

Crimes Against Children: The Multiple Faces of Child Victimization

Presentation Summaries & Biographical Information

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. – Morning Keynote Address

Reflections on a Career in Child Advocacy: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?

Susan Cohen Esquilin, PhD, ABPP-Clinical

Summary:

Dr. Esquilin's career as a psychologist began in 1971, before the enactment of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) of 1974, the federal legislation that initiated national policy and interventions regarding child abuse and neglect. Like all mental health professionals trained in that era, Dr. Esquilin was exposed to no formal education regarding the recognition, assessment, management, or treatment of abuse. Considerable development in the professional response to child abuse has occurred over the past forty years, and Dr. Esquilin has been a witness to and participant in these changes. Dr. Esquilin will discuss three key stages in professional interventions in child abuse: reporting, investigation, and permanency planning. She will provide a historical overview of the changes she has observed, illustrated by cases and experiences with which she has been involved. Dr. Esquilin will describe how many of the changes have resulted in considerable benefit to children. However, Dr. Esquilin will argue that we must also be aware that our attempts to help can sometimes create more difficulties, and that it is always our joint responsibility to challenge one another, to engage in a critical analysis of what we do, and to produce constant improvement in our policy and practice.

Biography:

Dr. Susan Esquilin is a licensed psychologist, trained in developmental and clinical psychology at the University of Chicago. She holds a diplomate in clinical psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology. Dr. Esquilin's career has been devoted to teaching and service delivery in underserved areas, with a specialization in child abuse. She recently retired as professor of Child Advocacy at Montclair State and has served as a faculty member at Rutgers and the NJ Medical School (UMDNJ-Newark). Dr. Esquilin has been qualified as an expert witness in criminal, family court, and civil matters. Dr. Esquilin is a Past-President of the NJ chapter of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children and is the author of numerous scholarly articles about the professional role of psychologists in the area of abuse and trauma.

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. – Workshop I

A Domestic Violence Dilemma: When is a Crime against a Parent a Crime against a Child?

Susan Curcio, JD, Assistant Professor, Center for Child Advocacy, Montclair State University

Summary:

Domestic violence has traditionally been defined in terms of interactions between intimate partners. While child witnesses have periodically been recognized as persons who may be affected by the stress and violence in their homes, they have not been universally identified as victims of the criminal acts that are the basis of domestic violence actions. Should they be? If a mother is choked to unconsciousness while she cradles her infant, is the infant a crime victim? If the infant is a crime victim, is there reason, is there benefit and is there practicality to filing criminal charges of endangering a child against the batterer? Much has been written in recent years about the impact of domestic violence on the children living in violent homes. Cases like *Nicholson v. Williams* and *Nicholson v. Scoppeta* in New York and *New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services v. S.S.* in New Jersey have identified four principles that are vital to the protection of children who are exposed to domestic violence. Those four principles are: Mothers should not be accused of neglect for being domestic violence victims; Children should be protected by offering battered mothers appropriate services and protection; Separation of battered mothers and children should be the alternative of last resort and; Batterers should be held accountable. This presentation explores the issue of whether and when a criminal action against the batterer for the impact of his violence on the exposed child is a valuable tool in achieving batterer accountability and in protecting children.

Biography:

Susan Curcio is an Assistant Professor at Montclair State University and an attorney who is certified by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a Criminal Trial Attorney. A graduate of Douglass College of Rutgers University ('73), Ms. Curcio earned a Juris Doctorate Degree, (Cum Laude, '76) at the Delaware Law School of Widener University. As an Assistant Prosecutor in Atlantic County for more than 25 years from 1976 to 2004 she tried cases and supervised a team of attorneys and investigators for the crimes against children unit. She left prosecution in 2004 and opened a law practice through which she was designated counsel for the NJ Law Guardian representing children in child protection cases. She trained professionals for Finding Words

New Jersey and the National District Attorneys Association and taught at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. Ms. Curcio joined the MSU faculty in 2007.

Child Sexual Abuse by Clergy: Religious Responses

Dorothy Rogers, PhD, Associate Professor and Department Chair, Department of Philosophy & Religion, Montclair State University

Summary:

Media attention to child sexual abuse by clergy has focused primarily on the problem within Catholicism and the response to abuse by the Church's leadership. Yet those of us who are concerned about both religion and child welfare are well aware that the problem of clergy sexual abuse is not limited to the Catholic Church. Charges of abuse were launched against the Orthodox Jewish community in Brooklyn as recently as 2009. And just over twenty years ago Protestant feminists were concerned enough about the problem to confront the issue in a conference entitled, "Shall You Betray Me with a Kiss?" – appropriating Jesus' question to Judas Iscariot on the eve of his trial and prosecution. This presentation looks at the problem of child sexual abuse by clergy and religious responses to it: from outright denial, to confrontation, to intervention and prevention. It will give an overview of the formal governance structures across all religious traditions (Christian, Jewish, and Muslim). It will also look at the informal hierarchal mechanisms in place across religious traditions. It will then posit that these two factors have an immense influence of the reception of charges of sexual abuse by clergy, and thus on the responses to such abuse. The presentation will conclude with a discussion of several successful models of confrontation, intervention, and prevention within some religious traditions (such as mandated psychological counseling or "boundaries training" sessions for clergy). It will suggest that child advocacy professionals can and should consider a particular religious group's forms of governance and intervention strategies when addressing instances of abuse and/or treating abuse victims.

Biography:

Dorothy Rogers is an associate professor of Philosophy and Chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religion at Montclair State University and is a member of the Women's and Gender Studies Advisory Board. She holds a doctoral degree in philosophy and jurisprudence from Boston University and a master's degree in theological studies from BU's School of Theology. Her scholarly work has focused on women in the history of American philosophy, publishing books and articles on the social, political, and educational theories of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Catherine Beecher, and others. Her interest in religious responses to child sexual abuse by clergy stems from work she did at the Anna Howard Shaw women's center at Boston University School of Theology in the 1980s, and she considers this concern an extension of her ongoing interest in women's and gender issues.

Maternal Incarceration: Its Effects on Children and Families

Christina N. Semple, Doctoral Candidate, PsyD Program, California School of Forensic Studies, Alliant International University

Summary:

Women and especially mothers are the fastest growing populations in the nation's jails and prisons. At the time of their arrest most of them were the primary caregivers of their children. As such, many of these children were exposed to criminal activity such as drug use and distribution, theft, prostitution and other offenses which lead to their mothers' arrests and subsequent incarcerations. Left with family members or placed in foster care, these children tend to experience a greater prevalence of drug abuse, incarceration, child abuse (including physical, sexual, and emotional), and a host of behavioral and academic problems. According to the research these are commonalities shared between mother and child which affect extended family and the community at large. This presentation will delve into the myriad of ways maternal incarceration effects the psychosocial development of children. Additionally, it will explore how extended families, especially maternal grandmothers, are also affected and will conclude with best practices and various treatment methodologies that help strengthen the mother-child bond and thus diminish some of the psychopathology inherent in this population.

Biography:

Christina Semple began volunteering as a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) in Georgia during her undergraduate studies. Her experiences with those children who were abused, neglected, and became a part of the social welfare system showed her the many ways children are affected by parental abuse and neglect. On the other end of the spectrum Ms. Semple had an opportunity to see how familial and social support can help counter the effects of a perilous childhood. After obtaining a BA in communications and media studies from Clayton State University in Morrow, Georgia, Ms. Semple decided to pursue a PsyD in forensic psychology from the School of Forensic Studies at Alliant International University in Irvine, California. Although early in her matriculation, Ms. Semple has done extensive research in the realm of maternal incarceration and how it affects children, the family system, and society as a whole. Upon graduation she wish to continue working with this demographic and assist children and families affected by maternal incarceration including advocating for improved visiting procedures and expanding prison and jail programs that foster relationships between mothers and their children.

Bullying: Developmental and Environmental Determinants and Interventional Implications: CEU Approved, 1.5 hours

Anthony F. Tasso, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology and Counseling, Fairleigh Dickinson University

Jordan DeGroat, MA Candidate, Mental Health Counseling, Department of Psychology and Counseling, Fairleigh Dickinson

University

Frank DiBella, MA Candidate, Mental Health Counseling, Department of Psychology and Counseling, Fairleigh Dickinson University

Summary:

Bullying is broadly conceptualized as a person or persons' systematic form of intentional and repetitive attempts to inflict harm or distress on an individual with presumably less power. Bullying can take on many forms, including direct physical abuse (hits, beatings), relational abuse (ostracism, rumor spreading), verbal abuse (name calling, threats, insults), and most recently through technological means known as cyber bullying (instant messaging, texting, video-taping, websites). The psychological, relational, academic, and societal/legal consequences of bullying for both perpetrators and victims range from the more subtle (situational depression and anxiety decreased academic performance, mild somatic symptomatology) to extreme (long-standing depression, chronic stress, fatigue, suicide). Empirical and anecdotal clinical evidence suggest few, if any, are spared from the effects of bullying, whether victim, perpetrator, or bystander. Although bullying appears to be a destructive staple of childhood school experiences, necessary attention from educators, administrators, and, at times, parents has historically been absent and thus unintentionally aided in the perpetuation of such abuse. However, recent legal changes in addition to several high profile bullying incidents have shed light on the prevalence and devastation of bullying. This presentation aims to provide child advocates, mental health practitioners, and educators with a broad overview of bullying. The first part of the presentation briefly discusses the prevalence rates, gender differences, and the manifestations of direct and indirect bullying behaviors. The second part will describe the different subtypes and characteristics of bully perpetrators, victims, and bystanders as well as etiological and environmental factors germane to bullying. The final section of this presentation will address preventative and interventional methods. The presenters will discuss primary prevention school-based curricular as well as treatment methods and models targeting those already identified as a bullying perpetrator or victim, with an emphasis on the empirical evidence demonstrating the effectiveness (or lack thereof) such interventions.

Biographies:

Anthony Tasso is an Assistant Professor at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison, New Jersey. He is a New Jersey and New York Licensed Psychologist and has a diplomate in Clinical Psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). Dr. Tasso also runs a private practice in Morristown, New Jersey. Dr. Tasso completed his Doctoral Internship at Pennsylvania Hospital, and received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Tennessee. He also received an M.A. in Clinical Psychology from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and a B.A. in Psychology from Montclair State University.

Jordan DeGroat is M.A. Candidate in Mental Health Counseling at Fairleigh Dickinson University. He is also a Graduate Assistant for the Department of Psychology & Counseling at FDU. He received his B.A. in Psychology at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Frank DiBella is an M.A. Candidate in Mental Health Counseling at Fairleigh Dickinson University. He is a Graduate Assistant for the Department of Psychology & Counseling. He received his B.A. in Psychology at Rowan University.

1:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. – Afternoon Keynote Address

Restitution for Child Crime Victims

James R. Marsh, Attorney, The Marsh Law Firm PLLC

Summary:

The Crime Victim's Rights Act (CVRA) is a recently enacted federal law which requires federal courts to award restitution to victims of federal crimes. Unfortunately, children are increasingly becoming victims of federal crimes such as sex trafficking, child pornography and online exploitation. In 2009, my client "Amy" filed the first restitution request for a victim of child pornography possession. Since then, she has filed hundreds of restitution requests in every federal court in the country. The judicial response to Amy's request has been varied with some surprising successes and numerous failures. In the past several months, the courts of appeals have begun dealing with this issue and have issued some decisive decisions providing guidelines for future cases. This keynote address will discuss Amy's case and outline a crime victim's rights under the CVRA. I will provide an overview of federal crimes against children and the process for obtaining restitution in federal court. I will describe the key players in a federal criminal case and explain the role of restitution in sentencing. Participants will also recognize special issues relating to child crime victims in the federal court system.

Biography:

James Marsh is a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School and its acclaimed Child Advocacy Law Clinic, and an experienced trial lawyer and frequent commentator and author on legal issues affecting children. Mr. Marsh is the founder, former executive director and current board secretary of the nationally recognized Children's Law Center in Washington, DC which received the National Association of Counsel for Children's Outstanding Legal Advocacy Award during his tenure. Mr. Marsh has represented clients in wrongful adoption, civil rights, RICO, Title IX sex harassment, §1983, special education, high stakes testing, student discipline, child welfare and adoption cases before state and federal trial and appellate courts. His current focus is representing victims of child pornography in criminal restitution and civil cases in federal courts nationwide. Mr. Marsh

has appeared on CourtTV, CNN, Nancy Grace and The O'Reilly Factor. His effort to obtain restitution for victims of child pornography was recently featured in the New York Times. Mr. Marsh has written numerous articles for professional journals and treatises and is the editor of the ChildLaw Blog.

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Workshop II

Finding a Voice: Music and Drama Therapy for Child Survivors of Domestic Violence: CEU Approved, 1 hour

Amy Clarkson, MMT, Adjunct Professor, Department of Music Therapy, Montclair State University

Allyn Sitjar, MA, Registered Drama Therapist, SAFE, Founder and Director, Summer Theater Institute

Macheis Wind, Founder and Director, Guitar Tree

Summary:

Play and creative action are the most natural means for children to find their own voice and express themselves. Children are inherently spontaneous and creative beings. Trauma can stifle or subdue a child's innate spontaneity and creativity. When given a supportive, safe space, children's ability to play and create can be nurtured so that it develops and grows. Through creative experiences, a child can express his or her inner world in a way that is natural and non-threatening. The child can replay aspects of traumatic events, while retaining a sense of control and distance that is afforded by the creative experiences, the music and play materials, and the use of metaphor within those experiences. In a supportive, trusting relationship and environment, a child can learn to develop his or her inner creative resources in order to heal from past trauma, to cope with current life stressors, to gain a more positive sense of self and to develop healthier relationship patterns for the future. In this workshop, stories will be shared of children enrolled in a creative arts therapies program for families recovering from domestic violence. The therapeutic process and relationship will be examined and music and drama therapy interventions will be demonstrated and experienced by the group. Precautions and special areas of concern will be discussed.

Biographies:

Amy Clarkson, MMT, MT-BC, CP, LCAT is a board certified music therapist and certified psychodramatist. She currently specializes in the treatment of child survivors of domestic violence through the PALS Program at SAFE in Hunterdon, Flemington, NJ. She also provides music therapy services to children on the autism spectrum in an inclusive setting at the Ben Samuels Children's Center, Montclair State University. She has been an adjunct faculty member of the Music Therapy Department at Montclair State University since 1998.

Allyn Sitjar, MA, RDT, LCAT is a registered drama therapist, who currently specializes in the treatment of children who have experienced domestic violence through the PALS Program at SAFE in Hunterdon. She is currently developing and launching a program at SAFE in Hunterdon for teen survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Allyn has worked with teens in an acute psychiatric setting, the Therapeutic Rehabilitation Center at Kings County Hospital, Brooklyn. She is founder and director of the Summer Theater Institute.

Macheis Wind is a professional musician, advocate and the founder and director of Guitar Tree. Guitar Tree is an organization which provides enriching programs for schools, shelters, hospitals, domestic violence safe houses and a maximum security prison for women. Macheis recently produced and released a CD of songs composed with the women in the maximum security prison. He is a creative arts advocate in the PALS program at SAFE in Hunterdon.

The Myths and Realities of Online "Predators" and Predators

Joseph Hanley, BA Candidate, Department of Psychology, Montclair State University

J. Frank Vespa-Papaleo, Esq., Adjunct Professor, Center for Child Advocacy, Montclair State University

Robert D. McCormick, PhD, Director, Center for Child Advocacy, Montclair State University

Summary:

This panel discussion will explore the issues surrounding bullying and online predators. Research will be presented on a study conducted by Wolack et al. (2008) entitled: *Online "Predators" and their Victims: Myths, Realities and Implications for Prevention and Treatment*. The study addresses the realities and misconceptions associated with the Internet predator phenomenon as it relates to statistics garnered from law enforcement data and the ways in which developing adolescent sexuality and widespread Internet use may be a contributing factor. This portion of the panel discussion will also draw on research relating to adolescent use of the Internet, how it facilitates the exploration and expression of sexual identity, and how this may be dangerous and have deleterious developmental effects. The Online predator phenomenon has become more publicized, particularly as social networking sites, such as MySpace and Facebook have become so wildly popular. The panel will also discuss the new Anti-Bullying law recently signed by Governor Christie. It is regarded as the strongest Anti-Bullying law in the United States. The panel discussion will be followed by a Question and Answer period.

Biographies:

Joseph Hanley is a senior undergraduate psychology major at Montclair State University. Joseph has come back to school to complete his B.A. in Psychology after being away from an academic environment for many years while working in the real estate industry and as a musician. His goals are to complete graduate studies in psychology, to one day have his own psychotherapy practice, and to teach on the college level.

Mr. Vespa-Papaleo previously served as Executive Director of the NJ Division on Civil Rights where he investigated and prosecuted school bullying cases and was responsible for the leading school bullying court decision, *LW v. Toms River Regional Schools*. As Senior Counsel to the State Public Advocate he played a key role in the NJ Commission on Bullying in Schools and continues to serve as an advisor and consultant on legal issues involving school bullying. He collaborated as co-author of the NJ Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, recognized as the strongest anti-bullying law in the country.

Dr. McCormick maintains a private practice in Montclair where he works extensively with children and adult survivors of child abuse and neglect. He has published and lectured extensively on issues related to the well-being of children. In addition to two books and numerous publications, Dr. McCormick has spearheaded the development of numerous academic programs in child advocacy including the Post-BA Certificate in Child Advocacy and the first Master of Arts degree in Child Advocacy in the country. Dr. McCormick was instrumental in securing two major grants from the Division of Youth and Family Services, one which supports the Post-BA Certificate in Child Advocacy and another which partners Montclair State with Rutgers and Stockton in an in state-wide initiative to provide training for DYFS workers. He was awarded the Summer Housing Internship Program grant for summer 2011 which will provide housing and internships to 10 students from the New Jersey Foster Care Scholars Program. He has extensive experience in the field of forensic psychology and served as a consultant to the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) in child abuse cases, particularly involving Latino families and children offering expert testimony and performing Termination of Parental Rights evaluations. Previously, Dr. McCormick has also worked as a staff psychologist at Mt. Carmel Guild Community Health Center in Newark for many years. Dr. McCormick has served on the Board of Advisers for the Office of the Child Advocate. Recently, Dr. Robert McCormick has been appointed by Gov. Chris Christie to the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect.

At the Crossroads: Child Trafficking and Adoption

Elliotte S. Harrington, MA, Adjunct Professor, Department of Family and Child Studies, Montclair State University

Dana H. Frisher, BA, Montclair State University

Summary:

This presentation will explore the complex relationship between adoption and the victimization of children via the crime of child trafficking. This atrocity occurs most often in countries that are experiencing social, political, and/or economic challenges or collapse. Children are sometimes sold, but frequently taken from their parents or family members under false pretenses; they are falsely declared orphaned or abandoned, and then placed with new families in other countries (including the U.S.) through international adoption. In many cases, the children are abused or neglected when placed in unregulated institutional care overseas prior to adoption. The perpetrators of this crime receive exorbitant amounts of money through this underground market. The victims include the adoptees and their families of origin; the adoptive families; and an otherwise legitimate system that is dedicated to finding families for children. The presentation will delve into the social, economic, political, and legal factors that contribute to and support child trafficking and their connection with adoption practices. The personal and emotional effects on the individual child will be explained, as well as the wider implications for the adoption community. Select incidents and cases will be presented. Finally, constructive suggestions for policy and practice reform will be examined, including the implications for the U.S. legal system in response to the implementation of the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption.

Biographies:

Elliotte S. Harrington received her MA in Counseling from Montclair State University, with a concentration in Community Counseling. She is currently an adjunct professor in the Family and Child Studies Department of Montclair State University, teaching the course Adoption and the Contemporary Family. She has worked as a counselor to couples, families, groups, and individuals across the life span. Ms. Harrington has presented workshops and lectures on adoption-related topics at various national and local conferences. She is a chapter co-author in the Handbook of Adoption: Implications for Researchers, Practitioners, and Families, R.A. Javier, A.L. Baden, F.A. Biofora, & A. Camacho-Gingerich (Eds.). Elliotte and her husband are the parents of a daughter, who joined their family through adoption.

Dana H. Frisher has just completed her bachelor's degree in Family and Child Studies with a concentration in Family Services at Montclair State University. She also completed a minor in Psychology and Music Skills. Dana is an aspiring adoption attorney who hopes to attend Fordham Law to receive her J.D. and M.S.W.

Sibling Abuse: Detection and Advocacy

Amy Meyers, PhD, Faculty, The College of New Rochelle

Summary:

Sibling abuse is the most common form of family violence, yet it is often overlooked as normal, aggressive behavior among siblings. The extant literature does not present a clear differentiation among sibling rivalry, sibling aggression, sibling violence, and sibling abuse which may contribute to the lack of recognition sibling abuse has received. The identification of sibling abuse is imperative to the field of child welfare and clinical practice because cases continue to go unreported by mandated professionals. Many states do not have statutes that define sibling abuse and child protection service caseworkers are left to interpret the child abuse statutes without adequate guidance (Kominkiewicz, 2004). Findings have indicated that childhood experiences of sibling abuse occurred in homes where parent-child abuse was present and there were a lack of supportive relationships within the household. Additionally, the families of victims created a closed system in which the abuse was perceived as normative and outside parties did not identify any problems within the household. The lack of parental

responsiveness to the sibling abuse exacerbated its effects and plague victims' self-esteem. As a result of emotional abandonment within the household, survivors develop a compromised ability to relate to others due to fears of abandonment and trust issues. Despite what they endured, survivors utilized coping strategies and defense mechanisms which allow them to persevere in adulthood. The uncovered resiliency factors in both childhood and adulthood pose implications for prevention and intervention. The co-occurrence of parent-child abuse in many of the cases studied attests to the need for child welfare workers to learn how to conduct sibling abuse risk assessments when investigating cases of parent-child abuse.

Biography:

Amy Meyers, PhD has received her graduate and doctoral degrees from Hunter College School of Social Work. She is on faculty at The College of New Rochelle and serves on the Admissions Committee at Hunter College School of Social Work. She has consulted for the Administration for Children's Services in NYC where she maintains a private practice. Previously, she served as the Clinical Director at Family Justice, Inc. She has presented her research across the country at the Council of Social Work Education APM in Oregon and San Antonio, Hunter College School of Social Work, the National Research Conference on Child and Family Programs and Policy in Bridgewater, MA, and the National Child Welfare Summit in Washington, D.C.

Homeland Security Investigations and the Man Who Played Santa Claus

Lynne Wilson-Bruchet, BA, Victim Assistance Specialist, U.S. DHS Homeland Security Investigations

Bradley J. Benwell, BA, Special Agent, U.S. DHS Homeland Security Investigations

Summary:

The Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) the largest investigative agency within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), is responsible for enforcing a wide range of crimes related to border security, including conducting domestic and international investigations on human trafficking, child sex tourism, child pornography, and forced child labor. ICE Cyber Crimes Center is fully committed to victim-centered investigations in which the identification, rescue, and needs of victims have equal importance to the apprehension and prosecution of traffickers. ICE enhanced its victim assistance efforts by staffing full-time Victim Assistance Specialists in ICE HSI field offices and hiring dedicated Child Forensic Interviewers. On November 16, 2009, Wayne Corliss (AKA Casey Wayne) was sentenced in the US District Court of New Jersey to a term of imprisonment of 235 months and lifetime supervision upon his release from custody. On October 28, 2008, Corliss pled guilty to an information charging three counts of traveling in foreign commerce with the intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct, and a single count each of producing and possessing child pornography. Corliss was initially the target of an international search by law enforcement after images of him engaging in sexual contact with prepubescent boys began to circulate on the Internet. An investigation was initiated by the International Police Organization (INTERPOL) in 2006 and after two years of trying in vain to identify the unknown white male of the photos, INTERPOL made the decision to release sanitized versions of his likeness on its website. Within 24 hours, INTERPOL received hundreds of leads including several reliable tips that indicated that the unknown male was actually Wayne Nelson CORLISS of Union City, NJ. Corliss was arrested by SAC Newark and SAC Washington DC special agents at his residence on May 7, 2008 without incident. Following his arrest, agents obtained Corliss' consent to search all of his computers and related equipment. The ensuing forensic exam lead to the discovery of over one thousand images of child pornography, as well as numerous saved e-mails and chat logs. That evidence has, to date, led to the arrest of six additional associates of Corliss for a range of crimes involving the sexual exploitation of children.

Biographies:

Ms. Wilson-Bruchet's, the Victim Assistance Specialist with Homeland Security Investigations SAC Newark, responsibilities include coordination and monitoring of all victim assistance activities within the SAC Office; providing direct service to victims, outreach to victim assistance organizations, training, and technical assistance and support to office staff. Lynne focuses her efforts on human trafficking and child exploitation cases but is available to assist with all investigations within the SAC office as well as joint investigations with other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. Lynne came to DHS in October 2009 with 16 years of experience in the field of child abuse and family violence, including experience as a Forensic Interviewer. Lynne has received the Department of the Army's Achievement Medal for Civilian Service, the Commander's Award for Civilian Service and the "Butterfly Award" from NCMEC. Lynne received her BA from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and is fluent in French.

Special Agent (SA) Benwell has been assigned to the Homeland Security Investigations Cyber Crimes/Child Exploitation (CCIG) Unit since 2006. He actively investigates individuals involved in the creation, distribution and receipt of child pornography and routinely works in conjunction with multiple law enforcement agencies (including INTERPOL and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police) and overseas ICE attaché offices. SA Benwell was the Case Agent in an international sex tourism investigation that has resulted in seven arrests in three states and one foreign country. Prior to his assignment to the CCIG, SA Benwell was assigned to the Newark International Airport Internal Conspiracy Group. Prior government service includes over 5 years with the Immigration & Naturalization Service as an Immigration Agent. SA Benwell received his B.A. from Rutgers University and is the recipient of the following awards: "Excellence in Law Enforcement Award" from ICE Assistant Secretary in 2008, Certificate of Appreciation from the INTERPOL Secretary General in 2009.