

# Preventing Sexual Abuse In Congregations A Resource For Leaders

Professional Sexual Ethics Patricia Beattie Jung 2013-12-01 Sexual health is an essential part of maintaining professional relationships in ministry. Focusing on implications for the practice of ministry, this book engages all dimensions of theological education and academic disciplines. Each chapter includes an analysis of common ministry situations, discussion questions, practical guidelines, and resources for further study. The volume is ideal for use in courses on professional ethics for ministry, advanced leadership training, and continuing education for clergy.

Research Anthology on Child and Domestic Abuse and Its Prevention Management Association, Information Resources 2022-03-11 Every day, both adults and children are victimized in unhealthy relationships. Domestic and child abuse have surged during the COVID-19 pandemic as potential escapes from abuse at home were stripped away. Abuse is a raging global issue; however, with enough research, policy, and social activism, society can aid in the prevention of child and domestic abuse. The Research Anthology on Child and Domestic Abuse and Its Prevention discusses the prevalence of domestic abuse as well as the exploitation of children both at home and beyond. It further presents emerging practices in technology, social work, and criminology to prevent the further exploitation and victimization of adults and children in abusive situations. Covering topics such as foster children, gender-based violence, and trauma analysis, this major reference work is an indispensable resource for social workers, lawmakers, government organizations, non-profit organizations, psychologists, therapists, sociologists, libraries, students and educators of higher education, criminologists, leaders in law enforcement, researchers, and academicians.

*No Place for Abuse* Catherine Clark Kroeger 2010-10-12 In this thoroughly revised and updated edition, Catherine Clark Kroeger and Nancy Nason-Clark share with readers a further ten years of experience in listening to the voices of women from around the world and especially to those in the church. They help us hear their cries and find concrete ways to respond so that no home will be a place of abuse.

## **Preventing Child Sexual Abuse 2005**

When a Congregation Is Betrayed Candace R. Benyei 2005-12-30 Other books have been written about clergy misconduct and its effects on congregations. Some are by victims. Others are written by professionals for a professional audience. Until now, however, there hasn't been a book for the congregational leaders who must deal with the fallout of clergy misconduct. Both the afterpastors--the interim or settled pastors who follow misconducting pastors--and lay leaders need guidance about how to assess and effectively respond to the misconduct, how to care for the victim/survivor, and how to carry out the mission and ministry to which the congregation has been called.

Preventing Sexual Abuse in Congregations Karen A. McClintock 2004-06-01 Are you ready to abuse-proof your congregation? If one child or adult is spared the confusing ordeal of unwanted touch, it will be worth your time to read this book. In this comprehensive resource, Methodist pastor and pastoral psychologist Karen McClintock demonstrates that sexual abuse in congregations is preventable and gives clergy and lay leaders the tools they need to prevent it. This book shows congregations how to protect children and vulnerable adults, prevent sexual harassment either by clergy or of clergy, and strengthen clergy families by raising awareness of the occupational and emotional risks inherent in pastoral ministry. When you have finished this book, you will be familiar with the conditions in parishes and in the mental health of the individuals within them that lead to risky behaviors. You will be equipped to recognize and set sexual boundaries for yourself and to open dialogue about these issues in your congregation. You will have laughed at, celebrated, and honored human sexual power, pleasure, and vulnerability. You will have gained the knowledge you need, and perhaps the courage, to communicate these ideas within your congregation so that children and vulnerable adults are protected.

Push Back the Dark Elizabeth M. Altmaier 2017-01-09 Adults in your church, small group, or other Christian organization are silently suffering the tragic consequences of having been sexually abused as children or youth. Why aren't they coming forward for help? Their reluctance may be related to wounds given by the faithful--religious people they trusted, who said things like "well, it wasn't rape" or "it's been thirty years--why is this such a big deal?" Such responses from people with religious authority deepen victims' need to shrink into anxiety, depression, and self-degradation. This book offers you the tools needed to undertake caring ministry to adults suffering in the aftermath of childhood sexual abuse. Once you understand the scientific research on such topics as trauma memory, consequences of abuse, and forgiveness, you will appreciate how caring collaboration can create hope and healing. In these pages every reader will find helpful content that will take you from feeling out of your depth to knowing you are empowered to be an effective companion in God's transforming work in the lives of survivors of abuse.

Healing in Congregations After Clergy Sexual Abuse Jan Erickson-Pearson 1997

*Liberating the Politics of Jesus* Darryl W. Stephens 2020-09-03 Bold, faithful, challenging - this volume uncovers the social and political implications of the gospel message by looking at Anabaptist theology and practice from a female perspective. The contributors approach the gospel from a wide range of disciplines and backgrounds, liberating the radical political ethic of Jesus Christ from patriarchal distortions and demonstrating that gender justice and peace theology are inseparable. Beautifully illustrated with pen drawings, *Liberating the Politics of Jesus* recognizes the authority of women to interpret and reconstruct the peace church tradition on issues such as subordination, suffering, atonement, the nature of church, leadership, and discipleship. The contributors confront difficult topics head-on, such as the power structures in South Africa, armed conflict in Colombia, and the sexual violence of John Howard Yoder. The result is a renewed Anabaptist peace theology with the potential to transform the work of theology and ministry in all Christian traditions.

**Guidelines for Leading Your Congregation 2013-2016 (Set of 26)** United Methodist Publishing House 2012-11 The Guidelines booklets, one for each ministry area, are tools that enable you to help get new lay leaders off to a good start. Each booklet includes the basic ""job description"" for the leader as well as practical ""how-to"" information important to implementing ministry effectively. Brief and to the point for the busy, but spirit-led leader, these Guidelines take some of the unknown out of leading these ministry areas. One booklet for each title makes up this set of 26 Guidelines, perfect for making them available to all church members. The twenty-six Guidelines, one for each ministry are.

**Men's Work in Preventing Violence Against Women** Christie Cozad Neuger 2014-02-25 Promote effective partnerships between men and women to end domestic violence! *Men's Work in Preventing Violence Against Women* examines the experiences of 12 practicing counselors who call on their religious training to form partnerships between men and women that promote an end to domestic violence. In both religious and secular settings, the bulk of the work done to end violence against women is done by women—survivors who have become activists and advocates who have been touched by the witness of survivors. Motivating and educating men to share the everyday work of domestic violence shelters, rape crisis counseling, and abuse prevention is essential. This book challenges traditional images of masculinity, exploring effective—and ineffective—methods of helping men face their own sexism and change their behavior toward the goal of ending domestic violence. Each contributor to *Men's Work in Preventing Violence Against Women* approached the concept of man/woman partnerships working to end domestic violence and sexual assault with the following questions in mind: In your experience and social world have you seen creative partnerships between men and women that made a difference? Have you seen men in counseling struggle to change their views on gender in order to become reliable allies in the fight to end violence against women? How can religion become a resource for men working to become allies with women? What strategies can men use to help end violence against women? *Men's Work in Preventing Violence Against Women* includes contributions from Paul Kivel, cofounder of the Oakland Men's Project and of

Gvarim: Bay Area Jewish Men Against Violence; David Livingston, author of *Healing Violent Men: A Model for Christian Communities*; Al Miles, author of *Domestic Violence: What Every Pastor Should Know*; and Richard Wallace Jr., editor of the *Journal of Ministry in Addiction & Recovery* (Haworth). Each essay presents practical and theoretical ideas, guidelines for partnerships, and insightful information on sexual and domestic violence. Topics addressed include: Jewish male violence holding Christian men accountable for domestic violence shared experiences of batterers and the people who treat them premarital preparation the dynamics of power in pastoral care engaging Scripture with male abusers helping men become pro-feminist Men's Work in Preventing Violence Against Women is an essential resource for counselors, social workers, clergy, laypersons, and anyone else working to end domestic violence and sexual abuse against women.

**Plan to Protect(R): A Safeguarding Guide for Children, Youth and Adults, Church Edition** Melodie Bissell 2022-04-30 For 25 years Plan to Protect(R) has been the premier leader in safeguarding for churches in Canada. This edition, Plan to Protect(R) A Safeguarding Guide for Children, Youth and Adults, Church Edition continues to provide you the most updated research, best practices and templates to safeguard your church and the vulnerable sector you serve. Not only does it include the policies, procedures and templates for safeguarding children and youth, which we are well known for, but this version of the manual also includes: The voice of the victim -Updated best practices -General Protection Policies and Procedures for the entire Church -Updated Child and Youth Protection Procedures -Adult Protection Procedures (including power differentials, misconduct and sexual harassment) -Documentation Management -Restorative Justice for Offenders -Whistleblower -New case studies -Updated forms and templates What are people saying about Plan to Protect(R)? "I was abused within a church. Despite what happened to me, I love the Church and serve it in a full-time capacity. It breaks my heart to hear and see how 'open' the Church feels to predators, but I have hope for the present and future of the Church because of Plan to Protect(R). Things are not as they used to be because sexual abuse has become acceptable to talk about, and we work hard to prevent and protect. We know what to do if allegations are made. The Church must become a safe place for the vulnerable, and this will only happen as the whole body of Christ takes action. Please, Church, protect the vulnerable and victims among us." -Rachel (pseudonym for a victim-survivor of abuse) "Plan to Protect(R) is a great witness to the love of Jesus Christ for all humanity by showing churches and other ministries how to protect the most vulnerable among us." -Rev. John Pellowe, MBA, DMin, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Centre for Christian Charities "Churches and faith-based charities have come a long way in the past 30 years in understanding the risks and potential for abuse, molestation, bullying, and harassment within their own programs and ministries. We have been encouraged by the leaders who have spearheaded the implementation and maintenance of effective abuse prevention by holding their standards high, both for the protection of those in their care, and to reinforce their positive testimony with a message of grace, love and hope they provide to the communities they serve. Plan to Protect(R) has been instrumental in leading the way in this remarkable progress by providing effective prevention plans, valuable resources, hands-on assistance, and a "made-in-Canada" solution to safeguard Christian ministries from abuse claims. We applaud Plan to Protect(R), Melodie Bissell, and her staff for their unwavering commitment to churches and Christian ministries across Canada with this latest comprehensive and practical 2022 version of their prevention plan, and truly hope that it will continue to guide leaders for the vigilant protection of the most vulnerable." -Kenneth A. Hall, President, Robertson Hall Insurance Inc. "Plan to Protect(R) is a valuable source of important and up to date information and strategies that will assist churches and child focused organizations in providing safe and caring environments for children. Our children deserve nothing less!" -Don Hepburn, former child protection worker, Supervisor and Senior Manager with the Children's Aid Society of Toronto. (Retired)

*God's Heart for Children* Rosalind Tan 2022-05-31 In the New Testament, Jesus is explicit in communicating God's heart for children. Yet what does it look like for that heart to encounter the contextual realities of life in the twenty-first century? This book explores the theological implications and

practical realities of ministry with children in a globalized world. Affirming eight core beliefs regarding the place of children in creation – that they are created with dignity and intended to be placed in families, cared for in community, advocated by society, secured in hope, affirmed in God’s church, included in God’s mission, and engaged in creation care – this book traces the impact of such far-reaching issues as displacement, climate change, human trafficking, persecution, and gender discrimination on childhood development. Written by over twenty contributors from around the world, each section roots its premise in contextual theology, examines the implications for praxis, provides a case study, and includes questions for discussion and reflection. Through each chapter the conversation around childhood development is broadened, prioritizing the experiences of children and practitioners to truly reflect the realities of our changing world. This is an excellent resource for all those concerned with the current risks facing children, especially among the world’s most vulnerable populations, and what best practice looks like as the people of God work to bring God’s heart, and hope, to children in their communities and beyond.

*On Guard* Deepak Reju 2014-10-27 *On Guard* offers churches eight strategies for preventing child abuse and three for responding to it, helping to move church staff and leaders beyond fearful awareness to prayerful preparedness.

*The #MeToo Reckoning* Ruth Everhart 2020-01-14 2020 Publishers Weekly Book of the Year - Religion □ Publishers Weekly starred review. The #MeToo movement has revealed sexual abuse and assault in every sphere of society, including the church. But victims are routinely ignored by fellow Christians who deny their accounts and fail to bring accountability to the perpetrators. All too often, churches have been complicit in protecting abusers, reinforcing patriarchal power dynamics, and creating cultures of secrecy, shame, and silence. Pastor and survivor Ruth Everhart shines a light on the prevalence of sexual abuse and misconduct within faith communities. She candidly discloses stories of how she and others have experienced assault in church settings, highlighting the damage done to individuals, families, and communities. Everhart offers hope to survivors as she declares that God is present with the violated and stands in solidarity with victims. Scriptural narratives like those of Tamar and Bathsheba carry powerful resonance in today's context, as do the accounts of Jesus' interactions with women. God is at work in the midst of this #MeToo moment to call the church to repentance and deliver us from violence against the vulnerable.

[Responding to Clergy Misconduct](#) Marie Fortune 2009 When prevention fails and a faith leader violates the boundaries of a pastoral or teaching relationship, a judicatory or organization must be prepared to respond. When a complaint of misconduct comes forward, the complainant, the faith leader, and the congregation or organization where the violation occurred all are in need of response and action. The complaint needs to be investigated and adjudicated but the congregation or organization also needs support to deal with its confusion, grief, and anger in order to move towards healing and restoration. *Responding to Clergy Misconduct* lays out the basic principles of analysis of ministerial misconduct: who, what, when, and where. It offers the basic principles for response to complaints and the conceptual framework to navigate the process of response. The handbook is non-denominational and not intended to represent the teachings of any particular denomination or movement in matters of doctrine or morals. An invaluable resource for judicatory leaders, committees and commissions who are addressing complaints of clergy misconduct. Includes extensive, comprehensive and essential resource with reference materials, detailed appendices and case studies.

**Guidelines for Leading Your Congregation 2013-2016 - Advocates for Inclusiveness** Gen Com on the Status and Role of Women 2012-11-01 Your task as an advocate for inclusiveness – and as coordinator of your ministry group – is to help every ministry, committee, and aspect of your church to be intentional about the full and equal participation of women and racial and ethnic persons in the life of the church. As you advocate for an inclusive church, you are helping the church to reflect the fullness of the ministry of Christ. This Guideline is designed to help equip you in leading this ministry group in your congregation. This is one of the twenty-six Guidelines that cover church leadership areas including Church Council and

Small Membership Church; the administrative areas of Finance and Trustees; and ministry areas focused on nurture, outreach, and witness including Worship, Evangelism, Stewardship, Christian Education, age-level ministries, Communications, and more. To see a full list of Guidelines, search by typing keywords: "Guidelines for Leading Your Congregation 2013-2016," and click "search".

Gender, Violence, and Justice Pamela Cooper-White 2019-03-20 *Gender, Violence, and Justice* is a volume of collected essays by an expert in the field of violence against women and pastoral theology. It represents over three decades of research, advocacy, and pastoral theological reflection on the subject of sexual and domestic violence. Topics include intimate partner violence, sexual abuse and trauma, and clergy sexual misconduct; controversial theological issues such as forgiveness; and, as well, positive frameworks for fostering well-being in families, church, and society.

Framed by a foreword and an introduction that place this work in the context of new and contemporary challenges in theory and practice, these essays show an evolution of issues and frameworks for theology, care, and activism arising over time from the movement to end violence against women (both within and beyond religious communities)--while at the same time demonstrating an unchanging core commitment to gender justice.

*Wolves Among Lambs: My Story of Sexual Abuse & Cover-Ups in the Church* Stacey Shiflett 2019-02-26 At the age of seventeen, Stacey Shiflett was sexually assaulted in his sleep by a Bible College student. His abuser pled guilty and served time in prison. A few years later he was groomed and propositioned by his pastor. His experiences as both a victim and a pastor have uniquely prepared him to address this topic. In May of 2018, the church where he pastored was affected by a sexual abuse scandal. The story made national headlines. *Wolves Among Lambs* deals with both the terrible crime of sexual abuse within the church and the covering up of those crimes. The author has harsh criticism for those that protect the abuser and make attempts to silence the abused. Section Two is entitled "Restoring Our Credibility" and deals with ways that churches can prevent sexual abuse from happening. It also explains the importance of reporting allegations and how to communicate correctly with the church when it occurs. *Wolves Among Lambs* emphasizes the church's priority to protect the people within the church and to expose and prosecute the sex offenders. The author uses the Scripture to lay out a set of policies and procedures for how to operate when allegations of sexual abuse surface. The book concludes with words of healing and hope for victims of sexual abuse. If you have been a victim of sexual abuse or you know someone that is a survivor, this book will minister to them in a great way. *Wolves Among Lambs* is also a great resource for those pastors and church leaders looking for ways to prevent abuse in the church, deal with offenders and restore the victims.

**Violence Against Women and Children** Carol J. Adams 1995-11-01 Violence against women and children has reached epidemic proportions. It cuts across all economic strata and is found in our urban centers and the farthest corners of the nation. This is the only sourcebook on domestic violence for clergy and counselors.

*Communication in the Church* Thomas G. Kirkpatrick 2016-09-29 Communication is integral to the mission of the church, but it can go awry in myriad ways, both obvious and subtle. Communication in the Church helps congregations create healthier ways for their members to relate to one another for greater personal and congregational success. The book offers practical guidelines to help readers become more effective in how they build relationships, lead meetings, experience trust, practice forgiveness, use power, and bridge cultures. Communication in the Church distills the latest social science research for readers including clergy, lay leaders, continuing education planners, students, scholars, and others. Each chapter includes real-life scenarios, sensible guidelines, practical applications, and suggestions for further learning. This book aims to help readers communicate more effectively—from leading more engaging and productive meetings to preventing or addressing communication breakdowns.

**Church Administration and Finance Manual** Otto Crumroy 2023 A field-tested guide to the management and finance of church congregations, revised for a new generation. Clergy are generally equipped to preach and provide spiritual care. But when it comes to budgets, insurance, fire

safety, and church management many find themselves at a loss. The Church Administration and Finance Manual is the classic guide to running a church, written to answer key questions for clergy and lay leaders. Not simply a theoretical resource, the Manual provides suggestions for almost every aspect of parish administration: position descriptions, financial forms, materials for stewardship and Christian education, building use and safety issues, employee record keeping, and much more. This revised edition offers guidance on many new topics that are of vital importance to churches, including protecting children, information security, approaches to preventing and responding to violence, planned giving, social media, and hybrid work and worship. Whether clergy are just out of seminary or well-seasoned in parish life, the Manual is full of excellent guidelines, tools, and forms for improving the management of the parish.

The Church Leader's Counseling Resource Book Cynthia Franklin Ph.D. 2011-02-01 This all-in-one guide is designed to better equip clergy and the church leaders to meet their congregations' needs in a spiritually grounded and scientifically sound manner. Succinct, easy-to-read chapters summarize all a pastor needs to know about a given problem area, including its signs or symptoms, questions to ask, effective helping skills, and, most importantly, when to refer to a mental health professional. Synthesizing what research says about treatment approaches for mental health issues, this user-friendly reference is filled with guidelines, case scenarios, key points to remember, resources for further help, advice on integrating scripture and theology with the best available research, and tips on partnering with others to provide the best possible care for each church member. Each chapter is designed for quick lookup by problem area, empowering church leaders to understand and help meet the challenges facing the children, adults, families, and communities that they serve.

**Becoming a Church that Cares Well for the Abused** Brad Hambrick 2019-06-04 Is your church prepared to care for individuals who have experienced various forms of abuse? As we continue to learn of more individuals experiencing sexual abuse, domestic violence, and other forms of abuse, it's clear that resources are needed to help ministries and leaders care for these individuals with love, support, and in cooperation with civil authorities. This handbook seeks to help the church take a significant step forward in its care for those who have been abused. Working in tandem with the Church Cares resources and videos, this handbook brings together leading evangelical trauma counselors, victim advocates, social workers, attorneys, batterer interventionists, and survivors to equip pastors and ministry leaders for the appropriate initial responses to a variety of abuse scenarios in churches, schools, or ministries. Though the most comprehensive training is experienced by using this handbook and the videos together, readers who may be unable to access the videos can use this handbook as a stand-alone resource.

Guidelines for Leading Your Congregation 2013-2016 - Pastor-Parish Relations Regina Hoosier 2012-11 The Pastor Parish (or Staff Parish) Relations committee serves a key role in establishing the focus of the pastor, staff, and congregation's ministry. By advocating for the pastor and staff and helping to interpret their roles and ministries, the PPRC supports and nurtures the whole congregation. This guideline is designed to help implement and guide the work of the ministry area. This is one of the twenty-six Guidelines that cover church leadership areas including Church Council and Small Membership Church; the administrative areas of Finance and Trustees; and ministry areas focused on nurture.

Reducing the Risk of Child Sexual Abuse in Your Church Richard R. Hammar 1993 Addresses the most critical legal and moral problem facing the church today -- and shows church leaders how to implement an effective prevention program to reduce this risk [of child sexual abuse].

Sexual Abuse Within the Church Chris Rush Burkey 2021 This book takes a holistic approach by providing insight into the behavior and nature of sex offenders within the church. The text covers various types of sex offenders as well as their criminal propensities and methods of acquiring victims. Warning signs associated with sex crimes within the church are explained as well as security measures and prevention strategies that church leaders and criminal justice professionals can utilize to minimize risk to congregants. Discussion questions and case study scenarios are provided to allow the

reader to examine relevant issues and explore a range of potential solutions and interventions. This comprehensive book is intended for criminal justice academicians who teach courses on sex crimes and sex offenders, criminal justice agents (police and investigators), seminary professors and students, and clergy members. It can also assist security teams, church board members, leaders, and teachers in developing intervention and prevention strategies.

Concern for Church Renewal Laura Schmidt Roberts 2022-03-31 From its first issue in 1954, CONCERN: A Pamphlet Series for Questions of Christian Renewal ran statements identifying it as an independent publication whose purpose was to stimulate study and discussion through intentional juxtaposition of viewpoints. What constitutes the church? Do existing structures engender or hinder the church's ever-present need for renewal? What approaches or formats might more effectively "structure" its renewal? CONCERN's Mennonite editorial board and the essays gathered here address these themes in reference to a Believers' Church or Anabaptist framework, reflecting differing viewpoints but a shared sense that community and discipleship are essential. Two contemporary responses reflect current iterations of these questions, which are shaped by pronounced concerns for the exercise of power within the community, and the role response to structural, systemic inequalities plays in discipleship.

**Congressional Record** United States. Congress 2012

*The Cry of Tamar* Pamela Cooper-White 2012-09-01 In this comprehensive, practical, and gripping assessment of various forms of violence against women, Pamela Cooper-White challenges the Christian churches to examine their own responses to the cry of Tamar in our time. She describes specific forms of such violence and outlines appropriate pastoral responses. The second edition of this groundbreaking work is thoroughly updated and examines not only where the church has made progress since 1995 but also where women remain at unchanged or even greater risk of violence.

**Strengthening Families and Ending Abuse** Nancy Nason-Clark 2013-06-04 Strengthening families of different varieties and ending abuse in the myriad of forms through which it surfaces is God's way of bringing peace and safety to Christian homes across the world. We challenge congregations, their leaders, and the men, women, and youth who faithfully support them to consider their personal role in bringing this vision--inspired by the Scriptures--into reality. Together our voices can be strong. We are united in our belief that every home should be a safe home, every home a shelter from the storms of life, every home a place where we are supported, treated with respect and dignity, and every home a place where men and women are encouraged to be all they can be. It is a tall order. It is a dream to guide our personal conduct and to measure our congregational and community life. We are far from reaching this goal--but toward it we strive.

Unlocking the Secret World Wayne Tesch 1995 Wayne and Diane Tesch reach out to the entire body of Christ with keen insight and practical direction in addressing one of society's most pressing needs: how the church can be involved in preventing and repairing the damage done to abused children. ne year, and help parents bring the Bible to life for children. Each 15-minutes-a-day study includes two questions for discussion and application. nd more.

**Religion and Men's Violence Against Women** Andy J. Johnson 2015-04-14 This reference offers the nuanced understanding and practical guidance needed to address domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking in diverse religious communities. Introductory chapters sort through the complexities, from abusers' distorting of sacred texts to justifying their actions to survivors' conflicting feelings toward their faith. The core of the book surveys findings on gender violence across Christian, Jewish, Islamic, Eastern, and Indigenous traditions--both attitudes that promote abuse and spiritual resources that can be used to promote healing. Best practices are included for appropriate treatment of survivors, their children, and abusers; and for partnering with communities and clergy toward stemming violence against women. Among the topics featured: Ecclesiastical policies vs. lived social relationships: gender parity, attitudes, and ethics. Women's spiritual struggles and resources to cope with

intimate partner aggression. Christian stereotypes and violence against North America's native women. Addressing intimate partner violence in rural church communities. Collaboration between community service agencies and faith-based institutions. Providing hope in faith communities: creating a domestic violence policy for families. Religion and Men's Violence against Women will gain a wide audience among psychologists, social workers, marriage and family therapists, and other mental health professionals who treat religious clients or specialize in treating survivors and perpetrators of domestic and intimate partner violence, stalking, sexual assault, rape, or human trafficking.

**American Baptists in Mission** 1995

*Sexual Abuse and the Culture of Catholicism* Myra L Hidalgo 2012-10-12 An inside look at the reasons Catholic priests and nuns commit sexual abuse Sexual Abuse and the Culture of Catholicism digs beneath the public scandals to explore the underlying causes of sexual abuse by priests and nuns from the unique perspective of an abuse victim/survivor who is an experienced mental health practitioner and social science researcher. This powerful book includes the author's personal account of sexual abuse by a nun and her years of struggle to recover. Passionate but scholarly and objective, the book advocates the need for healing dialogue, empirical research, and informed prevention strategies to bring a meaningful resolution to the crisis of sexual abuse in the church. Popular explanations for the reasons behind the crisis have included issues related to celibacy, homosexuality, the power structure of the church, and poor seminary screening practices. But none of these theories are supported by research nor can they explain why Catholic priests and nuns may be more likely to abuse children than other adults in positions of trust. Sexual Abuse and the Culture of Catholicism uses a complex, systemic approach to draw parallels between the church as a human system and a family that has experienced incest, presenting a model for a sexual trauma cycle in the church based on systemic sexual shame passed down through the beliefs and practices of Catholicism. Sexual Abuse and the Culture of Catholicism examines: the prevalence and characteristics of sexual abuse by Catholic priests and nuns compared to sex offenders in the general population celibacy, homosexuality, and the power structure of the church as contributing factors in the sexual abuse crisis an analogy of the church as a family in which incest occurs the effects and causes of sexual offending from one generation to the next how current research on sexual offending applies to sexual abuse by priests and nuns healing and empowerment for those affected by religious-based sexual trauma reform and renewal within the Catholic Church and much more Sexual Abuse and the Culture of Catholicism is a unique and important resource for clergy, religious order, and lay leaders in the Catholic Church and other Christian denominations; social science researchers; social workers and mental health professionals; lay and religious members of the Catholic Church; and anyone recovering from religious-based sexual trauma.

**Reducing the Risk II** James F. Cobble 2003 This book addresses the most critical legal and moral problem facing the church today and shows church leaders how to implement an effective prevention program to reduce risk. You'll receive practical help and guidance on the following topics: enlisting the support of church leaders, understanding child sexual abuse, reducing the church's legal vulnerability, establishing a prevention plan, selecting and screening workers, reporting procedures for church workers, responding to allegations of abuse, safeguarding the church through training, implementing risk reduction procedures.

*Sourcebook on Violence Against Women* Claire M. Renzetti 2011 Jonathan Letterman was an outpost medical officer serving in Indian country in the years before the Civil War, responsible for the care of just hundreds of men. But when he was appointed the chief medical officer for the Army of the Potomac, he revolutionized combat medicine over the course of four major battles Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg that produced unprecedented numbers of casualties. He made battlefield survival possible by creating the first organized ambulance corps and a more effective field hospital system. He imposed medical professionalism on a chaotic battlefield. Where before 20 percent of the men were unfit to fight



because of disease, squalid conditions, and poor nutrition, he improved health and combat readiness by pioneering hygiene and diet standards. Based on original research, and with stirring accounts of battle and the struggle to invent and supply adequate care during impossible conditions, this new biography recounts Letterman's life from his small-town Pennsylvania beginnings to his trailblazing wartime years and his subsequent life as a wildcatter and the medical examiner of San Francisco. At last, here is the missing portrait of a key figure of Civil War history and military medicine. His principles of battlefield care continue to be taught to military commanders and first responders.

*Church Safety and Security* Robert M. Cirtin 2005 The church has always been regarded as a safe haven - a spiritual sanctuary where people can come to worship God free from worries about violence or unethical behavior by those involved in church ministry. But our culture is changing, and church leaders can no longer assume that it won't happen in my church. Like the rest of society, churches need to ensure the safety and security of their facility, staff, and worshipers. This book provides a wealth of practical information on preparing for and responding to the challenges of a dangerous world. Robert Cirtin draws on more than two decades of law enforcement and investigative experience, and with his team of professionals outlines a how-to approach full of specific proactive steps churches can take to protect themselves and reduce the risk of costly lawsuits. Church Safety And Security is a must-have resource for anyone participating in or preparing for church leadership. Topics covered include: \* Utilizing background screening to protect your congregation. \* Safety and security issues for church-run preschool and day care programs. \* Preparing for and responding to medical emergencies. \* How to deal with issues pertaining to child abuse. \* Legally mandated responsibilities of church staff members. \* How to utilize security/surveillance cameras in the church facility. \* Organizing a church security officer program. \* Effectively coping with intruders. \* Responding to violent acts when they occur. \* How to conduct a thorough investigation. If you are a pastor, associate pastor, preschool director, church school principal, deacon, elder, vestryperson, or denominational leader - read this book, then read it again Make it required reading for every leader in your church. Protect your congregation, your property, and your reputation in the community by doing all you can do to hire the right employees, to prevent physical and sexual misconduct for which your church may be liable, and to reduce the legal and financial impacts of such misconduct. This book will teach you what to look for, and how to take action today to protect the people God has given you to shepherd. Tim Duncan Associate Pastor, Anglican Church of the Resurrection St. Louis, Missouri Church Safety and Security: A Practical Guide is a valuable resource. Bob Cirtin has the unusual but important background mixture of service in full-time church ministry as well as being a certified officer of the law and an expert investigator. He has personal experience with every source of danger for the local church and has developed effective safeguards and defenses. His strategies are clear, simple, easy to implement, and will protect any congregation in the event of an unfortunate occurrence. This book is a must for every church office and library Terry Raburn Superintendent, Peninsular Florida District Council Assemblies of God This is a book written for our changing times, when the security of our churches must become a priority. Written by professionals who have a strong Christian influence in their lives, this book is a great tool for the security program of your church. Jack L. Merritt Sheriff, Greene County, Missouri Retired Capt., Missouri State Highway Patrol Robert M. Cirtin is an assistant professor and director of the criminal justice program at Evangel University in Springfield, Missouri. He is also the president of Robert Cirtin Investigations, a company providing investigative and consulting services to churches, businesses, and government agencies. A former police officer and Missouri state investigator who has also served in full-time ministry, Cirtin is a frequent guest lecturer on a variety of safety and security topics. He is a graduate of Central Bible College and Lincoln University.

**Sexual Misconduct and the Future of Mega-Churches** Glenn L. Starks 2013-03-07 Why have multiple mega-church leaders—Ted Haggard and Bishop Eddie Long, for example—committed acts of sexual misconduct? This book discusses the reasons in depth and examines how these acts are

impacting the future of megachurches. Mega-churches—churches with congregations that number in the thousands of worshippers—are growing in popularity in America and around the world. Shockingly, a growing number of megachurch leaders have committed acts of sexual misconduct. While these scandalous crimes have received much attention through the media, literature that examines the topic in detail has been lacking. This book examines the various aspects of sexual misconduct by megachurch leaders, providing a comprehensive review of the topic that discusses the direct and indirect reasons for these crimes. The book provides unbiased, factual coverage of megachurch sexual abuse cases, covering issues surrounding the victims in specific cases, the role of the church, and notable ministers, such as Ted Haggard of New Life Church, Colorado Springs, CO; Bishop Eddie Long of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church, Lithonia, GA; and Joe Barron of Prestonwood Baptist Church, Dallas, TX. The author also discusses how these incidences have impacted societal perceptions of religion, and large churches, and religious organizations, and provides recommendations to curb future cases of sexual abuse within megachurches.

Healthy Disclosure Kibbie Simmons Ruth 2007 Knowledge is power, and the way knowledge is shared in a congregation can build up or break down community. When congregational leaders are sensitive to the ways that information should be shared, the congregation can become safe and strong. Unfortunately, congregations can easily fall into patterns of communication that lead to disastrous interpersonal and organizational outcomes. Even in times of crisis, however, congregations can learn and practice new skills and healthy communication management. Congregational consultants Kibbie Ruth and Karen McClintock show clergy and laity how to appropriately handle information. From proper ways to respond to rumors to relating information about a staff firing to the congregation, Healthy Disclosure is filled with step-by-step ideas for handling different types of sensitive material. It helps clergy and other congregational leaders understand levels of disclosure, including how and when to reveal information, the difference between privacy and secrecy, legal issues related to public knowledge, and the power of secrets from a congregation's past. What we don't know can hurt us. The more conscious congregational leaders are of the information they have and how they pass it along to others, the better off the congregation will be. Information management is both a technical process and a spiritual undertaking. Leaders need the ability to spiritually discern, not just intellectually decide, the solutions to congregational dilemmas. Ruth and McClintock guide readers in developing the skills needed to create a congregational environment of healthy disclosure.

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