

Stop Abuse For Everyone News and a Mission That "Makes a Difference"!



From the desk of SAFE's Executive Director: Perspectives from this desk are strictly those of Lee Newman and not necessarily those of SAFE or others within the SAFE organization. These opinions are generally based on experiences not only as a Director of a crisis organization but also experiences during thousands of hours as a direct service provider and Domestic Violence Advocate. *-Lee Newman*

Biased Courts and 'Traditional' Service Providers are Guilty of Allowing Abusers to Continue.

Male victims of Domestic Violence often go to Court for help and then get "battered by the system".

Most often when women are arrested and jailed for domestic violence, and a no contact order or restraining order is issued the Domestic Violence crisis centers will appear in Court to represent the interest of, and offer support to the batterer...simply because she is a woman.

While a male victim can place a call to their local crisis center, most often upon referral by the Police and at best, be offered minimal if any support and often turned away or not taken seriously. Many men later find out that the crisis service that turned them away is now helping his abuser. Often we receive calls from men or their families and friends looking for assistance, most often after having been turned away from other services, or treated with disbelief and disrespect. Often by the time they call us it is after their abuser, most of the time with assistance from the same crisis center that wouldn't help him, files for a restraining order and now, the true victim is about to be battered once again...this time by the system that is supposed to protect ALL of us.

When this occurs, the batterer, simply by virtue of gender is surrounded by a cocoon of support and services, while the true victim, also by virtue of gender...becomes homeless, isolated and even more traumatized.

Even if a woman has been arrested, and he gets a Temporary restraining order, she may still get assistance from her local crisis center. If she needs a place to stay until the hearing...they will offer her shelter in spite of the fact that they are only supposed to shelter victims...but of course if she is a woman she MUST be the victim...right?

Finally, when the man shows up for Court...he sees his batterer with an advocate by her side, often with a lawyer supplied by the crisis center for free and the Court begins to get the "impression" that she is the "real" victim. This is based partially on the Domestic Violence "facts" that the Courts have been fed for years from the "feminist perspective" not from a "humanist" one.

The male victim if he arrives in Court alone feels that things are stacked against him and sometimes turns around and leaves not sure he can handle the lies and accusations against him on top of the abuse he has already suffered. If he arrives with a lawyer he is often advised to "not open the can of worms" relating to the Domestic Violence because it may not go well for him. This is partially because if he can afford a lawyer or can borrow money for one...he picks one out of the phone book who may not be sensitive to the issues of male victims of Domestic Violence.

If a man leaves before the hearing his restraining order will be dropped or hers will automatically be granted. If he doesn't have a lot of "evidence" or witnesses to his abuse he most likely will not be taken as seriously as a woman is "just on her word".

The domestic violence programs that refuse to help male victims will be quick to tell you that domestic violence is about power and control, while they and sometimes the Courts demonstrate how the batterer can use the system as another battering weapon, to assert more power and control.

The true victims of Domestic Violence whether they are men or women, do not want power and control they just want relief...All of the things that you hear about victims of Domestic Violence are true for ALL victims regardless of gender.

When a woman is brought to trial for assault, a crisis center may supply her with legal advocacy to avoid or minimize the consequences of her assault and sometimes turn it around to "blame the victim". When in Criminal Court it is not surprising to see a Victim/Witness Advocate standing with the male victim while a domestic violence crisis center advocate stands with the female batterer.

SAFE provides advocacy to ALL victims but particularly to the "under-served" victims who don't meet the "traditional" criteria of the existing crisis centers. Our job is to make sure that all victims are supported and assisted through the process of putting their life back together.

In Court we hope that our presence helps to buffer the power and control that is demonstrated when the batterer is allowed to use the system as yet another weapon to further damage the victim...and in some cases their children.

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We hope to assist in efforts to 're-educate' professionals and the public so that the issues surrounding Domestic Violence will be understood as a human issue...not a gender issue!

Speaker's Corner



Friday/Saturday, February 15-16, 2008

National Family Violence Legislative Resource Center Presents:

**From Ideology to Inclusion: Evidence-Based Policy and Intervention
in Domestic Violence**

**The founders, pioneers and today's most respected experts
together in this historic, one-of-a-kind conference!**

Please join Lee Newman from SAFE at this important Conference, along with several of our Speaker's Bureau experts.

http://www.nfvlrc.org/docs/NFVLRC_2008.Pre_Anounce_conf_flier.pdf

For updated information about location, conference schedule and registration, visit the website
of the:

National Family Violence Legislative Resource Center at : www.NFVLRC.org

Continuing education credits available for LCSW's, MFT's, PhD's, Batterer Intervention Providers
and Family Court Mediators/Evaluators * MCLE credits available for attorneys

Conference co-sponsors:

Family Violence Treatment & Education Association (www.FAVTEA.com),

California Alliance for Families and Children www.cafcusa.org

In addition to Lee Newman, some other participants from SAFE's "team" present at the Conference will be:

Dr. Murray Straus, from UNH, a member of SAFE-NH's Advisory Board

Additionally, several members of SAFE's Speaker's Bureau:

Dr. Linda Mills, from NYU (Author of Insult to Injury)

Dr. Donald Dutton, from University of British Columbia

John Hamel, LCSW , co-founder of NFVLRC, noted author and clinician.

Phillip Cook, former Executive Director of SAFE and Author of Abused Men, The Hidden Side of DV

Please join us at this important and informative Conference!

Visit the links above for more information and details.

HOPE Digits



SAFE and HopeDigits Form a Business Partnership for No-Cost Phone Services to Victims of Domestic Abuse

Nov. 20, 2006, West Des Moines, IA Press Release

Victims of domestic abuse need a secure and convenient way to stay in touch with family, friends and support organizations while getting their lives on track. HopeDigits (www.hopedigits.com), an online Website that lets individuals obtain free and private phone numbers on demand, allows abuse victims and others to receive phone calls, retrieve voicemails and forward calls to a cell phone or land line.

"We are very excited about our business partnership with HopeDigits," said Lee Newman, Executive Director of SAFE (Stop Abuse for Everyone) (www.safe4all.org). "This service will be a valuable tool that we can extend to our clients. Our clients need to stay in touch with their support networks during a crisis. HopeDigits phone services also give them a contact point for potential employers at a time when they might be in transitional living arrangements."

The HopeDigits free calling service is simple to use, with an Internet sign-up process that takes less than three minutes. Users of the service can either answer their calls directly, or have the calls forwarded to voicemail.

HopeDigits is provided at no cost to not-for-profit organizations and is sponsored by FreeDigits. "This free phone number provides victims additional safety because Caller ID doesn't reveal the location," says Kha Phan, FreeDigits.com founder and CEO. "People can call and leave messages, which are stored in private voicemail boxes. Users can go to any phone, anywhere, punch in the digits and access their messages. They can also forward calls to a cell or landline phone, so they never have to give out those numbers.... We are very enthusiastic about our partnership with SAFE, and look forward to providing these vital communications services for SAFE clients."

SAFE will begin by assisting clients with Internet sign-up services over the telephone, since some do not have direct Internet access. SAFE also plans to use HopeDigits as a tool for clients who are applying for employment and need a personal number where they can be reached for employment interviews.

"HopeDigits fits nicely with our strategies and services," said Lee Newman. "It empowers domestic abuse victims with their own private communications, and will help them move forward with their lives."

Submitted by:
Mary Shacklett
Transworld Data
For WebPoint Communications



HopeDigits is a voicemail and call forwarding service for anyone in a crisis situation. You can check your messages online or over the phone.

Stay Connected.
Your privacy never compromised.
Your location never disclosed.

When you take the first step toward reaching out, HopeDigits can help with the features you need to stay connected.

Real US phone number

Voicemail Service

Personalized greeting

Forward calls to any phone

SAFE and HopeDigits combine expertise to help keep victims of abuse out of the reach of harm but not out of touch!

SAFE Chapter News !

SAFE- New Hampshire

Are you a self-employed professional, are you an artist or other creative crafter?

Do you own or manage a business?

Would you like to make a difference and take a stand against violence with us?

Contact Lee at SAFE-NH to find out how.

Your donation stays with your local Chapter and if there isn't a Chapter in your area your donation will help our SAFE International's outreach efforts.

SAFE-NH Business Sponsors

SAFE-NH Business Sponsor Christopher Bergeron



Christopher Bergeron
Coldwell Banker Grace Drapeau

1 Windhaven Road

Rochester, NH

Direct Office/Cell: (888) 439-1415 (toll free)

Direct Voicemail/Fax: (888) 439-1416 (toll free)

Main Realty Office: (603) 335-4663

E-mail: chris@christopherbergeron.com

Helping people to fulfill their dreams is what I enjoy most about my business!

Whether buying or selling, real estate can be an emotional experience, and a financially dangerous one. I focus on taking all of that away, and leaving my clients with a pleasant and enjoyable experience.

SAFE-NH hopes that you will contact Chris to help get you on the path to your dreams!

SAFE-NH Business Sponsor Free Spirit Grafx

Free Spirit Grafx is an exciting new shop at Cafepress. www.cafepress.com/freespiritgrafx

The shop is operated by Artist/Graphic Designer Pam Brownell.

Free Spirit Grafx features Pam's abstract designs on many products such as t-shirts and sweatshirts for the whole family from toddler sizes to 4x adult sizes.

They also carry; postage, greeting cards, post cards, framed prints, posters, mouse pads, mugs, steins, stickers, magnets, house- wares and more.

Pam's art work has been shown and sold in businesses and galleries throughout New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Pam has been drawing abstract designs since she can remember. She works primarily in Pen & Ink and draws exclusively by hand.

Her work is then scanned into the computer and uploaded for sale on the items mentioned above.

Please join us in supporting our sponsor and visit Free Spirit Grafx today!



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E-mail: lee@safe4all.org

Executive .Director #
@ SAFE International
319-319-522-4817

"This business is about changing lives and I love helping people achieve their dreams, that, is why I do what I do."

Christopher Bergeron

Free Spirit Grafx

**Current Coupon:
Save \$5 When
You Spend \$50
Or More!**

**Free Spirit Grafx
coupon code.**

Free Spirit Grafx
Unique One Of A Kind Graphic Designs
T-Shirts, Clothing, Many Gift Items
Visit us at:
www.cafepress.com/freespiritgrafx

BS KIDS



A Child Advocacy Company

Bringing Support To Parents

Building Strength to Children

BS KIDS was created to provide legal research and information to anyone involved in a Family Law Dispute. Why BS KIDS? Most people are confused about Family Law and make decisions based on misinformation as to what courses of action are available to them. People under emotional distress, particularly involved in family conflicts, experience this frustration. Where can I find the answers? Who can help me? Where can I find assistance to help make informed choices? BS KIDS helps advocate for their members by providing information that is essential to understanding the complexities of Family Law. BS KIDS mission is to provide affordable legal research and information to educate their members involved in the Family Courts. BS KIDS is not a substitute for legal advice and strongly recommends that you seek the advice of an attorney, regarding the legal aspects of your individual litigation. BS KIDS prepares their members with an overview of the court system and can help individuals navigate the Family Courts. BS KIDS also provides an objective review, strategy plan and state laws; so their members can feel more comfortable in knowing what their rights are, have a better understanding of current trends and changes in the laws and most importantly, feel empowered with the knowledge they need to succeed. If you would like to learn more about what BS KIDS can do to assist you, visit their website at www.bskids.net and contact them today! E-mail us at info@bskids.net or phone 781-756-1214. Our advocates are ready to assist you and help you move forward navigating the Family Court Systems. Don't put off this decision any longer!



*The living need
charity more
than the dead.
George Arnold,
The Jolly Old
Pedagogue*

Help SAFE today!

**Become a business
sponsor, give a
donation, volunteer
or help our mission
in some other way.**

**You CAN make a
difference!**



Please do business with our SAFE-NH Business Sponsors!

They help us to help others...

Please let them know that you saw their announcement here or on our websites so that they continue to see that supporting SAFE's work IS good for their business!

Thank you to our business sponsors and to their customers!

Please Make a Donation

Donate to SAFE. You CAN help *Stop Abuse For Everyone !*

It's really easy to make a contribution, and it will make a huge difference for families impacted by domestic abuse. You can make your contribution online, using your credit card, <http://www.safe4all.org/difference> or you can send a check to:

Stop Abuse For Everyone
16869 SW 65th Ave.,PMB212
Lake Oswego, OR 97035-7865

Your donation to SAFE International helps sustain our efforts to reach out to ALL who are impacted by domestic abuse and helps to continue our education and resource initiatives.

You may also choose to donate to a chapter of SAFE in your State or region of the Country. If there is no Chapter of SAFE in your area, you may want to find out how you can help get one started with our assistance.

Visit the SAFE website or contact SAFE International for more information.

Thank you from all of us at SAFE!

Lee Newman
Executive Director :SAFE International
Jade Rubick : President SAFE International
SAFE International Board
Directors and Boards of Chapters
Advisory Board Members and SAFE Volunteers



*Donate to
SAFE.
You CAN help
Stop Abuse
For Everyone !*



SAFE-Illinois

The Illinois Chapter of Stop Abuse For Everyone can be reached at:

44 N. Virginia St., Suite 1A2
Crystal Lake, IL

(815)455-7233 available 24/7 as crisis line.

Victim Advocacy, support groups and Batterer Intervention Programs.
Their services are available to everyone!

(men/women/straight/gay/lesbian & transgendered)

Please visit our Illinois Chapter on the web:

<http://www.peace4allonline.org/>



Take a stand

against violence !

Join your voice with ours...

**Stop Abuse for Everyone,
Our name IS our mission!**

Stop Abuse For Everyone
16869 SW 65th Ave.,PMB212
Lake Oswego, OR 97035-7865
Phone: 319-441-1010 (not a Crisis Line)
Fax: 319-937-0096
Email: safe@safe4all.org

Contact our Executive Director,
Lee Newman, directly, if you want to
help support our important mission!

SAFE International direct line to Lee:
319-522-4817

or contact him at SAFE-NH:
PO Box 523
Rochester, NH 03867
lee@safe4all.org
603-859-0859 (Business & Crisis Line)

We are a 501(c)3
non-profit organization

www.safe4all.org

SAFE (Stop Abuse For Everyone)

Contact lee@safe4all.org if you'd like to find out how you can volunteer, how you can start a Chapter in your area, or how you can help our mission, to Stop Abuse For EVERYONE.

Are you a professional with clients who may be dealing with abuse issues?

Find out how you can use our copyrighted materials in your outreach efforts.

Would you like to advertise with us?

Would you like to advertise in our
monthly newsletters?

Would you like to help us fulfill our mission while
getting exposure for your business or organization?

E-mail lee@safe4all.org to find out more about this.

If you help SAFE with a donation or otherwise help to
financially support our organization you will also be
featured on our websites, in our press releases and
you will have a spotlight feature in our monthly
newsletter.

This will include links on our websites to help drive
more traffic to your door!

DO you own or Manage a restaurant?

Do you own or manage a restaurant?

Would you like to increase your customer base?

Contact lee@safe4all.org

and ask about how you can help support our mission
while increasing your business!