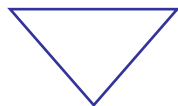


---

---

CAPSAC



CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY ON THE ABUSE OF CHILDREN

# THE CONSULTANT

Winter 2009

---

---

CALL TO ANNUAL CAPSAC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, AWARDS CEREMONY, AND RECEPTION **Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 4-6 PM** at Trellises Restaurant, the **Town and Country Hotel, San Diego**. Please submit agenda items to Bea Yorker, President at [byorker@calstatela.edu](mailto:byorker@calstatela.edu)

For the past eight years, APSAC has been leading a discussion on the potential for some type of forensic interviewer "certification" or something less legally entwined, such as a diplomat status. The leadership of APSAC, in partnership with you, would like to continue this discussion on Monday, January 26, 2009 at 4:00 pm following the APSAC Pre-conference Institutes at the San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment. Representatives from all models of interviewing are encouraged to attend. Contact Julie Kenniston at [juliehwk@aol.com](mailto:juliehwk@aol.com) or (513) 604-6739 if you want more information.

## President's Message

From Beatrice Yorker, JD, RN, MS, FAAN, President

Greetings CAPSAC Members! 2008 has been a busy year. The Board met three times in San Diego in January, Santa Barbara in May, and Los Angeles in August. Welcome to our new Board Members; Diana Faugno, RN, MSN, CPN, FAFS, SANE-A, SANE-P, Forensic Nurse Consultant from Escondido, and John Stirling, MD Director, Center for Child Protection in San Jose.

We revised the Bylaws, thanks to Neal Snyder and Diane Nissen.

We wrote letters to Congress in support of the *Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008*, which was signed by the President on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008 advocating for over 24,000 youth who "age out" of the foster care system annually. This legislation opens the door to federal support for youth to age 21 -- ending the trend in many states to push youth out of foster care at the ill prepared age of 18. Other provisions in the bill will enhance the ability to find, approve and support relative caregivers, increase efforts to preserve sibling ties, and mandate better attention to the educational and health needs of youth in care. This is the most significant federal foster care reform legislation to see the light of day in nearly a decade and resulted from a strong coalition of voices coming together around the compelling needs of vulnerable children in foster care. Thanks to all who added their voice to that chorus!

### CAPSAC SERVICE AWARDS for 2008

Service Awards go to **Susan Moan Hardie, PhD, RN** for her years of service as the Editor of *The Consultant* and to **Neal Snyder, JD** for his many years of service Chairing the Legislative and Amicus Committees.

Also during 2008 some of our Board members wrote a letter to Los Angeles District Attorney Steve Cooley and then received a very thoughtful response from Jane Blissert, Head Deputy of the Sex Crimes Division in the District Attorney's Office, Los Angeles. The Board really appreciated the letter and thought it was thoughtful, responsive, and educational, and as such, we would like to share it with our approximately 150 CAPSAC members.

On May 10th, 2008 The California Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (CAPSAC) wrote a letter to Steven Cooley, Los Angeles County Prosecutor, regarding the failure to report child abuse by church officials. The letter was composed by a board subcommittee, and signed by specific members.

The letter specifically articulated concern about the possible failure to comply with the mandatory reporting requirements of California's Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA) by officials of the Los Angeles Catholic Archdiocese. Although there was extensive media coverage on the settlement agreement that was reached with the Los Angeles Catholic Archdiocese and its victims, there was no coverage about the Archdiocese's compliance or non-compliance with California's mandatory child abuse reporting law. As such, the letter inquired about the Archdiocese's non-compliance with child protection reporting laws and the apparent lack of consequences Archdiocese Officials faced, as well as the subsequent message this lack of action sent to other mandated reporters. CAPSAC requested information on whether there was an investigation to determine if there were any prosecutable violations of CANRA.

On July 23rd, 2008 CAPSAC received a response to the inquiry by Jane Blissert, Head Deputy of Sex Crimes Division. The letter is attached in the following section:



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE BUREAU OF SPECIALIZED PROSECUTIONS

STEVE COOLEY, District Attorney  
JOHN K. SPILLANE, Chief Deputy District Attorney  
CURTIS A. HAZELL, Assistant District Attorney

California Professional Society on the  
Abuse of Children  
P.O. Box 3696  
Santa Monica, CA 90408

This letter is in response to yours inquiring whether or not there is an investigation into the failure to report child abuse by officials from the Los Angeles Catholic Archdiocese. The District Attorney's Office has been actively pursuing Archdiocese documentation that could lead to criminal prosecution, both of individuals who committed acts of abuse and of individuals who failed to report such acts, since April of 2002;. The Archdiocese and individual priests vehemently objected to disclosure of church" documents; the resulting litigation lasted almost four years.: The issue as to the requested documents was resolved in 2006 by the U .S- Supreme Court deciding in our' favor. At that point substantial documents were finally produced for the District Attorney's Office. While this litigation was pending, the D.A.'s Office followed, and continues to follow, other avenues of investigation. Additionally, during the pendency of the litigation, the D.A.'s Office proposed legislation to toll the statute of limitations for abuse offenses under these circumstances. The legislation was enacted in April, 2003 as P.C. 803(f)(4)(A) through (C) . The saga of the litigation involving Archdiocese documents has been continuously covered by the L.A. Times.

There are two legal impediments to charging a crime against church officials who failed to report: 1) They did not become mandated reporters until 1997; 2) Because it is a misdemeanor, failure to report has a one year statute of limitations unless it can proven that the mandated reporter intentionally concealed his or her failure to report, in which case it is a continuing offense until law enforcement or the local child welfare agency discovers it.

As you know, issues involving failure to report child abuse are not limited to the Archdiocese. Recently, the District Attorney's Office: filed charges against Alan Hubbard, a middle school dean, charging him with felony witness dissuasion, P; C:' 136. Hb) (1), and accessory after the fact, P.C. 32, "for his actions in connection with".

18-2.05 Clara Shortridge F6trz Criminal Justice Center 210  
West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 12131974-3881

California Professional Society on the Abuse of Children

July 23, 2008

Page 2

a student who was involved in a sexual relationship with another administrator. This case is pending. We also recently filed misdemeanor failure to report charges, P.C. 11166(0), against a school principal and vice principal in People v. Angulo and Sotomayor. This case is also pending. Both of these cases were covered by the L.A. Times. Because P.C. 11166(c) is a misdemeanor, it ordinarily will be handled by a city prosecutor in local jurisdictions. The D.A.'s Office handles misdemeanors only in jurisdictions that do not have a city prosecutor.

Head Deputy District Attorney William Hodgman oversees the investigation involving the Archdiocese. He has offered to speak to your Board regarding the lengthy litigation and the investigation. Should you wish to discuss the matter with him, you can contact him at (213) 974-5986.

JANE A. BLISSERT, Head Deputy Sex Crimes  
Division

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

CAPSAC has invited Head Deputy District Attorney William Hodgman to speak to our membership on:

#### **The LA County District Attorney's Prosecution and the Catholic Clergy Child Sexual Abuse Scandal**

**When:** Thursday, February 12, 2009, 11:40am-1:20pm

**Where:** Hertzberg Davis Crime Lab, Room C-238

Since the civil settlement in 2007, have you wondered about the status of the criminal investigation? In addition to the issue of Child Sexual Abuse by persons of trust, there are concerns whether or not the Archdiocese of Los Angeles was in compliance with the mandatory reporting laws. The California Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (CAPSAC) has raised these concerns, and William Hodgman, the Deputy District Attorney in charge of the prosecution will provide CAPSAC membership, CSULA students, and interested community members an update on his office's investigative and prosecution efforts in this tragic scandal. Please mark your calendars!

**Note:** Space is limited so come early-- students, CAPSAC members, and community professionals will be seated as they arrive.

**Parking Info:** Students park on campus or take METRO. CAPSAC (California Chapter of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children) Members and Community Professionals, If you want to reserve a parking space call 323-343-4600, or park and pay in Parking Structure A.

<http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/maps/cslamap.php>

**CAPSAC  
Board of  
Directors**

Bea Yorker  
President  
[byorker@calstatela.edu](mailto:byorker@calstatela.edu)

Neal Snyder  
Vice President  
[neal@yvonnegarcia.net](mailto:neal@yvonnegarcia.net)

Julie Robbins  
Secretary  
[juliebrobb@aol.com](mailto:juliebrobb@aol.com)

Rabbi Jay Miller  
Treasurer  
[jaymiller@blueconnect.org](mailto:jaymiller@blueconnect.org)

Marty Ensign  
Board Member  
[densign@sbsd.com](mailto:densign@sbsd.com)

Diana Faugno  
Board Member  
[diale@aol.com](mailto:diale@aol.com)

Colleen Friend  
Board Member  
[cfriend@calstatela.edu](mailto:cfriend@calstatela.edu)

Susan Moan  
Hardie  
Board Member  
[suehardie@aol.com](mailto:suehardie@aol.com)

Clavin James  
Board Member  
[bea@abc.com](mailto:bea@abc.com)

Toni Cavanagh  
Johnson  
Board Member  
[toni@tcavjohn.com](mailto:toni@tcavjohn.com)

Carl Lewis  
Board Member  
[clewis@da.sccgov.org](mailto:clewis@da.sccgov.org)

## Annual Paul Crissey Research Award Recipients

Each year, CAPSAC gives out \$1,000 in grants for outstanding research in the area of child abuse and neglect. The 2008 Recipients of the Paul Crissey Research Awards are:

### ***Maria I. Salazar, MSW***

For her Master Thesis in Social Work at California State University, Los Angeles:  
DEFINING VERBAL AGGRESSION IN CHILD ABUSE CASES  
BY PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORKERS  
Dr. Victor Manalo & Dr. Valentine Villa, Thesis Advisors

&

### ***Denise Maria La Lande, MSW***

For her Master Thesis in Social Work at California State University, Los Angeles:  
HALF MEASURES AVOIDED US NOTHING: POLICY AND PRACTICE ANALYSIS OF  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES AND  
SUBSTANCE-ABUSING PARENTS  
Dr. Connie Corley & Dr. Roger Delgado, Thesis Advisors

Congratulations to both recipients and their thesis advisors for their hard work and excellent master thesis presentations!

For more information please contact: Dr. Colleen Friend at [cfriend@exchange.calstatela.edu](mailto:cfriend@exchange.calstatela.edu) or  
Dean Beatrice Yorker at [byorker@exchange.calstatela.edu](mailto:byorker@exchange.calstatela.edu)

## Upcoming Training and Conferences

Date(s)	Event/Content Description	Location/Contact
January 26-30, 2009	The 23rd Annual San Diego International Conference on Child & Family Maltreatment <i>Town &amp; Country Resort &amp; Convention Center</i>	San Diego, CA <a href="http://www.chadwickcenter.org">www.chadwickcenter.org</a>
January 26, 2009 @ 4pm	Discussion on Forensic Interviewer Certification Following APSAC pre-Conference Institutes <i>Town &amp; Country Resort &amp; Convention Center</i>	San Diego, CA <a href="mailto:juliehwk@aol.com">juliehwk@aol.com</a>
March 30-April 4, 2009	17th Nat'l Conference on Child Abuse & Neglect Focusing on the Future: Strengthening Families & Communities <i>Marriot Atlanta Marquis</i>	Atlanta, GA <a href="mailto:17conf@pal-tech.com">17conf@pal-tech.com</a>
June 1-5, 2009	APSAC Child Forensic Interview Clinics <i>The WA State Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC)</i>	Seattle, WA <a href="mailto:apsac@apsac.org">apsac@apsac.org</a>
June 17-20, 2009	APSAC's 17 <sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquium <i>Omni at CNN Center</i>	Atlanta, GA <a href="mailto:apsac@apsac.org">apsac@apsac.org</a>

To add an upcoming training or conference for the next Consultant,  
contact: Dr. Friend [cfriend@exchange.calstatela.edu](mailto:cfriend@exchange.calstatela.edu)

**CAPSAC  
Board of  
Directors**

Diane Nissen  
Board Member  
[dnissen@sonic.net](mailto:dnissen@sonic.net)

John Stirling  
Board Member  
[john.stirling@hhs.sccgov.org](mailto:john.stirling@hhs.sccgov.org)

## The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study

### BACKGROUND

The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study was one of the largest research studies ever conducted on the relationship between childhood trauma and negative consequences in later life. The ACE Study revealed that in the United States childhood stressors are strongly related to the development and prevalence of risk factors for disease and death; as well as poor quality of life and social well-being throughout a person's lifespan. The ACE study was a collaboration between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Kaiser Permanente San Diego. The study was initiated in 1995, and data collection took place over two years. The study was led by investigators Robert F. Anda, MD, MS, and Vincent J. Felitti, MD. Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) members undergoing a comprehensive physical examination provided detailed information about their childhood experience of abuse, neglect, and family dysfunction.

### STUDY DESIGN

Approximately 17,000 members chose to participate; each participant completed a confidential survey that contained questions divided into eight categories about childhood maltreatment and family dysfunction, as well as questions regarding their current adult health status and behaviors. ACEs were defined as experiencing any of the following trauma in the household prior to age 18: Recurrent physical abuse, recurrent emotional abuse, sexual abuse; an alcohol and/or drug abuser in the household; an incarcerated household member; someone who was chronically depressed, mentally ill, institutionalized, or suicidal; mother was treated violently; and one or both parents missing. This information was combined with the results of the participant's physical examination to form the baseline data for the study. The ACE Study used a simple scoring method to determine the extent of each study participant's exposure to childhood trauma. For example, an ACE score of 0 (zero) means that the person reported no exposure to any of the categories of trauma listed as an ACE. A person exposed to 1 category of ACE, had 1 point. An ACE Score of 9 would mean that the person reported exposure to all of the categories of trauma listed above. Once the points were added up, the ACE Score is achieved.

### FINDINGS

The ACE study demonstrated significant evidence that exposure to childhood trauma is surprisingly common even though it is rarely acknowledged; that it can happen even in "the best of families"; and that these experiences have long-term, damaging consequences to the adult health in later-life. Almost two-thirds of the participants in the study reported at least one ACE, and more than one in five reported three or more ACEs. The long-term consequences of these childhood exposures to trauma include numerous health and social problems, among these are the following:

- |   |                                       |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| -Alcoholism and alcohol abuse                 | -Multiple sex partners (30+)          |   |
| -Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) | -Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) | - |
| -Depression                                   | -Smoking                              |   |
| -Health-related reduced quality of life       | -Illicit drug use                     |   |
| -Ischemic heart disease (IHD)                 | -Risk for intimate partner violence   |   |
| -Liver disease                                | -Suicide attempts                     |   |
| -Fetal death                                  | -Unintended pregnancies               |   |

Furthermore, the ACE Study has provided insight into the relationship between childhood trauma, negative health, and behavior related outcomes during childhood and adolescence. These negative outcomes include early initiation of smoking, sexual activity, and illicit drug use, adolescent pregnancies, and suicide attempts. Finally, as the number of ACEs increases in childhood the number of co-occurring or "co-morbid" conditions will increase in adulthood.

### WHAT CAN THE PRACTITIONER DO:

- Routinely ask about ACE's when asking the client's history.
- Acknowledge it; ask "How has this affected your life?"
- Provide resources for recovery and treatment.
- Go to the Academy of Violence and Abuse web-site for further information:  
<http://www.avahealth.org/>