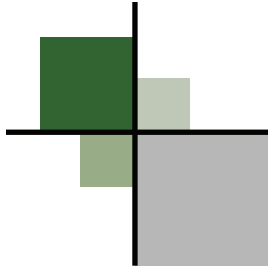


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Justice for Victims

The purpose of the National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI) Clinics is to promote awareness and education, and enforce the rights of crime victims in the criminal justice system. The clinics do this by providing the victims with attorneys to increase respect for the victims' rights.

Although no system is perfect, an evaluation showed that NCVLI Clinics are on the road to fulfilling the mission of its founders. Trainings need to be done with the pro bono attorneys so they stay knowledgeable for their clients. However, significant victories have been won for the victims and their rights have been expanded. More awareness has been raised for the victims as well with judges, attorneys, and police.



Davis, R.C., Anderson, J., Whitman, J., Howley, S. (2009). Finally getting victims their due: A process evaluation of the NCVLI victims' rights clinics, executive summary. Retrieved from www.ncjrs.gov.

Children's Exposure to Violence

Children's exposure to violence continues to be a problem in the United States. In 2007, 60.6% of American children were exposed to violence. This exposure includes outright assault, threats, bullying, maltreatment by adults, and witnessing violence. Almost one-half (46.3%) of the children were assaulted. The assault wounded ten percent (10.2%) of the children. One quarter

(25.3%) of the children witnessed violence. Even children as young as two to five are often assaulted by a brother or sister or bullied. They witness assaults within their own families, too. Overall, more than one-third (38.7%) of the children were victims of multiple violent acts. Exposure to any type of violence increased children's likelihood of being victims of vio-



again. Throughout life, incidents of sexual victimization were common (in excess of six times) among child victims of physical assault. Finkelhor, D. and others. (2009). Children's exposure to violence: A comprehensive national survey. *Juvenile Justice Bulletin*. U.S. Department of Justice. Retrieved from www.ncjrs.gov.

Laura Rizzardini, Inc.

7115 W. North Avenue, #168
Oak Park, IL 60302

Phone: 224/548-1499
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Attention Surfeit Syndrome

Virtual communities offer greater scope for the presentation of our work and ourselves. Life giving support and ideas can be shared worldwide. Resources such as technical support, volunteered skills, food, and funding can be deployed where they are needed much more efficiently and equitably.

The survival of endangered people overwhelms our concerns about cultural homogenization. Does instant and constant know-

ledge of crises and lives worldwide remind us of another human need? Heightened alertness may relieve boredom, but always brings fatigue.

High levels of alertness are also a consequence of publicity. Knowledge of one's personal preferences, habits, and routines are normally the province only of our families and friends. That's why we have stalking laws. Like crime, celebrity never pays adequately. Privacy is priceless.



Today, the whole world is watching. Such publicity can profoundly help and endanger us.

Laura Rizzardini, M.A., an applied sociology owns and operates Laura Rizzardini, Inc. Visit www.lrizzardini.blogspot.com for more essays like this one.