

Appendix III

Books and DVDs on Women's & Children's Victimization Issues and Spirituality

Unless otherwise noted, the materials reviewed below are available from the *FaithTrust Institute*, a national organization headquartered in Seattle, Washington, which has been serving religious and community groups throughout the world since 1977. *FaithTrust Institute* works with many cultures, including Asian and Pacific Islander, African American, Latino/a, and Indigenous. A diverse range of faith communities – including Jewish, Roman Catholic Christian, Protestant Christian, Buddhist, Muslim, and Indigenous – utilize their resources.

FaithTrust Institute envisions a world where religious institutions create a climate in which abuse is not tolerated. Faith communities become sanctuaries of safety, worthy of our trust, and all of us experience justice and healing in our communities.

The staff at *FaithTrust Institute* is available for training seminars and keynote presentations in your area. Subjects include religious aspects of:

- Domestic violence
- Child abuse
- Sexual violence
- Sexual abuse by clergy

FaithTrust Institute

www.faithtrustinstitute.org

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Domestic Violence Multi-Faith Resources

Broken Vows: Religious Perspectives on Domestic Violence (DVD)

Introduced by a Christian pastor and Jewish rabbi, this color video presents the stories of six battered women – Jewish, Roman Catholic Christian, and Protestant Christian. One woman is a Caucasian professor at a Christian Evangelical college; one was an African-American protestant pastor's wife; one is a Hispanic Catholic; one is a Native American Christian, one is Jewish, and one is Caucasian Protestant. They explain their struggle to remain faithful to their spiritual heritage and, as the same time, learn how to take a stand against what is clearly wrong. Their stories are interspersed with Catholic and Protestant pastors and rabbis who understand that their faiths do not condone violence and offer support to women who experience it. A key point echoed by several of the faith leaders is that violence breaks the covenant of marriage long before separation or divorce is considered.

Family Violence and Religion: An Interfaith Resource Guide

Compiled by the Staff of Volcano Press

This publication is more an academic resource than a practical tool for victims. The book's value lies in its diversity, with sections on alcohol abuse and domestic violence, domestic violence in rural areas, Asian-American patriarchies, an African-American perspective on domestic violence, cultural issues for Hispanic-American battered women, elderly battered women, and Christian and Jewish perspectives on abuse. One of the most valuable sections of the book for Jews and Christians is a three-page chapter titled "The Rod of Guidance" which explains that, in Hebrew, the "rod" was used by shepherds to care for and guide the sheep – never to hit them. It lists various ways the rod was used to protect the sheep from harm.

Forgiveness and Abuse: Jewish and Christian Reflections

Edited by Rev. Dr. Marie Fortune and Dr. Joretta Marshall

This book looks deeply and thoroughly into the meaning of forgiveness and what it requires. It explores theological, psychological, and ethical aspects of forgiveness in the Jewish and Christian traditions within the context of abuse. Only 152 pages long, this book will educate the seriously faithful victims of violence about their faith tradition's expectations surrounding the difficult topic of forgiveness.

Love: All that and More (DVD)

This product is a set of three videos and a six-session 50-minute each curriculum designed to inform high school and college age youth about what makes healthy relationships. To increase their awareness about abuse, and to motivate them to seek relationships based on equality and mutual respect.

Pastoral Care for Domestic Violence: Case Studies for Clergy (DVD)

An important training DVD for Christian and Jewish clergy. This multifaith series of role plays demonstrates Catholic, Protestant and Jewish clergy effectively addressing common religious issues raised by victims, survivors and abusers in situations of domestic violence. This comprehensive training package is designed to be used for audiences who have an understanding of the religious aspects of domestic violence (best used subsequent to *Broken Vows*). Also ideal for use in theological education.

Walking Together: Working with Women from Diverse Religious and Spiritual Traditions. A Guide for Domestic Violence Advocates.

Edited by Jean Anton

An important anthology for domestic violence advocates. Includes information about American Indian/Alaskan Native Spirituality, Buddhism, Catholicism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Protestantism.

What Every Congregation Needs to Know about Domestic Violence

This brochure for Christian and Jewish faith communities, battered women's programs, and human service providers answers basic questions about domestic violence and explains what church and synagogue members can do individually and collectively to address it in their congregations. It is available in English, Chinese, Korean, Laotian, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Jewish Resources

A Journey Towards Freedom: A Haggadah for Women Who Have Experienced Domestic Violence

This book transforms the traditional Passover Seder into a special service that addresses the oppression and liberation of women journeying from abuse to safety. It is an excellent resource to supplement the Passover Haggadah for congregations and domestic violence programs that serve Jewish women.

To Save a Life: Ending Domestic Violence in Jewish Families (DVD)

The long tradition of valuing family life in Judaism makes it difficult to believe that the percentage of Jewish women who are abused is as high as in other populations. Designed specifically for abused Jewish women, this 35-minute color video features several Jewish women who share their abuse experiences (one of them, Jae, is also in *Broken Vows*, mentioned above). Five rabbis appear in the video, each one emphasizing that a Jew's primary obligation is to preserve life, including the victim's own life and the lives of her children (*Whoever saves a single life has saved a entire universe - Talmud.*) The video provides information about abuse in Jewish families and a comprehensive discussion of theological issues such as *shalom bayit* (household harmony), forgiveness and atonement. It points out that it is not only the wife's responsibility to maintain household harmony, but the husband's as well. It also includes information about the effects of domestic violence on children.

You Are Not Alone: Solace and Inspiration for Domestic Violence Survivors Based on Jewish Wisdom By Toby Landesman

Domestic violence occurs within all streams of Judaism: Conservative, Orthodox, Reconstructionist, Reform, Renewal, and among Jews who do not identify with any particular Movement. For Jewish domestic violence victims and the professionals who help them, this book informs about the problem and explains what Judaism says about it. A very useful Appendix informs victims and faith leaders about how to develop a Safety Plan, people and places that can help, and national hotlines, agencies, and websites.

Christian Resources

Circles of Healing

Designed to complement *Wings Like a Dove*, this is a 3-session support group curriculum for abused Christian women. Each session includes worship materials, scripture reflections, discussion questions, and closing prayers.

Domestic Violence: What Churches Can Do (DVD)

This 20-minute color video is an edited version of *Broken Vows* and includes worship materials, background information on domestic violence, discussion questions, and practical steps Christian congregations can take to prevent domestic violence. The materials are sufficient for a one-hour presentation.

God's Reconciling Love: A Pastor's Handbook on Domestic Violence
By Nancy A. Murphy, M.A.

In his foreword, Dr. Dan Allender, President of Mars Hill Graduate School, points out that "this well-designed manual, written by a wise and amazing woman, will not only answer the majority of questions Christian pastors ask about domestic violence, but embolden them to make the path safe for both victim and perpetrator." Short and very readable (less than 100 pages), the book informs about domestic violence but also presents pastors' perspectives and presents workable solutions. One of the most useful sections of the book is "One Couple's Story" by Rev. Dr. Randy Bridges, a Baptist pastor who recounts his experience of learning to deal appropriately with domestic violence in his congregation. It also includes a fine resource list at the back.

Keeping the Faith: Guidance for Christian Women Facing Abuse
By Rev. Dr. Marie M. Fortune

This classic, available in English, Korean, and Spanish, was written in response to Marie Fortune's work with women being abused in Christian homes and women in shelters. She listened to women who had been ostracized by their churches and counseled by their pastors to go home and be a better Christian wife. She also talked with women who found caring support from their pastors and churches. One by one, the book responds to questions Christian women ask about domestic violence. From the Psalms through the Gospels through the letters of Paul, distortions and misconceptions about scriptures sometimes used to excuse abuse are corrected.

Opening the Door: A Pastor's Guide to Addressing Domestic Violence in Premarital Counseling. By Rev. Susan Yarrow Morris in collaboration with Jean Anton.

A critical new interdenominational resource for Christian pastors and counselors seeking to prevent domestic violence.

Wings Like a Dove: Healing for the Abused Christian Woman (DVD)

See the description of *Broken Vows* in the **Multi-Faith Resources** section above. *Wings Like a Dove* includes only the Christian survivor and pastor segments and is intended for Christian audiences.

Muslim Resources

***Change from Within: Diverse Perspectives on Domestic Violence in Muslim Communities.* Edited by Maha B. Alkhateeb and Salma Elkadi Abugideiri**

To date, domestic violence in Muslim communities has received little attention. *Change From Within* is one of the first edited volumes to focus on domestic violence in Muslim families. Bringing the experiences of diverse domestic violence advocates to the table, voices in the text include religious leaders, services providers, and researchers from multiple disciplines. Four survivors also share their stories, illustrating some of the challenges they faced, as well as their paths to healing. This volume illuminates unique domestic violence issues that Muslims face, and emphasizes Islam's intolerance to abuse.

Garments for One Another: Ending Domestic Violence in Muslim Families (DVD)

An important new resource for mosques, religious leaders, social workers, community groups and shelter staff who offer help to Muslim women who currently experience violence in the home. This complete package offers solutions to prevent future violence within the context of the Islamic faith. Includes interviews with survivors, religious leaders, and community advocates.

What Islam Says About Domestic Violence

By Zainab Alwani and Salma Abugideiri

This practical guide for helping Muslim victims of domestic violence is a valuable resource for shelters, Imams, and others who serve Muslim victims. It is also recommended for *all* those who serve these victims in order to dismiss rampant myths about violence among Muslims. In Islam, spouses are inherently equal. Cultural groups who proclaim inequality are speaking more from a cultural than spiritual perspective. The foundation of Islamic marriage is described in the Qur'an: *And among His signs is this: that He created for you mates from among yourselves that you may dwell in tranquility with them, and He has put love and mercy between your (hearts)* (30:21). Because Islam and Middle Eastern culture are relatively unfamiliar to many in this country, this book was designed offer information and answers to frequently asked questions. Copies are available from Foundation for Appropriate and Immediate Temporary Help, 500 Grove Street, Ste. 210, Herndon, VA 20172. www.faithus.org. E-mail info@faithus.org.

Sexual Abuse of Adult Women by Clergy

It is not uncommon for clergy to misuse their power and engage congregants in sexual relationships. While these relationships do not represent a breaking of the law, as do the forms of abuse noted above, they represent clear ethical violations. Obtaining justice is a prerequisite to healing. When exploitation occurs, the following materials establish elements for achieving justice: (1) victim truth-telling, (2) acknowledgment of the violation by the clergy and the faith community, (3) compassion for the victim, (4) protection of the vulnerable, (5) accountability of the clergy abuser, and (6) vindication. Basic components of policies and procedures to handle these situations are recommended for churches and synagogues.

Book:

- *Is Nothing Sacred? The Story of a Pastor, the Women He Sexually Abused, and the Congregation He Nearly Destroyed* by Marie M. Fortune.

Videos:

- *A Sacred Trust: Boundary Issues for Clergy and Spiritual Teachers* includes four 22-minute videos with a curriculum. It includes specific Appendices on boundary issues for African American communities, Asian and Pacific Islander communities, Jewish communities, Latina and Latino communities, and Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual and Transgendered clergy or spiritual teachers. Meditations and prayers are included in the Buddhist, Jewish, and Christian traditions.
- *Not in My Church*, a 45-minute color video for Christian audiences.
- *Not in My Congregation*, a 48-minute color video for Jewish audiences.
- *Once You Cross the Line*, a 50-minute, six-segment video on preventing clergy misconduct and sexual abuse in ministerial relationships.