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BlackSDA _ 3ABN _ Definition Of Molestation

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Mar 20 2007, 09:16 PM

I just wanted it known that sexual molestation of a child can be defined as sex (penetration/rape/coercion), fondling ("feeling on"), or forced viewing of sexual material (pornography) or sexual acts (voyeurism).

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/molestation><<<---Click Here!!!

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/fondling><<<---Click Here!!!

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/rape><<<---Click Here!!!

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/coercion><<<---Click Here!!!

<http://dictionary.reference.com/search?r=2&q=voyeurism><<<---Click Here!!!

<http://www.rainn.org/><<<---Click Here!!!

I'm adding this because some folks seem to think that "sex" is just about penetration.....

Molestation is just about penetration.....

It's so much more than that..... that is all....

Posted by: LadyTenor Mar 21 2007, 09:04 AM

I agree...and this is true also from a legal sense...if anyone wants links to statutes that corroborate this point of view, feel free to ask.....

Posted by: Clay Mar 22 2007, 09:21 AM

I suspect Re' that if those who believe Tommy has done no wrong agree to the definitions you have linked, then it makes the position they hold a bit more tenuous.... but that's just me....

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Mar 22 2007, 07:05 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ Mar 22 2007, 10:21 AM)

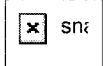
I suspect Re' that if those who believe Tommy has done no wrong agree to the definitions you have linked, then it makes the position they hold a bit more tenuous.... but that's just me....

....and if they can see/read/agree with these dictionary based definitons....**and** still see Tommy Shelton as "innocent".....then I say with all worth:

They should not have children or have children in their care.

Why?

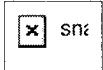
Reread all definitions and let that merinate....



When I said "have children" I ment:

GIVE BIRTH, ADOPT, OR FOSTER PARENT

Jes wanted to make that crystal clear....



yet some more....

Posted by: seraph|m Mar 22 2007, 10:52 PM

Mercy

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Mar 30 2007, 04:05 PM

Bump....unless I can get it pinned?

Posted by: Clay Mar 30 2007, 05:46 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Mar 30 2007, 05:05 PM)

Bump....unless I can get it pinned?

naw... not this one...

Posted by: seraph|m Apr 2 2007, 05:45 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Mar 20 2007, 10:16 PM)

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Molestation is just about penetration.....

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Thanks DrRe. It has been said, knowledge is power. Let us pray that the knowledge above becomes empowering.

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Apr 2 2007, 09:28 PM

No press Clay... I'll jes keep "bumpin" it every now and then so that folks don't forget the definitions.

I got reminded today on a intake of a new client.... se 8 years old....and it was her Grandfather.....

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Apr 2 2007, 09:47 PM

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I got reminded today on a intake of a new client.... se 8 years old....and it was her Grandfather.....

How the Savior's heart must break...

Sad.

Posted by: seraph|m Apr 2 2007, 09:56 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Apr 2 2007, 10:47 PM)

How the Savior's heart must break...

Sad.

Sad and sick...

Posted by: mozart Apr 4 2007, 05:54 PM

QUOTE(seraph|m @ Apr 2 2007, 05:45 PM)

Thanks DrRe. It has been said, knowledge is power. Let us pray that the knowledge above becomes empowering.

some words come to mind. perversion & betrayal. the damage to a person, a child, is lifelong. they feel degraded & debased. i believe that it affects the development of their entire personality. it changes who they are versus who they could have been. i'm not saying that being this kind of victim paralyzes you forever, but it makes negative changes in who you are that are forever. this will probably freak a lot of you out, but.....I beleive in castration. there i said it & i mean that. even tho' they say rape is not about sex, that it's about power and control, i don't give a hoot. i think castration would scare guys a lot more than jail. i'd bet on that.

i'm sure some folks might want to hang me from the highest tree for saying that but so be it. i'll bet that everyone here knows someone this has happened to. multiply those times 10 and that's probably how many never even tell.

it's so sick and so sad. if it has not affected you personally, you have no clue what it does to a person.

i am a peaceful person but this is the # 1 subject where i feel rage.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Apr 4 2007, 08:26 PM

QUOTE(mozart @ Apr 4 2007, 04:54 PM)

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i am a peaceful person but this is the # 1 subject where i feel rage.

mozart,

you are expressing an emotion that is very normal when faced with this subject. Unfortunately, I can tell that even you know castration is not the solution to deactivating a sexual predator. Their tool of destruction lies much higher on their body - behind their eyes. The only sure way of keeping them from their predatory ways is, first of all, identifying them and second, complete separation from potential victims

There was a time in my life that I used to imagine all kinds of lengthy, lingering, torturous deaths to those who had victimized me, other family members and children anywhere. Then, I gave as much of my damage as I could to the only One who can truly heal. I know He will deal with each predator as they deserve. I also know that He longs for each of those twisted souls to turn their lives over to Him and be saved.

I know without a doubt that I was forever changed by the victimization I lived through as a child. But I was not destroyed. As a survivor I now have been able to turn my experience from a scar into a gift. While I would love to have gone through childhood without the pain, I can now give thanks for even that and use the experience and my journey out of it to the glory of God.

PB

Posted by: Skyhook Apr 4 2007, 10:27 PM

I think Mozart has a point. The fear of castration would be much more disturbing than the fear of jail.

Whether fear is a deterrent or not I guess is debatable.

Posted by: nice&smooth Apr 5 2007, 12:32 AM

Morbib at least to me! But please continue looks like you guys will wear this one out!

Posted by: mozart Apr 5 2007, 12:36 AM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Apr 4 2007, 07:26 PM)

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PB

i failed to mention i meant that castration be done once they are behind bars for the rest of their lives. have you ever seen a violent eunuch?

Posted by: Noahswife Apr 5 2007, 12:39 AM

QUOTE(mozart @ Apr 5 2007, 02:36 AM)

i failed to mention i meant that castration be done once they are behind bars for the rest of their lives. have you ever seen a violent eunuch?

OUCH.....now that hurts.....but,

Posted by: Observer Apr 5 2007, 04:09 AM

QUOTE(mozart @ Apr 4 2007, 04:54 PM)

. . . i think castration would scare guys a lot more than jail. i'd bet on that.

I understand the emotion. But, do you understand the consequences?

Those you tell us would be more frightened of castration than jail would be the ones who would kill their victim. Your plan would increase the likelihood of more deaths.

On the other side of it, studies have shown that many who commit crime do not believe that they will ever be caught. For those, castration would have no effect.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Apr 5 2007, 10:30 AM

QUOTE(nice&smooth @ Apr 4 2007, 10:32 PM)

Morbib at least to me! But please continue looks like you guys will wear this one out!

nice&smooth,

What is your point? Do you want the subject to fade away, back into the denial that has left so many children victimized? The cycle of victimization is approaching epidemic levels in many countries and those are only the victims that we know about.

Awareness and action are the only way to combat this devastating behavior.

Gregory,

I agree that castration would most likely have that effect.

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Apr 6 2007, 12:23 PM

Bump!

Why - because some forget that the definition of molestation and must be reminded.

QUOTE(nice&smooth @ Apr 5 2007, 01:32 AM)

Morbib at least to me! But please continue looks like you guys will wear this one out!

While the subject may be **Morbid**; at the same time it must be discussed...Why?

Again...

How can you stop something from happening without discussing it!

Per Dictionary.com

mor·bid /'mɔrbɪd/ Pronunciation Key

Spelled Pronunciation[mawr-bid]

- adjective 1. suggesting an unhealthy mental state or attitude; unwholesomely gloomy, sensitive, extreme, etc.: a morbid interest in death.
2. affected by, caused by, causing, or characteristic of disease.
 3. pertaining to diseased parts: morbid anatomy.
 4. gruesome; grisly.

Posted by: Snoopy Apr 6 2007, 03:47 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Apr 6 2007, 12:23 PM)

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Hey DrRe,

I just read the NOTE in your signature line and had to chuckle. You have an awesome sense of humor!! And just for the record, the five years I spent paying a therapist were the best investment I ever made in myself!! She's a wonderful Christian lady and her advice has changed my life!!!

OK - I know that was of but to all of you who spend your days as "mental health professionals"...

sig You are making a difference!!


Snoopy


Posted by: lookin4truth Apr 6 2007, 04:37 PM

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
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Snoopy,

Most of us would probably be better classified as "mental health patients".


I'm Just Joking!!! Have a coke and a smile  , Uhh, I mean pepsi

Posted by: Snoopy Apr 6 2007, 05:40 PM

QUOTE(lookin4truth @ Apr 6 2007, 05:37 PM)

Snoopy,

Most of us would probably be better classified as "mental health patients".

I'm Just Joking!!! Have a coke and a smile  , Uhh, I mean pepsi

.....definitely prefer Pepsi....!!!!!!



Posted by: beartrap Apr 7 2007, 10:08 PM

QUOTE(lookin4truth @ Apr 6 2007, 03:37 PM)

Snoopy,

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I'm Just Joking!!! Have a coke and a smile , Uhh, I mean pepsi

People who are different from the society they live in are the ones who will be classified as "mental health patients."

Pepsi? Only with pizza. Coke with a generous twist of lemon.

Posted by: Fran Apr 7 2007, 10:35 PM

QUOTE(beartrap @ Apr 7 2007, 11:08 PM)

People who are different from the society they live in are the ones who will be classified as "mental health patients."

Pepsi? Only with pizza. Coke with a generous twist of lemon.

Hey Bear;

With your strong talent for appreciation of the best in food and drinks, how is it you stay so thin? I smell food and gain weight! I'm so jealous.

Can you come over and cook for me and my family? My family would love it too! Do you cook for a large amount of people, or do you just prefer a small group of 1-2? Would love to taste your haystacks! Still have your recipe. I must make those soon.

Your posts make my mouth water.

Posted by: beartrap Apr 7 2007, 10:44 PM

QUOTE(Fran @ Apr 7 2007, 09:35 PM)

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A few years ago someone told me that time and weight would catch up with me. I am six feet tall and now up to 170 pounds. Not many years ago I was at 130. It seems that white hair and pounds come on at the same time and rate.

And yes, I am certainly a fan of fine food! Particularly if I can learn to fix it myself.

Posted by: mozart Apr 8 2007, 01:50 AM

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sowwy--- off b

Posted by: Fran Apr 8 2007, 03:42 AM

QUOTE(mozart @ Apr 8 2007, 02:50 AM)

sowwy--- off b

You are so correct!

There are so many sexually abused in society today. Society seems to think recovery is the victims problem.

The Victim "needs to get a grip!" they say.

Many don't know how to help them, so they will have to let someone else deal with it.

The story goes on and on.....

What is the victim to do?

Who do they turn too?

Are they caught at such and early age that they believe abuse is like brushing your teeth and everyone does it?

If the abuser says, "If you tell I will hurt so and so?"

Who is safe to go to?

One woman went to her spiritual leader about her husband only to be told, "I don't believe a word you have said!"

How does a very young victim know who to tell?

Who is safe and who is not safe?

Pretty soon the victim feels hopeless. Have you ever felt hopeless? They move away, but still have the nightmares. They marry and still have nightmares. Let's say the Abuser gets promoted to the Union or gets honored at some big affair. They hear about it. The Victim begins to think this is their fault. That is what they were told by the abuser!

The Victim's may forgive but they can never forget. It is always there. It determines how one thinks and it affects the decisions made in life. If they are abused early in life will they feel they are only acceptable to other abusers. They move on to abusive relationships.

Then one day they read there are many more victims out there that went through the same thing. You weren't crazy after all. Just what does a victim do to gain help to know what to do?

Thanks to God for "Polly's Place" for being available for SDA Victims of SDA Abusers as well as Victims of other denominations.

Ask your self these questions, then put yourself in the Victims shoes if you can. Usually an abuser has many victims. That is why there are laws to put the abusers into jail and remove them from society.

Some states are really cracking down. How long will we continue to allow one person to destroy the lives of so many people?

Finally, people are taking a stand, but many, many more try to pretend that this isn't real. They believe the abusers above the victims, and assume the victims are way out of their minds. This happens all the time in the Seventh-day Adventist church.

We tend to "not see" the facts! It is called selective seeing. Just read these posts and see how some people think the abuser is not guilty even though many victims have come forward.

The posts have to be bumped to bring matters to everyone's attention again. The subject is a thread stopper, just as the finances are. No one wants to talk about it. Probably because they too are victims or they have not a clue as to the subject at hand. Maybe it is because they, too, do not know how to help the situation of the Victim or the abuser.

I have to admit that I do not know how to help the victims. I don't know how to help the abuser! All I know is that it really needs to stop and stop ASAP!

All I do know is that the victims are in a prison and need to be set free!

Posted by: mozart Apr 8 2007, 01:37 PM

I really appreciate all that you have said here fran. i'd like to paste the url for Polly's Place so that if any seeing this would like to learn more and hopefully make a donation they may do that. God bless.

<http://www.pollysplacenetwork.com/>

QUOTE(Fran @ Apr 8 2007, 02:42 AM)

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Posted by: princessdi Apr 14 2007, 11:22 PM

This is a local story for all those who believe it is too late for TS to be charged for his deeds:

<http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=local&id=5188660>

Of special interest to you all will be the fact th the investigation took four years, and this man has been

dodging molestation reports since the 1980's.

Posted by: mozart Apr 15 2007, 12:10 AM



QUOTE(princessdi @ Apr 14 2007, 10:22 PM)

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Posted by: Observer Apr 15 2007, 03:31 AM

The Statute of Limitation will vary according to the State in which the crime was committed. Therefore what happens in California may not apply to IL.

Posted by: LadyTenor Apr 15 2007, 08:41 AM

QUOTE(Observer @ Apr 15 2007, 05:31 AM)

The Statute of Limitation will vary according to the State in which the crime was committed. Therefore what happens in California may not apply to IL.

Very true! Moreover, the issue of whether molestation is ongoing or separate acts will also affect the statute of limitations. These principles will also differ by state.

Posted by: princessdi Apr 15 2007, 11:51 AM



Ok, but it IS a possibility, and if I remember correctly did not the Catholic church cases span several states?

Posted by: Whtz Happenin Apr 17 2007, 09:48 PM


QUOTE(mozart @ Apr 15 2007, 01:10 AM)











Mozart, You should really see someone about your tendency to destroy your head. Or am I underestimating

how hard of a head you have?  

Posted by: mozart Apr 17 2007, 09:57 PM


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
 as long as it's just my head it can't hurt me  rofl    

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Apr 22 2007, 01:25 PM

Bump - for the sake of the definition of truth....

 snr

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Apr 24 2007, 03:09 PM

 snr

Posted by: Johann Apr 24 2007, 11:30 PM

QUOTE(LadyTenor @ Apr 15 2007, 04:41 PM) 

Very true! Moreover, the issue of whether molestation is ongoing or separate acts will also affect the statute of limitations. These principles will also differ by state.



Posted by: Shepherdswife Apr 26 2007, 05:33 AM

>>The Victim's may forgive but they can never forget. It is always there. It determines how one thinks and it affects the decisions made in life. If they are abused early in life will they feel they are only acceptable to other abusers. They move on to abusive relationships.<<

Fran, you are correct there. The ones here who seem to be minimizing and doubting and deflecting this alleged abuse have no understanding of what has been taken from a victim (no matter the age) by an abuser and what it takes for them--especially if they are male, to come forward. In fact, I would venture to say (from personal experience, both as a survivor and as someone who has worked with victims and survivors for years now) that some of those who are minimizing might be victims themselves who cling to the belief that "it was done, get on with life" to keep the darkness and pain inside themselves from rising to the surface. (Notice I said "some" and "might". I am not making any accusations. Just observations...)

Abused people often are attracted to and marry people who also have had abuse of some kind in their

family dynamic. Like attracts like. Dysfunction attracts dysfunction. A dysfunctional church attracts dysfunctional people as well. Organizations can be the same way. A dynamic leader tends to attract people who are comfortable with his style of leadership and the decisions he makes. Those who don't like what he/she does do not stay around very long. So the climate is perpetuated and there are defenses built against change or attacks--the wagons are circled and everything is attributed to Satan. I grew up in a very conservative "supporting ministry" with a strong leader, so I have watched it work.

And to stay on topic, the victim immediately and from then on feels dirty, damaged and different, whether it is rape, fondling, inappropriate words or suggestions, or any of the other things on the list that was originally posted. And it takes a LONG time to reprogram the brain from the changes that occur in that encounter(s) that can take only seconds. Yes, there is healing. Yes, you can become stronger than you even would have been. Yes, God can use it for good. One way He does that (I believe) is He uses us to raise the bar of accountability, since we know what it is like and we don't want to allow it to be done to someone else if there is anything we can do to stop it.

I have sympathy for perpetrators and alleged perpetrators. Most of them were victims themselves. Forgiveness is freely given by God, but it doesn't take the place of accountability and consequences. Read Nathan's speech to David after he confessed and repented... 'The Lord also has taken away your sin; you shall not die. However, because by this deed you have given occasion to the enemies of the Lord of blaspheme, the child also that is born to you shall surely die.'

shepherdswife--who has been reading all this for awhile and finally decided to add my thoughts...

Posted by: runner4him Apr 26 2007, 05:41 AM

QUOTE(Shepherdswife @ Apr 26 2007, 05:33 AM) □

>>The Victim's may forgive but they can never forget. It is always there. It determines how one thinks and it affects the decisions made in life. If they are abused early in life will they feel they are only acceptable to other abusers. They move on to abusive relationships.<<

Fran, you are correct there. The ones here who seem to be minimizing and doubting and deflecting this alleged abuse have no understanding of what has been taken from a victim (no matter the age) by an abuser and what it takes for them--especially if they are male, to come forward. In fact, I would venture to say (from personal experience, both as a survivor and as someone who has worked with victims and survivors for years now) that some of those who are minimizing might be victims themselves who cling to the belief that "it was done, get on with life" to keep the darkness and pain inside themselves from rising to the surface. (Notice I said "some" and "might". I am not making any accusations. Just observations...)

Abused people often are attracted to and marry people who also have had abuse of some kind in their family dynamic. Like attracts like. Dysfunction attracts dysfunction. A dysfunctional church attracts dysfunctional people as well. Organizations can be the same way. A dynamic leader tends to attract people who are comfortable with his style of leadership and the decisions he makes. Those who don't like what he/she does do not stay around very long. So the climate is perpetuated and there are defenses built against change or attacks--the wagons are circled and everything is attributed to Satan. I grew up in a very conservative "supporting ministry" with a strong leader, so I have watched it work.

And to stay on topic, the victim immediately and from then on feels dirty, damaged and different, whether it is rape, fondling, inappropriate words or suggestions, or any of the other things on the list that was originally posted. And it takes a LONG time to reprogram the brain from the changes that occur in that encounter(s) that can take only seconds. Yes, there is healing. Yes, you can become stronger than you even would have been. Yes, God can use it for good. One way He does that (I believe) is He uses us to raise the bar of accountability, since we know what it is like and we don't want to allow it to be done to someone else if there is anything we can do to stop it.

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shepherdswife--who has been reading all this for awhile and finally decided to add my thoughts...

Thank you for your words. May God give all of us a better understanding and more compassion!

Posted by: Whtz Happenin Apr 26 2007, 06:14 AM

QUOTE(Shepherdswife @ Apr 26 2007, 07:33 AM)

shepherdswife--who has been reading all this for awhile and finally decided to add my thoughts...

Welcome Shepherdswife! I perceive your thoughts as one who understands the seriousness of the situation. I praise God that your journey has produced victory in this area and that you are now helping others find the path to victory.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Apr 26 2007, 01:18 PM

Shepherdswife,

Welcome to BSDA and bless you for sharing your testimony! I pray that all will have a greater understanding of the impact, no matter how minimal it may appear to some looking on, abuse has on a person and their families.

I ask that we all join our prayers that Doug, Danny and their boards will see the importance of dealing with this issue for the welfare of the alleged victims, the alleged predator and the health of their ministries.

Posted by: seraph|m Apr 28 2007, 06:53 AM

Shepherdswife

welcome.gif

QUOTE(Shepherdswife @ Apr 26 2007, 08:33 AM)

>>The Victim's may forgive but they can never forget. It is always there. It determines how one thinks and it affects the decisions made in life. If they are abused early in life will they feel they are only acceptable to other abusers. They move on to abusive relationships.<<

Though I agree with much of what you have shared, in principle, I must ask the following. Did you mean to preface the above comments with question marks?

It has been my experience that some can forgive and forget and yes be healed of the brokenness they experience after being abused. Though that process will likely take years, if it happens at all, when the issue of their abuse are kept secret or, swept under the rug by those they love and trust and, the victim is not acknowledged as such or, given the opportunity to work through the pain, suffering and guilt that usually comes, in most cases, after one has been abused.

A victim can forgive, heal and move on with his/her life, though doing so, in most cases, is a very long process. Forgetting is also possible, through the renewing of our minds, which can ONLY be done through Christ Jesus. Forgetting, in the sense that the victim, through the healing process does not allow those memories to determine how he/she views every

other aspect of life. Nor will the prior memories continually affect the decisions made in their lives. (I am sure you did not intend suggest it however, your statement could be read to mean "all decisions" seeing that you were not specific.) What will ultimately determine a persons ability to move on with his/her life is whether he/she has surrendered themselves to God and has allowed Him, through the Holy Spirit, to let this mind be in them that was also in Christ Jesus. To finish my thought on forgetting... it is possible in the sense that all decisions made will not be overshadowed by the memories of their experience. Whether in social relationships, areas like friendships, school, work, dating etc. they can make decisions that are based in the fact that their minds have been renewed, after one has surrendered to the Lord. Some victims attempt to move forward on simple will power and, though it is admirable that some try to move forward and not let their experience permeate every aspect of their lives, will power can not do what only Jesus Christ the righteous can.

Finally, bear in mind most of us are aware that everyone who has been a victim, of any kind, has not nor will they all accept Christ Jesus as their personal Savior. I am simply pointing out that the freedom to forgive and forget IS possible for anyone who makes the choice to make Jesus their personal Savior. Our challenge as believers is, if we daily submit our as we should, is to let our light so shine before men that they might see your good works and glorify our Father in heaven. The victims around us could very well be drawn to know Christ Jesus, who will be seen through the light of our lives. And the burdens they carry will be lifted, as we bear them up showing them love, compassion and acceptance. That's my 2cents worth.

Again, welcome and be blessed.

Posted by: Shepherdswife Apr 28 2007, 10:09 AM

Hi Seraph/m, thanks for the welcome..

No, I did not want question marks on that quote. I was quoting something that Fran said as a springboard for my comments, and as I am new, did not know how to put it in a box like others have.

So your question asking me what decisions I was talking about --I quote you..."I am sure you did not intend suggest it however, your statement could be read to mean "all decisions" seeing that you were not specific"-- needs to be directed to Fran, since she made the original statement.

However, I agree with what she said, and in that context, will answer for myself. In my opinion, and in my personal experience, even after I find healing and forgiveness and new life in Christ, my past affects me. It may not rule me, and it may not govern my decisions--I may make my decisions in spite of it, but it still affects everything. It is part of what has made me who and what I am. Maybe others have moved on to "new life" where their molestation has no effect, but I have not found it to be so. That said, the wound can be a scar, not an infected, open gash. But it does leave a scar. If nothing else, usually by the time you find healing, you have passed by a season or two of life and never will have the chance educationally, etc to be the same person you might have been had the abuse not occurred. We could discuss semantics all day and we might be saying the same thing, but this was my response to what you said.

I also come from a very different place than you have, so will also comment on your last paragraph re: healing only coming through Christ.

Yes, all emotional healing comes through Christ, just as all physical healing does. I believe God has designed the body and the mind to include an "automatic" healing process. We tend to understand the physical healing process much better than the emotional one, however. The white blood cells, the ability to clot, all are there ready to do their work the instant a cut happens. I don't have to think about it to make it begin. We humans can facilitate or hinder the healing process. There are basic principles for physical wounds: clean it out, protect from further injury, immobilize if broken, etc. If I go against them, the wound will not heal. If I do not understand and go against the principles of emotional healing--if I remain in an abusive situation, if I deny and cover up, if I focus on relieving symptoms rather than dealing with the cause, I will hinder emotional healing as well.

So yes, all healing is Divine in origin, but some (like myself) whose abuse was at least partially attributed to God or His will (and much of the alleged abuse discussed here falls into that category) cannot

immediately see God as the healer, since He was a big part of the problem (because of the abusers misrepresentation of Him). Yet in my experience the principles of emotional healing can be taught to them by professionals or a recovery group and practiced by them and healing can begin, whether or not they are "accepting Jesus as their Savior". With me, the healing had to start first, then I began to be able to see the flaws in what I was taught about God, which then led to a new relationship with Him, which led to more healing... and so on.

Everyone's journey is different, and none of us can speak for all of us. I am not trying to argue with what you said, just giving my perspective.

shepherdswife

Posted by: seraph|m Apr 28 2007, 10:40 AM

QUOTE(Shepherdswife @ Apr 28 2007, 01:09 PM)

Hi Seraph/m, thanks for the welcome...
...

So yes, all healing is Divine in origin, but some (like myself) whose abuse was at least partially attributed to God or His will (and much of the alleged abuse discussed here falls into that category) cannot immediately see God as the healer, since He was a big part of the problem (because of the abusers misrepresentation of Him). Yet in my experience the principles of emotional healing can be taught to them by professionals or a recovery group and practiced by them and healing can begin, whether or not they are "accepting Jesus as their Savior". With me, the healing had to start first, then I began to be able to see the flaws in what I was taught about God, which then led to a new relationship with Him, which led to more healing... and so on.

Everyone's journey is different, and none of us can speak for all of us. I am not trying to argue with what you said, just giving my perspective.

shepherdswife

I respect and appreciate where you are, as it relates to your experience, and thank you for your response. I am sorry to hear your experience drew you to see God as a big part of the problem. God have mercy on the souls of those who used Him as a means to prey on you and other victims. I agree that each of our experiences will be different and I thank the Lord Jesus for all He has done in our lives to bring us to the place where we are today. Remembering that every good thing comes from God.

Be Blessed,

Sera

Posted by: Fran Apr 28 2007, 04:42 PM

QUOTE(seraph|m @ Apr 28 2007, 06:53 AM)

Shepherdswife

welcome.gif

Though I agree with much of what you have shared, in principle, I must ask the following. Did you mean to preface the above comments with question marks?

It has been my experience that some can forgive and forget and yes be healed of the brokenness they experience after being abused. Though that process will likely take years, if it happens at all, when the issue of their abuse are kept secret or, swept under the rug by those they love and trust and, the victim is not acknowledged as such or, given the opportunity to work through the pain, suffering and guilt that usually comes, in most cases, after one has been abused.

A victim can forgive, heal and move on with his/her life, though doing so, in most cases, is a very long process. Forgetting is also possible, through the renewing of our minds, which can ONLY be done through Christ Jesus. Forgetting, in the sense that the victim, through the healing process does not allow those memories to determine how he/she views every other aspect of life. Nor will the prior memories continually affect the decisions made in their lives. (I am sure you did not intend suggest it however, your statement could be read to mean "all decisions" seeing that you were not specific.) What will ultimately determine a persons ability to move on with his/her life is whether he/she has surrendered themselves to God and has allowed Him, through the Holy Spirit, to let this mind be in them that was also in Christ Jesus. To finish my thought on forgetting... it is possible in the sense that all decisions made will not be overshadowed by the memories of their experience. Whether in social relationships, areas like friendships, school, work, dating etc. they can make decisions that are based in the fact that their minds have been renewed, after one has surrendered to the Lord. Some victims attempt to move forward on simple will power and, though it is admirable that some try to move forward and not let their experience permeate every aspect of their lives, will power can not do what only Jesus Christ the righteous can.

Finally, bear in mind most of us are aware that everyone who has been a victim, of any kind, has not nor will they all accept Christ Jesus as their personal Savior. I am simply pointing out that the freedom to forgive and forget IS possible for anyone who makes the choice to make Jesus their personal Savior. Our challenge as believers is, if we daily submit our as we should, is to let our light so shine before men that they might see your good works and glorify our Father in heaven. The victims around us could very well be drawn to know Christ Jesus, who will be seen through the light of our lives. And the burdens they carry will be lifted, as we bear them up showing them love, compassion and acceptance. That's my 2cents worth.

Again, welcome and be blessed.

read your post and am so thankful you have been able to forgive, move on, and forget. I do not question that you have done just what you said.

personally hope victims will never forget. Forgive, move on, but never forget. This is denying reality. It did happen. If they forget, how can they help others to Forgive and move on? It is through sharing your orgiveness and showing others it is possible to move on that helps other victims.

Many victims accept abuse because they believe everyone lives a life like theirs. They see nice people, but can't accept that that is a real situation. They are convinced that everyone is abused and this is a reality of life, so they are silent. All of those other women in the Church don't complain, why should you.

Most of the victims of abuse wouldn't know what to do and who to tell because of these thoughts. I have never heard a sermon about child abuse, spousal abuse, self abuse, or workplace abuse. There needs to be information in all of our churches telling members where they can go for help. That would NOT be the pastor of the church. It would be a number with no name. You do not have to leave your number. You can just talk and get information. From there it can lead to life changing results.

hope victims will never forget so they can be there to help others. But that is just my opinion. My opinion in no way intended to diminish you opinion. In this life, many opinions are good.

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee Apr 28 2007, 10:55 PM

QUOTE(Shepherdswife @ Apr 28 2007, 11:09 AM)

So yes, all healing is Divine in origin, but some (like myself) whose abuse was at least partially attributed to God or His will (and much of the alleged abuse discussed here falls into that category) cannot immediately see God as the healer, since He was a big part of the problem (because of the abusers misrepresentation of Him). Yet in my experience the principles of emotional healing can be taught to them by professionals or a recovery group and practiced by them and healing can begin, whether or not they are "accepting Jesus as their Savior". With me, the healing had to start first, then I began to be able to see the flaws in what I was taught about God, which then led to a new relationship with Him, which led to more healing... and so on.

Everyone's journey is different, and none of us can speak for all of us. I am not trying to argue with what you said, just giving my perspective.

shepherdswife

I'm glad you added that last paragraph. I'm tired of people telling me I "need" to go talk to a "professional" to "help" me through. How in the world can a "professional" help a sexual abuse victim if they've never experienced sexual abuse?

This is a real sore spot with me.

Posted by: princessdi Apr 28 2007, 11:00 PM

Duane, it might be easier than you think to find one who is a survivor.....just a thought.....

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Apr 28 2007, 09:55 PM)

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This is a real sore spot with me.

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee Apr 28 2007, 11:12 PM

QUOTE(princessdi @ Apr 28 2007, 11:00 PM)

Duane, it might be easier than you think to find one who is a survivor.....just a thought.....

Maybe so...but I am not interested AT ALL in professional counseling.

Posted by: seraph|m Apr 28 2007, 11:27 PM

Obviously we did not grasp what was stated in my post and I am sure it was not your intent to read into my post what is not there.

QUOTE(Fran @ Apr 28 2007, 07:42 PM)

I read your post and am so thankful you have been able to forgive, move on, and forget. I do not question that you have done just what you said.

I personally hope victims will never forget. Forgive, move on, but never forget. This is denying reality. It did happen. If they forget, how can they help others to Forgive and move on? It is through sharing your forgiveness and showing others it is possible to move on that helps other victims.

...
Let's try this again...

QUOTE

Forgetting, in the sense that the victim, through the healing process does not allow those memories to determine how he/she views every other aspect of life. Nor will the prior memories continually affect the decisions made in their lives.

QUOTE(Fran @ Apr 28 2007, 07:42 PM)

I hope victims will never forget so they can be there to help others. But that is just my opinion. My opinion in no way intended to diminish your opinion. In this life, many opinions are good.

QUOTE

To finish my thought on forgetting... it is possible in the sense that all decisions made will not be overshadowed by the memories of their experience.

It is clear, unless one has had a lobotomy or, has had some sort of long/short term memory issues, he or she will have "memories" of things that have happened in their lives. The point is, those memories do not have to dictate how a victim moves on with his or her life.

I can only hope that helps

Posted by: Shepherdswife Apr 28 2007, 11:36 PM

Hey Duane, that is a good question. I would first of all say that I agree with you--no one else can tell you how you "should" feel or heal or what you need to do. There are all kinds of resources out there--books, groups, counselors, other survivors, and nothing is for everyone. I have taken advantage of various resources at various times, for various needs. It is a journey.

As to your other question--"How in the world can a "professional" help a sexual abuse victim if they've never experienced sexual abuse?" Many professionals have been drawn to helping professions because they have experienced abuse and want to help others, so the two are not mutually exclusive. But healing does not require a professional. I found a really interesting article by Dr. Bruce Perry, the pediatric psychiatrist who specializes in the effects of trauma on children--the one who was called in to help the kids who were released from the Waco compound before their families died in the fire. The entire article is fascinating, and I will put the web address below, but will quote his conclusions here...

"We learned that some of the most therapeutic experiences do not take place in "therapy," but in naturally occurring healthy relationships, whether between a professional like myself and a child, between an aunt and a scared little girl or between a calm Texas Ranger and an excitable boy. The children who did best after the Davidian apocalypse were not those who experienced the least stress or those who participated most enthusiastically in talking with us at the cottage. They were the ones who were released afterwards into the healthiest and most loving worlds, whether it was with family who still

believed in the Davidian ways or with loved ones who rejected Koresh entirely. In fact, the research on the most effective treatments to help child trauma victims might be accurately summed up this way: what works best is anything that increases the quality and number of relationships in the child's life.

I also saw how bringing disparate groups together—even those with conflicting missions—could often be effective. Dozens of state, federal and local agencies had worked together to care for these children. The power of proximity—spending time side-by-side—had pulled us all to compromise in our efforts to help.

Relationships matter: the currency for systemic change was trust, and trust comes through forming healthy working relationships. People, not programs, change people. The cooperation, respect and collaboration we experienced gave us hope that we could make a difference, even though the raids themselves had ended in such catastrophe. The seeds of a new way of working with traumatized children were sown in the ashes of Waco."

This is encouraging to me--because we can all be part of this kind of healing.

shepherdswife

Read the entire article at:

[http://www.psychotherapynetworker.org/index.php?](http://www.psychotherapynetworker.org/index.php?category=magazine&sub_cat=articles&type=article&id=Stairway%20to%20Heaven&page=1)

[category=magazine&sub_cat=articles&type=article&id=Stairway%20to%20Heaven&page=1](http://www.psychotherapynetworker.org/index.php?category=magazine&sub_cat=articles&type=article&id=Stairway%20to%20Heaven&page=1)

Posted by: mozart Apr 29 2007, 12:29 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Apr 28 2007, 10:12 PM)

Maybe so...but I am not interested AT ALL in professional counseling.

my prespective on forgetting is that **"once you have addressed and settled the issue and gotten it straight within yourself"** then you only remember that you are a victim for the sake of others. i think one should purpose themselves to refuse to dwell on it, think on it, relive it or stay angry or bitter about it. i think we should only remember that we were a victim for the sake of other victims or for the sake of aiding in the prevention of further victims. forget the details. for you own sake, you need to become emotionally "indifferent" to the details. don't speak of them unless it is nessassary or beneficial to others.

today while out on a beautiful day's drive we came across about 8 or 9 bikers. they passed us and we saw the big emblem on their leather vest that said "BACA", Bikers Against Child Abuse. they were going our way so we ended up following them to our exit where they also exited, to go into a local chinese buffet style restaurant. i said, "pull over, i want to give them some money and a book". we keep "steps to Christ" and "the great controversy" paperbacks in both our vehicles all the time. i got a \$20. bill and put it between the pages of "the great controversy" and walked over and handed it to one of the women. i said, "here's a few bucks to help pay for your dinner". she gave me a long, huge, tight hug and a kiss on the cheek. i whispered i was a victim and this was a small token of my appreciation for what they are doing. a couple more guys came over and we talked about what they had done that day. they were on an "awareness ride" that was planned for this week-end, worldwide, by all their chapters from here to australia. they said they had all met at a nearby town at a shop where custom bikes were built and they had a ceremony where they released white balloons for all the victims of each state and red balloons for all the victims in our state that died last year because of abuse. it was very moving. they were precious and loving people and i'm so glad the Lord impressed me to stop and talk to them. as i walked away the lady smiled and said, "i'll put this in with the rest of our donations". ;)

there website is : <http://www.bacausa.com> --- check them out.

you hang in there DC and know there is lots of love and support out here for ya. remember the "IGGY"

button. God bless.

Posted by: Observer Apr 29 2007, 06:08 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Apr 28 2007, 10:55 PM)

I'm glad you added that last paragraph. I'm tired of people telling me I "need" to go talk to a "professional" to "help" me through. How in the world can a "professional" help a sexual abuse victim if they've never experienced sexual abuse?

This is a real sore spot with me.

Duane:

Everyone has their own journey to make. All must make their choices as to how they walk that path.

You raise a valid point: Some of the people best able to help another are those who have walked that path before, and can share their journey. e.g. Some of the best alcoholism counselors are those who are alcoholics themselves. Some of the best divorce recovery people are those who have gone through divorce themselves. Having said that, some people may work well with those who have not personally gone through a specific experience.

Another important issue is that of getting the right counselor for the person seeking counseling. The bottom line is that no counselor is equally effective for everyone. There has to be a good match between the counselor and the counselee. What (Who) works for one person may not work for another.

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Apr 28 2007, 11:12 PM)

Maybe so...but I am not interested AT ALL in professional counseling.

Duane:

That is your choice. You are responsible for your life. We welcome you here without judging you for in regard to whether or not you chose to seek professional counseling.

Please continue to grace us with your presence and comments.

Posted by: watchbird Apr 29 2007, 09:02 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Apr 29 2007, 12:55 AM)

I'm glad you added that last paragraph. I'm tired of people telling me I "need" to go talk to a "professional" to "help" me through. How in the world can a "professional" help a sexual abuse victim if they've never experienced sexual abuse?

This is a real sore spot with me.

I think it might soothe your "sore spot" on this issue if you realized that many of those who speak of going to a professional counselor are using the word "professional" to distinguish between the true professional and those who claim to be "counselors" who are little more than judgemental busybodies sure that they have all the answers to all the questions in the world, and the right and obligation to tell everyone what they can do.

A true professional is not primarily there to give answers... or even "help" in the sense of doing for you what you can only do for yourself. But a true professional is there to be an anchor point... a safe place... a listening and kindly ear.... while you work your way through your thoughts and feelings surrounding your previous experiences.... not only the abusive ones, but also in exploring the ways in which those may have affected your life since then.

Not every one needs such an anchor... and you may be one of those who do not. Or you may be one of those who already has such an anchor in friends or family.. or even in a solid enough relationship with Jesus Christ so He alone is sufficient anchor for you. And you may, by yourself, with the aid of books and self-help materials, be able to recognize all of the ways in which this has affected your life... and in which it may be expected to continue to affect it. This latter being especially important as it gives one clues as to what areas of life one needs to be especially on guard.

Personally, I found much more help in various "self-help" materials... especially those that had a lot of personal experience examples for me to compare myself to.... than in any professional counselling. But since the abuse I had as a teen was of a much more subtle psychological and spiritual kind rather than overt sexual or physical abuse I can only extrapolate from the process I went through to what I would consider must be a much greater process for those with much greater abuse histories.

With God's blessing you will find your way ...

Posted by: Shepherdswife Apr 29 2007, 09:41 AM

Great post, Watchbird!!

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Apr 30 2007, 06:56 PM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Apr 28 2007, 11:55 PM)

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This is a real sore spot with me.

That is why I do what I do. I'm a survivor....and I help other survivors....

QUOTE(princessdi @ Apr 29 2007, 12:00 AM)

Duane, it might be easier than you think to find one who is a survivor.....just a thought.....

ITA! *(see my above post)*

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Apr 29 2007, 12:12 AM)

Maybe so...but I am not interested AT ALL in professional counseling.

Whether you get there by boat, plane, bus, or train - the "journey" can be made in different ways....

Blessings to you!

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee May 1 2007, 01:19 AM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Apr 30 2007, 07:56 PM)

That is why I do what I do. I'm a survivor....and I help other survivors....

There needs to be a lot more like you. A survivor is the ONLY one, other than God Himself, who can know how it feels to be here.

Thank you for the work that you do. I pray God's richest blessings on it.

Posted by: PrincessDrRe May 1 2007, 08:36 PM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ May 1 2007, 03:19 AM)

There needs to be a lot more like you. A survivor is the ONLY one, other than God Himself, who can know how it feels to be here.

Thank you for the work that you do. I pray God's richest blessings on it.

You don't know how much just this post **blessed me today of all days...**
Blessings to you too Duane!

Posted by: PrincessDrRe May 4 2007, 07:39 PM

Bump! Definition stays on top....

Posted by: SoulEspresso May 5 2007, 07:21 AM

One of the things that makes me so angry about this is the people who have been willing to blow off this pattern of abuse because some of the victims seemed to have been "of age" at the time.

If it were a pastor seducing 19yo girls it would not only be immoral, but a serious abuse of power issue-- especially in light of how his victims testify that he approached the subject. Why should it be any different in this case?

Posted by: runner4him May 5 2007, 01:34 PM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ May 5 2007, 07:21 AM)

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especially in light of how his victims testify that he approached the subject. Why should it be any different in this case?

agree SoulEspresso! It is a sad day for all of us when we find people willing to blow off abuse at any age.

Posted by: PrincessDrRe May 5 2007, 08:52 PM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ May 5 2007, 08:21 AM)

One of the things that makes me so angry about this is the people who have been willing to blow off this pattern of abuse because some of the victims seemed to have been "of age" at the time.

If it were a pastor seducing 19yo girls it would not only be immoral, but a serious abuse of power issue-- especially in light of how his victims testify that he approached the subject. Why should it be any different in this case?

...or sweep it under the rug because they are a "pastor".....

(insert raspberry tongue blowing noise here)

Posted by: Fran May 5 2007, 11:28 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ May 5 2007, 09:52 PM)

...or sweep it under the rug because they are a "pastor".....

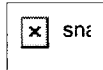
(insert raspberry tongue blowing noise here)

hear that one!

Posted by: PrincessDrRe May 13 2007, 07:34 PM

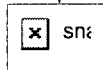
Bump.

A "reminder" whether some want to be reminded or not.



Posted by: PrincessDrRe May 14 2007, 09:26 PM

bump!



Posted by: calvin May 14 2007, 09:42 PM

DrRe you have done enough bumping of this topic. Now do you have anything to add to the discussion?

Posted by: Johann May 17 2007, 07:33 AM

QUOTE(calvin @ May 15 2007, 05:42 AM)

DrRe you have done enough bumping of this topic. Now do you have anything to add to the discussion?

She might be waiting for your input, Calvin?

Posted by: SoulEspresso May 17 2007, 08:46 PM

QUOTE(calvin @ May 14 2007, 08:42 PM)

DrRe you have done enough bumping of this topic. Now do you have anything to add to the discussion?

Well, bumping it does serve to remind us that the biggest problem in this whole saga has not been the divorce, nor the lawsuits, nor the financial abuses (alleged ... but other evidence has not been forthcoming).

It's these victims that have been coming forward, and the evidence sez Danny & Walt covered it up.

SEX ABUSE. At the most visible Adventist ministry in the world. It's unconscionable, and like other churches we already had the habit of glossing over. If this hits the media I hope we learn from it. If it doesn't, we won't--and you can take that to the bank.

Posted by: mozart May 17 2007, 09:57 PM

I think we need to remember also that homosexuality is an abomination to God, so consenting or of age is irrelevant.

There seems to be many issues of perversion here. Abusing a minor, abusing your power over those younger or smaller than you and homosexuality. Even if TS is never found guilty of abuse, he will always be guilty of the abomination of homosexuality.

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ May 17 2007, 07:46 PM)

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Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 18 2007, 07:20 AM

QUOTE(mozart @ May 17 2007, 07:57 PM)

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There seems to be many issues of perversion here. Abusing a minor, abusing your power over those younger or smaller than you and homosexuality. Even if TS is never found guilty of abuse, he will always be guilty of the abomination of homosexuality.

I would urge a bit of caution here.

ALL sin is an abomination to God because it separates us from Him. From my own observation, there appears to be far more discussion of other types of sin in the Bible than there is for the sin of homosexuality. It is not singled out. I don't believe it holds any greater status as "sin" than any other. I don't believe that there are sins that are more safe to commit than homosexual ones. They all put us in the same position - away from God. Lot's former stonping grounds were not obliterated just for homosexual behavior. That city was destroyed because its residents were completely lost in their focus on and practice of sexual perversions of all kinds.

I believe that what we are and should be concerned about getting to the truth of as far as Tommy Shelton is concerned is not if he has homosexual tendencies but whether or not used his position and power as a pastor to abuse those in his care and whether his brother, or any others, assisted in covering up such behavior to protect TS and the Shelton or 3abn image.

We know he abused Duane Clem. We have seen that proof. We know there are statements from other that claim abuse and statements that his brother, Danny Shelton, attempted to intimidate them into silence by calls and threats of legal action. We have even seen letters from the 3abn attorney that make such threats. This is the area we need to see properly investigated and proven true and resolved or proven false laid to rest.

If Tommy has behaved in a homosexual manner with any **freely consenting**, adult male partner that is none of our business. That is between Tommy and God alone.

This is my opinion.

Posted by: runner4him May 18 2007, 07:33 AM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ May 17 2007, 08:46 PM)

SEX ABUSE. At the most visible Adventist ministry in the world. It's unconscionable, and like other churches we already had the habit of glossing over. If this hits the media I hope we learn from it. If it doesn't, we won't--and you can take that to the bank.

QUOTE

QUOTE(mozart @ May 17 2007, 07:57 PM)

There seems to be many issues of perversion here. Abusing a minor, abusing your power over those younger or smaller than you and homosexuality. Even if TS is never found guilty of abuse, he will always be guilty of the abomination of homosexuality.

Thank you for your words SoulEspresso & Mozart. We needed to be reminded that a terrible thing has happened with this alleged cover up of sexual abuse of minors by a very prominent ministry. I agree maybe we will not wake up and learn unless this hits the media. I have prayed that our church leaders would speak up instead of being behind the scenes doing I am not sure what. Do they want it to take a drastic turn with the media involved? We MUST not gloss over this. God sees every work and we must remember that "your sin will find you out".

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee May 18 2007, 09:15 AM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 18 2007, 08:20 AM)

I believe that what we are and should be concerned about getting to the truth of as far as Tommy Shelton is concerned is not if he has homosexual tendencies but whether or not used his position and power as a pastor to abuse those in his care and whether his brother, or any others, assisted in covering up such behavior to protect TS and the Shelton or 3abn image.

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Speaking of which, I have not heard a peep from anyone trying to silence me. This is proof that Danny is not stupid. He knows that if I even get a threat letter, it will be posted on the forums and on Save3abn.com.

Posted by: Pickle May 18 2007, 11:40 AM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 18 2007, 07:20 AM)

If Tommy has behaved in a homosexual manner with any **freely consenting**, adult male partner that is none of our business. That is between Tommy and God alone.

If Tommy has done such things and has not repented and ceased, and if Danny knowing such put him into a high position of authority within a supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, a ministry that claims to be preaching the three angels' messages undiluted, including, "Here is the patience of the saints. Here are **they that keep the commandments of God**," then I think it is our business.

Posted by: seraph|m May 18 2007, 12:26 PM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ May 17 2007, 11:46 PM)

Well, bumping it does serve to remind us that the biggest problem in this whole saga has not been the divorce, nor the lawsuits, nor the financial abuses (alleged ... but other evidence has not been forthcoming).

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doesn't, we won't--and you can take that to the bank.

Point taken and, well said.

We can only assume that those in a position to make things right have considered that they have placed ALL the members of the church body at risk of being painted with the same brush of distasteful behavior as the actual culprits of said behavior. It does not matter that this one person does not represent the Adventist church in name. The fact that he held a prominent position among those who claim to represent the church is what will be remembered by the majority.

The credibility of every congregation and each member, whether directly associated with his mess, or not, will be called into question because the powers that be will be seen as turning a blind eye to it for so long. This makes me wonder, do the powers that be really care?

QUOTE(Pickle @ May 18 2007, 02:40 PM)

If Tommy has done such things and has not repented and ceased, and if Danny knowing such put him into a high position of authority within a supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, a ministry that claims to be preaching the three angels' messages undiluted, including, "Here is the patience of the saints. Here are **they that keep the commandments of God,**" then I think it is our business.

AMEN. Consenting adults or not sin is sin. And their very public and private behavior will have an affect on EVERY Seventh day Adventist ministry, whether folks are willing to believe it or not.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 18 2007, 01:12 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ May 18 2007, 10:40 AM)

If Tommy has done such things and has not repented and ceased, and if Danny knowing such put him into a high position of authority within a supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, a ministry that claims to be preaching the three angels' messages undiluted, including, "Here is the patience of the saints. Here are **they that keep the commandments of God,**" then I think it is our business.

Romans 3:23 says: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

The only perfection we can have is through the Righteousness of Christ and His power to cleanse and change our hearts as we stay focused and connected to Him. However, I do agree with you that anyone who is in a position of leadership in a supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church should not be breaking any of the commandments, including the one that points to the importance of sexual purity and fidelity. And anyone who puts a person into a position of leadership in such a ministry, fully knowing that they have abused their power as a pastor and have betrayed and preyed on youthful trust, does not belong in leadership, at least until any such situation is made right.

Posted by: Pickle May 18 2007, 01:17 PM

God extends forgiveness to those who confess, repent, and seek to make restitution. We must do the same, even to the point of allowing people like Peter to feed the sheep and lambs again. We must be as long-suffering toward others as we would want them to be toward us.

Yet since God has His limits, we must too.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 18 2007, 01:40 PM

QUOTE(seraph|m @ May 18 2007, 11:26 AM) □

Point taken and, well said.

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AMEN. Consenting adults or not sin is sin. And their very public and private behavior will have an affect on EVERY Seventh day Adventist ministry, whether folks are willing to believe it or not.

Great points Sera! And as I referred to in my last post, a person practicing homosexual sin or predatory sexual behavior has no place holding a position of leadership in a supporting ministry of the SDA Church. My main point in my previous post was to differentiate between homosexual behavior that separates man from God and predatory sexual abuse that creates victims in the process. Plus, it has been discussed before that a male sexual predator who victimizes young males is not necessarily a homosexual.

Posted by: Pickle May 18 2007, 04:56 PM

Maybe I said this before, but a sociologist here told me that there are folks who want to make pedophilia an orientation, the first step toward acceptance.

Nothing like consistency, even if it is dead wrong.

Posted by: SoulEspresso May 18 2007, 04:59 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ May 18 2007, 03:56 PM) □

Maybe I said this before, but a sociologist here told me that there are folks who want to make pedophilia an orientation, the first step toward acceptance.

Nothing like consistency, even if it is dead wrong.

Maybe some will make kleptomania an orientation? How far is the culture willing to go with this?

I read recently that male sexuality in particular is polymorphous--meaning it can be shaped, even though for some with deviant "orientations" it's very difficult. Nobody is born a pedophile.

But if pedophilia becomes an orientation, I think the murder rate will go up.

Posted by: Skyhook May 18 2007, 06:01 PM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ May 18 2007, 05:59 PM) □

But if pedophilia becomes an orientation, I think the murder rate will go up.

Soul, you may not be far off on this one. There was a case that demonstrates this several years ago (in the 80s) in Tuolumne county California in the little town of Toulumne a hearing was taking place in a little storefront that was used as a courtroom. The case concerned the molestation of an early teen boy by a man in his 30s I believe. The accused man was described as turning to look at the boy and his mother with a smirk on his face. The mother's sister who was sitting beside her had placed a handgun on the table in front of the mother who promptly picked it up and shot the defendant, killing him.

In Toulmne county a permit to carry concealed weapons could be had for the asking, and I have heard that a large number of people were "packing," including a lot of women, so it wasn't unusual for there to be a weapon handy.

An irony of the case was that same week there was an article in the paper telling of the release from prison of a man who had been convicted in Tuolomne county of sexually abusing his 4 year old daughter. He was released after winning his appeal. The appeal was granted because the mother, under questioning had told the court that she had left her husband and went to a safe house after her husband had apparantly deliberately ran over thier son who was a toddler. This happened after a long series of questionable injury accidents involving thier pets and children. The appeal court ruled that this was innadmissble testimony and released him after he had served 3 years of a 6 year sentance. The DA decided not to re-try the case. The man is currently listed on California's list of sex offenders as not having reported for the past few years. Whereabouts unknown.

I know about this case because the mother is my youngest daughter, and the children are my grandkids. I spotted this guy as a sociopath by the second time I met him.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 18 2007, 06:44 PM

QUOTE(SoulEspresso @ May 18 2007, 02:59 PM) □

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But if pedophilia becomes an orientation, I think the murder rate will go up.

SE,

The world may just get bad enough to allow pedophilia to become an orientation. If and when it does, I think the heavens will part quite quickly and Jesus will return because the cup of iniquity would, at that point, HAVE to be completely full!

QUOTE(Skyhook @ May 18 2007, 04:01 PM) □

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skyhook,

think we all need to pray for you and your daughter and family! What a heart-wrenching experience.

Posted by: mozart May 18 2007, 09:38 PM

thanks PB, i understand what you mean but my point was, his open sin should not have been ignored, covered up or minimized. yes we are all sinners but God did make it a point to call some sin "an abomination". He was specific on some. Why is that?

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 18 2007, 01:40 PM)

Plus, it has been discussed before that a male sexual predator who victimizes young males is not necessarily a homosexual.

i guess i missed that thread. if this is so, then what would one who does these abominations be?

and who determines that? can you clarify for me or point me in the right direction, please?

QUOTE(Pickle @ May 18 2007, 04:56 PM)

Maybe I said this before, but a sociologist here told me that there are folks who want to make pedophilia an orientation, the first step toward acceptance.

Nothing like consistency, even if it is dead wrong.

hat's like that shrink that said "Road Rage is a Syndrome". there's an excuse for everything i guess.

where's that puking smiley? guezz owl jiss bang me ade!

Posted by: Skyhook May 18 2007, 10:22 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 18 2007, 07:44 PM)

Skyhook,
I think we all need to pray for you and your daughter and family! What a heart-wrenching experience.

Thank you Mozart. I appreciate that.

Posted by: Ralph May 18 2007, 10:28 PM

QUOTE(Skyhook @ May 18 2007, 05:01 PM) □

I spotted this guy as a sociopath by the second time I met him.

What were the things that helped you spot him as a sociopath?

Posted by: Skyhook May 18 2007, 11:03 PM

QUOTE(Ralph @ May 18 2007, 11:28 PM) □

What were the things that helped you spot him as a sociopath?

That is a little hard to explain, I have been around quite a few. He was very ingratiating almost to the point of obsequiousness. He had been introduced to my daughter by his neice who was a classmate of my daughter. My daughter had just graduated from high school and was very naive. He lived in a different town. While he was dating my daughter, I learned from my older daughter that he already had a young wife and a baby and if I recall correctly, didn't have a regular job. Some times young guys like that can pull it together and do something with thier life. This guy never did.

I have to admit I was no prize when I was young. In the Autobiography of Malcolm X he said that if anyone came to his home to see his daughter looking like he did as a teenager, he would have run him off in a flash. I can really relate to that, but when Jesus came into my life, it changed everything and put me on a better road. Otherwise, I had a very good chance of ending up like some of my friends from my late teen years--on heroin, in prison or dead.

Posted by: Observer May 19 2007, 04:30 AM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 18 2007, 01:40 PM) □

Great points Sera! And as I referred to in my last post, a person practicing homosexual sin or predatory sexual behavior has no place holding a position of leadership in a supporting ministry of the SDA Church. My main point in my previous post was to differentiate between homosexual behavior that separates man from God and predatory sexual abuse that creates victims in the process. Plus, it has been discussed before that a male sexual predator who victimizes young males is not necessarily a homosexual.

Comments on several points, by several people:

The North American Man Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) has the goal of making sex between male adults and male minors acceptable to society, or at least legal.

Forgiveness is an important Christian value. That does not mean that one who has demonstrated a weakness in a specific area should be exposed to that area. If I steal money from the one who employs me, I do not need to be returned to my position to demonstrate forgiveness. One who commits a sexual sin does not need to be placed in a position where the opportunity to commit the sexual sin exists. e.g. Do not place a child molester in a position to care for children.

Whether one agrees with the definitions or not, standard psychiatric definitions of homosexuality and pedophilia differ. A homosexual is not automatically one who molests same-sex children. Just as a heterosexual is not automatically one who is sexually attracted to children of the same gender.

The sexual attraction to adults is quite different from the sexual attraction to children.

NOTE: I am aware of the issues of power which are commonly involved in sexual misconduct issues. I am simply not discussing them in this comment.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 19 2007, 09:57 AM

NAMBLA held a march in San Francisco some years back attempting to make a case for their cause. It didn't go over well. They got onto the news so we all got to see their lecherous faces.

As sick as some parts of society are, I believe it will take a long time before men like this will infect opinion enough to make such a behavior acceptable. Of course, with the growing number of dysfunctional family systems that conceal and protect sexual abusers out of a desperately misplaced loyalty, it won't be a surprise when damaged thinking permeates society so deeply that behavior such as this will become "normal".

Posted by: Clay May 19 2007, 10:50 AM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 19 2007, 10:57 AM) □

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As sick as some parts of society are, I believe it will take a long time before men like this will infect opinion enough to make such a behavior acceptable. Of course, with the growing number of dysfunctional family systems that conceal and protect sexual abusers out of a desperately misplaced loyalty, it won't be a surprise when damaged thinking permeates society so deeply that behavior such as this will become "normal".

a couple of observations.... all families no matter how perfect they perceive themselves are dysfunctional.... and they are dysfunctional because of sin... so none of us need throw stones.... in fact I suspect that all of us have relatives who could make the stuff shown on Jerry Springer look tame.... and IF we don't have relatives, then we could very well be the ones who could easily appear on Springer....

Secondly... it is apparent that things have not gotten as bad as they were prior to Sodom and Gomorrah or prior to the Flood... if things were that bad, then God would intervene as He did then I would think....




Lastly, because this particular issue tends to be more visible people often target it.... but let's not forget, pride, arrogance, indifference, lack of compassion are also things that God disapproves....

Posted by: Fran May 19 2007, 01:10 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ May 19 2007, 11:50 AM)

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


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
Didn't you promise not to talk about me & my family?   

Posted by: Clay May 19 2007, 01:15 PM

QUOTE(Fran @ May 19 2007, 02:10 PM)

Clay;

Didn't you promise not to talk about me & my family?   

oops.....  sorry....

Posted by: Seraphim7 May 19 2007, 02:49 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ May 18 2007, 09:44 PM)

SE,
The world may just get bad enough to allow pedophilia to become an orientation. If and when it does, I think the heavens will part quite quickly and Jesus will return because the cup of iniquity would, at that point, HAVE to be completely full!
Skyhook,
I think we all need to pray for you and your daughter and family! What a heart-wrenching experience.

Though a number of other factors, will likely, affect the cup of human iniquity becoming full, I agree 200%

Posted by: PrincessDrRe May 21 2007, 09:07 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ May 18 2007, 03:17 PM)

God extends forgiveness to those who confess, repent, and seek to make restitution. We must do the same, even to the point of allowing people like Peter to feed the sheep and lambs again. We must be as long-suffering toward others as we would want them to be toward us.

Yet since God has His limits, we must too.

..and one of those is to "forgive" however do we expose that person to children...again...giving him the chance to re-offend?

Would you sacrifice your children? (This is a "general" YOU - NOT to be pointed at anyone.....)


 snk

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered May 21 2007, 09:24 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ May 21 2007, 08:07 PM)

...and one of those is to "forgive" however do we expose that person to children...again...giving him the chance to re-offend?

Would you sacrifice your children? (This is a "general" YOU - NOT to be pointed at anyone.....)

 snk

Not this side of the gates of heaven!

Posted by: PrincessDrRe May 22 2007, 07:21 PM



Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jun 26 2007, 04:29 AM

Bumpin...so that it is not "erased" from memory....

Posted by: Denny Jun 26 2007, 05:52 AM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jun 26 2007, 11:29 AM)

Bumpin...so that it is not "erased" from memory....


Ask the moderator to pin it.

Posted by: SoulEspresso Jun 26 2007, 10:31 AM

QUOTE(Denny @ Jun 26 2007, 04:52 AM)

Ask the moderator to pin it.

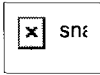
That's my vote.

That the leadership of 3ABN was winking at allegations so serious destroys their credibility (it ought to be atomized by now, but ).

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jun 26 2007, 07:20 PM

I asked earlier...but it didn't "merit" it....

I can keep bumpin.....



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