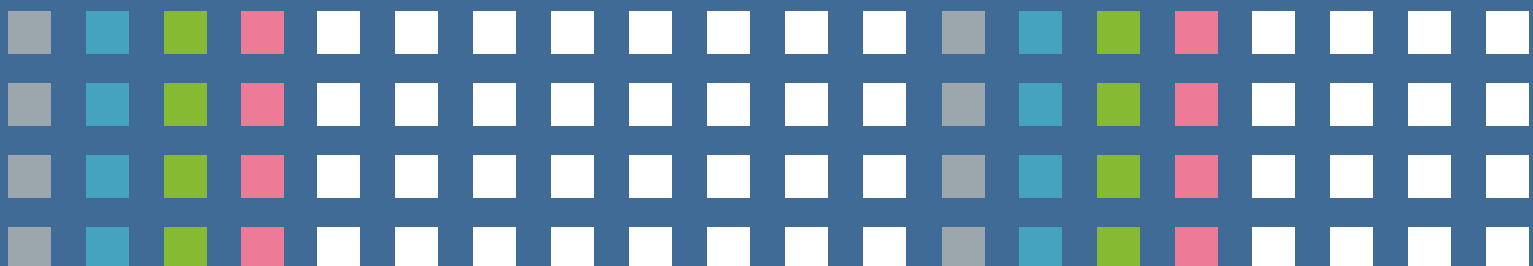




International Conference Against Sexual Violence

Belgrade, Serbia, 27-29 September 2019, Hotel "Zira"



Program Committee:

Ljiljana Bogavac, M.D., Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade, Serbia

Maja Mamula, PhD, Women's Room, Zagreb, Croatia

Duška Popadić, Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade, Serbia

Organizational Committee:

Maja Plaz, Association SOS Help-line for Women and Children Victims of Violence, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Nada Koprivica, SOS Center for Women and Children Victims of Violence, Nikšić, Montenegro

Kristina Mihaljević, Women's Room, Zagreb, Croatia

Ana Vodopivec, Association SOS Help-line for Women and Children Victims of Violence, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Ljiljana Bogavac, M.D., Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade, Serbia

Maja Mamula, PhD, Women's Room, Zagreb, Croatia

Duška Popadić, Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade, Serbia

www.reactagainstsexualviolence.org

www.facebook.com/europeanwomensnetwork/

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EUROPEAN UNION



www.incesttraumacentar.org.rs
www.ijasamuztebe.org.rs

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Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade
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Society for Prevention
of Child Abuse and Neglect



DAY 1 – FRIDAY, 27 September 2019 (09.00-16.00)

8.00 – 8.50

Registration

OPENING CEREMONY - INTRODUCTORY WORDS

09.00 – 09.05	Dušica Popadić , President of the European Women's Network against Sexual Violence
09.05 – 09.15	Sem Fabrizzi , H.E. Ambassador of the European Union to Serbia (t.b.c.)
09.15 – 09.35	Ivanka Popović , Rector of the University of Belgrade
09.35 – 09.50	Antje Rothemund , Council of Europe, Strasbourg, Head of the Youth Department, DG Democracy – Directorate for Democratic Participation

SESSION 1: INTRODUCTION

Facilitator: Zaffira Shah

09.50 – 10.00	Speaking Publicly on Sexual Violence – the Road to Gender Equality - Ljiljana Bogavac , European Women's Network against Sexual Violence and Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade, Serbia
10.00 – 10.15	Sexual Violence - Unpacking the Context - Maja Mamula , European Women's Network against Sexual Violence and Women's Room, Croatia
10.15. – 10.25	Prejudices toward Sexual Violence – Key Mechanism to Keep Status Quo – Nada Koprivica , European Women's Network against Sexual Violence and SOS Center for Women and Children Victims of Violence, Montenegro
10.25 – 10.35	Court Expert Witnessing in the Best Interest of the Child Survivor of Sexual Abuse – Maja Plaz , European Women's Network against Sexual Violence and Association SOS Help-line for Women and Children Victims of Violence, Slovenia
10.35 – 10.50	Discussion
10.50 – 11.10	Coffee / Tea break

SESSION 2: INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK AND CO-OPERATION

Facilitator: Antje Rothemund

11.10 – 11.25	Recognition to Workers in the Field of Children and Trauma – Stephanie March , World of Children, US
11.25 – 11.40	The Human Rights of Women as Victims of Sexual Violence - Albin Dearing , European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)
11.40 – 11.55	Networking and Connecting Professionals in Child Abuse Treatment and Prevention - Pragathi Tummala , International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), US (via Zoom)



11.55-12.10	What Do We Know about Sexual Violence in the EU? - Katarzyna Wolska – Wrona, European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) (via Zoom)
12.10 – 12.25	Discussion
12.25 – 12.35	Short break

SESSION 3: DIVERSITY ISSUES & CHILD AND WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Facilitator: Maja Mamula

12.35 – 12.50	Women with Disability and Sexual Violence - Anka Slonjšak, Ombudswoman for persons with disabilities, Croatia
12.50 - 13.05	Young Activist's Voice: Young Activists Speak Out and Youth Policies in the Framework of Sexual Violence – Kristina Mihaljević, European Women's Network against Sexual Violence and Women's Room, Croatia
13.05 – 13.20	Power and Vulnerability of Women and Child Human Rights Defenders - Dušica Popadić, European Women's Network against Sexual Violence and Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade, Serbia
13.20 – 13.35	Discussion
13.35 – 14.45	Lunch

SESSION 4: RAPE IN WAR

Facilitator: Ljiljana Bogavac

14.45 – 15.00	Break the Conspiracy of Silence! - Mirsada Tursunović, Our Voice, Bosnia and Herzegovina
15.00– 15.15	Children Born of War - Ajna Jusić, The Forgotten Children of War, Bosnia and Herzegovina
15.15 – 15.30	Discussion
15.30 – 15.45	“Esma” in the Movie “Grbavica: The Land of My Dreams” : Experience in preparing and working on the role of Esma - Mirjana Karanović, actress and movie directoress, Serbia
15.45-16.00	Discussion



SESSION 5: SURVIVORS SPEAK OUT!

Facilitator: Maja Mamula

09.00 – 09.30	Unfinished Business - Caroline Carroll , Alliance for Forgotten Australians (via Zoom)
09.30 – 09.50	"I still don't want this to be true." Uncomfortable, Unbelievable and Unspeakable. The Journey from Victim to Survivor to Activist. – Ruth MacNeelly , Ireland
09.50 – 10.05	Discussion
10.05 – 10.15	Short break

SESSION 6: SEXUAL TRAUMA, THERAPY ISSUES, INTERVENTION

Facilitator: Dušica Popadić

10.15 – 10.35	What's New and Interesting in the Field of Child Sexual Abuse? - Francien Lamers Winkelman, The Netherlands
10.35 – 10.50	Surviving Sexual Abuse, Ideas How to Deal with Disgust - Jannetta Bos , Centrum '45, The Netherlands
10.50 – 11.05	Sexual Abuse, Symptoms and Disclosure in a Specialist Clinic for Sexually Traumatized Patients - Gita Rajan , World of no sexual abuse, (WONSA), Sweden
11.05 – 11.20	Sexual Abuse against Psychiatric Patients and Psychiatric Patients as Sexual Abuse Offenders – Goran Arbanas , University Psychiatric Hospital "Vrapče", Croatia
11.20 – 11.35	Discussion
11.35 – 12.00	Coffee / Tea break

SESSION 7: TRAINING, SUPERVISION, SELF-CARE – RESOURCES FOR INCREASING QUALITY OF WORKERS' SERVICE PROVISION

Facilitator: Cliona Saidlear

12.00 – 12.15	Impact of Direct Work with Sexual Abuse Survivors on Helpers – Maja Mamula , European Women's Network against Sexual Violence and Women's Room, Croatia
12.15 – 12.40	Importance of Training and Supervision for Workers in the Field of Sexual Trauma – Zaffira Shah , European Women's Network against Sexual Violence
12.40 – 13.00	Discussion
13.00 – 14.15	Lunch



SESSION 8: NETWORKING AND SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGNS FOR ESSENTIAL LEGISLATIVE AND OTHER CHANGES IN THE FIELD OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Facilitator: Zaffira Shah

14.15 – 14.35	Changing the Law from the Outside – What Works – Cliona Saidleir , European Women's Network against Sexual Violence and Rape Crisis Network Ireland
14.35 – 15.00	The Justice for Magdalenes Campaign – Maeve O'Rourke , National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland (via Zoom)
15.00 – 15.15	Discussion

SESSION 9: PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ABUSE

Facilitator: Maja Plaz

15.15 – 15.30	"Hidden in the Park": A Unique Game against Grooming – Ulla Lemberg and Joanna Lundquist , European Women's Network against Sexual Violence and Change Attitude, Sweden
15.30 – 15.45	Discussion
15.45 - 16.05	Coffee / Tea Break

SESSION 10: TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Facilitator: Dušica Popadić

16.05 – 17.05	Lecture: Truth and Reconciliation: Justice From the Victim's Perspective Honorary Speaker Judith Lewis Herman (via Zoom)
17.05 – 17.30	Q & A
19h	Dinner in bohemian quarter Skadarlija



SESSION 11: MOTHER-DAUGHTER SEXUAL ABUSE

Facilitator: Dušica Popadić

09.00 – 10.10	Movie: “Who Will Love Me?” (67 min) 2011©Make Daughters Safe Again
10.10 – 10.30	Discussion

SESSION 12: ETHICAL REPORTING OF MEDIA ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Facilitator: Maja Plaz

10.30 – 10.50	Ethical Media Reporting on Sexual Violence - Regional Journalists' Network against Sexual Violence
10.50 – 11.05	Discussion
11.05 - 11.25	Coffee / Tea break

SESSION 13: RECOVERY FROM SEXUAL TRAUMA

Introductory word: Ljiljana Bogavac

11.25 – 13.00	Movie: “Have I Told You I’ve Been Abused?” (93 min) 2009©Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade
13.00 – 13.20	Break and informal exchange about movie
13.20 – 14.15	CLOSING CEREMONY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Closing word by the European Women’s Network against Sexual Violence• Evaluation• Closure

Conference ends by 14.15

- Farewell Lunch for delegates using hotel accommodation
- Departure of delegates





Prof. Dr. Ivanka Popović is Rector of the University of Belgrade and President of the Conference of Serbian Universities, Danube Rectors Conference and UNIADRION University Network.

She studied at the University of Maryland, USA and the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade (FTM). She obtained all of her degrees in chemical engineering (BSc, MSc and PhD) at the FTM. She became a member of the FTM staff in 1983, rose through the academic ranks to the position of full professor and served as the first female Dean (2006-2012). Her research interests are polymer science and engineering and sustainable development. She served as Vice-Rector of the University of Belgrade in the period 2012 – 2018. Ivanka Popović was the first female President of the Serbian Chemical Society (2009 – 2013) and is the President of the Association of Italian and Serbian Scientists and Scholars (2012-).



Antje Rothemund is the Head of the Youth Department in the Directorate General of Democracy of the Council of Europe since 2014. From 2011 to 2014, she was the Head of the Council of Europe Office in Belgrade, Serbia.

Antje is an educationalist specialised in adult education and human rights education. In the framework of the Council of Europe's youth sector's pan European work with the 50 signatory parties to the European Cultural Convention, she works on developing standards for youth policy and youth work and on the development and delivery of educational concepts, training modules and methodologies in non-formal educational settings. Before joining the Council of Europe in 1991, Antje has been for years an active volunteer in the non-governmental sector on local, national and European levels.



Ljiljana Bogavac, M.D., is Co-founder and Deputy Directoress of the Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade (ITC), Serbia. During last 26 years, Ljiljana has been the Child Advocate. The Leader of ITC Team providing psychological counseling to children who experienced Sexual Assault and their supportive persons, including preparing children to appear in the court within a criminal prosecution. She takes the stand in the court in the role of expert-witness for ITC cases within the criminal prosecution. Developed and implemented ITC Sexual Assault Prevention Program “Healthy Choices for Kids” including developing ITC Sexual Assault Prevention Peer Team consisted of children and youth activists of age 11-18 and ITC Volunteers’ Program. Author of the Educational Pack for learning on Sexual Violence in kindergartens and co-author of the Educational Pack for primary and secondary schools in Serbia – all introduced into the national school curricula. For years, she’s accredited trainer by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health.

Co-author and President of the Ethics Committee of 1st National Study in Serbia on Prevalence and Incidence of Child Sexual Assault. Co-author of Strategy in Education on Prevention of Child Sexual Assault in Serbia. Co-manager of the National Campaign against Child Sexual Assault in period 2007-2017, including 4 years of the CoE Campaign “One in Five where: a) in 2010, ITC received the State Excellence Award for Special Contribution to Awareness Raising about Zero Tolerance on Sexual and Gender-based Violence, related to its movie “Have I Told You I’ve Been Abused?” and b) in 2013, the Parliament of the Republic of Serbia adopted ITC Initiative for the rescinding of the Statute of Limitations concerning sex offences committed against children. In this way, Serbia became 2nd country in Europe, after UK, where the Law recognizes long-term effects of sexual trauma.

In presence, Ljiljana acts in capacity of the Board member of European Women’s Network against Sexual Violence.

Speaking Publicly on Sexual Violence – the Road to Gender Equality

Ljiljana Bogavac, M.D.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has”.

Margaret Mead

Denouncing clearly, loudly, uncompromisingly and persistently sexual violence against children and women usually implies that you have been disputed, confronted and banned.

We stand against sexual violence guided by feminist politics, anti-war, anti-fascist and anti-nationalist politics, and activism. Relying on our knowledge, through the institutions of the system, we can exert an influence that the issue of sexual violence be addressed, taught about and combated “from kindergartens to universities”. The educational system is the place of paramount importance where, from kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, to universities, young people should be taught about prevention and empowered to recognize sexual violence and counter it.

When you have recognized feminist women around you, who pledge for and live for the same things, when our vociferous, public outcry against sexual violence is the same, then gathered together in the first European Women Network against Sexual Violence, we expand our struggle, persistently and on a long haul.





Maja Mamula, PhD, Women's Room Coordinator is a psychologist, feminist, activist, lecturer, trainer, researcher and counselor with more than 25 years of experience in the area of sexual violence.

As an expert in this field, she is a member of numerous national committees and working groups for developing strategies or public policies.

She headed several pioneer research studies on violence against women in Croatia and in the region. In this capacity, she took part in several EU studies, acting as a national researcher for Croatia.

Her publications include 6 books, 5 manuals, a number of chapters in 16 books in the area of sexuality and sexual violence as well as 2 scientific and 16 expert articles. She delivered lectures at more than 40 conferences and scientific congresses in Croatia and abroad.

Presently, Maja Mamula serves as the Board member of European Women's Network against Sexual Violence.

Sexual Violence - Unpacking the Context

Maja Mamula, PhD

The aim of this presentation is to highlight the context of the topic of sexual violence (SV) and outline key points in order to determine the perspective on SV, relationship to survivors, and the role of the system and society as a whole.

A significant part of this presentation is based on experiences from Croatia and the region, but the similarities of experiences from other EU countries cannot be neglected.

One of the main issues is that the topic of SV is generally always out of focus. There are almost no public policies that are specific to SV. Moreover, research on SV is rare, with varying results, depending on the baseline and methodological postulates.

Serious obstacles for survivors in achieving justice include reporting SV and the court proceedings, its duration, legal penalties and the lack of education about the problem.

In most countries, there are not enough specialized services for long-term, free assistance and support for survivors.

Systematic prevention of SV among children and young people is the exception rather than the rule, and there is a lack of campaigns for the general public.

The victim's expectations are most often inconsistent with the process likely to be experienced from the system as well as the surroundings.

We live in a rape culture that supports gender-based violence and SV, perpetuates myths, justifies the perpetrator and blames survivors. This cultural influence is not only evident from the behavior of the police, the justice system, and society's response, but also through the victim's self-blame.

Impact of Direct Work with Sexual Abuse Survivors on Helpers

Maja Mamula, PhD

Self-care and Vicarious Traumatization are still rather neglected topic among the helping professions in our region. When this topic is addressed, the most commonly mentioned term is the burnout, and to a much lesser extent Secondary Traumatic Stress and/or Vicarious Traumatization.

The different forms of trauma and burnout stress do not occur for the same reasons. Burnout is considered to be a more general phenomenon that can occur within the scope of any social service or area of work.

On the other hand, conditions that are specifically related to work with traumatized persons are called Secondary Traumatic Stress (STS), Secondary post-traumatic stress disorder (SPTSP), Vicarious Traumatization (VT), Compassion Fatigue (CF)... These are some of the numerous, overlapping terms that describe similar conditions and consequences of long-term exposure to working with traumatized persons.

While burnout is associated with stress and problems at work, which is cumulative and predictable, and therefore can be reduced and/or prevented by taking a break and job change, STS and VT are completely different. They concern a state of tension and preoccupation with the individual or cumulative trauma of the persons we work with.

Indirect traumatization is an inevitable challenge of the profession - working with traumatized persons. The cognitive world of helpers can be altered through exposure to the traumatic experiences of the persons with whom they work. Painful images and emotions associated with the victim's traumatic memories can be incorporated into the helper's memory system. The behaviours and emotions that result from working directly with a traumatized person represent symptoms similar to the Secondary Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (SPTSD).

According to numerous studies, more than a third of people working in victim services meet the diagnostic criteria for PTSD due to exposure to secondary trauma.

The protection of helper's mental health requires adequate education and prevention, immediate protection of their mental health, and the development of self-help skills.

The first step is certainly the awareness that these conditions and problems do exist, and to which extent. In other words, understanding our own vulnerability and recognizing certain symptoms.





Nada Koprivica is a feminist and activist of the SOS Center for Women and Children Victims of Violence from Nikšić, Montenegro, since 1999. She completed numerous trainings in the country and abroad. Among other responsibilities, she works as a 'person of confidence' accompanying survivors to state institutions and, in particular, to the court.

Nada is a counselor of the National SOS Help-line for Victims of Domestic Violence. She contributed to writing up relevant local and national documents (action plans, strategies): Local Action Plan for Gender Equality, National Action Plan against Homophobia. Co-author of reports on implementation relevant international documents such as Shadow Report – CEDAW, Shadow Report – GREVIO, Shadow Report – UN Child Rights Convention. Editor of Publication "Arranged Marriage – true stories of Roma and Egiptian Women in Montenegro".

In presence, Nada acts in capacity of the Board member of European Women's Network against Sexual Violence.

Prejudices toward Sexual Violence – Key Mechanism to Keep Status Quo

Nada Koprivica

The SOS hotline for women and children victims of violence Niksic, Montenegro, has been supporting and assisting women and children with experience of all forms of violence for over 21 years. It provides support to more than 500 women and at least 60 children annually. We work in a strictly patriarchal community where prejudices continue to define significantly people's behavior and actions. It is prejudices that directly complicate combating sexual violence. They represent one of the key reasons that sexual violence is still taboo. Consequently, they contribute to the very low number of reported cases of sexual violence and even fewer that result in a conviction of a sex offender. They cause a 'division of responsibility' between the sex offender and the woman survivor, and often the full responsibility for the sexual violence is attributed to the woman who survived it.

Prejudices are particularly dangerous in practice because they are among the key reasons for the inadequate response of institutions and encourage an inadequate implementation of legal norms related to protection against sexual violence. A woman is thoroughly questioned about all aspects of family, social and professional life, all with the purpose of pointing out her "true" character. It is unacceptable that the 'relevant' facts for reported sexual violence are was of dressing, frequenting certain places, the woman's occupation, alcohol and / or drug consumption... The main argument that sexual violence "really" occurred is still the use of physical force, therefore all sexual intercourse which is not the result of visible physical coercion is considered as consensual, which is unacceptable.

We must not allow that women who have disclosed sexual abuse be exposed to re-victimization. Their well-being, interests, decisions and choices must be a priority. Women need to have control over the process because they had no control over sexual violence. And society must not allow sex offenders to be recognized as the 'real victims', which they are deliberately aiming at, but rather to be punished for the crime they committed.





Maja Plaz has been working in the field of violence against women and children since 1995. It was firstly as a volunteer and then as the staff member in the Association SOS Help-line for Women and Children - Victims of Violence, which is the first women's NGO in the field of domestic violence in Slovenia (founded in 1989).

In period 2000-2003, Manager of the National Program of SOS Helpline for Women and Children Victims of Violence. Then, for 8 years manager of the whole Association and actively working on the idea of opening a safe house adapted for women with physical disabilities (opened in 2009). After that period, developing a program for individual psychosocial counseling and psychological help for women survivors of domestic violence and women and child survivors of sexual violence and their supportive persons. Presently, serves as a focal point in Slovenia to whom many child and women survivors of sexual abuse have been referred. Co-ordinator of Support Group for women

survivors of intimate violence. Starting from 2017, Maja has been a lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana. Since 2003, President of Association SOS Help-line for Women and Children - Victims of Violence.

An activist and feminist believing that it is always the attitude that counts most when recovering from trauma from (sexual) violence and that although there is a strong process of repatrialization and it might feel like we are moving backwards as a society, it is important not to give up the efforts to ending violence against women and children. And above all, not to turn a blind eye to sexual abuse that has long-lasting and sometimes unrecognized consequences on an individual's quality of life.

In presence, Maja acts in capacity of the Board member of European Women's Network against Sexual Violence.

Court Expert Witnessing in the Best Interest of the Child Survivor of Sexual Abuse

Maja Plaz

As I answered the court expert's questions, I trembled and cried, staring at my father, whose gaze threatened the worst if I said what he had been doing to me. I do not know from where I nevertheless gathered all my strength and talked about my experience of sexual abuse. For the sixth, or seventh time already. To someone, who I was told again and again, that once I told that gentleman what my father had done, I would no longer need to repeat it. I felt like I was going to die, and with the last snap I uttered what had been going on in the bathroom, in the bedroom. There was only a desire in me, to get it over with, and my greatest desire was to forget what I had been through. It's been several years since then, since my mother protected me from my father's abuse. Why do I have to repeat it over and over again, and the scariest thing, why do I have to tell it to my father, who glares at me so horribly. (NN, 15, about her experience when she was 10)

In NGOs, when we work with survivors of childhood sexual abuse, we all too often encounter secondary victimization of survivors, a victimization that occurs by court experts.



Therefore, coming from the person whose word in the courts has the most decisive power; who are known to be untouchable and who are known to have an opinion in court that will crucially affect the quality of life of the child in the future and of the non-abusive parent - in most cases it is the mother - because the judges most often rely on their opinion.

All too often, NGO professionals find that the sexual abuse survivor is reconsidering what was worse – the abuse itself or the insensitive conversations with the court experts during which she felt like a figure and not the person whose integrity and dignity were violated to the limit and who is likely to suffer the consequences of the survived trauma for the rest of her life.

Do we actually understand that when we are talking about sexual abuse we are really talking about the abuse of power? So that when we are talking about child sexual abuse we are talking about the abuse of the most vulnerable members of society, who cannot protect themselves against the abuse?

By warning of inappropriate practices that lead to secondary victimization, we want to prevent such ways of talking to child survivors of sexual abuse, with the knowledge that there are many approaches and ways of talking to a child that are in child's best interest.

Now that we are connected within the European Network, it turned out that our organizations have many similar experiences related to secondary victimization of survivors. Thus, it seems necessary for us to open the door on this upcoming Conference to discuss the importance of high awareness of professional and personal responsibility when it comes to a child survivor of sexual abuse.

Every child deserves the best chance possible to start their life again, having survived sexual abuse. It is our responsibility to create an environment where recovery is possible and not an environment in which primary trauma is followed by secondary victimization.



Stephanie March is an actress, philanthropist, and entrepreneur. She is the co-founder of SheSpoke, a bespoke beauty brand and makeup salon based in New York City. In addition to running her business, Ms. March spends a significant amount of time traveling globally in her capacity as an activist for causes benefiting women and education. She serves on the boards of Planned Parenthood Global, OneKid OneWorld, and the Advisory Council for the School of Speech at Northwestern University. Ms. March is also on the board of World of Children and the recipient of WOCA's 2016 Board of Governors' Award. Best known for her role as ADA Alex Cabot on TV's hit series, Law & Order SVU and most recently starring in Comedy Central's A President Show Documentary and Adult Swim's Neon Joe, Ms. March has also appeared in 30 Rock, Happy Endings, Rescue Me, Grey's Anatomy, Mr. & Mrs. Smith, The Treatment, Predisposed, and Innocence and has been seen onstage in the critically acclaimed revivals of Death of a Salesman, Talk Radio, and Boys' Life. In 2019, March made her debut as executive

producer - as well as cast member – in the social media mockumentary, The Social Ones, which premiered at Cinequest Film and Creativity Festival in Silicon Valley and the Los Angeles Film Festival. The film went on to win Cinequest's Award for Best Comedy Feature.

She is a graduate of Northwestern University and resides in Manhattan with her husband, Dan Benton.





Albin Dearing's areas of expertise include human rights, criminal law and criminal justice, policing and victims' rights. He previously worked in various positions, including the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg, the Austrian Federal Chancellery and the Austrian Ministries of the Interior and Justice. He was involved in drafting Austrian legislation against domestic violence (Gewaltschutzgesetz, 1997) and for many years presided over the Austrian Crime Prevention Council. He is the author of several books, academic journal articles and book chapters on various themes related to his areas of expertise, including: Opferrechte in Österreich, 2004 (co-editor with Marianne Löschnig-Gspandl); Schutz vor Gewalt in der Familie: Das österreichische Gewaltschutzgesetz, 2005 (co-editor with Birgitt Haller); Justice for victims of crime (Springer 2017)."

The Human Rights of Women as Victims of Sexual Violence

Albin Dearing

In April 2019, the EU Fundamental Rights Agency published four reports presenting the results of a multi-annual research project on 'Justice for victims of violent crime'. In the course of this project, desk research was conducted in all Member States and 231 in-depth face-to-face interviews were conducted in seven countries (Austria, France, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, and the UK).

- 148 expert interviews with practitioners: staff of support services (35), lawyers advising victims (25), police (35), prosecutors and judges (53)
- 83 interviews with adult victims of violent crime, including 14 female victims of sexual violence. On this basis the presentation will discuss the rights of women as victims of sexual violence to justice and to protection against (repeat) victimization, including the following aspects:
- Criminal justice as recognition of the victim as a person and full member of her community;
- The appropriate role of the victim in criminal proceedings;
- Reasons for women to report sexual violence to the police;
- Victim support and advice as means of empowering victims;
- Appropriate treatment of victims, demonstrating recognition and avoiding secondary victimization;
- Protection of the victim against (repeat) victimization;
- Sexual partner (and ex-partner) violence.



Pragathi Tummala is a senior level public health expert and has served as the Executive Director of ISPCAN, for the past 4 years. Ms. Tummala oversees the all programmatic, web development, communication, strategic planning, operational and financial aspects of the organization. ISPCAN is multifaceted with: a global membership program, fundraising and partnerships program, a scientific journal, hosting trainings & conferences, and developing educational & technical resources for a global network of over 1000 members. She oversees 4 regional resource centers located in Argentina, Saudi Arabia, S. Africa and India. Additionally, ISPCAN has 24 country partners and has MOU's with 6 sister international agencies for which they coordinate various programs. Please reach her at execdirector@ispcan.org.

She has over 16 years of experience designing, developing, and managing public health programs at the state, national and international level. Pragathi most enjoys working with a diverse group of stakeholders in the community, as well as private, academic and public sectors to find commonalities and develop innovative programs. Her leadership in securing grants, developing lean processes, writing technical reports, and managing diverse groups has helped build programs and maximize funding opportunities. She has a broad range of experience building effective collaborative relationships, problem solving, working under high pressure, tight timelines, mentoring and developing staff, and executing programs on schedule and within budget. As a first generation Indian American, she values her heritage, and people of all backgrounds and cultures.

Ms. Tummala holds a dual Bachelor's Degree in Biology and Religion from Boston University and a Master's Degree in Public Health from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. She has won numerous awards as an author, a leader, and a team player. On a personal note, Ms. Tummala is the mother of three daughters, has a yellow Labrador retriever named Blue, and has been married for 27 years. She is an avid reader, enjoys sports, action movies, and spending time with her family.

NETWORKING AND CONNECTING PROFESSIONALS IN CHILD ABUSE TREATMENT AND PREVENTION

Pragathi Tummala

Large societal problems like child sexual abuse (CSA), or any form of child abuse and neglect are complex and involve many disciplines of professionals to coordinate care in order to be effective at prevention, treatment and data collection. In the US alone, the prevalence of CSA is massive, and costly when we look at the cumulative amounts over a lifetime that is spent on care and lost quality of life. Sexual Violence treatment and prevention programs are also complex in order to be effective and have to address social determinants of health, and the full spectrum of series and care to prevent, heal, empower, and support victims.

Networks of professionals that connect the many disciplines of people who together form a public health community allow for child-centered caring and connectivity of the many services that must come together in child protection. Additionally, over time, entire systems of care must coordinate in order for data, research, policies, community education, and care to treat victims and ultimately change behaviors in this preventable crime. At the local, regional and international levels networking provides tremendous benefits to professionals working in the field to raise the bar and continue to learn, share and grow in cost effective ways.





Katarzyna Wolska-Wrona

Seconded National Expert to Gender-based Violence Programme. Lawyer working in the area of gender-based violence since 2009 (a member of the Polish government's delegation to the Ad Hoc Committee for preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (CAHVIO), and in 2012 – 2014 the legal expert responsible for coordination of the ratification of the Istanbul Convention by Poland).

What Do We Know about Sexual Violence in the EU?

Katarzyna Wolska-Wrona

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) is an independent EU Agency tasked with providing high quality research and data to assist in better informed and evidence based decision-making by EU institutions and EU Member States. In the era of #metoo the public awareness on the implications of sexual violence raises yet underreporting remains a concern. Knowing the scope of sexual violence is a key point for developing effective policies and legislation. EIGE's work on the uniform approach to data collection as well as various other tools are aimed to help Member States provide support for victims of sexual violence.



ANKA SLONJŠAK

In 2008 Ms Slonjšak was appointed the first Croatian Ombudswoman for Persons with Disabilities by unanimous vote of the Croatian Parliament. She was reappointed unanimously for her second 8 year term of office in 2016. She has built up the institution of the ombudsman for persons with disabilities and positioned it as an important stakeholder in protection, promotion and monitoring of the rights of persons with disabilities with a strong international presence. From 2006 till 2008 she managed and coordinated numerous activities as member of the Croatian Paraplegic and Tetraplegic Alliance and Croatian Union of Associations of Person with Disabilities. In that period she led a number of workshops with the International Federation of Persons with Physical Disabilities (FIMITIC) such as the workshop on violence against persons with disabilities. She was a member of the Committee for protection and promotion of the rights of women and girls with disabilities of the Council of Europe and a member of the focus group as a part on the study on the EU Disability Strategy.

Women with Disability and Sexual Violence

ANKA SLONJŠAK

Throughout the 10 years of the Ombuds Office, we have seen that very few women with disability choose to report any form of violence, including sexual violence. According to the complaints received, these are most often women with sensory impairments (deaf, deaf-blind, blind), but there is also an increase in reports of women with intellectual and psycho-social disabilities. Most women exposed to sexual violence live in their own families, but an insignificant number of complaints relate to women in residential care. The reasons for not reporting violence are the lack of a comprehensive security system, lack of information, and the absence of recognition of unwanted behaviors as violence, especially when it comes to women with intellectual and psycho-social disabilities who are accommodated in institutions and are more often exposed to greater risks from various forms of violence.

However, a serious obstacle to reporting all forms of violence is the strong distrust of women with disability who are victims of violence, towards healthcare and welfare officials, police and justice representatives, and there is a widespread belief that their reports will not be seriously considered and that, precisely due to their disability, their statements will not be given faith. If a woman with a disability chooses to report violence, the protection system lacks accessible shelters and other institutions; there are no diversified forms of support aimed at reaching independency of women with disabilities economically, socially and psychologically as the most effective way to protect them against violence.

Binding international instruments and national regulations and protocols, and in particular the experiences of women exposed to violence, oblige the interconnection of experts from different sectors, but also civil society organizations and the implementation of multi-faceted preventive measures, the most important of which is continuous education involving not only women with disabilities for their empowerment, but also experts authorized to handle cases of violence. In the case of women with disability who are victims of sexual violence, special attention should be paid to sensitizing professionals and their training on the specificities of particular types of disabilities and ways of recognizing violence in a timely manner in order to initiate protection mechanisms against any suspected violence.





Kristina Mihaljević graduated from Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Zagreb, in 2016. She has a master in social pedagogy. Since the end of 2016 she is an employee of Women's Room – Center for Sexual Rights. Her primary focus of work is prevention of sexual violence among children and youth. Regarding that, she is writing and implementing projects for children, youth, students and volunteers, organizing workshops, educations and trainings that are aimed at prevention and combating gender based violence, with emphasis on sexual violence. Furthermore, she is dedicated to teach young people on gender equality and youth activism. She is a coordinator of volunteers in Women's Room. She successfully finished European Young Feminist Summer School – AGORA 2017, organized by the European Women's Lobby. Kristina is an active member of the European Women's Network against Sexual Violence and she is managing Network's social media pages and online campaign #reactagainstsexualviolence. From October 2018, Kristina is in psychotherapy education of Institut für Integrative Gestalttherapie Würzburg Zagreb – Gestalt Psychotherapy and Education Center Zagreb.

Young Activist's Voice: Young Activists Speak Out and Youth Policies in the Framework of Sexual Violence

Kristina Mihaljević

The aim of this presentation is to contribute to perspective of diversity issues considering Young Activists' Voices and provide an insight on necessity of engaging young people in the prevention of sexual abuse, activism and in the work of civil society organizations (CSOs).

When it comes to youth activism regarding to sexual abuse topic in Croatia, understanding the social and political circumstances are of great importance. Influence of Catholic Church, strong patriarchal norms, negative perception of feminism, lack of civil and health education within educational system highly influence readiness for active participation in social and political issues. Furthermore, there are no programs for young people aimed at activism and prevention of sexual abuse, except those organized by CSOs.

Based on experience of the Women's Room, Zagreb, when it comes to direct work with young people, development of efficient preventive programs needs to include young people as equal partners. In order to do so, understanding their culture and digital age they live in is of utmost importance. We'll speak about social media campaigns that are aimed to inform, sensitize and prevent sexual violence and to encourage youth activism and involvement in work of CSOs.

It is important to encourage young people to actively participate in sexual abuse prevention through sharing knowledge and experience. In doing so, it is extremely important to educate young people in order to raise their level of sensibility and critical thinking about sexual violence, give them encouragement and recognition.





During last 26 years, **Dušica Popadić** has been providing psychological counseling for adolescent and adult survivors of Sexual Assault and their supportive persons.

Co-founder and Directoress of the Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade, Serbia (ITC). By the NSPCC, UK, she is certified in Supervision and Training skills in Child Protection by the NSPCC, UK, and holds accreditation on competency in the Training for Trainers in Child Protection. Co-author and supervisor of 1st National Study in Serbia on Prevalence and Incidence of Child Sexual Assault, co-author of Strategy in Education on Prevention of Child Sexual Assault in Serbia and Educational Pack for primary and secondary schools for learning on Child Sexual Assault issue that assisted introducing this topic into the national curriculum. Program Directoress of the National Campaign against Child Sexual Assault in period 2007-2017, incl. 4 years of the CoE Campaign “One in Five where: a) in 2010, ITC received the State Excellence Award for Special Contribution to

Awareness Raising about Zero Tolerance on Sexual and Gender-based Violence, related to its movie “Have I Told You I’ve Been Abused?” and b) in 2013, the Parliament of the Republic of Serbia adopted ITC Initiative for the rescinding of the Statute of Limitations concerning sex offences committed against children. In this way, Serbia became 2nd country in Europe, after UK, where the Law recognizes long-term effects of sexual trauma. Presently, Dušica acts in capacity of the President of European Women’s Network against Sexual Violence. During 26 years long work in this field, Dušica won 2017 Fulbright “Leader” Award for Professional Excellence and received 1st ever World of Children Protection Award. The media in US often refer to World of Children Award as the Nobel Prize for Child Advocacy. Presently, serving as President of the European Women’s Network against Sexual Violence.

Power and Vulnerability of Child and Women Human Rights Defenders

Dušica Popadić

Objectives: The crucial role of social context, ‘backlash effect’ and challenges in safeguarding the child and women’s perspective and childminders’ autonomy will be highlighted, including what it means in Serbia to be self-organized as a women’s NGO working on Prevention and Protection of children and women from Sexual Assault for 26 years (www.incesttraumacentar.org.rs) – from utmost praise to backlash, including clerical retrograde influence on social values. The focus is on mitigation strategies arising from social context analysis and recognizing personal strengths and commitments of professionals who’re role-models.

Method: Case Study on endangered child and women’s rights defenders in Serbia will be shown. We’ll analyze patterns contrived in the Western Balkans, blurring the child and women’s perspective and noted by founding member-organizations of the European Women’s Network against Sexual Violence from Slovenia, Croatia and Montenegro.

Results: A) Breaking silence and isolation among child and women’s rights defenders about their vulnerable position in society. B) The aim is to verbalize emotions and share experiences how community reacts to speaking out on CSA C) Constructive exchange of coping strategies and connecting even more closely for future. **Conclusion:** Networking reinforced as a tool to guard child and women sexual assault survivors’ best interest in a changing world, harboring new challenges that might affect any country nowadays.





Mirsada Tursunović

President and Co-Founder, Our Voice (Nas Glas); Member of SEMA, the Global Network of Victims and Survivors to End Wartime Rape, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

When the war started in my country in 1992, I was eighteen and I was expelled from my house and survived rape. I am now the President of “Our Voice”, the Association Helping Victims and Survivors of Sexual Violence in war, in Tuzla. Because of the conspiracy of silence, and the stigma associated with the victims and survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, I decided to leave the shadow of the war, openly talk about the crimes of war rape and other forms of sexual violence, and the injustice that was inflicted on us. I am an activist for the survivors’ justice and the prevention of further use of rape and other forms of sexual violence against women as weapons of war in conflicts.

“I come from Bosnia and Herzegovina. I look at the stigma as an additional humiliation, damage, and silencing victims. I have been silent about the rape I survived during the war for 17 years, because I thought that this should not be talked about, and that it would shame my family’s honour and dishonour me.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, stigma is present at all levels: individual, family, community and society for patriarchal convictions, gender inequality, religious and cultural norms concerning the position of women in the society because of the honour culture and the shame related to rape, society, and often family, look at the victims as “impure” and “sinners”. They isolate them and push them to the margins, and completely reject some of them, so that the victims begin to blame and stigmatize themselves, and sink into self-isolation. Due to the stigma, the greatest majority of victims are still silent – 24 years after the war, suffering from lasting consequences of rape trauma and not reporting the crime, which impedes access to justice.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina there are just a few associations bringing together a small number of survivors – women activists, but they do not have the support of the authorities and are facing problems of sustainability because of the lack of financial resources.

However, despite the difficulties, we managed to become visible via small anti-stigma campaigns on the occasion of 19th June – International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, 16 Days of Activism Combating Violence against Women, and also with our participation in several documentaries about wartime sexual violence, interviews for local and international media and only recently, activities of strengthening our organizational capacities, education on media communication, and the like.

Only two years ago, the United Nations Population Fund in Bosnia and Herzegovina recognized the stigma as a significant problem and designed a program with guidelines for alleviating the stigma, in the implementation of which participated religious communities, non-governmental youth organizations and several CSOs in 6 small local communities. The activities of this program have been carried out in the form of youth theatres, education of health and social workers, and the production of a manual for religious workers dealing with the victims of war rape.

The major shortcoming in the implementation of this program, however, is low population involvement and a very low involvement of survivors in program activities.

Survivors do not want paternalism. We do not want to be only passive users of these services, because it leaves us glued to the victim identity. We do not want anyone acting in our name, and yet without us. Yes, our strength is in our activism and therefore, please, support us.





Ajna Jusić, graduated in Psychology from the University of Sarajevo and has attended the Academy for Young Leaders in Civil Society. She is the president of the Association for “Forgotten Children of War”. Through her work she fights for the rights of the LGBT community, minorities (especially the Roma population), children with special needs, for women who survived rape during the war and children born of war. She is young activist fighting for gender equality, against sexism and sexual violence. As part of the Nobel Peace Prize, a conference was held: How to combat sexual violence in conflict?. At this conference, Ajna had the honor to speak together with survivors from Congo, Iraq and Columbia. In December 2018, Ajna received the “Person of the Year” Award in Bosnia and Herzegovina and she devoted that to children born to war and to women who survived rape during the war. She is currently working on her first publication to increase social awareness of children born due to wartime sexual violence.

Ajna Jusić - Summary

The Forgotten Children of War Association is a non-partisan, non-governmental and non-profit organization active in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The main focus of this association is the children born of war, and in the context of Bosnia and Herzegovina, children whose fathers were:

- Soldiers belonging to the enemy army, i.e. other ethno-national groups in relation to the group to which the mother belonged (parents belonging to previously belligerent, so-called hostile parties);
- members of the stationary / peacekeeping forces (UNPROFOR, IFOR, SFOR, etc.);
- employees of foreign humanitarian missions, and mothers were local women.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, we often talk about the aftermath of war, but we very rarely tackle one of the most vulnerable categories - “children born of war” who have suffered violations of their children’s rights. Research findings to date, UN reports and journalists’ reports suggest that “children born of war” are often unacknowledged regarding paternity and rejected by their fathers, and left in the care and custody of their mothers and / or the community in which they were born, grow up denied many child rights and with potential problems of identity, stigma, discrimination, marginalization and / or isolation. The Association’s approach is holistic and participatory, and therefore includes the protection, empowerment and enabling of “children born of war” to take a proactive role in advocacy aimed at improving their status, providing “equal opportunity for all” and seamlessly integrating them into development processes as an investment into a more secure and brighter future.



Mirjana Karanović is an actress, director, screenwriter and acting teacher who realized about 40 feature films in Yugoslavia, Serbia, Bosnia, Croatia, Kosovo and Switzerland.

Recipient of numerous awards at national and international film festivals. Member of the jury at festivals in Sarajevo, Thessaloniki and Karlovy Vary, Kotbus. Nominated for the best actress in Europe in 2006. Actively struggling for human rights, has received several awards for her work. During her 40 years long career, she has played about 130 roles on theater stages of Belgrade, Sarajevo, Zagreb, Rijeka, Novi Sad, Subotica.

Has performed on nearly all continents. Has received 150 awards at domestic and international theater and film festivals. Author of the script and director of the feature film “Good Woman”, which won 25 awards at the festivals. She has directed 5 theater performances. Holder of the French Order of Knight of Arts and Letters.

The Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade was privileged to work with Mirjana on our movie “Have I Told You I’ve Been Abused” based on true testimonies of women survivors of child sexual abuse who came for psychological assistance.

“Esma” in the movie “Grbavica: The Land of My Dreams”:

Experience in preparation and working
on the role of Esma

Mirjana Karanović

“I shall speak about my experience in preparing and working on the role of Esma in the movie “Grbavica” made by Jasmila Žbanić, which is about a woman, survivor of rape in war in Bosnia, about a child who was born of this act of violence and her decision to keep the child and love her regardless. I will speak about my relationship with this theme, my experience in meeting women who were rape survivors and how I worked on this role.”





Caroline Carroll is Community Education Coordinator at Open Place, the Victorian service for Forgotten Australians. Caroline is herself a survivor of abuse in many institutional and foster care placements during her childhood. She was separated as a 14-month-old infant from her family, including her seven siblings. Caroline is the Chair of the national peak body, the Alliance for Forgotten Australians.

Caroline has made a number of presentations at conferences and has sat on a number of reference groups for national projects the Australian Government has undertaken: National History Projects, Find and Connect services, Aged Care Education, the Independent Advisory Council on Redress and the Reference Group for the National Apology to Victims and Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse.

Unfinished Business

Caroline Carroll

Forgotten Australians, care leavers and other survivors of institutional out-of-home 'care' have been the subject of numerous studies, inquiries, apologies and government responses in Australia during the last decades. The most recent is the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

This paper will ask: despite all that has been achieved, why do so many important recommendations remain unimplemented for those who experienced institutional care? What remains to be done to ensure that survivors receive proper recognition for past wrong and the services to redress these wrongs?

Australia's out-of-home care population is increasing; many in this population come from generations of families who have spent time in 'care'. Outcomes for children in these circumstances are very poor. There is compelling evidence to suggest that targeted early intervention and community building can make a difference. These initiatives will be examined through the eyes and experience of a Forgotten Australian.



Ruth MacNeely is a long time quiet activist in the area of sexual violence. Ruth is a founder member of a small, rural but very dynamic support service for adults who have experienced sexual violence in their lives: Mayo Rape Crisis Centre. Ruth became involved in setting up this service along with two other women in 1993. This was after recognising that the quality and focus of response she received as a client of another Rape Crisis Centre (Galway Rape Crisis Centre) was exceptionally sensitive and holistic. Ruth was a teacher and school principal working with children with special needs, before becoming involved with the Rape Crisis Centre Movement in Ireland. Ruth along with the other founder members of the organisation was trained then by Galway Rape Crisis Centre, an exceptional training that has always greatly informed her work, values and attitude. She later trained as a counsellor and therapist specialising in (Rape and Sexual Abuse) with University College Cork under the then European: “NOW (New Opportunities for Women)” scheme

in 96/98. She has attended numerous other trainings particularly focused on Poetry Therapy, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy and Various responses to Trauma. Ruth is still a trainer with RCNI delivering this very well developed, dynamic and informative training to new volunteer counsellors as recently as 2018. She was also for many years a trainer with Child Abuse Prevention Programme in Ireland which delivered training and education in regard to Child Abuse to Staff, Parents and school Boards of Management.

Ruth MacNeely is a survivor of sexual abuse within the family system and also within a faith community. Her recovery journey including the pursuing of justice for herself over many years has led to a deeply personal and reflective response to the issue of sexual violence. It is a constantly developing response. She has experienced not only pursuing a complaint herself but also of helping many clients make statements of complaint, attend court hearings and deal with numerous agencies who can arrive in the life of someone trying to recover from an experience of sexual violence. There is the original impact, the impact of disclosure, the impact of either “the success” or the failure of a case, or a confrontation. She is awed always by the creativity of survivors to find their own road to justice or to peace within.

She has also been involved in liaising with local doctors, medical, legal, housing, schools and care agencies and staff. Her work also involved working with and developing protocols with the Garda Síochána (Irish Police Force). She also had input in the writing parts of two handbooks for RCNI (Rape Crisis Network Ireland) one for Victims of Sexual Violence and the other for members of Boards of Managements of the member Rape Crisis Centres.

She retired in March of 2019 after working part time since 2014 and after 16 years as the director of Mayo Rape Crisis Centre. A service deeply committed to listening to clients and raising awareness in the local and national communities. Ruth has developed a particular expertise and interest in working with female asylum seekers since 2002 when the first female asylum seekers came to live in Ireland. In the last couple of years developing and delivering an 8 session pre-counselling programme for female asylum seekers.

She has also been interested in clients who are differently-abled accessing counselling. Producing with grant aid a DVD entitled “Three times more likely” about the particular difficulties for clients who rely on others to access counselling. She is always interested in continuing learning and raising awareness with regard to the long terms impact of sexual abuse in childhood and what that might mean for future generations. Ruth has been involved in finding ways for clients and indeed workers to find their voices through poetry, writing and being involved in creative projects. Long interested in educating with regard to the reality of child sexual abuse and its lifelong impact on the personhood, she has also developed and delivers a Psycho-education Initiative for clients who have experienced sexual abuse in childhood. Believing that information with regard to recovery options is vital and empowering for the survivor.

All her past work and current voluntary work has been informed by constant reflection and distilling of the experience of being a victim, a client, a survivor and a privileged witness to the continuing journeys of many adult survivors in Mayo. She has written a number of submissions to various inquiries into Child Abuse and is ever alert to all systems that perpetrate a continuing role in the re-silencing of the child.

Title of Presentation

**“I still don’t want this to be true”.
Uncomfortable, Unbelievable and Unspeakable.
The Journey from Victim to Survivor to Activist.
*Ruth MacNeely***





Francien Lamers-Winkelmann is a psychologist and a fully licensed child psychomotor therapist. She is a (emeritus) Professor at the Faculty of Psychology and Pedagogics of the VU University in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The topics of her research and teaching are the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect, and especially the assessment and treatment of child sexual abuse, children as witnesses, and children as witnesses and victims of inter-parental violence.

She holds a master's degree in Human Movement Sciences, a master's degree in Pedagogy and a PhD. in Psychology. She is the founder of the first Children's and Youth Trauma Center in the Netherlands (Haarlem), and has worked as a co-ordinator and psychotherapist at this center till the end of 2009. Together with her co-workers at the Children's and Youth Trauma Center she developed a combined-CBT program for sexually abused children and their non-offending parents, and for children

exposed to Family Violence. She also developed workbooks for these two groups of traumatized children and their non-offending parents, and manuals for the therapists.

For more than 25 years she worked on the establishment of a Multi-disciplinary Center Child Abuse and Neglect in the Netherlands, which was opened November 2015 by Princes Beatrix, the former Queen of the Netherlands.

She published several Dutch books and many articles (in several languages) on child sexual abuse and other trauma's in young children. She has given many lectures and workshops in The Netherlands and abroad, and was a guest-lecturer on many European Universities.

As a member of the research team of Fier Fryslân (Leeuwarden, The Netherlands) she carried out a study about girls who were forced into prostitution by Loverboys. The study covered the characteristics of the girls, their experiences before and during their involvement in the prostitution, their mental and physical health problems, and their progress during the treatment.

Francien has been a member of the Mental Health Team of *Medicins sans Frontières* that worked in Yugoslavia (Sarajevo and several other towns in central Bosnia) during the war and directly after. As such, she was responsible for the (development of a) program for (war) traumatized children. She was a trainer of the staff of The Foundation for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in Poland (Lodz) and has helped this foundation to establish a refugee center in Lodz for abused children and their (abused) mothers. She worked as a trainer for the Incest Trauma Center –Belgrade in Serbia. For Defense for Children International she worked in Georgia to train the staff of the Multi-disciplinary Trauma Center in Tbilisi and Batumi.

What's New and Interesting in the Field of Child Sexual Abuse?

Francien Lamers-Winkelman

The number of articles, both scientifically and practically oriented, on child sexual abuse, sexual trauma, the neurobiology of trauma, PTSD, the economic costs of child sexual abuse, complex trauma, treatment/therapy for patients with childhood abuse related posttraumatic stress disorder, online child sexual abuse, (forced) youth prostitution, sextortion etc. published annually is immense.

Because it is not possible to discuss all these topics, I have chosen to talk about new developments in the treatment/therapy of the consequences of adverse childhood experiences (child abuse, child sexual abuse, family violence etc.), and more in particular about the treatment of complex trauma. The developments in this area are exciting and promising, both with regard to therapy for children and adolescents as for adults. Before discussing these “new therapies”, I will briefly discuss some aspects of the neurobiology of trauma.

Already for many years, Abuse-Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy (AF-CBT) and Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) are the therapies of choice, both being evidence-based and well tested in practice for over many years now. However, clinicians, although following the “rules” of those methods, have incorporated new and old (therapeutic) techniques, both in AF-CBT and EMDR. Moreover, combinations of AF-CBT and EMDR are used. Keep in mind that most of these changes apply to complex trauma. Examples of these “spiked-up” treatment modalities are:

- Intensive trauma treatment/intensive exposure treatment for adolescents: EMDR and Exposure.
- “Massed” EMDR + PE + Physical Activity + Psycho-education
- Group therapy and Individual therapy.
- KING’s trauma treatment with children: combination of system oriented therapy + EMDR, + involvement of the primary attachment figure, both child + parent(s) in residential treatment, four weeks of very intensive trauma treatment for the entire family with EMDR).
- Therapist rotation: a novel approach for implementation of trauma-focused treatment in post-traumatic stress disorder.
- Game-based cognitive-behavioural therapy (GB-CBT).
- Psychomotor TF CBT therapy for sexually abused children and adolescents
- Dance or Art therapy.



Jannetta Bos, psychotherapist and sexologist, Arq psychotrauma expert group, Diemen, The Netherlands. Jannetta is working with patients who are victims of war, prosecution and violence.

Surviving Sexual Abuse, Ideas How to Deal With Disgust

Jannetta Bos

Twenty years ago the British Journal of Psychiatry published an editorial entitled Disgust: The forgotten emotion in psychiatry (Phillips et al., 1998). This has sparked an increasing attention for the possible role of disgust in various types of psychopathology, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). This contribution discusses how disgust-based mechanisms might play a role in the etiology and persistence of PTSD symptoms, and how these mechanisms might be addressed in clinical practice. The added value of taking the role of disgust-based mechanisms into account will be further illustrated by a short clinical case description.

In addition to trauma therapy information will be shared about a 2 sessions intervention developed by Jung and Steil (Jung & Steil, 2013) for patients who are still experiencing disgust, although they have been treated for the traumatic experiences related to disgust. The intervention is meant for patients who experienced sexual abuse during childhood and/or adulthood.

Overview:

1. Short introduction: latest research about disgust
2. Clinical case description
3. Description of the intervention





Gita Rajan, specialist in Family medicine, Phd Candidate at Karolinska Institutet. Board member of the Swedish Women's Medical Association and founder of Wonsa.

Sexual Abuse, Symptoms and Disclosure in a Specialist Clinic for Sexually Traumatized Patients

Gita Rajan

Sexual abuse is a crime and an obstacle to gender equality. The high prevalence makes the crime a threat to our society, injuring the brains, minds, bodies and souls of those exposed. As physicians, it is our duty to heal the injuries developed by these crimes.

However, it is not easy, since most government and public health care systems nor recognize the need, or wish to support, specialist clinics for this group of patients.

In 2014, I therefore founded the organization Wonsa, world of no sexual abuse, an NGO with the vision of a world of no sexual abuse, and the mission that through treatment, research and education make effective treatment accessible throughout the world.

Today Wonsa runs the only research-oriented specialist clinic for adults exposed to incest and other childhood sexual abuse. We work with very limited resources, since Sweden, as many other countries, do not fund clinics like Wonsa's. We therefore need to work efficiently. In order to do so, we listen carefully to what our patients tell us about their symptoms and needs, and we evaluate all our treatment offers together with our patients. This in combination with the fact that we welcome patients regardless of age, sex, time for the abuse or severity of symptoms, has given us the possibility to develop a proposed international classification of sexual abuse; Wonsa Sexual Abuse Classification (W-SAC). We have also identified a new syndrome; Sexual Abuse Injury Syndrome (SAIS).

In my presentation I will talk more about the prevalence of child sexual abuse, the need of specialized treatment to eliminate the aftermaths of sexual abuse, and about the proposed classification and syndrome.





Goran Arbanas is a psychiatrist, psychotherapist, sexual therapist, forensic psychiatrist FECSM, PhD, Assistant Professor. He works at the Department for Forensic Psychiatry and in the Outpatient Clinic for Sexual Problems in the biggest and the oldest psychiatric hospital in Croatia, the University Psychiatric Hospital Vrapče. He teaches psychiatry, human sexuality, clinical sexology and sexual medicine at the Medical Faculty of Rijeka and at the Medical Faculty of Zagreb. He is a court expert and also teaches forensic psychiatry at the Faculty for social pedagogy.

He is a translator and has translated many psychiatric textbooks, and was also the co-editor (with the deceased prof. Jukić) of the Croatian translation of DSM-5 (“the Bible of psychiatry”).

Sexual Abuse against Psychiatric Patients and Psychiatric Patients as Sexual Abuse Offenders

Goran Arbanas

The clinical work with psychiatric patients will be presented, both as victims and perpetrators of sexual offences. Psychiatric patients are often stigmatised not just by the general population but also by mental health professionals and legal professionals. There are many cases of psychiatric patients who were victims of sexual violence and who were not treated appropriately due to prejudices, myths and misconceptions on the side of psychiatrist, psychologists, lawyers and judges.

Psychiatric patients are not more violent than the general population and do not commit more sex offences, compared to the general population. Less than 5% of sex offenders are NGRI.

Therefore, it seems that psychiatric patients do not commit sexual violence, contrary to everybody's belief.



Zaffira Shah is a qualified social worker, child care practitioner and has qualifications in advanced child welfare, training and development and Action Learning as a model of practice related development of staff. She has had the honour of working with children, families and colleagues in various types of social work-related services for over 30 years. The last 18 of these have been dedicated to enabling others through training, consultancy, mentoring, managing staff and services. She has expertise and practice experience of working with domestic abuse, therapeutic work with children who have been sexually abused, international safeguarding and leadership and management in social care. She is author of the NSPCC's accredited Training for Trainers in Child Protection Course and managed training of NSPCC's Children Service staff for all aspects of their direct practice training and development. She is currently working as a freelance safeguarding consultant and trainer. She is a doting and available grandmother to 5 grandchildren, a mother to 2 children and a 'parent' to two Bengal and Maine Coon mix cats.

Importance of Training and Supervision for Workers in the Field of Sexual Trauma

Zaffira Shah

This presentation aims to highlight the personal and agency related challenges and risks to workers in learning and delivering sexual trauma work.

The difficulties of working in sexual trauma services, the unexpected situations which workers face, the frequent ethical dilemmas, the emotional hardships request the need for support to achieve better performance and achieve good mental health and well-being.

Every interaction with a child/adult carries the potential for change and long-term impact on their outcomes. But interacting can be hard, it can give rise to vicarious trauma, can lead to burnout, withdrawal – all which can be disastrous for the service, the worker, the client and their relationship.

Attention will also be drawn to the secondary effects of the organizational response to workers distress. An organizational atmosphere or culture can contribute to the problem's workers may have or can assist in resolving them. I will describe factors which support an environment and culture that understands the impact on workers and has systems in place to support them.

The presentation will conclude by highlighting the importance of training as central to the development and maintenance of high-quality practice, professional identity and confidence; and the protective factor of effective supervision in addressing the challenges of working with sexual trauma pose.



Dr Clíona Saidléar is the Executive Director of the Rape Crisis Network Ireland (RCNI) which is a national body owned and governed by rape crisis centres in Ireland. RCNI is tasked with bringing a change agenda to the national policy level. RCNI use the expertise of member rape crisis centres (specialist sexual violence NGOs) and survivors to inform research, shaping strategic solutions on how best to support survivors with dignity, to hold perpetrators to account and to prevent sexual violence from happening.

Clíona has been specialising in Sexual Violence since 2004 when she joined the RCNI as Policy and Communications coordinator. She has a strong interest in cultural through public discourse and systemic mainstreaming of both education and standards of zero tolerance and building good evidence whilst protecting the dignity and privacy of survivors. Her PhD is in International Politics where she studied the movement from the politically unthinkable to the politically possible.

Changing the Law from the Outside – What Works

Dr Clíona Saidléar

The subject of this presentation will look at recent RCNI successes in legislative change and explore what was needed to make these changes happen. This will include reflections on the new Criminal Justice (Sexual Offences) Act (2017) which introduces a definition of Consent and a range of special measures for survivors in a court case.

A Ministerial review of the justice system's treatment of survivors in court cases with a view to radically reforming how it is experienced by survivors.

And RCNI were also part of a grand coalition which fought and won a Constitutional Referendum to allow for abortion in Ireland last year.





Dr Maeve O'Rourke is Lecturer in Human Rights at the National University of Ireland, Galway and a Barrister at 33 Bedford Row, London.

For the past 10 years she has provided pro bono legal assistance to voluntary groups seeking to achieve state accountability for the incarceration, exploitation and disappearance of unmarried girls and women, and their children, through a network of Church-operated institutions including 'Magdalene Laundries' and 'Mother and Baby Homes'.

The Justice for Magdalenes Campaign

Dr Maeve O'Rourke

Maeve's presentation will focus on the Justice for Magdalenes political campaign between 2009 and 2013, which brought about a State apology to survivors of Ireland's Magdalene Laundries and a €58 million 'restorative justice' scheme. While many problems and abuses persist (most notably the State's and religious orders' denial of access to records, and the inability of victims to access ordinary civil or criminal justice mechanisms), lessons can be learned from the several successes of the Justice for Magdalenes campaign. Maeve will explain how the Justice for Magdalenes group used a combination of historical research, journalistic investigation, political advocacy, legal evidence gathering techniques, oral histories, human rights-based public education, and engagement with national and international human rights bodies to bring about some significant measures of reparation regarding a widespread system of violence against women that many in Irish society and in the State apparatus would have preferred to forget.



Ulla Lemberg is a Swedish photographer, filmmaker and founder of Change Attitude.



Joanna Lundquist is a child rights lawyer working against commercial sexual exploitation of children in Sweden and abroad. Joanna is working chairperson for Change Attitude.

“Hidden in the Park” - A Unique Game against Grooming

Ulla Lemberg & Joanna Lundquist

“Hidden in the Park” is a learning game, which aims to raise awareness against grooming, targeting children 8-10 years old. The game is based on research at the University of Skövde in Sweden and provides a first-hand experience of choices and potential negative consequences of online interactions focusing on grooming.

The game bridges the differences between cognitive maturity in young children, and the reasoning processes required to understand potential risks and consequences. The game combines a classic board game, a computer game, and augmented reality (AR) technology. The game session is followed by a dialogue lead by an adult, based on the children’s experience playing the game and facilitated by a guiding material elaborated by children’s rights experts, psychologists, pedagogues and most importantly the target group: children.

The game is financed by World Childhood Foundation and the Swedish Postcode Foundation and the game will be distributed to all schools in Sweden this year.





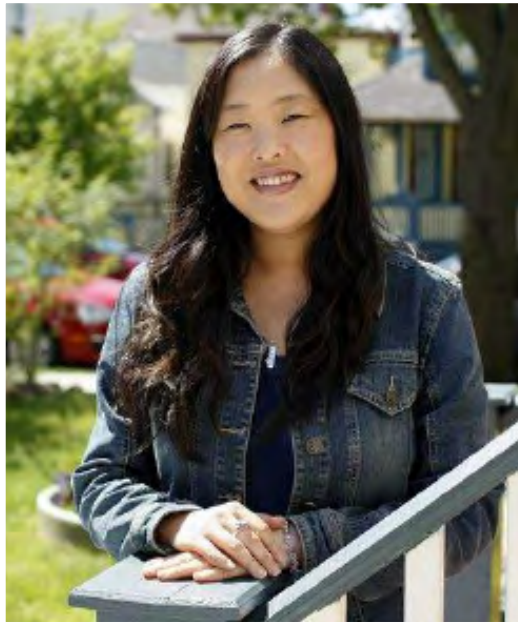
Judith Lewis Herman, M.D., is Professor of Psychiatry (part time) at Harvard Medical School. For thirty years, until she retired, she was Director of Training at the Victims of Violence Program at The Cambridge Hospital, Cambridge, MA. Dr. Herman is the author of two award-winning books: *Father-Daughter Incest* (Harvard University Press, 1981), and *Trauma and Recovery* (Basic Books, 1992). She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 1996 Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. In 2007 she was named a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.

Truth and Reconciliation: Justice from the Victim's Perspective

Judith L. Herman, M.D.

In the course of their recovery, victims of interpersonal violence confront the most basic questions about the meaning of justice: How can the truth be made known? Is reconciliation possible? Can the harm be repaired, and if so, what would be required to repair it? How should offenders be held accountable? These questions are particularly complicated when victims and offenders are part of the same family or community, where, if the victim dares to speak out, the bystanders will be challenged to take sides.

The wishes and needs of victims are often diametrically opposed to the requirements of legal proceedings. Indeed, if one set out intentionally to design a system for provoking symptoms of traumatic stress, it might look very much like a court of law. This presentation, based on in depth interviews with victims of sexual and domestic violence, will explore the question of what justice might mean to victims, and will propose that envisioning justice within the context of a healing relationship can be a liberating act.



[PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/EDITOR]

Christine Hatchard, Psy.D. - Dr. Hatchard is a licensed psychologist with a private practice in Eatontown, New Jersey. She has a masters degree in Counseling Psychology and Human Services and a doctorate in Clinical Psychology, with a specialization in Psychological Assessment. She has previously trained and worked as a psychotherapist in college counseling centers as well as a forensic private practice specializing in family law. Dr. Hatchard has taught at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, and is currently a Specialist Professor of Clinical Psychology in the Department of Psychology at Monmouth University in West Long Branch, NJ. Dr. Hatchard founded the organization, Making Daughters Safe Again (MDSA), in 1999 and has continued to act as Director for over 12 years, during which time she has worked with hundreds of survivors of mother-daughter sexual abuse. In 2011, she was

awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Unsung Hero Award at Monmouth University for her work on behalf of abuse survivors. "Who Will Love Me?" is Dr. Hatchard's first film. She began planning the film in 2008 by learning video production and recruiting potential participants for the documentary. She conducted the interviews and filmed the footage over two days in April 2009 and edited the film during 2010.

[PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS] : Leilani Chin, Jaclyn Spurka, Juliana Pierce

http://www.drchristinehatchard.com/PRESSKIT_KID.pdf

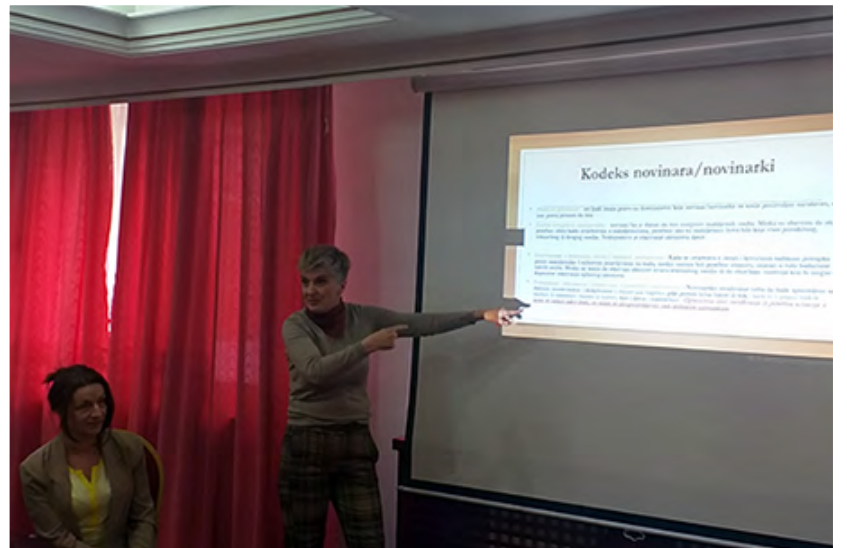
MOVIE: WHO WILL LOVE ME?

SYNOPSIS Who Will Love Me? [Running Time: 67 Minutes]

That a woman would sexually abuse her own daughter is an unimaginable horror to most people. When it's your reality, it's infinitely worse. In this groundbreaking film, four courageous women who were sexually abused by their mothers in childhood share their compelling stories. With sensitive editing and unflinching honesty, viewers will begin to understand the full range of devastating consequences of this form of sexual abuse and the survivors' hopeful search for healing. Meant to provide a comprehensive overview of a complex phenomenon, topics in the film include; the survivors' abuse experiences, their mothers' personalities, confronting their mothers, the role of their fathers, ways they've coped, and the impact of the abuse on intimacy, life partners, identity and child-rearing. Most strikingly apparent is the women's struggles to be heard and believed and their inspirational resiliency above all odds. While each woman's story is unique, they all share a common, heartbreaking question: "When the one person in the world who is supposed to love me hurts me to my core, Who WILL Love Me?"



Regional Journalists' Network against Sexual Violence



Ethical Media Reporting in the Field of Sexual Violence

The European Women's Network against Sexual Violence was started up in 2017 by women's NGOs from Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia. While it was for 2 years still holding regional character, it paid special attention to ethical reporting of media on their national level and decided to invest its efforts in looking for journalists with an excellent record in reporting on Sexual Violence. During their capacity building events, this group of professionals from well-known media houses raised up by themselves idea to start networking and the Regional Journalists' Network against Sexual Violence started taking its place. In their presentation on Ethics in Media Reporting, they will identify themes for reporting out of which survivors would benefit (e.g. Reforms in Legislation and Prevention of Sexual Violence), show case-examples on applying professional journalistic standards, speak about freedom of media and support for independent position of journalists - all applied to the field of Sexual Violence. In future, it is very important to support this Initiative which has been an integral part of the European Women's Network against Sexual Violence.

Movie: “Have I Told You I’ve Been Abused?” (93 min) 2009©Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade

Film as self-representation, self-advocate and a healing tool for Child Sexual Assault survivors

BACKGROUND

The 10-year cycle of the playing of the movie “Have I told you I’ve been abused?”, produced in 2009 by the Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade (ITC), is described here. It is about an outcome of bravery of a number of female survivors of CSA, former ITC clients, who had been receiving psychological counselling. This is a mockumentary with eight true testimonies of trauma and recovery of survivors (aged 22 to 40). Never before or afterwards has such a movie been made in Serbia, based on true stories of real women living here.

AIM

Overall aim: Raising Awareness on the Sexual Assault issue and Prevention Tool.

Specific aims: a) Therapeutic effect through self-representation and self-advocacy b) Healing tool.

METHODS

The therapeutic effect of the whole process is significant because of female survivors’ participation in every stage of the making the movie: ethical considerations and decision making by survivors on participation, planning and design, protecting confidentiality (whether to keep their own name or to take a pseudonym), organizing a self-help group and video recording (3 sessions, 8 hours), editing the transcript (96 pages), following and approving each stage of the process. It took 16 months to design the screenplay, prepare and perform the Theatre play that became an integral part of the movie and complete the final version of Film “Have I told you I’ve been abused?”. Survivors actively participated in facing challenges with film professionals and female drama students. We decided for the mockumentary form – on one level, viewers follow true testimonies word by word, conveyed to them by female drama students in order to protect the confidentiality of the survivors’ identity and on another, one follows the personal process of young actresses when learning their roles and the topic of child sexual assault itself. Regarding the latter, the majority of viewers later expressed they had identified, which helped them understand the topic. But also this process included survivors being part of premiere live screenings and promotional activities in 22 towns in Serbia and 4 countries in the Western Balkan (and again, protecting confidentiality), reviewing public (e-)feedback following the broadcast on national frequency TV, until today re-run 54 times upon viewers’ request, as well as follow-up session that was held in October 2014 to obtain survivors’ feedback on 6-year long cycle.

RESULTS

In November 2008, the first performance of the Theatre play “Have I told you I’ve been abused?” was held. In May 2009, we had the premiere of the Film “Have I told you I’ve been abused?” In 2009, ITC held Promo Tour in 22 towns in Serbia and 4 countries in Western Balkans (at cinemas, campuses, penitentiaries, lgbt organizations, etc.). During the period 2009-2010, we noted the broadcast on 11 TV channels with a national



and local frequency in 4 countries in Western Balkans. In April 2010, the survivors lived to see the moment when the movie was recognized by the State Excellence Award “for the special contribution to awareness raising on zero tolerance against sexual and gender-based violence” (the Award introduced on this occasion for 1st time ever in Serbia by the Ministry of Social Welfare). In 2012, ITC handed over the movie to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg for broadcast in member-states as the National Leader of “1 IN 5” European Campaign. Until now, upon viewers’ request, re-run 54 times broadcasted in Serbia on national frequency TV. Film became part of standard teaching resources in secondary schools in Serbia. All is an extraordinary life situation where survivors – with maximal control in their hands - essentially influenced self-representation and self-advocacy.

Survivors emphasized the following experiences: 1. Focus on respecting survivors’ boundaries during the whole process 2. Maximal control in their hands essentially influenced self-representation and self-advocacy 3. Taking over control over your own trauma 4. The film is a communication tool with survivors’ families, friends, colleagues, etc. 5. The film helped disclosures to close ones and stimulated exchange within families 6. Breaking isolation – survivors have remained in touch to this day.

CONCLUSION

Above all, the movie demonstrates the fact that recovery after surviving sexual assault is possible.

6 years later, survivors said: “If we were to do it all over again, we would.”

Session held on October 04, 2014 before speaking about this film on 2014 ICSOR

The survivors who gave their testimonies for the purpose of making “Have I told you I’ve been abused?” have kept in touch with ITC over the past 10 years. On one occasion, the contact was intensified in particular, and ITC was contacted by many more former clients / survivors. It was in 2013, when the Parliament of the Republic of Serbia adopted ITC Initiative FOR the rescinding of the Statute of Limitations concerning sex offences committed against children. With this historical change of legislation, Serbia became the second country in Europe, after UK, to legally recognize long-term effects of sexual trauma. By experienced knowledge, survivors praised this measure in the interest of recovery.

“Have I told you I’ve been abused?” (HDV format, 93 min., and original music composed) download at www.incesttraumacentar.org.rs . As the Copyright owner, ITC is willing to permit live screenings and TV broadcast upon written request submitted.

END OF PROGRAM





EUROPEAN UNION



www.incesttraumacentar.org.rs
www.ijasamuztebe.org.rs

Conference of the European Women's Network against Sexual Violence is financed by the European Union under the Support to Civil Society Facility 2015.



World of
Children
Award
SETTING THE GOLD STANDARD
IN CHILD ADVOCACY



RECONSTRUCTION
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Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade
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