Conference Schedule

Friday, August 7

7:00pm
Welcome and introductory remarks by Mark Serrano (REGENCY CD CTR)

7:30pm
“SNAP at 21! Coming of Age!” with Barbara Blaine
(REGENCY CD CTR)
Twenty-one years ago, we started SNAP and never looked back. We started trying to heal ourselves, protect others and reform the church. Over the years, we started focusing more on changing secular laws and institutions so all children will be safer. We’ve had great victories and are gearing up to do even more as a grown-up movement with insights, expertise, and strength that we have gained over these long, tough years. While our healing is not complete, we have found coping skills sustained by the support and love of each other. We are committed to each other to keep on! SNAP’s future looks bright and promising. There is much work to be done but we have never been more equipped to meet the challenge.

8:00pm
“Unto a Third Generation” with Victor Vieth (REGENCY CD CTR)
In this moving, hopeful address, participants will learn the five obstacles that prevent us from significantly reducing child abuse in the United States. More importantly, people will learn of sweeping reforms now taking place in the country that will significantly reduce, if not eliminate child abuse within three generations.

8:45pm
“Redressing Problematic Language in Sexual Violence Narratives to Fight Eroticism, Victim-blaming, and Harmless and Vague Terms in Social and Legal Discourse” with Wendy Murphy
(REGENCY CD CTR)
The language used to describe sexual violence can dramatically affect our understanding of the nature of the resulting harm and negatively affect our ability to hold social and legal institutions accountable. Disparate definitions from different sources can create an unclear scene for the recipient of information, leading to a misunderstanding of the truth and even a perpetuation of harmful stereotypes and myths about victims and offenders as well as the impact of sexual violence on individuals and society.

9:30pm
Reception
(POTOMAC 3456)
Hosted by The National Survivor Advocates Coalition

Saturday, August 8

7:30am
Walk in Washington DC
(Meet in Hotel lobby)
For early risers, this is a chance to exercise and see the sites of our nation’s capital

7:30 am
Meeting, “Friends of Bill W”
(ARLINGTON)

8:30am
Morning Announcement
(REGENCY CD CTR)

9:00am
“Is anyone listening to the searing voice of the victim?” with Frank Keating
(REGENCY CD CTR)
When Governor Keating resigned as chairman of the National Review Board in June of 2003, he said “…our church is a faith institution. A home to Christ’s people. It is not a criminal enterprise… It does not condone and cover up criminal activity. It does not follow a code of silence,” he added. “My
remarks, which some bishops found offensive, were deadly accurate. I make no apology. To resist grand jury subpoenas, to suppress the names of offending clerics, to deny, to obfuscate, to explain away: that is the model of a criminal organization, not my church.” He’ll explain this quote and evaluate whether things have improved.

9:45am
“FAQs for old-timers & hope for newer folks”  
with David Clohessy  
(REGENCY CD CTR)
"How do you keep going?" "Where's all this going?"
Those of us who are lucky enough to have been in this movement for years hear these questions pretty often. Clohessy will share his feelings and thoughts about both (while hopefully minimizing his notoriously poor jokes and boring stories about his kids). Come and hear a mixture of reflection, speculation, exhortation and inspiration.

10:15am
“Updating the Scorecard: Bishops Who Enable Abuse” with Terry McKiernan  
(REGENCY CD CTR)
Seven years after Dallas, BishopAccountability.org provides a scorecard of enabling bishops, updating the famous Dallas Morning News database. This talk will also let SNAP members know about recent additions to our document archives, our database of accused priests and nuns, and our archive of media coverage.

10:45am
Break

11:00am
Breakout Session 1  
(See descriptions and location on p.21-22)

12:00pm
Conference luncheon  
(REGENCY E)

1:30pm
“Called to Make Justice” with Marie Fortune  
(REGENCY CD CTR)
Justice is the foundation of healing, accountability, and reform of our churches. It is the work of the whole community. So we are all called to this shared task. What does it look like? How do we do this work together?

2:15pm
Break

2:30pm
Breakout Session 2  
(See descriptions and location on p.22-23)

3:30
Break

3:45pm
“Baptist-land: Mapping the terrain” with Christa Brown  
(REGENCY CD CTR)
Where do we stand in the nation’s largest Protestant denomination? How do we escape the quicksand of a congregationalist polity that pretends each of 43,000 churches is completely independent? How do we connect the dots to link-up a trail of accountability in a buck-stops-nowhere system? Christa Brown explores these questions and others as she recounts her journey out of “the land of bondage.”

4:15pm
“Process and Challenges: Empowering Victims & Creating Change” with Eric Barragan  
(REGENCY CD CTR)
Eric Barragan has been worked with survivors in Mexico, a country with one of the most ‘predatory friendly’ jurisdictions. With coaxing and empowerment, survivors have been able to step forward, making SNAP Mexico one of the fastest growing SNAP groups in the world. Hear him describe how he used his community organizing skills and techniques to find other survivors, educate the public and change the laws of government in Mexico.

4:45pm
“SNAP Supporters Report”  
(REGENCY CD CTR)

5:00pm
“Beyond Forgiveness. Breaking the Cycle of Trauma” with Angela Shelton  
(REGENCY CD CTR)
"It is time we got off the Trauma Train and get a ticket for the Joy Jet. Enough trauma, we need some Giggle Therapy!" Angela says. "And forgiveness? How about forgive this!" She asks why so many of us live with pain and suffering because of what others did to us and why we keep repeating traumatic cycles over and over again? In this powerful presentation, Angela tells how she has spoken to over 30,000 survivors and seen common threads from trauma=health problems to the repeated cycle of violence that victims fall into and how to break that cycle. Angela takes you through
her powerful and hilarious powerpoint on Removing the Sword of Trauma and Reclaiming Your Power as she speaks and leaves you inspired, uplifted and giggling.

5:45
Break

7:30pm
Night at the Movies:
(WASHINGTON ROOM)
Documentary film: *All God's Children* is both a disturbing reminder that the Christian community is not immune to abuse and also a deeply moving case study on the complex dynamics of healing from spiritual, emotional, sexual and physical wounds. The redemptive possibilities that emerge when survivors find the courage to tell the truth and support each other in the process of healing are powerfully illustrated.

Through the eyes of three families, *All God's Children* tells the personal story of the first boarding school for children of missionaries to be investigated for abuse at the hands of the parents' missionary colleagues. The survivors and parents share their journey of seeking justice, redemption and healing.

8:45pm
Presentation and discussion by producers and survivors portrayed in film.

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**Sunday, August 9**

7:30am
Walk in Washington DC
(Meet in Hotel lobby)
For early risers, this is a chance to exercise and see the sites of our nation’s capital

7:30am
Meeting, “Friends of Bill W”
(ARLINGTON)

8:30am
Morning Announcement
(REGENCY CD CTR)

9:00am
“Surviving and escaping: How Cults thrive and exploit the vulnerable” with Juliana Buhring, Glenn Favreau, and William Goldberg
(REGENCY CD CTR)
This panel will discuss the cultic environment, which is conducive to exploitation and abuse, including sexual abuse. Some of the questions that the panel will consider include the following: How do cults recruit their victims? What is the process that would induce individuals to surrender their minds and decision-making capabilities to depraved, self-serving cult leaders? How does someone who was born and raised in a cult maintain his or her integrity and sense of self worth? How are some people able to leave cults? How do they get their lives together after they leave?

The panel will include a psychotherapist who will provide an overview of cults in American society today, and two individuals who escaped from cults and who will describe their experiences and insights. The panel will also explore possible ways that our society can help individuals who are trapped in exploitive and abusive situations.

10:30
Awards Ceremony

11:00am
“Moving Forward: Making a Difference” with Jeffrey Dion
(REGENCY CD CTR)
Jeff Dion will suggest ideas and assist participants in making a plan for action. With all the information and inspiration we've received this weekend, we need to plan how to ensure the enthusiasm we feel now does not get lost. Dion started fighting for victims’ rights at age 14 after his older sister was murdered by a serial killer. Dion, who was also a victim of child sexual abuse, turned his pain, grief and outrage into action which resulted in 13 victims’ rights bills being enacted into law. He established the National Crime Victim Bar Association and has trained over 2,000 attorneys on the special needs of survivors as well as thousands of victims including many who survived Sept 11th. Participants will leave with a plan of action for themselves.

11:45am
Send off