity Theft.

Information Provided By:

<http://www.protectmyid.com/identity-theft-protection-resources/types-of-fraud/friendly-fraud.aspx>

Reporting

If you suspect that you have been victimized by Identity Theft, Report It! Many people are fearful of getting other's in trouble, especially if they are close to the victim. What you need to realize is that by not reporting it is likely they will victimize others so you are actually enabling someone to victimize others with identity theft. You may also need a police report to begin the process of disputing fraudulent accounts or charges. The following are some steps to take when reporting identity theft:

- Contact government agencies, such as the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), to report the fraudulent activity. You should also contact your local law enforcement agency to file a report.
- Contact your credit grantors and financial institutions.
- Contact companies with whom you have financial relationships and inform them that your accounts may be compromised. Banks and card companies may issue new cards and PINs to protect your assets, and will work to identify and rectify any unauthorized charges.
- Notify your bank to stop checks. You can also report stolen

checks.

- Contact any companies on your credit report that you do not recognize. Verify the information they have in their records for the reported item.
- Provide the creditor with a copy of your police report, notarized FTC Affidavit or other relevant documentation.
- Keep a log of all related phone conversations, including the names of people with whom you speak.

Follow-Up is Key

- Follow up with companies and agencies that you have contacted to ensure that their investigations resulted in your favor. Working with credit grantors to identify all fraudulent accounts, you can greatly reduce this crime's effects on you.
- Periodically review your credit report. Check for any new fraudulent activity.

Identity Theft can have lasting effects on you and your credit. It is important to check accounts on a regular basis. It is also important to practice patience because it can take a while to reverse damage from identity theft. This can become very frustrating so practice self care and ask for help.

Information Provided By: <http://www.transunion.com/personal-credit/identity-theft-and-fraud/report-identity-theft.page>

Fraud Alerts Versus Credit Freezes

If you are a victim of identity theft and have created an Identity Theft Report, you may want to place an extended fraud alert or a credit freeze on your credit file. There are important differences between these two options:

- A freeze generally stops all access to your credit report, while a fraud alert permits creditors to get your report as long as they take steps to verify your identity.
- The availability of a credit freeze depends on state law or a consumer reporting company's policies; fraud alerts are federal rights intended for people who believe they are, or who actually have been, identity theft victims.
- Some states charge a fee for placing or removing a credit freeze, but it's free to place or remove a fraud alert.

Provided By: <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0279-extended-fraud-alerts-and-credit-freezes>

The Vigilant Corner

If you would like to know more about the topic addressed in this issue of The Vigilant, please don't hesitate to contact the Crime Victim Service Center by phone at **(509) 374-0130**



Checking Credit Reports: In order to access your credit report, you can visit the following website. You will receive one free credit report annually. www.annualcreditreport.com

Additional websites

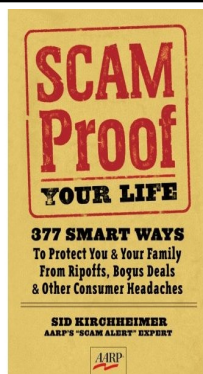
- <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0014-identity-theft>
- <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Identity-Protection>
- http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/cvber/identity_theft
- http://www.identitythefactionplan.com/portal/server.pt/community/identity_theft/9199

Quote

“Tricks and Treachery are the practice of fools, that don't have brains enough to be honest.”

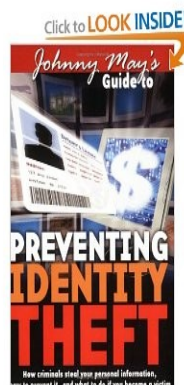
-Benjamin Franklin

Recommended Books on Identity Theft:



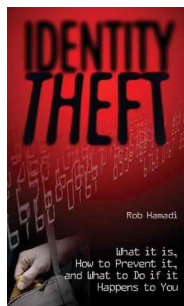
Scam-Proof Your Life: 377 Smart Ways to Protect You & Your Family from Ripoffs, Bogus Deals & Other Consumer Headaches

Get inside information from those in the know on how to protect your money, your rights, and your health—with the most complete, practical, and easy-to-follow collection of consumer wisdom ever assembled.



Johnny May's Guide to Preventing Identity Theft

With over 27 million identity thefts reported in the last five years and over \$48 billion in theft losses to businesses and financial institutions in 2002 alone, the crime of identity theft has reached epidemic proportions. In this up to date and comprehensive guide, you will learn: What identity theft is, the impact of the internet and other technology, how thieves steal your personal information, what you can do to prevent it and step by step instructions for what to do if you become a victim.



Identity Theft: What It Is, How to Prevent It, and What to Do If It Happens to You

This practical guide examines identity theft as a sweeping international dilemma and threat. Exploring how easy it is to steal information by obtaining ATM pin numbers, searching through the trash, copying credit cards, and cracking online accounts, this book addresses the devastating financial, personal, and emotional effects that victims are sure to encounter. This groundbreaking and important work also offers helpful steps for identity-theft victims to recover their identities as well as effective preventative measures.

These books and the books on page 14 are available for checkout in the SARC Library

Crime Victim Service Center

The Crime Victim Service Center (CVSC) is a program of the Support, Advocacy & Resource Center, in collaboration with the YWCA of Lewiston/Clarkston and the Walla Walla Police Department. CVSC welcomes all community members that have been affected by crime.

Discrimination is prohibited in all programs and activities: no one shall be excluded on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, pregnancy, gender, income, veteran status, age disability, or sexual orientation.

24-Hour Crisis
Line
Benton,
Franklin,
Columbia,
Garfield and
Asotin
Counties

1-888-9-VICTIM

Services

WE'RE ON THE WEB
CRIMEVICTIMSERVICECENTER.ORG

The Crime Victim Service Center (CVSC) is here to help you. CVSC is available 24-hours a day to assist anyone who has questions or concerns about crime and the confusion that comes along with being a victim of a crime. CVSC services are free of charge and are confidential. Please contact CVSC at (509) 374-0130 for information or to access the following services.

Legal and Medical Advocacy

Our agency staff and our trained volunteer advocates respond to hospital calls to provide medical advocacy to victims of crime. We also provide legal advocacy at police interviews and court proceedings. Moral support and information is given to victims, family, friends, and witnesses to crime.

Crisis Intervention

Our staff provides short-term crisis intervention to clients. Advocates provide information, support, and validation for the client's feelings. We often recommend that clients seek additional therapy to assist in the healing process.

Referral Services

Our staff is able to assist clients in finding resources and information

related to their crime.

Library Resources

CVSC has a wide collection of books on the topic of crime and issues surrounding crime victimization. These resources are available for CVSC clients and the general public.

Crisis Line

CVSC advocates are available 24-hours a day to answer questions, or if you just need someone to listen. This line also serves as a point of contact for clients who may need immediate emergency assistance.

Counseling

The CVSC in Benton/Franklin counties offers twelve counseling sessions at no charge for victims or witnesses of crime and/or their non-offending family members.

Counseling is available to residents in Columbia, Garfield and Asotin counties through sub-contracts with a variety of agencies.

Therapy Referrals

Referrals are available for longer term counseling or if another counselor would better meet the needs of the client. We have information regarding payment options; sliding fee scales, medical coupons, and Crime Victims Compensation.



SARC Program Reports



Sexual Assault Crisis Program

At the end of the second quarter, the Crisis Program had a 12% decrease in new clients and total year-to-date, there is 7% decrease in new clients. Total services for second quarter are down by 34%. This is a large decrease for services and during the crisis program meetings we have

been trying to figure out why we have such a large

decrease in services. We have the same Advocates as last year and the only difference, besides the decrease in new clients, is that we had an additional advocate last year. We are continuing to focus on the decreases in services.

We have seen a 49% increase in clients from Kennewick. This large increase could be linked to the ongoing presentations we provide to the patrol officers. It is so helpful to be able to present regularly to the patrol officers because often there are changes in rotations and new officers that might not be aware of community resources.

During the holiday season our agency was blessed with amazing support by our community. Our clients benefitted from a variety of opportunities to help their families have a great holiday. We had a total of 17 families sponsored by several community members, businesses, churches, schools, volunteers, board members and staff of SARC. The children affiliated with SARC were able to participate in the Annual Cops and Kids Event with the Fraternal Order of Police, Walmart, and Blimpies. Toys were donated in abundance by the Radio Tri-Cities Toy Drive and by the Desert Thunder Motorcycle Club. Lastly, our clients were invited to participate in the Sandstone Café's Tree of Needs Program.

Sexual Assault Statistics		
Types of Assaults	2nd Quarter 2011-2012	2nd Quarter 2012-2013
Adult Survivor	13	7
Date Rape	6	6
Acquaintance Rape	19	16
Stranger Rape	1	2
Marital Rape	4	3
Family Molestation	26	32
Acquaintance Molestation	16	9
Stranger Molestation	1	0
Sexual Harassment	4	0
Family Rape	12	9
Other	10	18
Total	112	102



Crime Victim Service Center (CVSC)

New clients through the CVCS have decreased 22% in the second quarter and 54% year-to-date. The services through CVSC for second quarter are close to the same as last year (1046 compared to 1049 for this year). Year-to-date services have increased by 4%,

and contacts have increased by 29%.

During the second quarter, the Crime Victim Service Center had a transition in staffing. We welcomed our new General Crimes Advocate, Norma Torres, on December 3rd. On December 21st, we said goodbye to Adriana Chavez, who will be moving on to finishing her Master's in Teaching by working as a Student Teacher. Adriana will stay with the agency as a volunteer for the CVSC and she will be one of our two Spanish speaking volunteers.

During the second quarter, Adriana was working with a man who sought services after finding out that his elderly father was being coerced into a marriage with his care giver for her green card and so she could have access to his finances. The care giver was not licensed or registered with DSHS and because of this DSHS was threatening to revoke the elderly father's benefits. The son became involved and was appointed Power of Attorney and with Adriana's help was able to help his father out of this horrific situation. The caregiver is now under investigation and his father is in a licensed home to care for him.

General Crimes Statistics		
Types of Assaults	2nd Quarter 2011-2012	2nd Quarter 2012-2013
Child Abuse	6	6
DUI	0	0
Elder Abuse	2	1
Hate Crimes	0	0
Harassment	3	0
Robbery	3	1
Assault	16	11
Identity Theft	0	1
Kidnapping	1	0
Vehicular Assault	1	2
Property Crimes	1	2
Fraud	2	2
Trafficking	0	0
Homicide	1	1
Other	0	0
Totals	36	27

Kid's Haven Program

Total interviews for the second quarter are down 19% and year-to-date interviews are down 31%. Specifically year-to-date Pasco Police Department interviews are down 49%, Kennewick Police Department is down 15%, and Richland Police Department is down 31%. It is difficult to explain why the interview requests are down and even more difficult to explain why the different jurisdictions are down. The courtesy interviews increased by 35% which is also difficult to explain. We have been very fortunate with being able to assist our partner agencies with trainings on child abuse and neglect. This year, we will again be able to assist with sending representatives from our Multi-Disciplinary Team to the Children's Justice Conference in May.

Education Program

The second quarter ended with a 2% increase in total presentations and year-to-date we have a 6% increase. During the second quarter, the Technology Safety had an increase of 56%, Harassment and Bullying Prevention increased by 37% and SARC Services presentations increased by 39%. The increases for the Technology Safety and Harassment and Bullying Prevention Programs are a direct result of presenting several middle schools. Ochoa Middle School, Horse Heaven Hills Middle School, Enterprise Middle School, and Housel Middle School had multiple sessions presented to most of their students. There was a 35% increase in the total middle school audience for second quarter and 44% increase year-to-date. The elementary schools have reduced the requests for the programming; The Safe Bodies Healthy Minds program decreased by 40% and the Personal Body Safety program decreased by 60%.

We have been having large increases in our outreach audience; the total audience increased 54% in the first half of this year. We can attribute the increase mainly to the creation of documentaries that we create with a local cable network. Charter Cable has been assisting our agency with the creation of documentaries on a variety of topics regarding victimization. In addition to assisting with the creation they also add them to their rotation of shows they regularly air on their network. In the last year they have increased the amount of times they air our shows, added them to their "on demand" channel, and uploaded them to You Tube. They have been a fantastic partner to our agency, not only assisting us with our outreach audience, but making connections to survivors that need services.

In October, we were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of events with United Way. Last year we only participated in 1 United Way Event and this year we facilitated 7 presentations and/or booths that generated a total audience of 344.

The General Crimes Advocates, Norma Torres and Adriana Chavez, participated in a Spanish speaking radio show. Norma also received practice along with Adriana on multiple Spanish and English presentations. Norma continues to facilitate presentations in Spanish and in English when presentations are requested regarding general crime issues.

Total Sessions Offered for Each Program

2nd Quarter	Boundary & Body Safety	Safe Bodies, Healthy Minds	Personal Body Safety	Technology Safety	Harassment & Bullying Prevention	Creating Healthy Relationships
2011-2012	14	105	68	32	82	31
2012-2013	12	63	27	72	130	24

Total Programs Offered

2nd Qtr	Total Programs	Total Unduplicated Audience
2011-2012	140	4,007
2012-2013	156	4,142

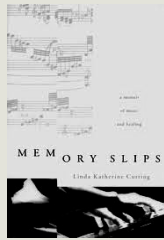
The table to the left gives the total number of the programs and unduplicated audience.

For more information regarding these reports please contact
Renee Blackman,
rblackman@myfrontiermail.com



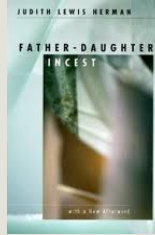
Resources for Adults

Resource for Children



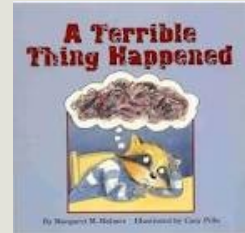
Memory Slips: A Memoir of Music and Healing
By: Linda Katherine Cutting

Concert pianist perform from memory, a brutal but inescapable convention of musical life. Of all the demons they face onstage, none is greater than the fear of a memory slip. Cutting's bitter, dignified memoir tells the story of a musical life nearly shipwrecked by childhood molestation at the hands of her minister father.



Father-Daughter Incest
By: Judith Lewis Herman

Through an intensive clinical study of forty incest victims and numerous interviews with professionals in mental health, child protection, and law enforcement, Herman develops a composite picture of the incestuous family. Reviewing the extensive research literature that demonstrates the validity of incest survivors' sometimes repressed and recovered memories, she challenges the rhetoric and methods of the backlash movement against incest survivors.



A Terrible Thing Happened
By: Margaret M. Holmes

Sherman Smith saw the most terrible thing happen. At first he tried to forget about it, but soon something inside him started to bother him. Sometimes his stomach hurt. He had bad dreams. And he started to feel angry and do mean things, which got him in trouble. Then he met Ms. Maple, who helped him talk about the terrible thing that he had tried to forget. Now Sherman is feeling much better. This gently told and tenderly illustrated story is for children who have witnessed any kind of violent or traumatic episode.



Mid-Columbia Sex Offender Information

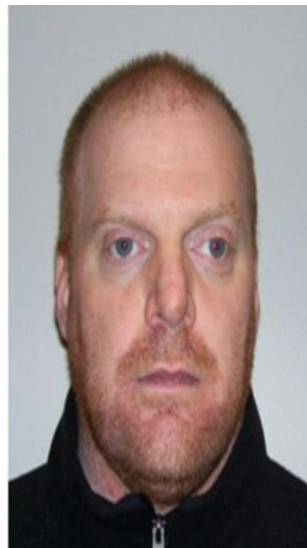
This Notice is For Information Only

Level III Sex Offender: Benton County, WA

Level II Sex Offender: Benton County, WA



NAME: Gary William Hobart
ADDRESS: 800 block of N. Fisher St., Kennewick WA
SEX: Male
HAIR: Gray
EYES: Hazel
HEIGHT: 5' 11"
WEIGHT: 180
DOB: 2/13/1953
CONVICTION DATA:
Child Molestation 2nd degree, Rape 3rd degree.
NOTES:
Victims were a 13 year old boy male and an adult developmentally delayed male.



NAME: Jeffery Paul Gravelle
ADDRESS: 1100 Block of N. Arthur St., Kennewick WA
SEX: Male
HAIR: Red
EYES: Blue
HEIGHT: 5' 10"
WEIGHT: 220
DOB: 4/21/1971
CONVICTION DATA: Voyeurism, Assault 4th degree with sexual motivation (3 counts), obscene conduct

This information is provided in accordance with RCW 4.24.550. The Police Departments have no legal authority to direct where a sex offender may live. Unless court ordered restrictions exist, the offender is constitutionally free to live wherever they choose. Citizen abuse of this information to threaten, intimidate or harass registered sex offenders will not be tolerated. Such abuse could end our ability to do community notifications.

SARC NEWS

A Special Thanks to...



Philip McGuinness, Mike Hahn,
Brian Jenner, Mark Twain Elementary,
Sharon Grant, Duane Moe, Patti Johns
Ellen Hunter, Jerry McGuire, Jenny Hill,
David and Pauline Brantingham,
Kristin Jarman, Jan Stuck-Leuze,
Church of Christ Sewing Sisters,
West Highland United Methodist
Women, Andrew Simmons,
Tri City Quilters' Guild, Janie Gerrard,
Blue Knights Washington III,
Project Linus, Vi Foraker,
June Baldwin, Sue Cantrell,
George and Ruth Raab, Bill Bridges,
Morgen Hildreth's Blankets of Love

Upcoming Events



March 8– Mitzi's 14 year anniversary
March 18– SARC Board meeting 5:15 PM

April 12– Kids Haven online auction begins
April 15– SARC Board meeting 5:15 PM
April 20– Strides of Strength walk
April 22– Denise's birthday
April 28– Jennifer S.'s birthday

May 4– Cinco de Mayo celebration dinner
May 13– Jennifer P.'s birthday
May 15– Desiree's birthday
May 20– SARC Board meeting 5:15 PM
May 24– Brandi & Denise's 3 year anniversary

June 8– Norma's birthday
June 17-21– Camp SARC summer camp

SARC's Annual Report for fiscal year 2012-201 will be available for all interested parties at the end of July.
Please call (509) 374-5391 to request your copy.

SARC & CVSC Board of Directors

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Vice President

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Jennifer Sifuentes
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Laura Valdez

Leslie Sievers

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Striving for a "Community without Victims"



about the program

The Support, Advocacy & Resource Center serves Benton and Franklin Counties with sexual assault crisis and education services. We provide free and confidential assistance for victims of sexual assault, child sexual abuse, dating violence and adult survivors of child sexual abuse.

SARC also provides prevention education for our schools, day cares and community groups on sexual abuse and safety issues. Our services are available to all people regardless of age, gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or physical and mental ability.

The Washington State Office of Crime Victims Advocacy accredits SARC as a Community Sexual Assault Program. SARC is a member of the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs and

the United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties.

Services are provided through grants from the state and federal government, local and regional foundations, and through donations from our generous community.

The opinions expressed in the "Point of View" section of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of staff, board of directors, volunteers and sponsors of SARC.

The SARC Advocate is designed to educate, inform and promote community awareness regarding sexual assault issues. Reader feedback and submissions are always welcome. Mail to: 830 North Columbia Center Blvd., Suite H, Kennewick, WA 99336 or contact us via e-mail.

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www.supportadvocacy&resourcecenter.org
www.crimevictimservicecenter.org

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