

Trauma from abuse can manifest itself in a variety of complex thoughts and behaviours through the childbearing year, which may pose particular challenges for primary caregivers.

"The intentional and systematic use of tactics to establish and maintain power and control over the thoughts, beliefs and conduct of a woman." (Woman Abuse definition - London Abused Women's Centre).

"Child sexual abuse is the involvement of a child in sexual activity that he or she does not fully comprehend, is unable to give informed consent to, or for which the child is not developmentally prepared and cannot give consent... an activity between a child and an adult or another child who by age or development is in a relationship of responsibility, trust or power, the activity being intended to gratify or satisfy the needs of the other person." (UN-WHO, 1999)

care-giver

training

support

listening informing healing listening informing healing listening informing healing listening informing healing listening informing healing

abuse Women who have experienced childhood sexual abuse, sexual assault, victimization and woman abuse have unique emotional, psychological and physical needs related to the abuse.

Trauma from the abuse can manifest itself in a variety of complex thoughts and behaviours through the childbearing year, which may pose particular challenges for primary caregivers.

trauma

Statistics Canada, 1999:

- More than 50% of women experience some form of unwanted or intrusive sexual experience before reaching the age of 16
- 17% of women reported at least one incident of incest before age 16
- 29% of women have experienced a physical assault by a partner

woman abuse

- Limiting partner's access to prenatal care
- Increase in physical assaults aimed at abdominal area
- Derogatory/insulting comments directed at the woman's changing body
- Restricting her choice of caregiver
- Preventing partner from obtaining information related to pregnancy and birth
- Threatening to leave her if she does/doesn't terminate her pregnancy

while

pregnant

professional

At the same time, the caregiver has the opportunity to be a catalyst for healing through appropriate responses to the "disclosure" and by working collaboratively with the client to devise a plan of action for coping with her potential triggers.

responsibility

"I would definitely recommend this workshop for anyone involved with women of childbearing years."

Jo-Anne R.N. P.H.N.,
Middlesex-London Health Unit

"I feel better equipped to help support my clients who may be survivors of abuse in the future."

Leanne,
Doula, Childbirth Educator

A Safe Passage

A two-day Advanced Practitioner Training workshop offered by birth positive™ and instructed by Jodi Hall-Hinds.

AGENDA

- * Victimization exercise, trauma and the impact of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) on the childbearing year
- * Childhood sexual abuse and the impact on the child victim/adult survivor
- * Impact of childhood sexual abuse on pregnancy, counselling a disclosure and support strategies
- * Role playing
- * Small Group Discussions
- * Understanding Woman abuse and the impact of power and control in pregnancy, birth and postpartum
- * Safety planning and risk factors
- * Clinical challenges in labour, resistance and control issues, coping mechanisms
- * Introducing "trigger" counselling techniques and the birth plan as an empowerment tool
- * Survivor issues and the potential impact on postpartum, processing the birth experience
- * Potential for healing, resources and caring for the caregiver

"A moment I will never forget...the comfort level of this workshop"

Scotia,
Sexual Assault Centre Counselor

