

Journal of Adolescent Health and Welfare

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*Incorporating the Newsletter of the International Regional
Chapter of the Society for Adolescent Medicine*



Letter from the editor -

Dear Colleagues,

This is the last edition before the 1998 conference so make sure you are signed up - we would not want you to miss it!

In this edition we include the presentations from the March 1998 SAM (Society for Adolescent Medicine) International Chapter meeting held in Atlanta on exploitation of Youth. We also have news of the Youth Support Website which I hope you will all visit and note that we can now be reached by E mail at anyone@youthsupport.demon.co.uk.

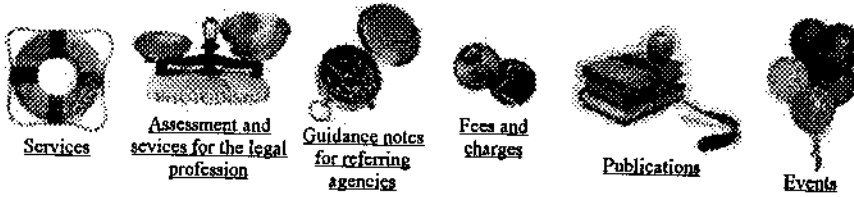
May I remind you that the 1996 conference presentations are published separately as a book of 'proceedings' - they are selling very well and made up quite a nice textbook of adolescence - so please write in and ask for a copy - price a very reasonable £5.

Diana Birch
Director Youth Support

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Visit our new Website at
<http://www.youthsupport.demon.co.uk>



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What is Youth Support?
Philosophy
History of Youth Support

What is Youth Support?

'Youth Support' is an independant charity set up in 1986 to provide a focus for work with young people who were often ignored by the statutory authorities. We provide services for youth, training for professionals in the field, have a series of publications and International links.

(For further information - please see History of Youth Support.)

Developing out of our work with youth and children, Youth Support now also work extensively with families including those with older parents - the family provides the 'stage' upon which emotional development takes place and sets the scene for future difficulties, personality problems, and patterns of low self worth, self harm and abuse. By working with families we hope to break cycles of dysfunctional patterns and enable children to grow into happy effective adults and future parents themselves. (See Philosophy)

Much of the work at our residential unit involves child protection issues - diagnostic, preventive and therapeutic/treatment.

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* CONFERENCE ROUND UP *

Personal views of those attending recent conferences -

The Question of Abortion - 19th May 1998 - A seminar held at St Barnabas Church Beckenham - Chaired by Dr James Pitt-Payne; with Speakers - Professor James Drife - Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology University of Leeds; Paul Tully National Information Officer SPUC - The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children and Dr Diana Birch - Director Youth Support.

A meeting on the subject of abortion is predictably going to raise strong feelings in participants and audience and this was no exception. Professor Drife put forward a balanced personal view of abortion practices and his own involvement in providing a service in Leeds. It was acknowledged that this is no easy subject to tackle from a medical or 'human' point of view and that neither patients nor doctors performing abortions take the decision lightly or remain emotionally unscathed by the procedures.

Paul Tully took the opposite stance and was firmly anti abortion taking the usual SPUC prejudiced viewpoint and predictably bringing out strongly emotive, judgemental and condemning stance towards abortion patients and professionals alike - talking of 'murdered babies' and 'sinners'. It is difficult to relate any of his speech or discuss the content without becoming angry and subjective myself. To try to get away from these usual lines of argument Dr Diana Birch took the line of looking at the motivation behind the abortion debate and what abortion means to the individual undergoing the procedure and to those involved in discussing, condemning or legislating on the subject (text of this presentation overleaf).



* *YS - Substance Abuse / Alcohol Programme* *

We are a residential unit providing care, assessment and treatment in a **therapeutic community** setting. The unit operates on a philosophy of **complete abstinence** from alcohol, drugs and mood altering substances and residents and family members are expected to comply with this policy during their stay. In accordance with this policy and to aid patients in maintaining abstinence we do monitor residents activities, agree on periods when residents will not for example be allowed out unaccompanied and regularly monitor items which may have been brought into the unit. We also may agree a regime of drug testing with a particular patient.

Family Work -

Placement at YSH provides an opportunity for the troubled parent to receive treatment for their addictive behaviour whilst at the same time being able to continue caring for their child under the supervision of staff. Observation and assessment of parenting can take place without the trauma and damage to attachment and developing bonds which would occur for example if the parent attended a drug rehabilitation unit whilst the child was fostered or cared for elsewhere. We also encourage family placements which again enhance bonding and cohesion within the family unit while also allowing the partner to receive treatment in parallel to the substance abuse programme followed by his or her spouse. Substance abuse and addictive behaviour causes a great deal of stress, unhappiness and disturbance within a family and within a relationship even if other family members are not themselves 'users'. It is important for family members to be involved in the treatment programme, to understand what their partners or parents are going through and to develop some insight into how they themselves have been affected by the addiction. Relationships often become highly 'dependant' and mutually harmful. **Family therapy** and **couples work** help us to address these issues.



The Question of Abortion

Dr Diana Birch - Youth Support

Is it a MORAL RELIGIOUS ETHICAL
MEDICAL LEGAL EXISTENTIAL
PRACTICAL ECONOMIC
SOCIO CULTURAL or RACIAL (eugenic) issue?

We have heard arguments along each of these lines numerous times. There are arguments re - **foetal / maternal** conflict; foetal rights - and there have even been published papers raising the subject of foetal confidentiality - whether the foetus has a right to confidentiality in respect of blood test results performed in utero which perhaps the parents should not know about - *in my mind this represents the height of the ridiculous!*

Are people legally or morally '**entitled**' to abortion or to choice. Do people '**own**' their own bodies and therefore do they have the right to do what they want to their bodies - (parallel scenarios exist in relation to drugs self harm etc)

So is the foetus **part of your own body** and if not when does it stop being part of mother and become a new being - introducing the concept of **self** or '**personhood.**' In considering the question of abortion and the ethics involved there are also '**Fudging**' issues such as timing - 1st trimester (the earlier the more OK it seems) reasons - OK? Rape maternal illness
not so OK? Girls age
not OK single financial limit number children

Service issues - include access to services and availability - the **control of** access to services can be a subtle way of effecting an imposition of others ideas by limitation of access. There are always conflicts between the issues of conscientious objectors versus the concept of duty to provide best possible care.

One could tackle the question of abortion from an **academic** viewpoint or from **moralistic** preaching of my personal views. One could also become tied up in statistics and papers - opinions and figures. This is a fertile ground for dogma and people taking a '**stance**' a pose which can nearly always be backed up by production of some statistics and rates - But how does this relate to **PEOPLE** to **REAL PEOPLE** - what we would call case histories, although the term itself belies their individual nature as feeling, hurting people.

When I was a medical student I spent time at Coppetts Wood infectious diseases hospital where we had a whole ward devoted to the treatment of septic abortion with it's own separate operating theatre - a whole ward full of dying women with greenish grey faces, all on antibiotic drips. This was pre 1967 abortion act - they had illegal abortions. Later when I went back there as a young doctor in 1970 - after the abortion act - the ward was closed. SPUC talks of deaths and murder - but how about the deaths of those suffering women?

Looking at **Young People** - Decisions are hard, it can be agonising to choose abortion but sometimes it is the right choice. But who makes the decisions? Sometimes there are conflicts within the family or with a boyfriend and it can be equally disastrous for a young girl to have an abortion against her own will or to be denied one because of other's views and feelings. **Timing** is also an important factor. Girls conceal or deny pregnancy through fear of the consequences or to protect their boyfriends with the result that often those whose need for termination is greatest are denied or are too late for an abortion or have the most dangerous (later) procedures. Decision making is complex and depends on the emotional and psychological development of the girl - an example of two sisters illustrates this. Carol and Susan became pregnant in similar circumstances but Carol had dropped out of school and had no prospects for a bright future - she became a schoolgirl mother at 15. Susan had done well in exams, was the bright hope of the family - they had invested a lot in her future and she was promised a good career - a baby at 15 was not in anyone's plans and so she bravely waited until her 16th birthday and then came for abortion counselling. Her decision was not easy but it was the right one for her - she was looking at her future - but in order to do so you need to have a sense of future which some young people have not yet acquired, and you also need a future worth investing in.

What is the **Motivation** behind the abortion question? Most if not all of factors involved in the decision making process surrounding the abortion debate have in fact nothing to do with the foetus or developing child. Arguments purporting to consider the welfare of the foetus are in effect merely used emotively as **justification** of a position and as a **displacement** of true feelings and motivations.

If in fact one truly cared about the foetus - would one not look at the **quality of life** for the child of an **unwanted** pregnancy - apart from the obvious cases of children with a congenital defect - apparently 'normal' children born of an unwanted pregnancy have been reported to suffer from a catalogue of difficulties such as ill health and are more likely to suffer non accidental injury.

For example a girl who kept her baby 'for her boyfriend' watched as he held the four week child under a hot tap causing severe scalds. Having babies is not all happiness and fun .. Dora was depressed throughout pregnancy, hinted she would like an abortion but could not bring herself to discuss it - her baby was the result of incest with her father. Another girl was forced by her pastor to keep her child conceived through sexual abuse by a neighbour. SPUC talks of 'violence against the innocent' is this not violence against the innocent? These girls are further abused by being forced to carry their babies to term and give birth to unwanted children.

Unwanted children are also more likely to suffer increased socio-economic difficulty; have less Education and less stable marriages (parents and child) - they are subject to rejection and many end up in the care system.

Our answers to the abortion question are dependant on how we perceive the child? **What do we attribute to the foetus?** Invest in the foetus. This is based on our own 'inner world' - Looking at the concept of inner child, inner adult and inner parent -

P moral, prejudices

A practical, knowledge facts

C emotional - primitive magical

a young abused rejected girl will identify with and see the foetus as an internal object ... inner self .. inner child. Such over-identification will result in a feeling of - if I was rejected - how can I now reject 'myself' the foetus is seen as part of herself - she cannot therefore make a decision to terminate her pregnancy even if logically this is the best course of action for her.

For all of us to an extent, there is a similar mechanism - the developing foetus is felt as part of ourselves - leading to the male feeling of rejection (of sperm .. bible seed) .. get rid of my baby .. get rid of me. This feeling can extend to the third party - for example professional or anti abortion campaigner who may be identifying with the rejection and thus bringing their own personal agenda into the argument. They are arguing for themselves - not for the 'foetus'.

Symbolism - what does the child stand for - part of me - inner child or part of him ... bit he left behind leading to feelings like - 'at least I'll have something when he's gone' the foetus becomes 'something to keep hold of' and 'maybe he won't leave me now'.

When others become emotional about abortion they are bringing their own inner feelings and concepts into the equation rather than seeking true answers to the question of abortion. These feelings also encompass anger punishment and retribution with a need to control - as in the mother who insisted her daughter carry her baby to term because she herself was forced to do the same as a teenager 'your bed, lie on it!'. Jealousy and vindictiveness can surface when those who want a child are faced with what they see as 'someone getting rid of' a baby - thus verbal attacks on girls in gynaecology wards by women having infertility treatment.

So we have a situation where others attempt to control and impose their own standards, 'morals' and feelings on others - instead of exercising compassion and looking at each individual remembering that 'there but for grace of God go I'.

* * * * *

NEWS - NEWS ITEM - Study: Gay, bisexual teens more at risk

CHICAGO (Reuters) - Homosexual and bisexual high school students are more likely to engage in risky sexual and drug-related activity than their heterosexual peers, according to a study published Monday. They also are more likely to have attempted suicide and four times more likely than their peers to have been threatened with a weapon at school, according to the report by Harvard Medical School, the

Massachusetts Department of Education and Wake Forest University.

The findings were based on a review of a 1995 government survey of more than 4,000 youngsters in the ninth through 12th grades, of whom 104 males and females said they were homosexual or bisexual. The authors said their findings were consistent with earlier reports on the hazards facing non-heterosexual youth.

"Previous studies support the notion that many gay, lesbian and bisexual youth engage in an array of individual behaviours that increase their risks for a number of negative health outcomes, including suicide, depression, physical and verbal victimisation, substance abuse and HIV," the study said. "It has been estimated that that gay and lesbian youth are two to three times more likely to attempt suicide ... and may account for 30 percent of suicides among youth annually," it added. The authors said the new study presented a more complete picture of the problem because it involved an anonymous, but representative, school-based population sample, rather than centring on particular groups such as runaways, youths responding to survey ads in gay newspapers or young people who are being treated for sexually transmitted disease.

The study said teens who used cocaine, alcohol or marijuana or who had their first sexual experiences before age 13 were more likely to be homosexual or bisexual. The number of sexual partners - a risk factor for AIDS and other diseases -- also was higher among homosexuals and bisexuals, the report said. The same group was more than three times as likely to have attempted suicide, said the study published in the current issue of Paediatrics, which is the journal of the American Academy of Paediatrics.



- International Chapter News -

News of the International Regional Chapter (IRC) of SAM
(Society for Adolescent Medicine)

Co Chairs - Diana Birch	Gustavo Girard	Treasurer Aric Schichor
London	Buenos Aires	Connecticut
England	Argentina	USA

Our Chapter Institute at the 1998 SAM meeting (Society for Adolescent Medicine) Atlanta - March 4th 1998 was on the subject of exploitation of youth - the transcript of the session may be found overleaf.

Any contributors for IRC 1999 at LA SAM?

SAM 1999 - IRC Institute

“When is a family dysfunctional? - A cross cultural view.”

The family provides the ‘stage’ upon which emotional development takes place and sets the scene for future difficulties, personality problems, and patterns of low self worth, self harm and abuse. Our concept of ‘family’ has changed from the classical view of the nuclear family to a variety of models including extended family, single parent, adolescent parent - there is no single concept of ‘family’. On a more cosmopolitan level - family structure varies cross culturally and we should perhaps also consider bands of street kids and runaways as developing their own ‘family’ groups.

What family structures work for the individual and why? What is a dysfunctional family? How can we and when should we intervene? By working with families we hope to break cycles of dysfunctional patterns and enable children to grow into happy effective adults and future parents themselves. This institute will explore the above issues on a cross cultural basis and attempt to draw common lessons from our joint experiences.



'Exploitation of Youth - An International Perspective'

Our Youth are our resource for the future - but are we exploiting that resource? Across the world employers know that youth are a source of low waged labour, from teens working in fast food outlets to primary school children whose tiny hands can knot high quality carpets. They often work in dangerous and abusive conditions. Adolescent sexuality provides another rich area for exploitation - sexual tourism is on the increase and young prostitutes of both sexes are a prime attraction. Presentations will look at types of exploitation in differing cultures from the USA to the Far East and raise the question of where lie our responsibilities and our role in prevention?

**SAM International Regional Chapter
Institute Wednesday 4th March 1998 - Atlanta Georgia**

The Exploitation of Youth

Exploitation of Youth - An overview and Introduction -

Diana Birch - Youth Support London England.

The Exploitation of youth - how do we define exploitation? In the extreme case, such as in a child or youth being used in pornography, the definition is clear but there remain areas where the dividing line between 'expectation' of youth and exploitation is hazy and the 'goal posts' tend to move depending on the perspective of the observer.

Examples abound in family life - parents differ in their expectations of their children and especially of their adolescent children. What one family considers to be a reasonable degree of involvement in housework, child care or contribution to the upkeep of the family home may by others be considered abusive or bordering on slave labour - certainly that is how many young teens see housework and family chores. We could use a commonly applied definition of abuse to help us here in that an abusive situation may interfere with the well-being of the young person physically,

emotionally or developmentally but we do need to take note of cultural norms. Does being sent out to work hinder the normal development? Yes - if it stops you taking part in education - perhaps not so much if good educational opportunities do not exist. Being made to stay at home to look after younger siblings is an exploitation which deprives youth of school attendance but when the family is poor and mother has to work to put food on the table - which is the lesser evil?

Motivation can also merge with exploitation - if parents push their child to succeed academically and the parents aims and aspirations do not match those of the young person then even a drive for success can be exploitative. This is perhaps particularly noticeable in sport where the child or teenager can be 'doing it for mum or dad'. There is commonly parental over investment in the activity and it's results so that the parent is achieving their own ends in

the process. There may be a symbiotic attachment , a merging between parent and offspring so that the youth is seen as an extension of the parent's 'self' and they fail to see their son or daughter as an individual with his or her own goals. Such intense 'driving' of young people to succeed and compete can lead to a sense of failure - never quite good enough - low self worth and burn out.

Similar processes are seen wherever there is an opportunity for adults to take vicarious pleasure from the activities of children or youth - parents, teachers, coaches can all become involved there are numerous examples in fashion - young models, the media, beauty pageants , dance competitions Any aspect of life where adults might want youth to do what they could not - they succeed by proxy.

Attributes of youth -

Exploitation exists on any levels of society - it is useful to consider what are the attributes of youth and thus how are these attributes used by others? Youth, vitality, a need for independence can be exploited in the labour market. Youth have been traditionally a source of cheap labour, perhaps menial and unskilled, often illegal labour and thus labour which may include an element of danger and lack of attention to health and safety and labour laws and rights. The use of child labour in British mines was the issue which finally provoked the establishment of child protection legislation -

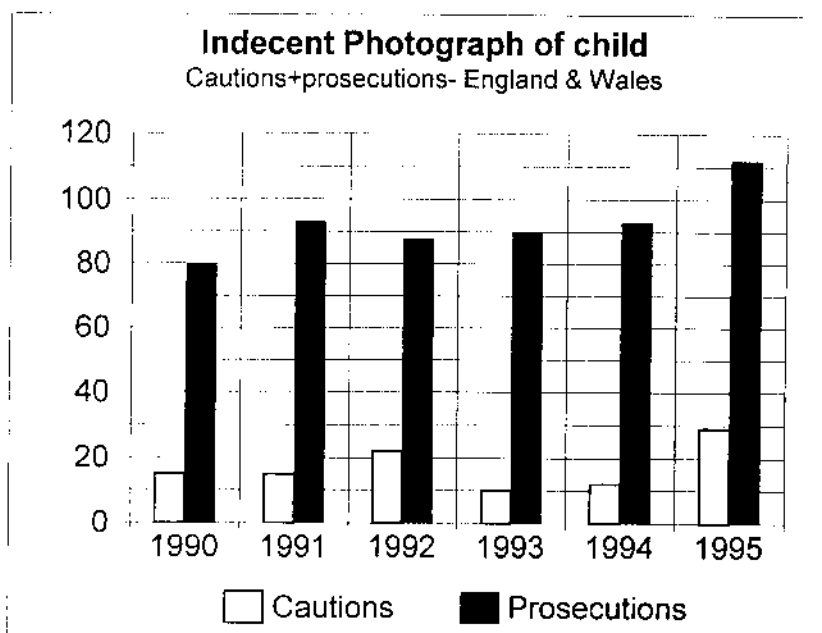
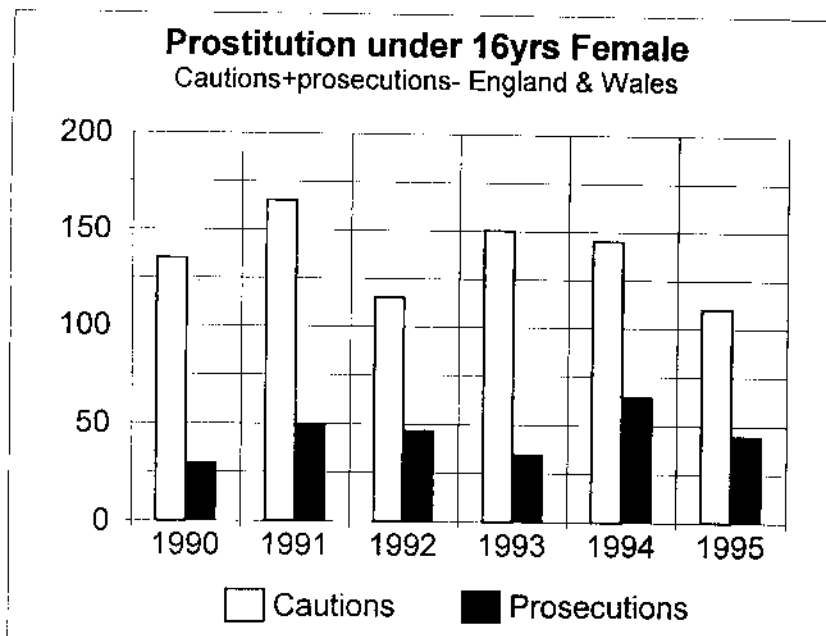
although the animal protection laws were passed first!

Young people have commercial attributes - they have money to spend , they are a buying power to reckon with - hence exploited in the market place. 'Must have ... trainers, clothes, make up etc..

Youth are also sexually 'alive' vital and perhaps seductive, they are aware of their body image and want to look good. They are thus ripe for exploitation in advertising and by advertising. Sexual exploitation may be overt or covert and cover a wide range of activities such as titillating magazine pictures, to a range of pornography, paedophile activities, juvenile prostitution and sexual tourism.

Sexual Exploitation - Looking more closely at the subject of sexual exploitation - we are hampered by lack of accurate reporting, insufficient data, manipulation and 'doctoring' of data when presented by different bodies and a vast difference in quality and quantity of case material derived from different sources.

In Britain the police statistics, produced by the Home Office show us only the tip of the iceberg since statistics are divided into 'cautions' - when police warn a suspect not to re-offend but do not prosecute - and prosecutions, where the case is taken to court. Statistics would seem to indicate that certain offences are more likely to be dealt with by a caution (young girls soliciting) and others by prosecution (e.g. indecent photograph of child). {see graphs}



The categorisation of crimes is often misleading and we also have conflicts over the nature of the offence - for example an abused and exploited girl who is forced into prostitution by an older 'pimp' is technically an 'offender' whereas at the same time she is also a 'victim' - there is confusion between victim and perpetrator. The overall numbers reported via police prosecutions belie the practical experience of anyone working in the field who can be immediately

certain that the true figures are much, much higher.

The association - AAA Accuracy about Abuse publish a regular newsletter which catalogues all media reports and items from a variety of sources piecing together information about paedophilia and related matters - (it can be reached via e mail on morr@aaastar.demon.co.uk) Many of the case reports below are included in their data sheets.

Justification-Sexual Exploitation of youth is a rich field for 'justification' of the practices involved. Some examples include -

- Pictures - are photographs of children in naked or sexual poses art or pornography?
- A recent case in South Africa - the Ron Oliver case - highlighted some of the controversies and resulted in court action.
- 'Research' - Sexual responses of children have been misrepresented and there is abundant controversy regarding the 'Kinsey' findings which had hitherto been regarded as standards since the revelation that one of the workers 'testing' youth was in fact a paedophile.
- 'Harmless' - Paedophiles have argued that sex with children is harmless and that children like it - that it is an initiation and thus desirable. Many controversies exist and there have been examples including an Edinburgh lecturer who was dismissed from his post after publicising such views and including material on the internet.
- Statistics - - Criminologists and Academics - Have stated that society over reacts to nudity and there has been no new pornography in recent years - Such criminologists include a gentleman who turns out to be on the board of the British False Memory Association and is the author of a book 'Somasochism' which states among other things that sadomasochistic sexual practices including bondage, whipping, humiliation, ice, hot wax, burns, branding are neither violent nor dangerous. Other 'academics' who have been involved have been discovered

to be members of the Paedophile group 'Paedika'.

- Prevention - the seriously flawed argument here is that pornography may be used in prevention in that offenders viewing pornographic material and fantasising about their practices will be able to 'split' fantasy from behaviour and thus not re-offend. In practice most professionals would agree that the opposite is true and that viewing pornographic material incites offending behaviour.
- 'Treatment' - a related argument based on the same principles as prevention - that pornographic material can be used for treatment of offenders.
- Education - pornographic material has been suggested as useful for educating students in California. Educated in what one wonders?

Reports - International basis -

Reports of sexual exploitation and paedophilia have come from a variety of sources - these following provide a few examples of the range of problems but also naturally only relate to those exposed by the police - it begs our imagination to think what else lies uncovered.

- In the UK one of the worst cases was probably the Clwyd inquiry into children's homes in Wales in 1996 when 14 inquiries led to widespread revelations of abuse including the involvement of children's workers.
- In Spain in August 97 there were reports of 85 victims of sex rings with videos, pictures, computer diskettes seized and the perpetrators included teachers, doctors, politicians. This unearthed a

ten year operation with wider international links.

- France - June 97 thousands of porn videos were seized which depicted among other violations at least seven rapes, twenty nine cases of sexual abuse, two of bestiality and drugs and gang rapes were involved. This resulted in 600 arrests and it was found that there were over 1,000 individuals on the mailing list of the material including 31 teachers 2 priests and 2 directors of children's holiday camps.
- In Poland in November 1996 a paedophile ring was uncovered including 100 foreigners and a government official.
- An Interpol and UNICEF report in Europe found highest rates in Poland with a new focus on paedophile networks. The Netherlands was said to be a clearing house with customers mainly in Germany and France.
- Holland April 97 British paedophiles were found to have killed five in 'snuff' movies and boys were being imported

from London and eastern Europe and sold in England and Holland

- In Ireland in July 97 a paedophile priest was jailed for 12 years.
- USA Dallas July 97 120 million dollars damages was awarded against a Roman Catholic diocese involved in paedophilia and a 'link up' organisation.
- UK in November 96 'father porn' the biggest ever computer pornography operator was exposed.
- Belgium Jan 97 police exposed sex rings involving murders, rape, torture, videos.

This just gives a short outline of the problems we are facing in looking at exploitation of youth - certainly it seems to be a problems which we need to face on an International basis and this institute would seem to be a suitable venue for collaboration and sharing of ideas and experiences. Hopefully we will be able to begin to formulate some recommendations for future work and possibly intervention.



The Problems in Latin America - Exploitation of Youth

Gustavo Girard - Argentina

After investigating the databases of South America as well as some international ones too, I found, like Diana Birch, that the statistics were under-reported and not really true. I have also noticed that Argentines don't talk about child abuse - not even paediatricians. Most people say that is not a problem. Should we look at why society allows this? Is it new? I would like to talk about my experiences rather than give a talk from the books and research. I have tried to think about problems, and in this talk I am giving a personal opinion - not a scientific view.

Exploitation is submission, not just to violence - but submission to someone stronger (in mind or body) than another. (like Cain and Abel from Genesis)

Adolescents have been the same for centuries - a misquote from 500BC says that 'Young people speak roughly, insult, have no manners etc'. What has changed

is not the adolescents, but adolescence. Pre war (2nd WW) an adult male was equated with glasses, age, money, knowledge and a big belly. The idea was to save for the future, study for the future and make money for the future. Industrialisation for the future.

Nowadays in post industrial era - most important thing is 'today is the future'. The present is paramount, everything is recyclable. Adolescence is no longer a transition - everyone wants to be a adolescent. People desire youthfulness not age. Models are getting younger and younger and are now just 16 yrs old, or younger rather than adults, what we see constantly in the media is adolescence. Children want to be adolescents not adults. Everyone tries to wear adolescent clothes rather than the clothes of their age - from babies to adults. Religion and spirituality are changing - people are seeking new religions.



A Current View of Exploited Youth.

Victims of exploitation either
or React to the system (An active or passive reaction)
 Accept the system.

Presentation - Under-nourishment
Poverty (misery)
Victims of violence
Street Youth
sexual abuse and prostitution
illiteracy
family problems

Reaction Violent - illegal - murder
abusers
exploiting others
survival sex
becoming fundamentalistic
rescuers of society

Passive Suicide
depressive
killed
Adolescent mothers
Drug abuse and addicts
STD & AIDS
allowing abuse

In Latin America there is now a 'new poor'. They have the basics but think they have failed in their lives. They have accommodation (don't live on the streets), they have education, they are not street youth. But these are the adolescents who are becoming prostitutes. We have a Having said all of this however, something is now changing. Volunteers are trying help the youth. They are not looking to change the world, but are trying to help youth recognise the need to change, the need for self esteem, healthy lifestyles, cultural development. Health teams must be resilient, they

new problem..... Human Rights can be looked at as encompassing the concepts of Civic rights - 18th Century (effect you when born); Political rights - 19th Century (effect you when you become an adolescent); Social rights - 20th Century?(does anyone have these?)

believe in adolescents. Need to works in a positive way to prevention if we are to help them. Youth exploitation = social exploitation. It is not just youth it is everyone. It is clear that we can do some good, but we shall need more help from other areas.

Sexual exploitation of Youth in Japan.

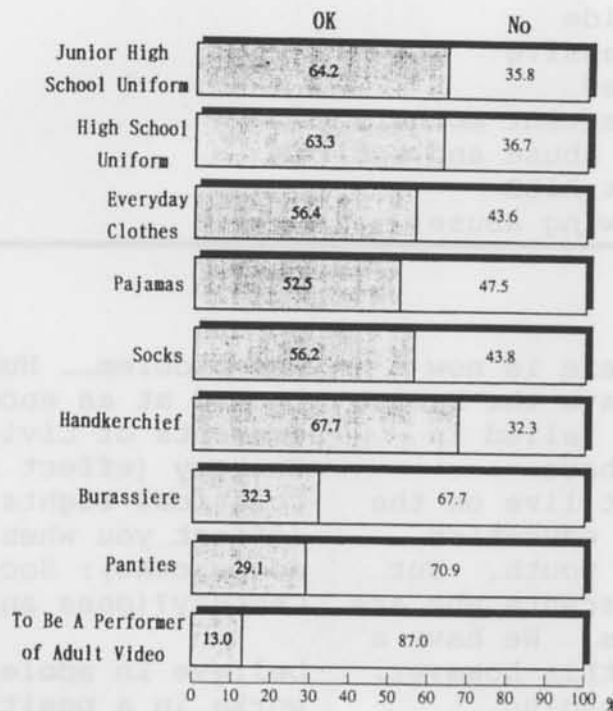
Yuko Matsuhashi - Hiroshima University - Tokyo

Minors under the age of 18 should be protected by the government. Only recently has a law doing this has been created. However there is still much exploitation particularly of young girls. Many magazines contain photographs of young girls in provocative poses. Not only the men's magazines, but also young girl's magazines giving the impression that it is OK to look like they do.

Another problem with exploitation of youth is the sale of girls school uniforms which sell in shops for maniacs (Men with fetishes). Girls are aware they can make money from their clothes and a percentage will sell their clothes including their underwear. The uniforms generally consist of mini-skirts, white socks, sailor suit blouses and so on.

Will you sell your belongings at the shop for maniacs ?

(Asked 785 ordinary high school girls and 38% of them (300) replied. 11/30-12/17/93)



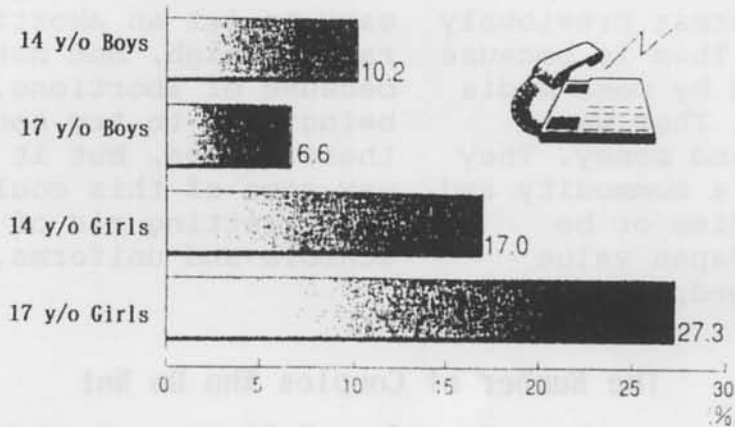
A third area of exploitation is through telephone clubs and contacting girls via their beepers and pagers. This is an area which is expanding rapidly in Japan now but the government won't admit it is a form of rape, saying rape has to be violent. Men pay to sit in a small room

and wait a call from a school girl who will talk to them. They can then, if they want, arrange a liaison. Young girls have beepers and pagers in their pockets and they vibrate during classes. The girls can then call the man back. This is also exciting for the girl -having the pager or beeper

vibrating in their pockets during class). It is noticeable that the percentage of young girls with mobile phones is lower than in the US while the reverse is true for beepers. Looking at motivation 70% of young girls called a

telephone club because they are curious; 55% of young girls call telephone club because they are bored; and 42% of 14 year olds say they do it to tease the man on the phone.

The Experience of Calling Up Telephone Club



2196 Students were surveyed

Management & Coordination Agency, 1995

The young girls are not aware of the morals. In 1995 23% thought that it was OK to talk about sex and 60% thought it was a problem but if she wanted to it was OK. Also in 1995 11% said that

prostitution was OK. In 1997 44% said that their friends had suggested they call the telephone club. It is becoming clear that girls are doing things because their friends say they should.

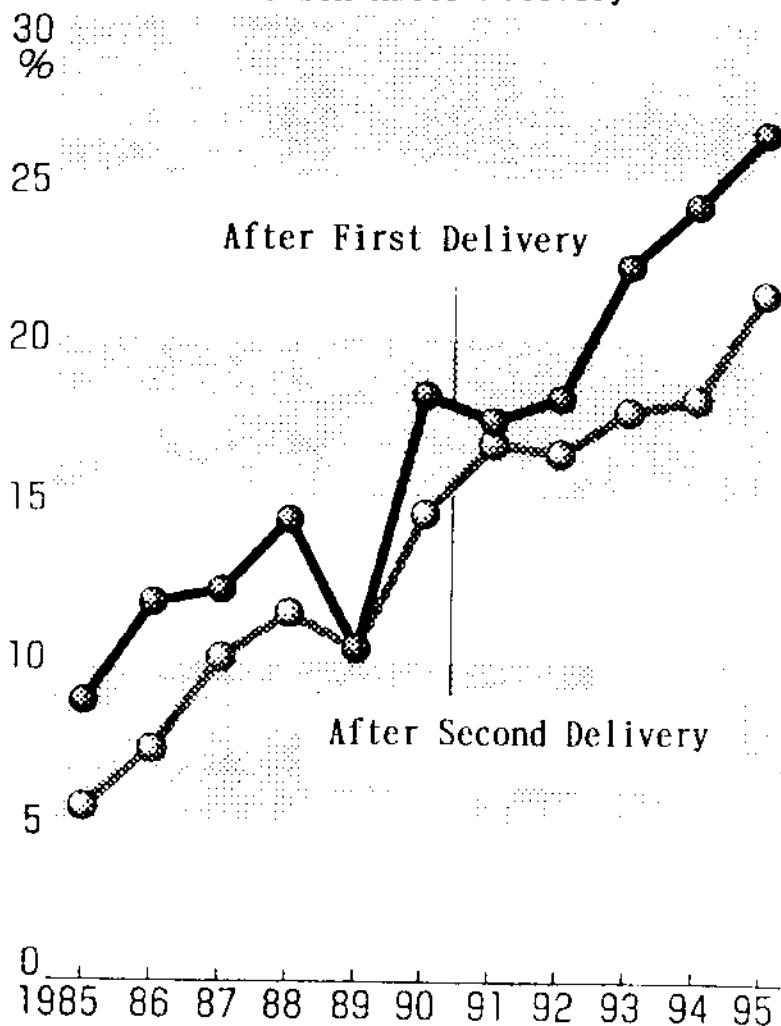
The System of Telephone Club & Two Shot



Prostitutes who were under age are usually higher middle class and appear to their parents and teachers as good, working hard and being obedient at home. Those who have sex with school girls or use telephone clubs are high socials teachers, police, officials etc. In 1996 the main motivation for young girls to use the telephone clubs is money whereas previously it was curiosity. This is because girls are affected by mass media and commercialism. They want designer clothes and money. They see themselves as a commodity and can sell their bodies or be photographed. In Japan value systems have changed, father

figures are often out; parents are one of the problems (not having sex after children and don't show love for each other); Students are stressed; Women are discriminated against in work etc; students don't have proper sex education; women sell themselves to make money. The abortion rate is high it is very easy to get an abortion. Pregnancy rate is high, but not recorded because of abortions. Work is being done to try and combat all these issues, but it is slow. One way some of this could be stopped is by getting rid of single-sex schools and uniforms.

The Number of Couples Who Do Not Have Sex After Delivery



The Exploitation of Youth in California

Richard Brown - San Francisco

The Exploitation of Youth in California with particular reference to homeless youth. This is a complex story which is hard to explain there are many sub groups, districts, class etc..... and the terminology is new.

Epidemiology of Homeless Youth

3000-5000 youth between the age of 12-24 are followed in outreach programs in San Francisco

60% get into center-based programs

1000 under 18 years of age

1000 over 18 years of age.

Of those receiving case management- 71% get "off the streets"

There is district variation in the population and problems

The two major districts are The Tenderloin (Polk Street)

and The Haight-Ashbury District

Younger youth in the Haight-Ashbury

Tenderloin Program serves about 1000 youth per year

Diamond Youth Center serves 1000 youth per year.

Center based programs, half under 18 years and half over 18.

Glossary of Terms for serving homeless youth

Outreach- Programs to make contact and initiate education and potential services on the streets and in the community
ie. The night outreach program

Center-based services- Programs that bring youth into the various service centers for medical care, concrete support and for drop-in care.

Case Management- Programs which result in a service provider who has an ongoing relationship with the youth and who supports and offers a variety of services in an ongoing and coordinated manner, utilizing a variety of community resources

Wrap-around services- A comprehensive program which brings together community services to give a continuum of care and support for the young person
(Wrap-around services including work, housing, counseling, medical care, school, etc.)

Transitional Care

For homeless youth, these includes places and services which bring the youth off the streets and into a program for personal development

Triple Diagnosis

This refers to youth with problems with substance abuse mental health problems and HIV.

Larkin street youth programme sees

- 1,000 in 12 - 18 year age
- 1,000 in 18 - 24 year age
- 3,000 - 5,000 homeless youth in the programme

One of the problems which we face is the mobility of homeless kids. The adolescents which we deal with move about the West coast - and don't stay long in one area. Thus it is hard to work through their issues with them. Our programmes see 40% of younger youth come from other states, 60% from California and 12% only from San Francisco.

Programme services for these youth may be outreach -specially night outreach programme; centre based services; or care management services. The term is no longer 'high risk youth' it is 'youth in high risk situations'.

Night outreach staff travel around the area of Polk Street, giving out condoms, toothbrushes etc. We also try to make relationships with the people on streets. Getting them to trust people etc.

Centre based services include a drop-in centre. People can come in and use the medical centre. There are also psychological services for the kids and placements are made there for the shelter at Diamond Street. Case Management - an ongoing provider and relationship.

Exploiters can be every kind of person!. There is a need to break down of the barriers that exist in society - to combine and work together - hospitals, housing, employment etc. Street Drugs - Speed is highest in the Tenderloin district; Heroin, alcohol and Pot are highest in the Haight-Ashbury area. HIV sero-prevalence of homeless Youth aged 12-17yrs less than 1%; aged 13-19yrs 2-4%; aged 20-24 years 10-20%.

We have found a massive denial of sexual abuse. It is clear that we have to ask the questions. We also have to be assertive to bring out their fears and problems. We need to be diligent. It is clear that it covers the entire spectrum of socio-economics, there are no longer any specific groups which we can target.



Adolescent Prostitution in Taiwan

Meng Chi Lee - Taiwan

In a rapidly changing society, adolescent prostitution has been one of the matters of great concern in Taiwan in the past decade. It is estimated that in 1993, there were about ten thousand adolescent women aged 13 to 17 years engaging in prostitution, a prevalence of 0.5%. This estimation was based on the fact that about 700 adolescent prostitutes were caught by the police in the same year. Among those 40% were aborigines and 50% were voluntary prostitutes.

Epidemiological studies found that factors related to

adolescent prostitution include poor family economic status (especially in aborigines) run-away, being raped and drug abuse. Fortunately the 'child and teenager prostitution prevention act' has been implemented since August 1995 and a number of midway homes and rescue hotlines have been established to host and protect adolescent prostitutes. Adolescent health care providers are now working in schools, midway homes, community mental health centre and adolescent health clinic at varied settings attempting to intervene in the exploitation of youth.

Summary of discussion points and General Conclusions:-

Diana Birch

We have had a very interesting institute and quite some time for discussion so I think it is now time for us to pull together perhaps some of the threads that have run through some of the presentations. We started off by looking at how exploitation can occur on a number of different levels. How it can be financial, sexual, etc. And I think one of the issues which has come across is how exploitation of any kind, including the more extreme forms such as paedophilia and pornography can occur in any level of society. When we talk about any level, it is any level for the perpetrators and any level for the victims. As we said, sometimes the difficulty in sorting this out is that the victim can be seen as the one at fault or the one indulging in a crime, being involved in a crime,

such as young prostitutes, or the perpetrator can be the one who is subject to the criminal system. So it does make it very difficult to sort out.

Another thing that has come through loud and clear is the danger involved. In looking at exploitation, and looking particularly at sexual exploitation, this is not only danger for the young people who are indulging in it, but also it would appear, danger for the professionals like ourselves who are involved, because it occurs on all levels of society. We can have perpetrators, paedophiles etc who are involved, not only in support services for young people, and are therefore trying to pick up young people that way, in children's homes, schools, church, and even as donors to

safe houses, free clinics etc, and when we come, as professionals to expose these people we can actually expose ourselves to danger on a number of levels, including of course physical threats. Because what we are doing in effect, is that we are not only exposing someone's activities which might well be illegal or immoral, we are depriving them perhaps of livelihood and a lot of money. Young prostitutes earn money for their pimps, prostitution is a major industry, as is child pornography. And behind the issue of money and finance is the issue of power.

It is a power game when young people are exploited, and they can be exploited, by financial means as we have looked at but also politically. Not only do young people have a vote and therefore this is a political issue, but also politics and covert politics come in on the level of paedophilia and pornography - with even government agents in various countries controlling paedophile rings. And when you have local politics involved, this then increases the danger and the power as we have been saying.

We have been a small group this afternoon, but this has been a very intense matter that we have been discussing, and I think that we have actually got a lot out of it. We have discussed how we have all been on a bit of a rollercoaster this afternoon, with feelings running in a positive direction, feeling we are all together discussing this, that we are actually getting something out of this, and may be we can make some changes. Then, have fallen down into the depths (of despair almost) when we see

how big the problem is, how wide-reaching, how multi-disciplinary, across all sorts of structures of society, and we feel like pawns in the game, quite helpless and powerless.

To come to this group has needed some sort of courage from us all, in that we have managed to tackle these very difficult subjects, and it has been a very hard afternoon, and it is quite revealing, that although last year a number of people asked for this session, actually only a small number have been able to come in and discuss this issue out in the open. We have seen time after time in the papers we have been looking at and items that we have been discussing, how so much of these issues are covert. I think that sometimes as professionals we can collude with the covert nature because we don't really want to face some of the wider issues.

These issues are world wide. We have looked at the mobility of the problem, particularly again when we are looking at the sexual exploitation. Dick Brown was talking about young people who are homeless who are exploited very much by society, who are very mobile, going up and down the west coast from San Diego to Vancouver. Also we need to look at the cross-cultural, cross boundaries movements of paedophiles and their victims. Young people who are taken from London, sold in Holland, were taken from Eastern Europe and sold in the west, etc, and of course the traffic of young people in the far east etc. And the big problem of sexual tourism. How we are exporting perpetrators to different parts of the world, to go and abuse kids elsewhere, and then come

home. So we are moving across boundaries, and that is why it is so important to an international meeting such as this where we can look at these things.

We tried to look at what exploitation means and the definition is, and that was very difficult because of the way it comes in on so many different levels of society, and maybe some of the minor points of exploitation, like children in advertising and seeing pictures of school girls who have still got their underwear on, are smaller matters that maybe in a way collude with the larger exploitation and that if we allow these small covert means of exploitation to continue without challenging them, we are in a way condoning the larger offences and giving the perpetrators excuses to continue with their activities. They say 'Well if that is ok, then this is ok' and you increase step by step to something which is wholly unacceptable and abusive.

Generally speaking what we have said is that by exploiting youth we are removing their rights. We are removing their power.

A more difficult issue arose when we discussed what we might do about the problem. Is this a public health issue? Is it a legal issue? Can we pass laws? But we know that most of the activities we are talking about are already illegal, so that doesn't help - and should you be passing laws that you cannot enforce or don't enforce for what ever reason.

We separated out advocacy from law, in a way, because advocacy was linked to education, and perhaps this was a way forward

for us as well. To educate children from a very young age, from kindergarten etc, in ways of resisting exploitation of making sure that they don't get into things they don't want to, but on the other side, we also have the seductive, addictive dependency aspect of being in this situation, just like an abused child in a children's home or in a family doesn't know anything else and can then become quite seductive, and is also stuck in that level of functioning, that kind of structure.

We needed to look therefore at the social structure as a whole. There were suggestions of working with the family. A lot of these kids don't have families. We need to therefore work with the surrogate family - the children's home, the social workers etc - but those are levels where paedophiles can infiltrate in. So the structure of society is important.

In many cultures as we have seen, where there is a lot of exploitation, one of the things is that the value system has gone, so how do we put that back in? We have heard from Yuko in Japan who has said that value system has gone in Japan, a lot of people are no longer religious, all they look at is materialism. And because of that they are only thinking of how they can earn money and if they can earn money by prostitution or by telephone sex, well why not? If you don't have a value system then these things are not moral or immoral. The same thing happened in Russia where when Perestroyika happened, when communism went and there was no religion there for most of the kids, sleeping with a western businessman and earning more than

your family earn in a month, seems right. So, we looked at how we need to have our own values sorted out, we need to know where we stand so that we can help young people to formulate their own values. Not to place our values on them, but because we are secure our values we can help them to formulate their own. And as long as you do have a value system, then perhaps you can respect yourself, value yourself and not allow others to exploit you.

One of the things which came up was anger towards young people, and that was possibly another reason why some people did not come to this session. But this is a very difficult problem and very difficult to tackle. And when you have a problem that you cannot tackle, you tend to turn on the people who are causing the problems. In other words these young people are so difficult to

help that professionals can be angry with them. 'Why can't you be a good patient with a nice disease which I can cure so that I can feel good as a doctor? You have got all these things wrong with you that I can't do anything about, you are making me feel bad so I'm angry with you'. We need to look at this as well. Anger towards youth, are we being destructive in our role as professionals.

So just to close I need to say that in 1996 we had a conference run by Youth Support in London which we called 'Youth, our resource for the future'. And it is very important to regard youth as a resource rather than a commodity. It is not a commodity that we can use, but a resource that we can value and value together. In so doing we need to encourage youth and not exploit them. And on that note we end our institute.

Proceedings of our conference 1996

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