

# Happenings

Minnesota Community Corrections Association

## MCCA Winter Conference issue

New concerns...old problems...impacts on community corrections. These will be topics of discussion at the MCCA Winter Conference on February 6 and 7, 1992. The Thursday/Friday gathering will again be held in the pristine environs of Wilder Forest.

This year's Conference will feature several panels on issues in the forefront of community corrections, including the question of the effectiveness of sex offender treatment and the impact of the growing gambling industry in our state.

On Thursday afternoon we will feature a panel of experts discussing "Treatment of Sex Offenders: Impact of Recent Research and Future Directions." Panelists will react to the reports in the Minneapolis Star Tribune of the effectiveness of treatment as well as examine the impact on the treatment of sex offenders and on community corrections in general. They will emphasize a positive approach to future programming.

Panelists include **Gerald Kaplan**, Executive Director of Alpha Human Services, Inc. He has assessed hundreds of sex offenders, consulting with the Minnesota Corrections Board and the Hennepin County Attorney's Office. He is currently a member of the Hennepin County Corrections Advisory Board and the Commissioner of Corrections Sex Offender Treatment Program Advisory Task Force.

**Deb Daily** has been Director of the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission since 1985. She joined the Commission at its inception in 1979. In

her position she has a unique perspective on sentencing procedures and future trends. Because of her close contacts with the legislature, she sees the impact of community pressures and realizes the need for leadership toward goals and principles.

The panel will be moderated by **Rod Johnson**, a former President of the MCCA and long-time member of the MCCA Board of Directors. Rod is Administrative Director of Community Social Services, Services for Children and Families of the Wilder Foundation. Rod has worked for the Wilder Foundation for 15 years and has 24 years experience in public and non-profit service.

Other participants in the panel on the treatment of sex offenders will be announced later.

Conference participants will be offered four workshops on Cultural Competency, which will focus on helping us to better understand and professionally interact with the African-American, Hispanic, American Indian and Southeast Asian communities in Minnesota. These sessions will discuss differences and similarities within each group, how each group sees the corrections system and resources in each community to help us serve our clients.

**Koua Yang** is a Bi-lingual Youth Counselor with the Wilder Refugee Program. Before coming to Wilder, Koua worked for a number of years with the Southeast Asian Community in Paris, France, and for three years with the United States Aid Project in Laos. He holds a French AA degree and a

French baccalaureate from the University of Grenoble. He is currently President of the Hmong-American National Catholic Association of the United States.



**Darina Siv** is a Human Services Counselor with the Wilder Refugee Program. She is from Pursat, Cambodia, where she graduated from high

school in 1975 and worked as a secretary and interpreter for a branch of the US Embassy. Her parents were both teachers and she is the eldest of nine brothers and sisters. After four years of Communist rule, she lost her parents and two young brothers (6th and 8th). Ms. Siv and her young brother (5th) attempted to escape to Thailand early in 1979 and were sent back through the mine fields where many people were killed. Six months later, she and her brother escaped to Thailand and spent ten months in a refugee camp and then six months in a processing camp.

Since arriving in the U.S. in May, 1981, Ms. Siv lived briefly in New York and Florida before settling in Minnesota about ten years ago. Prior to joining the Wilder Refugee Program, she worked as a community coordinator and taught Khmer language and culture at the Khmer Youth Leadership Program. She has also worked as an educational assistant for the St. Paul Public School and as an interpreter in many settings. She completed an AA degree from Lakewood Community College in 1988,

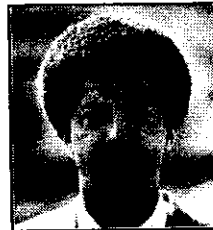
with a major in Data Processing. She has continued her studies at Metro State University since 1988 and is pursuing a BA degree with majors in Computer Information Systems and Human Services.

Ms. Siv works as a Human Services Counselor for the Wilder Refugee Program in both its Youth and General programs. In her role as Youth Counselor, she has an office at Homecroft Elementary School where school children and parents meet with her. Home visits are a regular aspect of her work with adult clients. In addition to direct service work, she acts as a consultant to the Refugee and Immigrant Resource Center.



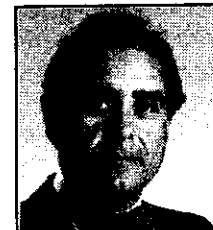
**David Loveridge** is Director of the Social Adjustment Program for Refugees with the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation. The program provides mental health services

for Southeast Asian Refugees. A native of England, Mr. Loveridge has worked as a clinical psychologist and mental health consultant for Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian refugees in Hong Kong, the Philippines and Thailand.



**Yusef Mgeni** (African American Culture) is currently the President/CEO of the Urban Coalition of Minneapolis, a research/advocacy organization which

serves low-income persons of color. Prior to joining the Coalition, Mr. Mgeni spent twenty five years in leadership positions with organizations servicing low income persons and communities of color as an administrator, policy analyst, journalist, community organizer, instructor, and foundation program officer.



**Manuel P. Guerrero** (Hispanic Culture) is a former faculty member at the University of Minnesota and Indiana state tribal judge. He currently

has a private practice in St. Paul,

specializing in the areas of corporate and accident law. He is President of the recently formed Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association. He is also adjunct faculty at the University of St. Thomas where he teaches a course on International Business Law, and at the University of Minnesota where he teaches Mexican-U.S. Relations.

**John Poupart**, St. Paul, is currently employed by the Department of Corrections as a Program and Policy Manager. His 20 years experience in corrections includes founder of Anishinabe Longhouse, a culturally-based halfway house for American Indians and eight years as state Ombudsman for corrections. He is also active in civic and non-profit organizations in the metropolitan area. John served concurrently for seven years on the Minneapolis Charter Commission and the Minneapolis Planning Commission.

John is an Ojibwe (Chippewa) Indian from the Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin Indian reservation where he was born and raised. He left the reservation and school at a relatively young age, only to return to both in later years. His path has led him from a grade school drop-out, to education by experience, a return to the classroom, to the University of Minnesota where he received a degree in Criminal Justice Administration and then on to Harvard University where he received a Masters degree in Public Administration. He also attended the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute where he completed leadership studies.

Among John's other activities is his role as Community Faculty at the Metropolitan State University where he teaches a course in American Indian tradition and culture. He says he is constantly reminded in the workplace and in the classroom of, "how little that we, as a society, know about the legal, political, social and cultural aspects of American Indians in our state and in the nation."

In the workshop "Correcting Your Health," **Kathy Glewwe** will discuss one of the biggest challenges to corrections workers: remembering to take care of yourself! This lively seminar will help participants assess their personal situations and explore a

variety of constructive strategies to achieve a healthier, more balanced lifestyle. **Kathy Glewwe** is a Community Health Specialist with a Lifeguard Health Promotion Program of the Hennepin County Community Health Department. With several years experience in the health and wellness field, this promises to be a lively, yet informative presentation.

In "What's the Matter with Kids Today, or Life in Hell," **Carl Wicklund** will take a humorous and analytical look at what adolescents are up to and why. Also, what we are doing to them and what could we be doing to prepare them for what lies ahead. Carl Wicklund is Director of Court Services in Rochester, Minnesota. He previously worked as Program Developer for Freeport West, Inc. in Minneapolis and has prior experience with the state's Serious Juvenile Offender Program and several group homes. Carl was the recipient of the First Annual Gisela Konopka award for humane and creative treatment of juveniles.

"Normal Reactions to Abnormal Situations — The Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team." This panel will cover how the CISD team was developed and the selection and training process that the team members went through. It will also cover the effects of stress on corrections workers and why debriefing is important, both in the institutions and in the community. Examples of typical debriefing sessions and feedback from the staff involved will also be given.

Presenters include: **Connie Bush**: Connie has been a Sr. Corrections Agent in the Work Release Unit for the MN Department of Corrections for two years. Prior to that, she was a Case Manager at MCF-Stillwater, and a Corrections Counselor II at MCF-Oak Park Heights. She has been a member of the CISD team since it began in May, 1990.

**Pam Mindt**: Pam is currently the Sex Offender Programs Coordinator for the MN Department of Corrections. She worked prior to that at Alpha Human Services, Inc. as the Program Coordinator for two and one-half years. Pam has been a Captain in the National Guard for 15 years, and has debriefed the civilians who responded to Flight

232 (Sioux City air disaster), and the soldiers who served in the Iran/Kuwait

**Julie Angeles:** Julie is currently a Personnel Director 3 with the MN Department of Corrections and has been for two and one-half years. She was also a Personnel Program Manager for the MN Department of Administration for three years. She developed and implemented the CISD team in May, 1990.

**Hate Crimes:** Cross burning, police brutality, gay-bashing, anti-Semitic vandalism on campus...these are not activities most of us would associate with Minnesota. Yet, all have been subjects of recent media attention. As we become more culturally diverse in the Midwest, assaults against people considered "different" are on the rise. Our panel represents individuals looking at the problem of hate crimes and our community's response from a wide range of personal and system perspectives.

**Tom Foley** assumed his duties as Ramsey County Attorney in 1979. In that position he is responsible for the criminal prosecution of all felonies within Ramsey County. He is also responsible for all civil legal affairs for the County Board and administrative agencies in this Capitol jurisdiction. In December of 1991, he presented arguments in support St. Paul's Hate Crimes Ordinance before the Minnesota Supreme Court.

**Patti Abbott** is the Crime Victims Advocate at the Gay & Lesbian Community Action Council. Her work primarily involves providing advocacy for victims of anti-gay/lesbian hate violence. Prior to coming to the Action Council, Patti was the Executive Director for the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault. In addition, she has worked with neighborhood crime issues and teaches self-defense and personal safety classes for women and children.

**Mark Weitz** is a Minneapolis attorney who serves on the Executive Board of the Jewish Community Relations Council/Anti-Defamation League. In both roles he has become acutely aware of the increase in anti-Semitic violence and hate crimes in the Midwest.

**Shem Shakir** has worked with the Minneapolis and St. Paul Urban Leagues for over 12 years. He is currently the Director of Client Advocacy and Community Outreach for the Minneapolis Urban League coordinating the League's response to a wide range of community problems and concerns.

In "Gambling: You Bet Your Life, Minnesota," **Pat McCormack** and **Rod Radich** will take a critical look at the state of gambling in Minnesota and its impact on the people — our clients, ourselves. What are the benefits to the state, what are the costs to the citizens? Pat McCormack is a legislative analyst for the Minnesota Senate and a staff member for the Senate Gambling Commission. He has Masters Degrees in Sociology and Public Policy and was co-author of Tribune of the People, a book on Minnesota's legislative process. Rod Radich is a Compulsive Gambling Peer Counselor at Gamblers Intervention Service in Duluth, MN, and a consultant for both Minnesota Council on Compulsive Gambling and for River Hills Hospital Compulsive Gambling Treatment Program, Prescott, WI. Rod is a former police officer in Duluth, MN, where he was assigned to the Special Investigations Unit. He has completed training in Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Compulsive Gambling at Taylor Manor Hospital, and has studied compulsive gambling issues with Dr. Robert Custer, Dr. Durand Jacobs and Dr. Lynn Rambeck. Rod has completed the Phase I and II training for treatment of compulsive gamblers through the Minnesota Council on Compulsive Gambling. Rod is a charter member of the Minnesota Council on Compulsive Gambling and the State of Minnesota Advisory Board on Compulsive Gambling.

## Jim Bruton is featured speaker

James Bruton will be the Keynote speaker when the MCCA Conference opens on February 6, 1992. With over 23 years experience in corrections, Burton brings a varied experience and thoughtful perspective to the issues facing community corrections.

This past November, Bruton was named Superintendent of the Ramsey County Corrections Facility for Men (workhouse). He left the job as Executive Director of the Office of Adult Release in the Department of Corrections where he served since June, 1986. He has experience in all aspects of corrections work in the institutions and the community. Prior to taking charge of the Office of Adult Release, he served as Assistant to the Warden at the Oak Park Heights correctional facility and as Director of Internal Affairs for the Minnesota Department of Corrections. He also served as a member of the State Parole Board from 1978 to 1982.

Jim Bruton worked for ten years as a Probation/Parole Officer, dividing the time between the adult and juvenile systems. As an educator, he is a part-time faculty member at Metropolitan State University and an adjunct faculty member at the college of St. Thomas.

## Time to vote for Board members

Once again, there is a fine slate of candidates running for the Board of Directors. Exercise your right as a member and vote for six candidates on the ballot in this newsletter. Ballots must be returned by January 24th.

## The candidates...

**Bruce Clendenen** is the Director of Development for Reentry Services where he has worked since 1976. Bruce has been a long-time member of both MCA and MCCA and has been on the MCCA Board of Directors since 1986. The past two years he has served as President.

**Kris Clendenen** is currently employed by the Wilder Foundation as the Director of EXCEL. Prior to that, Kris was the Director of Bradley House, a correctional residential program for men in Indiana, where she worked for six years. Kris has been a member of MCCA and MCA since 1989. She has served on MCCA's Board for the past year.

**Dave Conde** has 15 years experience in corrections. He is currently employed with Ramsey

County Community Corrections, Adult Courts Division. Dave's past experience includes service with Ramsey County Juvenile Probation and Project Remand. He is a member of MCCA and MCA and has served on MCCA's Board for the past two years.

**Jo Earhart** began her correctional career with the Texas Department of Corrections in 1984. Following her transfer to Minnesota, she worked at VOA and as a therapist with TSOP at Lino Lakes. Jo was recently appointed to act as Special Services Director at MCF-Lino Lakes.

**Susanne Koch** has worked in corrections for the past seven years working in various positions at Reentry Services. She has been the Program Director of Reentry-Metro since 1989. Susanne has been active with both MCCA and MCA.

**Tim Lanz** has worked in corrections for 14 years. He has been the Caseworker Supervisor at MCF-Stillwater for the past five years. Prior to that, Tim worked as a Caseworker for nine years at both St. Cloud and Stillwater. Tim has also been in the Peace Corps. He has been active in MCA and holds a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice Studies.

**Bobbi Masquelier** has worked in corrections for 15 years, starting with the Arizona DOC. Currently, Bobbi is the Director of Non-Residential Services at 180 Degrees. She is a member of MCA, MCCA and MAWCJ where she is a Past President. Bobbi serves on the State Task Force for Female Offenders and the Advisory Board for Perspectives, North.

**Kay Pranis** has been the Director of Research for the Minnesota Citizens Council on Crime and Justice for the past three years. She has served on several Boards and committees and has been on MCCA's Board for the past year.

**Sharen Southard** has been a Juvenile Parole Officer at Hennepin County for nine years. Prior employment includes the City of Minneapolis in Community Crime Prevention and Project CADRE. She has served on the MCCA Board of Directors since 1988.

**Helen Trickey** has worked in

corrections for the past 16 years. She worked in the drug program of MRC for five years and has worked as a Counselor with the Genesis Program for the last 11 years. Helen has served on various Boards for community programs.

**Louise Wolfgramm** has worked in corrections for the past 21 years. She started at Amicus in 1971 and was promoted to Executive Director in 1972, a position she currently holds. Louise has served on several Boards and committees related to corrections.

## New group offered at Family Violence

The staff of the Family Violence Program at East Side Neighborhood Services now offers Family Violence Intervention Groups for Women, a six-week intervention series. Part lecture, but also includes some group participation. Summaries will be provided to interested parties with regard to participants involvement in the process. The information presented will be similar to what is done in the current men's group, with some special focus on issues pertinent to women in our society. For more information call East Side Neighborhood Services at (612) 781-6011 and ask for Family Violence Program. Tell them you are interested in the Women's Group.

## MCCA Position Statement

The Minnesota Community Corrections Association has given considerable discussion to the current issue, gaining strong public attention, of violent crime and delinquency. Since the legislature will be called upon to address this violence, MCCA sees its basic objectives in the area of community-based corrections as very relevant to this issue and, therefore, has adopted the following position in reference to today's violent crime:

There is increasing evidence to conclude that violence is a learned and addictive behavior which appears to follow a pattern, as with child abuse, of being inter-generational. Responding to this social issue with a single focus of increased incarceration and punishment, while affording immediate penalties and apparent public safety protection, provides very little to interrupt the cycle of recurring violence on a long term basis.

*For the goal of public safety through reduction of violence over extended time, we believe that our most effective and efficient use of resources must also focus on the development of programs and policies that address prevention, through such means as diagnosis, education, early intervention with families, and treatment.*

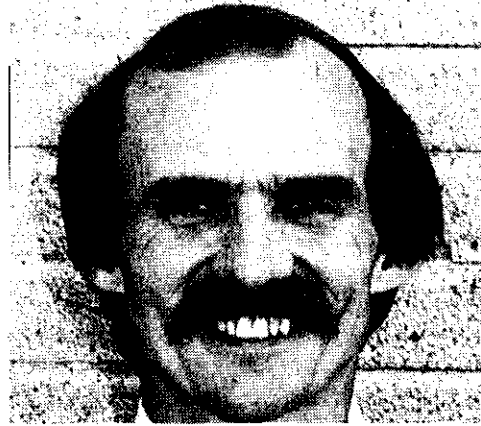
This will necessitate involvement of not only correctional systems, but especially the educational systems — primarily at the earliest levels. By this approach we provide a long-term "investment" in intervention that has real potential for actually breaking this cycle and progressively reducing violence in our society.

*Adopted by MCCA Board,  
December 18, 1991*

# MCCA Board of Directors

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## We want you to know..



Bruce Clendenen, MCCA President

It has been a rough year for corrections professionals. I imagine it is difficult for some people who have been in the field for several years to count their blessings at this time of year, as they have in the past. Many criminal justice workers are re-examining their position in the profession. I am one of those. I am not, however, one of those who is negative or disgruntled. I am thankful that I am in a position to make a difference. That is the main reason I entered the field and it is probably the biggest reason many of you did. (We sure didn't do it to get rich!) There are times I have lost sight of that priority in the past. I do not intend to do that in 1992. My "Corrections New Year's Resolution" is to work hard at helping troubled individuals to become effective, law abiding citizens. How about you? What can you do to make a difference?

Let's start making a difference by attending the annual MCCA Conference scheduled for February 6 and 7, 1992 at Wilder Forest. This issue of Happenings outlines many of the exciting events we have on tap for you who attend.

We also welcome your input and help with "Capitol Day" on February 25, 1992. The MCCA Board will be an active participant. We expect to make a difference by helping to design our future with the legislature. You can be a part of this too. Call me, please.

## Rules for the Game of Life:

**Occam's Razor** (loosely translated): "The explanation requiring

the fewest assumptions is most likely to be correct." or "Whenever two hypotheses cover the facts, use the simpler of the two." (William of Occam).

**Luce's Law:** "No good deed goes unpunished." (Clare Boothe Luce)

**Abram's Advice:** "When eating an elephant, take one bite at a time." (General Creighton Abrams)

**Beauregard's Law:** "When you're up to your nose, keep your mouth shut."

**Jacquinn's Postulate on democratic governments:** "No man's life, liberty or property are safe while the legislature is in session."

**Navy Law:** If you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs, maybe you just don't understand the situation."

**Price's Law of Politics:** "It's easier to be a liberal a long way from home." (Don Price, Harvard's Graduate School of Government)

**Women's Equation:** "Whatever women do, they must do twice as well as men to be thought half as good. Luckily, this is not difficult."

**The Golden Rule of Arts & Sciences:** "Whoever has the gold makes the rules."

from: Dickson, Paul. The Official Rules, New York, Delta Books, 1978.

*Editor's Note: This long-buried tome of worldly wisdom was provided to the editorial staff, free of charge, by Craig Vos, Hennepin County P.O., because he thought we needed it.*

## U.S. jails/prisons severely overcrowded

✓ The number of inmates in state and federal prisons has more than doubled in the last decade and with the burgeoning drug problem and longer mandatory sentences, no let up is in sight. Forty states are under court order to reduce prison crowding (Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Prison Project).

✓ According to the U.S. Department of Justice, the population in our nation's jails and prisons by the end of 1990 reached an all time high — 1.2 million (405,320 in local jails; 705,717

in state prisons; 65,526 in Federal prisons).

✓ The cost of incarcerating the more than one million persons is nearly \$20 billion a year. It costs as much as \$110,000 to build one prison cell and an average of \$19,244 to house, feed and clothe the one inmate (BJS, Contact Center, Criminal Justice Institute).

✓ The National Sentencing project reports that as of 1989, the United States now has the world's highest known rate of incarceration. Our incarceration rate is 426 per 100,000 compared to 35-120 in Europe and 21-140 in Asia.

✓ The nation's prison population has grown 134% between 1980 - 1989. Significantly, the number of Federal prisoners increased at a faster rate in 1990 (10.7%) than in state prisons (8.5%) and in local jails (5.5%) (BJS).

✓ Only 18.2% of the over 65,500 federal prisoners incarcerated in 1990 were placed in private and public contract facilities (Federal Bureau of Prisons).

✓ Federal prisons are operating at 151% of capacity while state prisons are

operating between 115% and 127% and local jails are operating at 104% of capacity (BJS).

✓ The National Council on Crime and Delinquency projects that if current practices continue, our nation's prison population alone, exclusive of jail inmates, will rise by 68% to 1,133,000 by 1994.

✓ The United States lags far behind other Western countries in the use of intermediate punishment programs. Community service and day-fines have been used in England, West Germany and the Scandinavian countries since mid-1970. Community service and day-fines are still uncommon in many jurisdictions in America (Morris, Norval and Michael Tonry, Between Prison and Probation - Intermediate Punishments in a Rational Sentencing System).

*From Fact Sheet, International Association of Residential and Community Alternatives. For further information regarding this organization, contact them at P.O. Box 1987, La Crosse, WI 54602, phone: (608) 785-0200, fax: (608) 784-5335.*

## U.S. is number one, unfortunately

Studies on two different issues which impact the criminal justice system find U.S. rates leading the other countries studied.

One study, published by The Sentencing Project, examined incarceration rates for a large number of nations. The United States was well ahead of both the Soviet Union and South Africa which were long considered the leaders in locking people up. The U.S. incarceration rate of 426 per 100,000 population is 28% higher than that of South Africa and 59% higher than that of the Soviet Union. The incarceration rate for black males in the United States is 3,109 per 100,000, while that for black males in South Africa is 729 per 100,000.

### Leader of the pack

*Percentage of children living below poverty line in eight industrial countries (Numbers indicate percentage below poverty line to the nearest whole percent):*

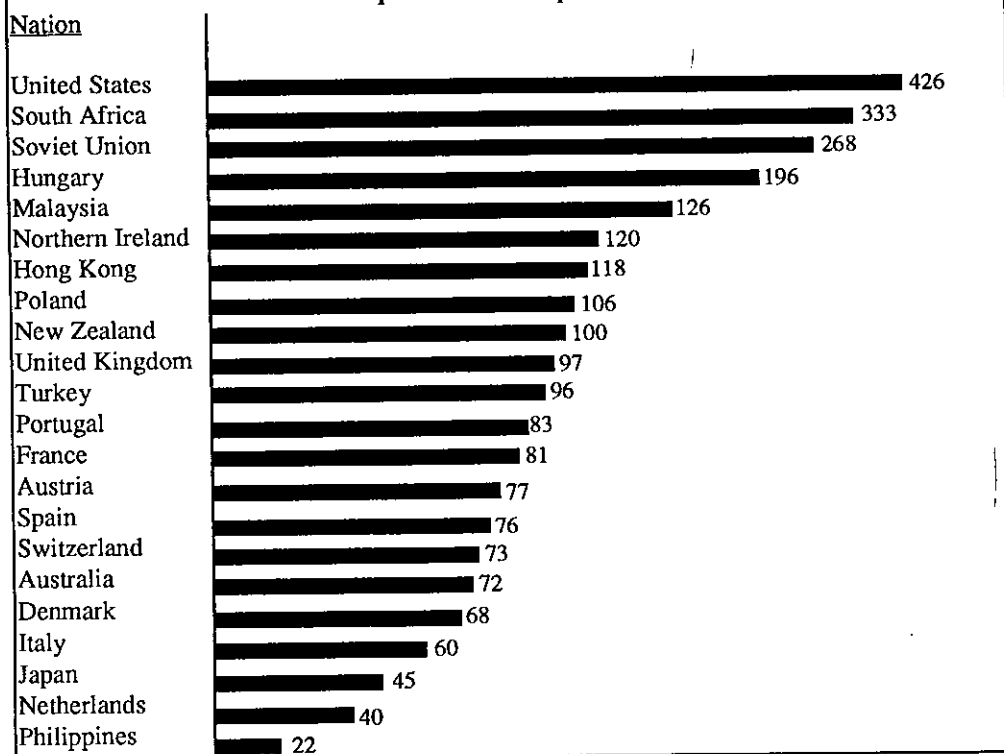
- United States - 17%
- Australia - 17%
- United Kingdom - 11%
- Canada - 10%
- West Germany - 9%
- Norway - 8%
- Sweden - 5%
- Switzerland - 5%

Source: John L. Palmer, et al, "Patterns of Income and Poverty." The Vulnerable Urban Institute, 1988.

A report published by the Children's Defense Fund Examines child poverty in America compared to child poverty in eight other industrial countries. Again the U.S. Ranks number one, with a higher percentage of children living below the poverty line than Australia, the United Kingdom, Canada, West Germany, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

*From the Citizens Council, 822 S. 3rd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55415, phone: (612) 340-5432*

**Incarceration rates for the U.S., South Africa, and the Soviet Union in comparison to Europe and Asia**



Rates of Incarceration per 100,000 Population

Source: Penal Reform International, using data from the Council of Europe and the Australian Institute of Criminology (The Sentencing Project, Americans Behind Bars, Jan. 1991)

*From the Editor: This article appeared in the Commentary section of the Star Tribune on 12/7/91. It is printed here with the permission of the author.*

## 'Free to Rape' fails to show treatment doesn't work

The series "Free to Rape" drew conclusions that cannot be supported by the data. A number of things warrant comment.

While promoting their effort as a "pioneering inquiry" and one of the best ever done, the writers failed to point out the limitations of their own study.

Although they did attempt to correct four of the flaws present in some other sex offender recidivism studies, they neglected to inform the reader that they could not avoid the major problem in doing this kind of research — that cases were not randomly assigned to treatment and nontreatment comparison groups.

It should not be a great surprise that some kind of selection process has taken place in determining who participates in treatment and who does not. The writers try to make this a nonissue by mistakenly claiming that the treatment programs "accept only the more malleable sex criminals."

Generally, this is not the case with the nonprison-based programs. These programs only screen out those who clearly will not benefit from treatment and, in the case of a community-based facility, those who cannot be treated safely in a non-secure setting.

Neither is this usually the case with prison programs, unless the person has previously been disruptive in the program or otherwise does not qualify. Very few inmates who volunteer for treatment are excluded from participating in prison treatment programs.

If one finds something which simply does not make sense — like treated offenders having higher rearrest rates than untreated ones — an unbiased, conscientious investigator becomes suspicious and tries to find an explanation for anomalous results.

It is simply ignorant or journalistically dishonest (and

irresponsible to suggest otherwise. Such a result should have caused the series' authors to search for the problems with their data and/or study design. Obviously, the difficulty here is the result of this study's major limitation — the lack of randomly selected comparison groups.

Perhaps the biggest blunder of all is that the nontreatment group includes some offenders who have successfully completed treatment in programs other than the four programs in the treatment group.

Untreated offenders were selected on the basis of not being treated by one of the four programs — even if they had successfully completed treatment at the University of Minnesota's Program in Human Sexuality, Seals and Associates, Alpha Human Services' outpatient program, Project Pathfinder, etc. Some may have completed other types of non-sex-offender specific treatment.

Many more sex offenders are treated on an outpatient basis than in the four cited residential programs, including some offenders who participate in treatment after their release from prison. It is a significant error to include such cases in the "untreated" comparison group.

In addition, the study sample included 12 female offenders — the majority, if not all, of whom would likely fail in the "untreated" group — even if they got outpatient treatment or participated in treatment at the Shakopee correctional facility for women.

Also, one cannot assume that female offenders, treated or untreated, will relapse at the same rate as male offenders. This further pollutes the integrity of the "untreated" comparison group.

Even if the study design had been without limitations, one cannot conclude from this study that sex offender treatment is ineffective, as suggested by the writers.

This sample group consisted only of those convicted of first-degree criminal sexual conduct, the highest sex crime severity level.

Since approximately 76 percent of the sex crime convictions are for second- through fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct, this study tells us little

about treatment outcomes for a large majority of sex offenders.

Even in the state prison system, only 36 percent of the sex offenders have been convicted of first-degree criminal sexual conduct. In addition, one would have expected the writers to point out to the reader that at least one of the four treatment programs had a rearrest rate which was significantly lower than the rate found in the "untreated" group.

Other issues which also must be considered when attempting to assess the value of treatment in helping protect society are whether some offenders who would have escalated to more violent behavior or murder do not, whether some who reoffend commit fewer offenses, and whether the severity level of new offenses might be lower than the original offense.

Perhaps these factors are of little consolation to a weary public, but they are part of the whole equation.

What the authors of the "Free to Rape" series could have legitimately concluded is that there are a number of extremely dangerous offenders whom we have not been able to change significantly through incarceration, treatment or other prison programs. We need to better identify these individuals and pursue civil commitments.

From a legislative perspective, a number of changes can be made to help address this problem.

The psychopathic personality commitment statute needs a new name and more objective, measurable defining criteria. Such commitments should be pursued at the time of the criminal adjudication whenever possible, and those committed under this statute should be housed in a separate facility designated for this purpose.

An additional degree of criminal sexual conduct needs to be incorporated in the criminal code, with a much longer presumptive sentence and statutory maximum for those who commit stranger-on-stranger sex offenses using a weapon and for those who commit a sex-related or otherwise violent abduction of a child.

Juvenile sex-crime convictions should be counted in the same way as prior adult felonies are for the purpose of sentencing if subsequent sex-related



convictions are incurred by an adult offender.

All sex offenders need at least five years of supervision after being released from prison.

While sex offender treatment will never solve the problem of sexual violence, treatment of identified perpetrators needs to be a part of any comprehensive plan to reduce the incidence of sexual abuse.

The Star Tribune's "Free to Rape" series lacked journalistic integrity and may have a counterproductive impact on attempts to formulate sensible public policy regarding the problem of sexual violence in our society.

*Gerald T. Kaplan, Minneapolis, Executive Director, Alpha House; psychologist.*

## Alpha offers a "deniers" program

Many have expressed repeated frustration and concerns regarding clients or probationers who are not amenable to traditional sex offender treatment. To address this problem,

Alpha Human Services has developed a new program specifically targeted at this difficult population. We are pleased to announce a psychoeducational program for those individuals displaying extreme difficulty accepting responsibility for sexually abusive behavior of which they have been accused.

The major objective of this program is to provide information to those individuals who would otherwise receive no treatment or consequences for their sexually abusive behavior.

Alpha's program is a 13-week psychoeducational group that will address a number of topics, among which are Re-offense Prevention, Victim Impact and Empathy, Sexual Abuse Dynamics, Shame and Guilt, Stress Management, Assertiveness, Self-esteem, Legal Consequences of Abuse, and Sex Education. The group will be limited in size to 12 individuals and will meet 13 times. Each three and one-half hour meeting will include pre- and post-testing, lectures, and group discussions. A variety of approaches will be utilized, including video tapes, guest lecturers, structured exercises, and home work

assignments. The meetings will be facilitated by two experienced therapists, Riki Kravitz-Frank, License Psychologist, and Alan Listiak, Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker.

It should be noted that this program is not intended to serve as a substitute for sex-offender psychotherapy. However, it is our hope that in some cases, participants will be able to make the transition to traditional sex offender treatment.

As with all Alpha services, reports will be provided to referral sources including attendance, participation, and progress of the participants.

The cost of this program, which includes intake, topic presentations, pre- and post-testing, and reports to referral sources, is \$17.50/hour, or \$799.50. At least a portion of the payment must be made in advance by the participant unless his funding is being guaranteed by a third-party source.

Call Alpha's intake personnel, David Heacock or Ron Weill, for further information or referrals at (612) 872-8218.

•Gerald Kaplan

MINNESOTA COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION  
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St. Paul, MN 55104

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**Minnesota Community  
Corrections Association**

**Annual Winter Conference  
February 6 - 7, 1992**

**Wilder Forest  
Marine on St. Croix**



*James Bruton  
Keynote Speaker*

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**Annual Winter Conference**  
**February 6 & 7, 1992**  
**Wilder Forest - Marine on St. Croix**

This Conference is a time to relax, meet with other professionals and discuss some of the pressing issues in community corrections. Wilder Forest is a beautiful wooded setting that demands casual dress. Bring your boots and plan to have fun. Certainly, spend the evening in relaxed recreation and conversation. Bring your cross-country skis or use Wilder's equipment for a moonlight trek on groomed trails. It seems safe to assume we will have snow this year. We will bring back the ever-popular Scavenger Hunt. Be prepared to join a team and find the unfindable.



- Advance registration required for conference attendance.
- All registrations must be received by January 24, 1992
- Each registrant must fill out an individual form.
- Registration fee includes your 1992 MCCA Individual Membership.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Conference Fee & MCCA Membership:**

\$60 (Includes four meals).....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Overnight Accommodations \$25.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **Minnesota Community Corrections Association**. Send completed form and check to Ray Ward, Operation DeNovo, 251 Portland Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55415.

# Conference Schedule

## Thursday, February 6, 1992

8:30 - 9:30	Earth Lodge	Registration
9:30 - 10:30	Commons	Keynote: <b>James Bruton</b>
10:45 - 12:00	Commons	Cultural Competency: Asian - <b>Koua Yang, Darina Siv, David Loveridge</b>
	Meeting House	Cultural Competency: African American - <b>Yusef Mgeni</b>
12:00 - 1:30	Commons	Lunch, MCCA Annual Awards
1:45 - 3:00	Commons	"What's the Matter with Kids Today, or Life in Hell" - <b>Carl Wicklund</b>
	Meeting House	"Correcting Your Health" - <b>Kathy Glewwe</b>
3:15 - 4:30	Commons	Panel: "Does Sex Offender Treatment Work?" - <b>Gerald Kaplan, Deb Dailey</b> (others to be announced).
6:00	Commons	Supper
8:00 - ???		Scavenger Hunt Winners, Games, Socializing.

## Friday, February 7, 1992

8:00 - 8:30	Commons	Breakfast
8:30 - 10:30	Commons	Crisis Stress Debriefing: "Normal Reactions to Abnormal Situations" - The Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team: <b>Connie Bush, Pam, Mindt, Julie Angeles</b>
10:45 - 12:00	Commons	Cultural Competency: Hispanic - <b>Manuel P. Guerrero</b>
	Meeting House	Cultural Competency: American Indian - <b>John Poupart</b>
12:00 - 12:45	Commons	Lunch, Door Prize
12:45 - 2:00	Commons	Hate Crimes: <b>Tom Foley, Patti Abbott, Allen Sacks, Shem Shakir</b>
2:15 - 3:45	Commons	Panel: "Gambling: You Bet Your Life, Minnesota"- <b>Pat McCormick, Rod Radich</b>

**1992 Conference Committee: Kris Clendenen & Sharen Southard, Co-Chairs; Dale Fisher, Tom Gothman, Ray Lescher, Mary Parrott, Michel Planz, Deb Spindler, Rich Wheaton, Tom Zoet**

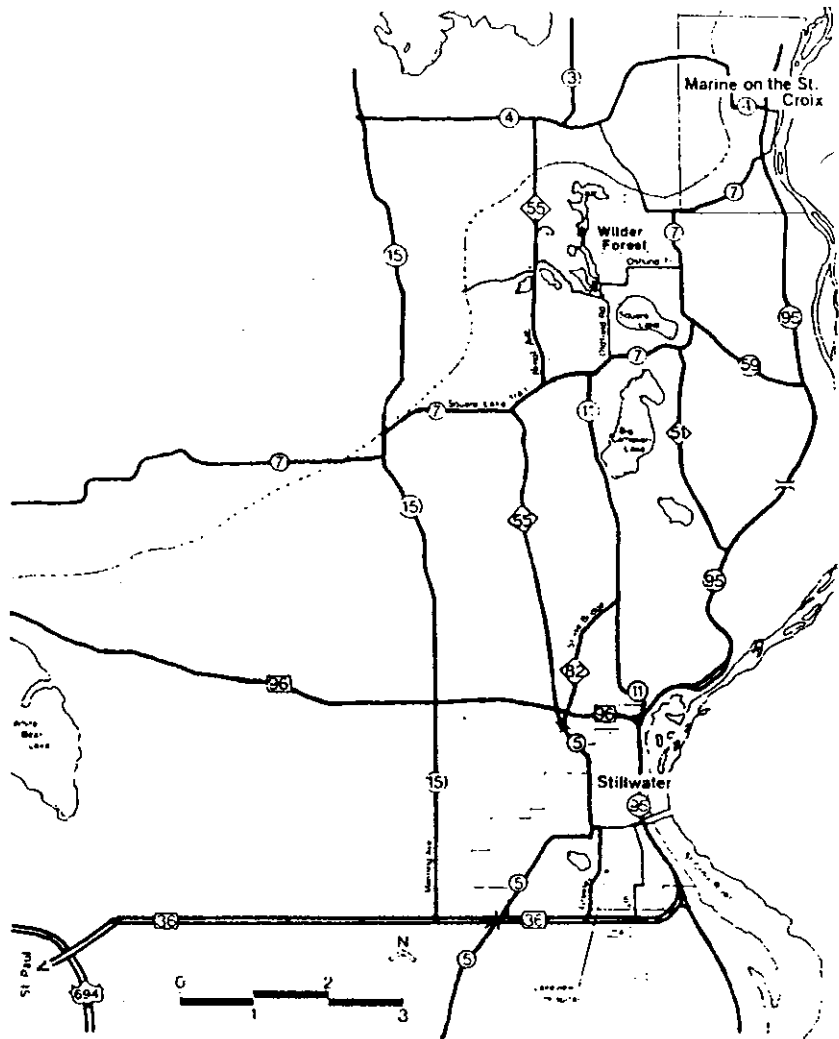
**Camp address:**

14189 Ostlund Trail North  
Marine on the St. Croix, MN 55047

**Directions to Wilder Forest:**

(40 minute drive from St. Paul)

- go east on Hwy 36 to Co. Rd. 15 (Manning Ave) and turn left
- go north 7.3 miles on Co. Rd. 15 to Co. Rd. 7 (Square Lake Trail) and turn right
- go east 5 miles on Co. Rd. 7 to the "T" just past Square Lake County Park and turn left
- go north .7 mile on Co. Rd. 7 (Paul Ave) to Ostlund Trail and turn left
- go .7 mile to the Village Entrance
- information on your group will be posted at gateway shelter as you walk from the parking lot



Watch for:

**MCCA** signs

**Minnesota Community Corrections Association**  
650 Marshall Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55104

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