

ADVOCATE

A Publication of the Benton-Franklin Sexual Assault Response Center

Fall 2011

**Editorial:
Media's Influence in Society**

Media is a constant influence in our society. Society is defined as a community of people living in a particular region and having shared customs, laws, and organizations. Our society is made up of our families and friends, and then grows into our community, which can grow into our region, into our state, and finally our country, and on the largest scale our world. Media plays a large role in influencing our society's shared customs and laws.

Media is found in all aspects of life whether or not we notice it. With developments in technology, media is available through many different ways. More traditionally we think of media through television, newspapers, and magazines; however, with the prevalence of the internet media is now available through computers, cell phones, iPods, gaming systems, etc. With the availability of media through many outlets you can imagine that constant messages are delivered to us and to our children. Media impacts our social laws and customs but it also impacts our attitudes, thoughts, and roles in our society. In fact media is so powerful that it serves as a guide for kids on their role in society. Parents are a great influence on childhood development, but they are also influenced by other sources. One study states that 81% of children ages 2-7 spend time watching TV alone and unsupervised (Kaiser Family Foundation, 1999. "*Kids and Media @ the New Millennium.*"). TV can be a great source of entertainment but it can also be dangerous if children are

watching unsupervised. Children may be getting messages from media sources about their development and it may conflict with your individual parenting style.

Girls and boys are both getting very different messages through the media. Girls are taught to be passive, and learn that they have power through their sexual attraction and image. Boys are taught to be aggressive and not to give up until they get what they want. These messages are being reinforced over and over again by music, television, video games, etc. The average girl or boy spends approximately 6.5 hours per day being exposed to and interacting with various media (Source: Kids and Media at the New Millennium: A Comprehensive National Analysis of Children's Media Use: Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation Report 1999). It is sometimes scary to think that children are exposed to so much through media and that it can be such an influential source for their development.

In this edition of The Advocate we are going to focus primarily on media influencing sexual violence. It is not difficult to argue that our media sources are overly sexual and normalize sexual behavior. For children it can be specifically confusing for them to develop normal healthy sexuality when they are exposed to media that may not portray healthy sexuality. "Analyses of broadcast media content indicate that, on average, teenaged viewers see 143 incidents of sexual behavior on network television at prime time each week" <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>.

Sexual Violence is commonly thought of as a physically violent crime against someone else, which is true in many cases. The term sexual violence can also encompass visual or verbal episodes of sexual assault. Sexual violence is not always something that is physical or violent. Media portrays sexual violence as something that is physical and violent which can cause layers of confusion for victims if they have experienced something outside of the physically violent category. Media can also influence reporting because victims may have a preconceived idea of how the criminal justice system works based on TV shows or news. Based on the idea of what media has influenced they may have incorrect information or expectations that may not be met which can lead to more feelings of victimization.

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Media Messaging and Sexual Assault

Rape Culture:

Rape culture is a term used to describe a culture in which rape and other sexual violence (usually against women) are common and in which prevalent attitudes, norms, practices, and media condone, normalize, excuse, or encourage sexualized violence.

Media Misrepresentation

Most people's attitudes towards sexual assault and its victims are largely formed by mainstream news articles. Unfortunately mainstream media often misrepresents sexual assault by blaming the victim, inferring that the perpetrator is innocent, and minimizing the traumatic effects of sexual assault.

Examples of media misrepresentation of rape and sexual assault:

- Victim blaming based on the victim's profession, personal life, social status, behaviors, clothing, or age.
- Biased discussion of the victim's history but not the perpetrator's.
- Biased focus on the perpetrator's social status or role in the community to exonerate the perpetrator.
- Interviews with the perpetrator or the defense attorney but lack of perspective or counter from the victim's side.

Take action! If you see an article in which media misrepresents sexual assault or its victims then write a letter to the editor to let them know what you think. Remember that a letter to the editor should be clear, concise and professional.

**Examples of Media Misrepresentation of Rape and Sexual Assault, [Connections](#), Spring 2010, p. 10*

Going Beyond the Beat

Rape culture messaging through music is not a new phenomenon, and the following themes can be found in all genres of music: male entitlement, prostitution and sexual exploitation, and sexual assault. Although these messages are found in all genres of music, these messages are much more predominant in hip hop and rap music. Many times the rape culture message is hidden behind a great beat. Jamie Foxx's smash hit "Blame it" is a great example, the lyrics are:

She say she usually don't but I know that she front
Cause shawty know what she want
But she don't wanna seem like she easy
I hear you saying what ya won't do
But you know we probably gon do

The message behind the catchy beat: if a woman says "No" to sex a man is to proceed as if she said "Yes." This is just one of the many hip hop and rap songs that glamorize and glorify sexual assault. Fortunately there are artists who are using music to convey a positive message. (Please see list below of examples.) It is important to go beyond the beat, dissect the message, and listen to what music is really teaching us.

**Dismantling Rape Culture Messages Through Song, [Connections](#), Spring 2010, p. 5, and [About-face.org](#)*

Hip Hop and Rap Music with a Positive Message

"The Light" - Common
"I Know I Can" - Nas
"Keep Ya Head Up" - 2Pac
"Tennessee" - Arrested Development
"Video" - India Arie

**25 Positive Hip Hop and Rap Songs, [Connections](#), Spring 2010, p. 16*

Advertising and Rape Culture

Mainstream advertising feeds into the rape culture of our country. Advertising routinely features the hypersexualization of young girls, the infantilization of women, turning women into objects, and glamorizes sexual assault. Ads that hypersexualize young girls often border on child pornography. Lingerie line Jours Apres Lunes recent ad campaign for their line of lingerie, targeted at 4 to 12 year olds, that features very young girls with makeup dressed in nothing more than underwear and bras (see images to the upper left). Ads like these victimize children, provide images to child predators and normalize child sexual abuse. Advertising also victimizes women, by infantilizing them: portraying women as child like, innocent, and vulnerable (see image at near lower left). In a rape culture being vulnerable is often closely related to being a potential victim. It is also very common for women to be turned into objects, such as a beer (see image at far lower left). Media activist, Jean Kilbourne, states "turning a human being into a thing is almost always the first step in justifying violence against them." Sexual violence is also encouraged by ads that glamorize rape, such as the Dolce & Gabbana "gang rape" ad to the left. Glamorizing rape in this manner encourages and normalizes sexual violence while negating the very traumatic effects of sexual abuse for the victim.



Media Literacy

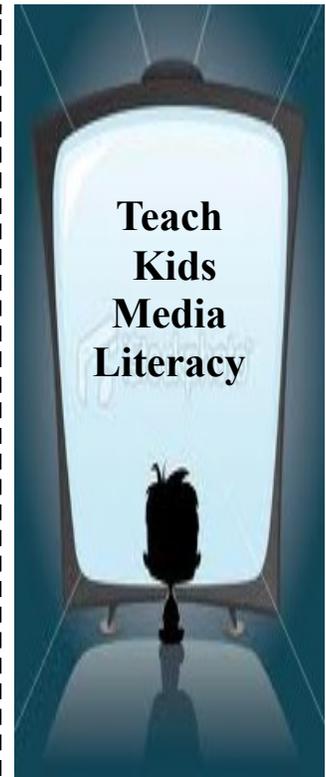
Teaching media literacy is an important part of combating the negative media messages that kids/teens encounter daily. Media literacy is the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, and produce media. The Center of Media Literacy's Five Key Questions are a useful tool in teaching youth a filtering process for making decisions about media.

The five key questions are:

1. Who created this message?
2. What creative techniques are used to attract my attention?
3. How might others understand this message differently?
4. What values, lifestyles, and points of view are represented in—or omitted from—this message?
5. Why is this message being sent?

Through the lens of these Five Key Questions, youth can learn to discern the content, the values, and the lifestyles being portrayed in the media they use. But most importantly they begin to see that all media is created with a purpose, and when they begin to see for themselves that media violence is a mechanism to sell, they begin to see their relationship with violent and sexual media in a whole new way.

*A Media Literacy Approach To Teaching Kids About Violence In Media, Connections, Spring 2010, P18.



Kids Haven Benefit Auction 2011

SARC held its fifth annual on-line benefit auction for the Kids Haven Program. Through the month of April many wonderful donated items were up for bid. The auction ended with an event at the SARC office where online bidding was available along with complimentary beverages, appetizers and online bidding stations. Approximately \$12,000 was raised to benefit child victims of abuse.

Sponsors:

Benton-Franklin Council for Children & Youth, Town Square Media, Tri-Cities Exchange Club, Columbia Valley Daybreak Rotary, Rick & Cindy Rochleau, Mike & Anita Case, Ken & Trish Hohenberg, Group Health Cooperative, KNDU Community Connections.

Local Donors

Albertsons-Kennewick, Albertsons-Pasco, Anthony's Restaurant, Ariel Gourmet & Gifts, Atomic Bowl, Beaver Bark, Bed Bath & Beyond, Ben Bridge Jewelers, Benton Franklin Fair & Rodeo, Bergstrom Aircraft, Blue Moon Restaurant, Blue Mountain Casino, Broetje Orchards, Buds and Blossoms Too, Canyon Lakes Golf Course, Chinese Gardens Restaurant, Chukar Cherries, Clippity Dippity Cuts, Cody Pottery, Columbia Basin Paper & Supply, Columbia Basin Racquet Club, Columbia Crest Winery, Columbia Point Golf Course, Cookies By Design, Costco, Curves, Daily Grind Espresso, Double Tree Hotel, DQ Grill & Chill, Envy Home Furnishings, FEVER Football, Fred Meyer—Kennewick, Harry Ritchie's Jewelers, Hogue Cellars, Ivar's, Jacksons Sports Bar & Restaurant, Katya's Restaurant & Wine Bar, Kennewick Vision Care, Kutoure Salon & Spa, Meadow Springs Golf Course, Monkey Dooz, Mountain Meadow Artisans, Olivieri Portrait Design, Photography by Shannon, Rollarena, Salon Monroe, Salon West, Spencer Appraisal Service Inc., Sterling Savings Bank, Terra Blanca Winery, The Capitol Theatre, The Ke Element, The Personal Touch, Tri City Americans Hockey, Tri City Court Club, Tri City Dust Devils, Tri City Herald, Tri City Rotary Clubs, Tri City Water Follies, Tri-City Exchange Club, W.B.K. Inflatables, Walker's Furniture, WSU Football, and Yoke's-Pasco.





Name the Agency Contest - Help SARC Update Our Name!!

Win \$300!!!!

The Sexual Assault Response Center (SARC) has been in existence since 1977; first as Benton-Franklin Rape Relief, and then later as SARC. We are once again updating our name to better reflect the services we provide, the clients that we serve and to better position ourselves to offer additional programs for our community. We need your help!

Because SARC is well known and well established we will be keeping the acronym "SARC" (and we will keep the same logo format) – we just want to broaden the meaning. Because we serve victims of child physical abuse, elder abuse, identity theft, gang violence, harassment, homicide, assault, and drunk driving - "sexual assault" is too limiting.

The new "SARC" needs to be reflective of 1. An agency that helps people in need, 2. An agency that seeks to create social change, and 3. An agency that is welcoming and safe to all.

Contest Guidelines:

- SARC will solicit suggestions through schools, community events, social media, any way we can come up with!!
- Everyone is welcome to submit a suggestion; there are no restrictions on age, where you live, or anything else!
- Submissions must be received by SARC no later than April 11, 2012 at 5:00 pm.
- SARC staff and the Board of Directors will be responsible for selecting the final choice.
- If the chosen name was provided by more than one entrant, a drawing will be held to select the final winner.
- All participants will be recognized in our summer newsletter that announces our new name.
- The winner and new name will be announced at **Strides of Strength** – April 21, 2012. Entrant does not have to be present to win – but it would be nice! ☺
- The winner will be awarded with \$300 in cash!!

Your Suggestion: _____

Your Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Group You Represent, if applicable: _____

Date Submitted: _____

How did you hear about contest: _____

Mail to: SARC
830 North Columbia Center Blvd. Suite H
Kennewick, WA 99336 or
jgarretson@frontier.com
(509) 374-5391

For more information about Strides of Strength or SARC please visit our website at www.sexualassaultresponsecenter.org and "like us" on our facebook page and follow us on Twitter.



Camp SARC

Camp SARC is a unique and innovative program that combines the rite-of-passage of summer day camp with group psycho-education and support for young victims of abuse. While SARC stands for the Sexual Assault Response Center, during one special week each summer, it stands for Strengthening and Revitalizing Children. Complete with wacky songs, arts and crafts, sundaes, and parachute games, Camp SARC engages kids in healthy and fun activities in an environment that validates and normalizes their experiences.

June 20-24, 2011 was the inaugural Camp SARC and what a success it was. Sixteen children participated and the experience far exceeded our expectations. Not only did the little ones self-esteem grow, sense of isolation lesson, fear and anxiety reduce, and personal safety skills increase— the staff was rejuvenated and became so much more connected to the children we serve.

7th Annual Pancake Breakfast to Benefit Kids Haven and the Safe Harbor Crisis Nursery

Thank you to all the community members who came to the breakfast and showed their support.

Total amount raised: \$4,358

SARC would also like to thank the following Sponsors

Benton/Franklin Mounted Sheriff's Posse, Henry's Restaurant, Bennett Rentals, John & Jan Hansens, Frank & Mary Lamb, Tri-City Sign and Barricade, Windermere Tri-Cities, Budd & Judy Massengale, Red Door Party Rentals.

Pancake Chefs & Contributors

Andy Miller—Benton County Prosecutor
Leo Bowman—Benton County Commissioner
Larry Taylor—Former Benton County Sheriff

Guest Chefs

Ken Hohenberg—Chief of Police,
City of Kennewick
Steve Keene—Benton County Sheriff

The Sexual Assault Response Center is now on both Twitter and Facebook!



Find us on Facebook at Sexual Assault Response Center

Follow us on Twitter at SARC@BFSARC



Christmas Families

The Christmas holiday season is very difficult for some of our clients' families. In an effort to make the season a little more cheerful for them, the Sexual Assault Response Center adopts families in need as our Christmas Families. If you would like to help our Christmas Families this holiday season, SARC is accepting donations. Items that have been donated in the past include:

- Gift cards
- Clothing
- Toys

Any and all donations are greatly appreciated. Please contact SARC at (509) 374-5391 for more information. Thank you for helping us spread cheer this holiday season.



Crime Victim Service Center

The Vigilant

Fall 2011

Crimes

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

All crimes other than sexual assault or domestic violence

Dear Readers,

This issue of **"The Vigilant"** will focus on how media affects violence and aggression. There have been many studies done and many still continuing to show the correlation between media, violence and aggression.

In a study done about the correlation between media and violence, findings showed that among those who watched less than an hour of TV a day, 5.7% had committed a violent act that resulted in serious injury. Among those who watched one to three hours per day, 18.4% had been violent. Of those who watched more than three hours a day, the rate of aggression was 25.3%.

-<http://actagainstviolence.apa.org/specialtopics/mediaviolence.html>

What is Media?

Media is any means of communication, as in radio, television, newspapers, billboards, advertisements and magazines that reach or influence people widely. We don't realize how much media our children or we see over the course of our lifetime. In *Peter DeBenedittis, Ph.D.'s* study it said that "children watch so much TV, that they will see 500,000 commercials by the time they reach 18."

Media Violence

There are few actual definitions of the term media violence. One way to describe this aspect of violence is: any depiction of violence in the media, such as, seeing or hearing physical forces exerted for the purpose of violating, damaging, or abusing.

Impact on Children

Children can be impacted by media violence in many different ways. Violent films and programs that probably have the most deleterious effects on children are not always the ones that adults and critics believe are the most violent. "Violent scenes that children are most likely to model their behavior after are ones in which they identify with the perpetrator of the violence, the perpetrator is rewarded for the violence and in which children perceive the scene as telling about life like it really is". One way to limit the identification between the child and the character is by commenting on the program while the child is viewing it.

<http://www.apa.org/news/press/releases/2003/03/media-violence.aspx>

There is currently a bill in place by the government fining people who sell violent video games to minors.

RCW 9.91.180: *A person who sells, rents, or permits to be sold or rented, any video or computer game they know to be a violent video or computer game to any minor has committed a class 1 civil infraction as provided in RCW 7.80.120.*

"The legislature has found there is a compelling interest to curb hostile and antisocial behavior in Washington's youth and to foster respect for public law enforcement officers."

For more information on WA state legislature visit: www.leg.wa.gov

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Can A Video Game Lead To Murder?

By Rebecca Leung

(CBS) Imagine if the entertainment industry created a video game in which you could decapitate police officers, kill them with a sniper rifle, massacre them with a chainsaw, and set them on fire.

Think anyone would buy such a violent game?

They would, and they have. The game Grand Theft Auto has sold more than 35 million copies, with worldwide sales approaching \$2 billion.

In 2005, a multi-million dollar lawsuit was filed in Alabama against the makers and marketers of Grand Theft Auto, claiming that months of playing the game led a teenager to go on a rampage and kill three men, two of them police officers.

Can a video game train someone to kill? **Correspondent Ed Bradley** reported on this story that first aired on March 6, 2005.

Grand Theft Auto is a world governed by the laws of depravity. See a car you like? Steal it. Someone you don't like? Stomp her. A cop in your way? Blow him away.

The game was at the center of a civil lawsuit involving the murders of three men in the small town of Fayette, Ala. They were gunned down by 18-year-old Devin Moore, who had played Grand Theft Auto day and night for months.

Attorney Jack Thompson, a long-time crusader against video-game violence, is who brought the suit. Said by Thompson at the time, "What we're saying is that Devin Moore was, in effect, trained to do what he did. He was given a murder simulator."

Moore's victims were Ace Mealer, a 911 dispatcher; James Crump, a police officer; and Arnold Strickland, another officer who was on patrol in the early morning hours of June 7, 2003, when he brought in Moore on suspicion of stealing a car.

After his capture, Moore is reported to have told police, "Life is like a video game. Everybody's got to die sometime." Moore is awaited trial in criminal court. A suit filed by the families of two of his victims claimed that Moore acted out a scenario found in Grand Theft Auto: The player is a street thug trying to take over the city. In one scenario, the player can enter a police precinct, steal a uniform, free a convict from jail, escape by shooting police, and flee in a squad car.

David Walsh, a child psychologist who's co-authored a study connecting violent video games to physical aggression, says the link can be explained in part by pioneering brain research recently done at the National Institutes of Health -- which shows that the teenage brain is not fully developed.

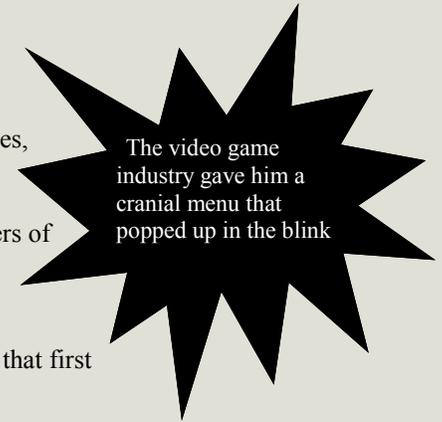
Does repeated exposure to violent video games have more of an impact on a teenager than it does on an adult?

"It does. And that's largely because the teenage brain is different from the adult brain. The impulse control center of the brain, the part of the brain that enables us to think ahead, consider consequences, manage urges -- that's the part of the brain right behind our forehead called the prefrontal cortex," said Walsh. "That's under construction during the teenage years. In fact, the wiring of that is not completed until the early 20s."

Walsh says this diminished impulse control becomes heightened in a person who has additional risk factors for criminal behavior. Moore had a profoundly troubled upbringing, bouncing back and forth between a broken home and a handful of foster families.

"And so when a young man with a developing brain, already angry, spends hours and hours and hours rehearsing violent acts, and then he's put in this situation of emotional stress, there's a likelihood that he will literally go to that familiar pattern that's been wired repeatedly, perhaps thousands and thousands of times," said Walsh.

Thompson said video game companies had reason to foresee that some of their products would trigger violence, and bolsters his case with claims that the murders in Fayette were not the first thought to be inspired by Grand Theft Auto.



Cont...

Tips for Parents to Protect their Children from Harmful Media:

1. **Cut your viewing in half, and spend that time talking to your children.** If you cut that time in half you can free up some quality time to talk with your children.
2. **Set up a no TV zone.** It is recommended that you make dinner be a TV free time. Wear your children down with questions about their day.
3. **Screen and select programs.** Make sure the programs your children watch reflect your values.
4. **Watch with your children.** This allows you to talk to your children about what they're viewing.
5. **Watch taped programs.** If you tape a program, your child can't complain when you're talking to them during the program. You can always rewind the tape and view a scene again.
6. **When watching taped programs, fast forward through commercials.** Remember even the V-Chip (A computer chip installed in a television to allow the user to control the display of certain programs) doesn't regulate the content of ads.
7. **Take TV's out of all bedrooms.** A TV in your child's bedroom is giving them license for unlimited viewing. This means taking the TV out of your bedroom as well. Remember, the point is to walk the walk, not just talk the talk.
8. **Turn off your TV – Permanently!** This is an option few people choose, but those who do report being quite happy.

"Parenting to Protect Children from Harmful Media"
-by Peter DeBenedittis, Ph.D.



Cont...

In Oakland, Calif., detectives said the game provoked a street gang accused of robbing and killing six people. In Newport, Tenn., two teenagers told police the game was an influence when they shot at passing cars with a .22 caliber rifle, killing one person. But to date, not a single court case has acknowledged a link between virtual violence and the real thing.

Paul Smith is a First Amendment lawyer who has represented video game companies. "What you have in almost every generation is the new medium that comes along. And it's subject of almost a hysterical attack," says Smith. "If you went back to the 1950s, it's hard to believe now, but comic books were blamed for juvenile delinquency. And I think what you really have here is very much the same phenomenon playing itself out again with a new medium."

Both Wal-Mart and GameStop, where Moore purchased *Grand Theft Auto*, said that they voluntarily card teenagers in an effort to keep violent games from underage kids. But several states are considering laws that would ban the sale of violent games to those under 17.

For full article go to http://www.cbsnews.com/2102-18560_162-702599.html?tag=contentMain;contentBody

The lawsuit that was brought upon the makers and distributors of the *Grand Theft Auto* series claiming the games caused a teenager to shoot and kill three members of the Alabama police force was dismissed March 29, 2006 and permission to appeal was denied.

Many lawsuits have been filed against the makers of *Grand Theft Auto* and all have been dismissed. Former lawyer Jack Thompson who was involved in these trials was disbarred by the Florida Bar Association and fined more than \$100,000 due to his conduct in these trials against *Grand Theft Auto*.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Theft_Auto_%28series%29

According to *The Guinness World Records 2008 and 2009 Gamer's Edition*, it is the most controversial video game series in history, with over 4,000 articles published about it, which include accusations of glamorizing violence, corrupting gamers, and connection to real life crimes.

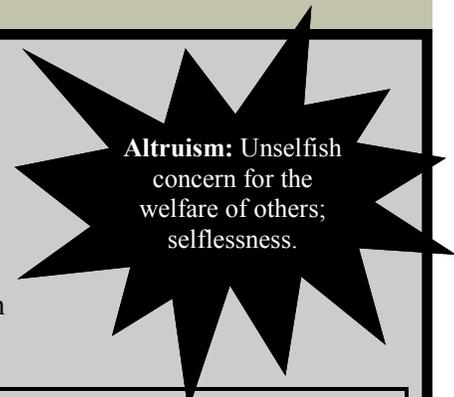
Media and children’s aggression, fear and altruism (Part 2)

Barbara J. Wilson

American children spend a large part of their lives with television and other screen-based technologies, and there can be little doubt that they learn from these mediated experiences. Parents and educators often worry about the harmful effects of media, but the evidence is clear that time spent with media can also be beneficial for children. The point I have emphasized throughout this article is that content matters. Watching two hours of Sesame Street will provide a young child with a rich set of academic and social-emotional lessons; watching two hours of a superhero cartoon will recommend aggression as a way of solving problems.

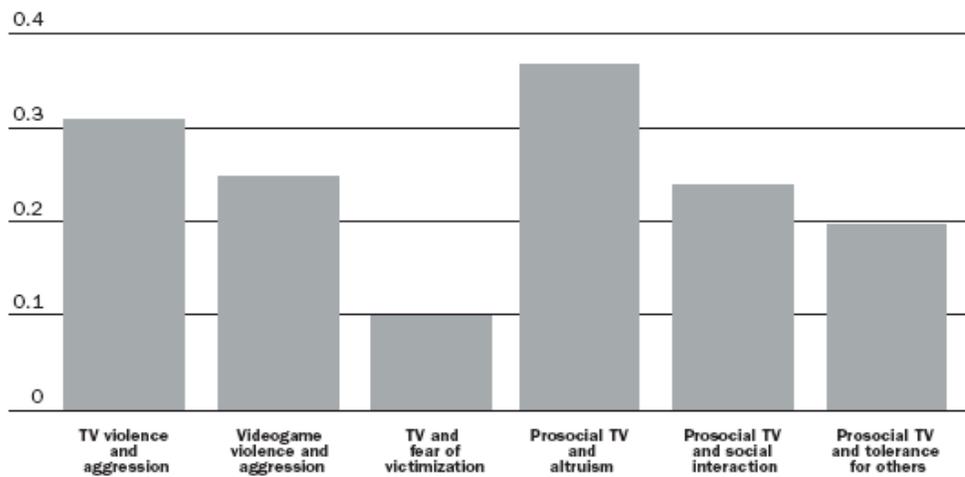
In general, it is essential for parents to monitor the media content their children view and find attractive. Such parental involvement is arguably more important than establishing rules about how much time children can spend watching TV or playing video games. Guiding children’s media choices and helping children become critical consumers of media content can foster the prosocial benefits of spending time in front of a screen while preventing some of the risks.

For full study you can go to <http://www.cyc-net.org/cyc-online/cyconline-june2008-wilson.html>



The graph below shows that media can be as beneficial as harmful depending on the content involved. The data is a compilation from different studies noted under the graph.

Figure 1. Effect Sizes Of Exposure to Various Types of Media Content and Various Social Outcomes, from Various Meta-analysis Studies



Sources: For TV violence and aggression (.31), see Haejung Paik and George Comstock, "The Effects of Television Violence on Antisocial Behavior: A Meta-Analysis," *Communication Research* 21, no. 4 (1994): 516-46. For videogame violence and aggression (.25), see Craig Anderson, "An Update on the Effects of Playing Violent Video Games," *Journal of Adolescence* 27 (2004): 113-22. For TV and fear of victimization (.10), see Michael Morgan and James Shanahan, "Two Decades of Cultivation Research: An Appraisal and Meta-analysis," *Communication Yearbook* (1996): 1-45. For prosocial TV and altruism (.37), prosocial TV and social interaction (.24), and prosocial TV and tolerance of others, see Marie-Louise Mares and Emory Woodard, "Positive Effects of Television on Children's Social Interactions: A Meta-Analysis," *Media Psychology* 7, no. 3 (2005): 301-22.

Make a Family Contract for Online Safety

There are lots of "rules" on how kids (and parents) can use the Internet but the most important rule is that parents and kids agree to a set of criteria. Here, based on "Kids Rules for Online Safety" and "Guidelines for Parents" are two pledges that kids and parents can take. They should be printed out, signed by both kids and parents and posted near the computer. You can print off these documents at:

<http://www.safekids.com/family-contract-for-online-safety/>

To find an Online Safety Quiz on how to be a safe Internet surfer you can go to: <http://www.safekids.com/quiz/>

For weekly updates on our community activities you can also "friend" the Sexual Assault Response Center on Facebook and/or follow sarcenter on Twitter.

The Vigilant Corner

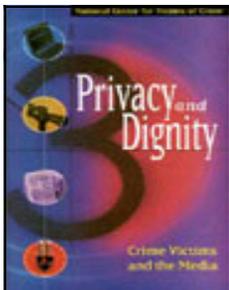
Quote for this newsletter:

Words are so powerful they should only be used to heal, to bless, to prosper.
~Sue Henry

Meet Adriana Chavez
The New Crime Victim Advocate

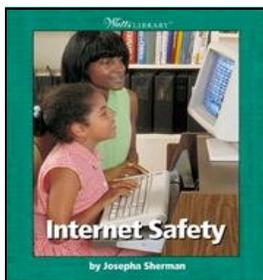
This issue of the Vigilant has been written by our new Crime Victim Advocate for the CVSC. Adriana Chavez has a B.A. in Sociology and an B.A. in Comparative Ethnic Studies with a minor in Spanish from Washington State University. She is bilingual and has been working with English and Spanish speaking clients at CVSC. Please contact her at achavez@myfrontiermail.com or (509) 374-0130.

Library Resources:



Privacy and Dignity
By The National Center for Victims of Crime

Provides practical guidance on interacting with the media, building effective media relations, giving successful media interviews, setting boundaries, and much more.



Internet Safety
By Josepha Sherman

Josepha Sherman's *Internet Safety* provides information and advice on using the Internet safely, discussing privacy concerns, viruses, shopping online, etiquette, and more.



“Tangled in the World Wide Web”
By SARC

“Tangled in the World Wide Web” is a video about web safety that SARC produced with Charter.

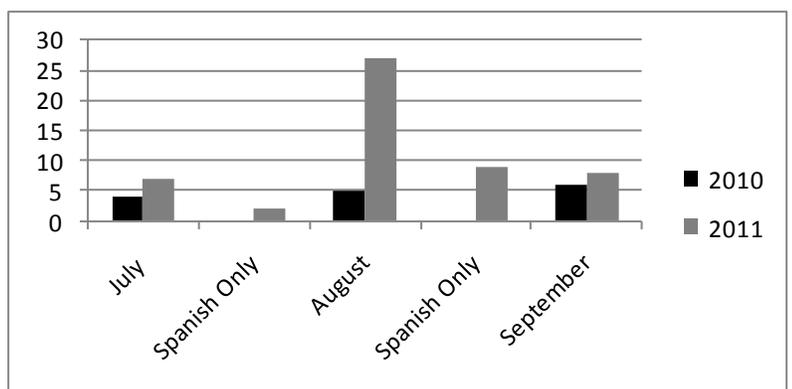
Update for the Beginning of 2011-2012

Since the starting of the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 we have seen an increase in our clients at CVSC. Since July 1st, 2011 we have had a total of 34 new clients and 9 of them were monolingual Spanish speaking clients. Many referrals are coming into our agency through word of mouth, community agencies, and police agencies. The Advocate on staff for CVSC is Spanish speaking, therefore she is able to assist the need. There are other staff members at our agency who speak Spanish and able to assist our clients. In addition we also utilize the AT&T Language Line to accommodate Spanish and other languages that our clients speak. We hope that the clients who continue to seek services and who are monolingual will continue to feel comfortable with the services and less isolated when dealing with their victimization.

Additional websites

- www.ncvc.org
- www.crimevictimservicecenter.org
- www.ocva.wa.gov
- www.lni.wa.gov
- www.wccva.org

Harassment Cases and Spanish Speaking Clients



Crime Victim Service Center

The Crime Victim Service Center (CVSC) is a program of the Sexual Assault Response Center, in collaboration with the YWCA of Lewiston/Clarkston and the Walla Wall 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.

Support Groups

Support groups are available either on-site or through referral for victims of crime, non-offending family members, friends, and witnesses to crime.

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.



Crisis Program

The Crisis Program had a great 2010-2011 Fiscal Year. There were many client successes this fiscal year within the Crisis Program. To highlight one specific client success story, it would be a client who was raped and sought services from our agency. When she came into the office initially she blamed herself for what had happened, she felt that she brought the rape on herself, she was extremely depressed and anxious, and she was being harassed by her offender and his family. During our work with her she started to call on a regular basis for support, she started to see that the rape was not her fault. With help from the SARC Advocates and the Counselor, she was able to participate in the trial and the offender was found guilty. She continues to come into our office for counseling and support; however, you can visually see the difference in the client who initially came in and the person we are working with now. We have been lucky to work with her!

We also have been able to improve some of the systems we have had in place to make our services and statistical data keeping more effective and efficient. In order to receive input about our services we send out surveys to our clients to gain that feedback. Historically, it has been difficult to obtain a good amount of data from surveys because it is difficult for clients to return them. This last year we implemented a new process for collecting the information from surveys to make the old process more efficient and effective. This process has shown to be very effective in achieving the survey collection goals. This year we have raised the client survey return rate and we are very proud to say that 40% of our clients have returned surveys regarding our services this year compared to 34% last year.

Another area of improvement we have made in our Crisis Program is the efficiency of our follow-up process. Our client follow-up was being done prior to this year; however, we decided as a staff to update the way it was being done to ensure regular client follow-up and consistency with all of the Advocates. The follow-up process has shown to be effective because 95% of the clients who returned surveys were satisfied with the amount of follow-up they received.

Fiscal Year 2010-11	
New Clients	371
Clients Age 0-5	49
Clients Ages 6-11	106
Clients Ages 12-18	118
Clients Ages 19+	95
Clients Ages 60+	3
Male	56
Female	315
Total Intake and Follow-Up Services	7569
Total Contacts	2115
Total Intake and Follow-Up Hours	1648

Crime Victim Service Center

Fiscal Year 2010-11	
New Clients	89
Clients Ages 0-5	6
Clients Ages 6-11	11
Clients Ages 12-18	15
Clients Ages 19+	55
Unknown	2
Male	28
Female	61
Total Intake and Follow-Up Services	1928
Total Contacts	369
Total Intake and Follow-Up Hours	382.5

The Crime Victims Service Center continued with outreach efforts throughout the fiscal year. These efforts included the continuous participation in meetings with the Kennewick and Richland School Districts, and Community Advocate Meetings. In July, the Crime Victim Advocate participated in several training and presentation opportunities. These included, Child Abuse Presentation, Brain Development and Child Maltreatment training to Volunteer Advocates, and CVSC services to Kennewick Police Department. In addition, we participated in media opportunities with New Northwest Broadcasters, reaching over 2,000 individuals.

Our Crime Victim Service Center program received a call from the aunt and uncle of a homicide victim right before Thanksgiving. The victim was killed the weekend prior to the holiday and his parents were grief stricken so the aunt and uncle stepped in to assist them with the arrangements of the funeral and burial. After researching they came across our website and called. Renee Blackman, our Crime Victims Advocate, spoke to them about their options and offered to help with the arrangements. She also gave them information about Crime Victims Compensation and received their permission to call the funeral home, cemetery, and Crime Victims Compensation so that she could take on some of the work of coordinating payment for services. The weekend after Thanksgiving, Crime Victims Compensation had already received the application and approved the family for the full amount. Renee also worked with the cemetery and the funeral home to make sure they received the claim number and make sure the bill went straight to Crime Victims Compensation for payment instead of the family.

In April, CVSC, presented to all of the Kennewick Police Departments' Patrol Squads and Detective Unit. In addition, CVSC was also invited to present to the Department of Corrections Field Offices. These presentations are essential to build relationships with community partners and help increase referral sources. CVSC also partnered with Allan Knox of KPD on a Community Safety Meeting for the Highlander Apartments and the Take 25 Event with Officer Mike Meyer. For the Summer, CVSC has been invited to participate in various community events such as "I've Had Enough" regarding gang violence as well as National Night Out which encourages neighbors to get to know one another.



Education Program

The first year of the Education Program's new multi-session curriculum was a success. The Educators facilitated over 900 presentations for the last fiscal year and had amazing outreach and audience numbers. The Education Program spent all of last summer revamping all of the available presentations and turned them into the multi-session programs we currently offer. Each of our programs are based on six core competencies that we believe add to the primary prevention of sexual assault. Those competencies are boundaries for oneself and others, assertiveness skills, empathy, respect, social and community responsibility, and reducing gender stereotyping. The schools seemed to adapt very well to our multi-session curriculum and the students responded great as well!!

Another change that took place this last fiscal year was our annual march for victims. Historically, we have hosted Walk a Mile in Her Shoes which was a walk supporting female victims of rape. In order to widen the scope and support all victims of all crimes we changed our walk to Strides of Strength. We had a very successful turn out and many people came to support victims in our community.

Our general outreach for the community increased by quite a lot this last fiscal year. There were significant increases in our audience from our local Charter Cable Station, Newspaper, Radio, and Television. Charter Cable has been a long time partner to our agency and has assisted us with creating informational shows about sexual assault that they air on their station. Last year our Charter Cable audience went from 90,000 in 2010 to 219,000 in 2011. In addition to Charter, local media has also graciously covered many stories and information regarding our agency. The newspaper, radio, and television audiences went from 136,760 in 2010 to 236,046 in 2011. We are very grateful to our media partners because it helps us reach a much larger audience!

Fiscal Year 2010-11	
PS Happy Bear Presentations	67
Sunshine Puppet Theatre Presentations	233
Personal Body Safety Presentations	173
Internet Safety Presentations	223
Sexual Harassment Presentations	85
Creating Healthy Relationships Presentations	39
Date & Acquaintance Rape Presentations	10
Other Presentations	27
SARC Services Presentations	55
Total Programs	918
Total Outreach	480,807
Total Audience	510,238

Kid's Haven Fiscal Year 2010-2011	
Total Interviews	316
Male	88
Female	228
Ages 0-6	110
Ages 7-12	123
Ages 13-18	83
Sexual Abuse	281
Physical Abuse	31
Neglect	0
Witness to Violence	4

Kids Haven

The Kid's Haven Program conducted 316 child forensic interviews this past fiscal year. Of those 316 interviews 76% were female and 24% were male.

Our Kid's Haven Program was able to offer a Multi-Disciplinary Team Training to our community partners from Law Enforcement, Prosecution, Child Protective Services, and Attorney General's Office. Patti Toth from the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission facilitated a two-day training about Investigating Child Sexual Abuse Cases. It was a great training and a great opportunity to work closely with our community partners.



Welcome!!

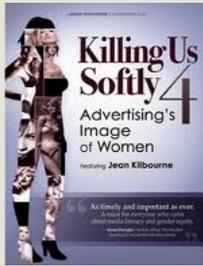
SARC would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest board members and volunteers!!

Board Members: **Leslie Sievers and Josh Bunten**

Volunteers: **Sarah Finger, Rebecca Hissam, MarySue Kelly, Amber Gideon, Kerrin Golden, & Leslie Nance.**

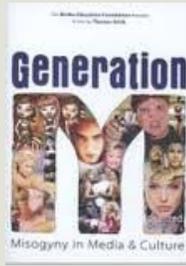
DVD Resources for Adults

Resource for Adults



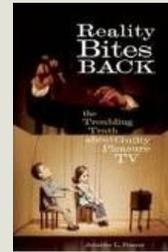
Killing Us Softly 4
Advertising's Image of Women
The Media Education Foundation

The film marshals a range of new print and television advertisements to lay bare a stunning pattern of damaging stereotypes—images and messages that too often reinforce unrealistic and unhealthy perceptions of beauty, perfection, and sexuality. Aims to challenge people to think critically about popular culture and its relationship to sexism, eating disorders, and gender violence.



Generation M: Misogyny in Media and Culture
The Media Education Foundation

This film looks specifically at misogyny and sexism in mainstream American media, exploring how negative definitions of femininity and hateful attitudes toward women get constructed and perpetuated at the very heart of our popular culture. The film tracks the destructive dynamics of misogyny across a broad and disturbing range of media phenomena.



Reality Bites Back
The Troubling Truth About Guilty Pleasure TV
Jennifer L. Pozner

Jennifer Pozner aims a critical analytical lens at a trend, most people dismiss as harmless fluff. She deconstructs reality TV's twisted fairytales to demonstrate that far from being simple "guilty pleasures" these programs are actually guilty of affecting the development of young viewers. She lays out the cultural biases promoted by reality TV about gender, race, class, sexuality, and consumerism, and explores how those biases shape and reflect our cultural perceptions of who we are, what we're valued for, and what we should view as "our place" in society.



Mid-Columbia Sex Offender Information

This Notice is For Information Only

Level II Sex Offender: Benton County, WA



NAME: Eric Michael McDonald
ADDRESS: 200 Block of S Washington St, Kennewick WA
SEX: Male
HAIR: Brown
EYES: Brown
HEIGHT: 6' 6"
WEIGHT: 170 pounds
DOB: 3/29/1984
CONVICTION DATA: 3rd degree rape-Benton County, 2 priors of failure to register, drugs, burglary, trespass, criminal trespass, obstructing, and disorderly conduct.

Level III Sex Offender: Franklin County, WA



NAME: Michael Joseph Johnson
ADDRESS: 600 Block of W 10th Ave, Kennewick WA
SEX: Male
HAIR: Brown
EYES: Blue
HEIGHT: 5' 11"
WEIGHT: 250 pounds
DOB: 1/6/1975
CONVICTION DATA: Custodial sexual misconduct 1st degree-Franklin County.

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...



Project Linus, Janie Gerrard, George & Ruth Raab, Vi Foraker, Henry & Harriet Cummings, Loretta McDaniel, Jo Anderson, Carmen Bowser, Jericho Road, Tyson Ralston, Duane Moe, Bobbie Jean Strasser, John & Jan Hansens, Carl & Debbie Hanson, Alice MacAlister, Adele Connors, Jack & Kathleen Olsen, Scott Abernethy, Walter & Judy Massengale, Kristin McRoberts, Megan Bredeweg, Ann Philip, Mark Putnam & Sondra Dixon, A. Coke Roth, Julie Long, Barbara Wendlandt, Joyce Henton, Rotary Club of Columbia Center, Tri-Cities Exchange Club, Muriel Templeton, Mark Lee

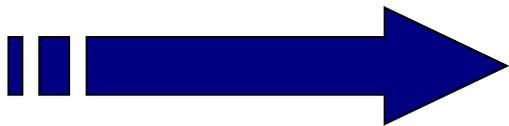
Upcoming Events



October 7- JoDee's 15 Year Anniversary
 October 10 - Mari's Birthday
 October 17 - SARC Board Meeting 5:15 PM

 November 9 - Sondra's Birthday
 November 20 - Rosanna's Birthday
 November 21 - SARC Board Meeting 5:15 PM
 November 24-25 - Office Closed

 December 1 - Heather's 1 Year Anniversary
 December 8 - Renee's Birthday
 December 26—January 2, 2012 - Office closed



SARC's Annual Report for fiscal year 2010-2011 is available for all interested parties. Please call (509) 374-5391 to request your copy.

SARC & CVSC Board of Directors

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Kevin Hartze
Vice President

Jennifer Peterson
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Jennifer Sifuentes
Treasurer

Craig Littrell

Jack Olsen

Laura Valdez

Leslie Sievers

Josh Bunten

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Return Service Requested



Striving for a "Community without Victims"



about the program

The Sexual Assault Response 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.

Editors:

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Visit us on the web at

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www.crimevictimservicecenter.org

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