# Dedicated to Addressing Sexual Violence in Jewish Communities Internationally



The Awareness Center, Inc.

the International Jewish Coalition Against Sexual Abuse/Assault (JCASA)

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P.O. Box 65273, Baltimore, MD 21209 www.theawarenesscenter.org 443-857-5560

### The History Of The Jewish People Is One Filled With A Series Of Traumatic Experiences:

This includes one topic that up until now has been taboo to discuss: Sexual Victimization

Contrary to what we might want to assume, sexual violence is not just a Gentile issue, but also a Jewish one.

Discussing the issue of sexual violence in Jewish communities seems to threatens the cultural perception of the wholesomeness of the Jewish family. However, the time has come to break the taboo and allow the Jewish Community to face reality and begin the healing journey. When referring to the Jewish Community we are including everyone: from the unaffiliated, Renewal, Reform, Reconstructionist, Traditional, and Conservative communities, to the Orthodox, "Charedi" and "Chasidic" communities.

### About The Awareness Center, Inc.

We are the international Jewish Coalition Against Sexual Abuse/Assault (JCASA).

The Awareness Center was developed in Chicago, and Jerusalem, Israel in 2001 and incorporated in the state of Maryland in 2003 as a nonprofit organization.

The Awareness Center is dedicated to providing education, information and resources to survivors of sexual violence, family members of survivors and sex offenders, religious leaders rabbis, and our communities globally.

### What is Sexual Violence?

- ⋄ Childhood Sexual Abuse (including Incest)
- Child Pornography
- ⋄ Clergy Abuse (Rabbinical Sexual Misconduct)
- ⋄ Professional Sexual Misconduct
- Sexual Assault (including Marital and Date Rape)
- ⋄ Sexual Harassment
- Sex Offenders (including: Juvenile Sex Offenders & Sexually Reactive Children)

### Clearinghouse: Resources & Information

Offering information and other resources on the topic of sexual violence in Jewish communities.

### Speakers Bureau

Educational training programs on the topic of sexual violence to community groups, rabbis, teachers, parents, and survivor groups.

## Development of Annual International Summit/Conference

Providing a forum for dialogue, education and healing between medical, mental health and legal professionals; religious leaders, teachers, parents and survivors. *Tentative date Spring* 2007.

### Certification Program for Rabbis and other Jewish Community Leaders

# Networking Groups and Self-Help Groups Online & In Person

### Sampling Of Our Professional Online Networks:

- 1. The Awareness Center's Daily Newsletter
- 2. Press Releases Daily Update
- 3. Rabbinic Network Halachic Issues
- Victim Advocates Professionals who work with Jewish Survivors of Sexual Violence (Rabbis, Psychotherapists, Attorneys, Child Protection Workers, etc.).

### Sampling Of Our Online Survivor Self-Help Networks:

- 1. Jewish Survivors of Sexual Violence (Abuse/Assault)
- Survivors of Rabbinical Sexual Misconduct (Clergy Abuse)
- 3. Orthodox Male Survivors of Sexual Violence
- 4. Orthodox Female Survivors of Sexual Violence
- 5. Survivors who are GLBT
- 6. Jewish Parents of Sexually Abused Children
- 7. Family Members of Sex Offenders

#### Statistics:

- Research shows that one out of every three to five women, and one out of ever five to seven men are sexually abused by the time they reach their eighteenth birthday.
- Every two minutes a woman is raped (NCVS 2002).
- One in every eight rape victims were males (NCVS 2002).
- The year in a male's life when he is most likely to be a victim of sexual assault is the age of 4 (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2000).
- Approximately 60% of boys and 80% of girls who are sexually victimized are abused by someone known to the child or the child's family (Lieb, Quinsey, and Berliner, 1998).
- It is estimated that children with disabilities are 4 to 10 times more vulnerable to sexual abuse than their non-disabled peers (NRC, 1992).
- One in 33 youth received an aggressive sexual solicitation in the past year. This means a predator asked a young person to meet somewhere, called a young person on the phone, and/or sent the young person correspondence, money, or gifts through the U.S. Postal Service (USDOJ, 2001).
- Approximately 95% of teenage prostitutes have been sexually abused (CCPCA, 1992).

### Sex Offenders Statistics:

- The typical child sex offender molests an average of 117 children, most of whom do not report the offense (National Institute of Mental Health, 1988).
- About 60% of male survivors sampled, report at least one of their perpetrators to be female (Mendel, 1993).
- About 95% of victims know their perpetrators (CCPCA, 1992).
- Over a 25-year period, child molesters had a higher rate of re-offense than rapists: 52% versus 39%. (Prentky, Lee, Knight, and Cerce).

# You Can Make a Difference in the Years to Come:

### Imagine-

Jewish Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Assault knowing that our communities care and want to help.

### Imagine-

Survivors of Sexual Violence finding Rabbis who understand and have information they need to help.

### Imagine-

An International Summit on the topic of Sexual Violence in Jewish Communities. A gathering of Survivors, Rabbis, Parents, Mental Health and Legal Professionals.

# All of these things can happen with your support!

Your contribution to The Awareness Center, Inc. will help guarantee that Jewish Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Assault will stand a chance in getting the help, information and resources they need. You will also be helping to educate Jewish communities all over the world on sexual abuse/assault prevention.

Contributions to The Awareness Center, a taxexempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, are deductible for computing income and estate taxes.



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#### YES!

I want to be a part of the solution and become a financial supporter of The Awareness Center. Inc.

### Enclosed is my gift:

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