

this could be done in conjunction with the study of other types of violence against women. Courses addressing wife battering, abuse of the elderly, rape and general child abuse as well as sexual abuse, need to be added to the basic psychology curriculum. These courses must be contextualized in an analysis in the social reality that violence against women and children by men is pervasive in our society.

The psychological profession needs to educate itself to learn the facts about sexual abuse of children and its impact on the female population so the profession as a whole can take more responsibility for creating awareness of the problem, stopping abusive behavior and offering appropriate and sensitive treatment.

References

Briere, John. (1984). "The Effects of Childhood Sexual Abuse on Later Psychological Functioning: Defining a Post-Sexual-Abuse Syndrome." Presented at the Third National Conference on Sexual Victimization of Children, Washington, D.C., April.

Burgess, A.W. and Holstrom, L.H. (1979). *Rape: Crisis and Recovery*. Bonie: Prentice-Hall.

Conte, J. (1985). "The Effects of Sexual Abuse on Children: A Critique and Suggestions for Future Research." *Victimology: An International Journal*, 10:1-4.

Conte, J.R. and Berliner, L. (1981). "Sexual Abuse of Children: Implications for Practice." *Social Casework*, 62(10), 601-606.

Finkelhor, D. (1979) *Sexually Victimized Children*. New York: Free Press.

Finkelhor, D. (1979). "What's Wrong with Sex between Adults and Children? Ethics on the Problem of Sexual Abuse." *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 49(4), 692-696.

Finkelhor, D. (1984). *Child Sexual Abuse: New Theory and Research*. New York: The Free Press.

Finkelhor, D. and Brown, A. (1985). "The Traumatic Impact of Child Sexual Abuse: A Conceptualization." *American*

Journal of Orthopsychiatry, October.

Gelinas, D.J. (1983). "The Persisting Negative Effects of Incest." *Psychiatry*, Vol. 46.

Herman, J. (1980). "Histories of Violence in an Outpatient Population: An Exploratory Study." *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 50(1).

Meiselman, K.C. (1979). *Incest*. San Francisco: Jossey Bass Publishers.

Rush, F. (1980). *Best Kept Secret: The Sexual Abuse of Children*.

Russell, D. (1986). *The Secret Trauma: Incest in the Lives of Girls and Women*. New York: Basic Books.

Summitt, R. (1983). "The Child Sexual Abuse Accommodation Syndrome." *Child Abuse: Neglect*. Vol. 7, pp. 177-193.

Wyatt, G. (1985). "The Sexual Abuse of Afro-American and White Women in Childhood." *Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal*, 9.

DEBBIE NIFAKIS

she and i

we have made a pact
she and i
she will look after me
and i will try not to hurt her

it is a fair pact

i watch her
and envy her leanness
i think i know what it
must be like to
live within her body
it is small
but it is not confining
mine is expansive
and feels so binding

yet today it feels different
she is smiling at me

for months we have suffered
endless hungers
and cried

it seemed a cruel thing to do
to starve ourselves
she and i

but through it all
we also laughed
she and i

i knew that one day
a spirit like hers would
escape from my fat body

she knew that one day
a spirit like hers would
escape from my fat body

we looked into the mirror
together that day
and a warmth enveloped us
we could only hug each other

for we felt the gentle truth
she and i

she and i
were really only ME

