

U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Office for Victims of Crime



NCJ 181298  
Resource Directory

# OVC

## Publications Resource Response Guide

REPORT TO  
CONGRESS

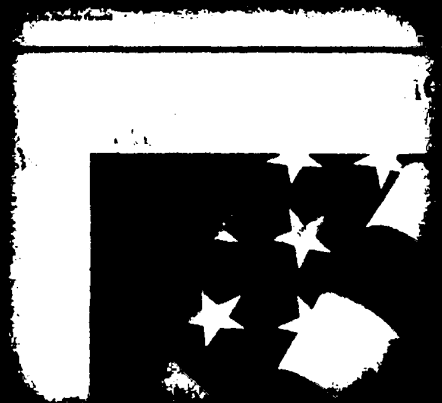
December 1999

OVC

January 2000

Multicultural  
Implications of  
Restorative  
Justice:

and  
Dangers



181298

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**For grant and funding information contact  
U.S. Department of Justice Response Center  
1-800-421-6770**

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**OVC Resource Center  
1-800-627-6872  
OVC Resource Center Home Page  
[www.ncjrs.org](http://www.ncjrs.org)**

NCJ 181298

The Office for Victims of Crime is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

# OVC

## **Publications Resource Guide**

**June 2000**



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# Introduction

## About OVC

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), an agency within the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), was formally established by Congress in 1988 through an amendment to the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA). VOCA was largely an outcome of the 1982 President's Task Force on Victims of Crime and established not only the Crime Victims Fund (CVF) and OVC but also separate program initiatives to address the rights and needs of all crime victims. VOCA authorizes OVC to fund States to operate crime victim compensation programs, administer victim assistance services for victims of Federal crimes, and develop demonstration initiatives and national-scope training and technical assistance. An amendment to VOCA also allows OVC to fund improved investigation and prosecution of child abuse in Indian Country under the Children's Justice Act (CJA). Crime victims receive support from OVC through formula and discretionary grants for programs and projects designed to enhance victims' rights and services. OVC also has an advocacy and leadership role in developing policy for and raising awareness of crime victims' rights and provides an array of training and other targeted resources for the many professionals who work with victims.

The mission of OVC is to enhance the Nation's capability to assist crime victims and to provide leadership in changing attitudes and developing policies and practices that promote justice and healing for all victims of crimes. OVC accomplishes its mission by

- Administering the Crime Victims Fund.
- Funding direct services to crime victims.
- Providing training programs that reach diverse professionals nationally and internationally.
- Sponsoring demonstration programs and projects that have national impact.
- Publishing and disseminating materials that highlight promising practices for the effective treatment of crime victims that can be replicated.
- Developing policy and establishing public awareness initiatives that improve the response to needs of crime victims.
- Offering technical assistance to governments, private-sector programs, and other allied professionals.

# About the Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center

Established by OVC, the Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center (OVCRC) is your primary source for crime victim information. Whether you are drafting policies on domestic violence, searching for up-to-date research on child abuse, investigating a story on hate crime, or seeking statistics on the extent and nature of victimization in the United States, you can turn to OVCRC. Highly trained information specialists answer your questions by using OVC and other DOJ publications, national and regional victimization statistics, a comprehensive criminal and juvenile justice library, and OVCRC's well-established network of victim advocates and organizations.

## OVCRC Resources

As a component of the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS), OVCRC has direct access to the most comprehensive criminal justice library in the world—the NCJRS collection, which contains the latest research findings, statistical reports, program descriptions, and evaluations on victim issues published by public and private sources, including the Federal Government. OVCRC acquires more than 500 new documents for the NCJRS collection each year, covering the following topics:

- About OVC
- American Indian/Tribal
- Business Community
- Child Victims
- Civil Remedies
- Corrections
- Crime Victim Compensation
- Death Notification/Homicide
- Disabilities
- Education Community
- Elder Abuse
- Faith Community
- Health Care Community
- International Perspectives
- Judiciary
- Law Enforcement
- Legal Community
- Mental Health Community
- News Media Community
- Prosecution
- Restitution
- Stalking/Domestic Violence
- Victim Assistance Community
- Victims' Rights



In addition, OVCRC has developed a vast network of agencies, organizations, and individuals who serve the needs of crime victims. Through this network, OVCRC information specialists will direct clients, such as victim/witness coordinators, experts studying the psychological effects of victimization, or grassroots organizations, to resources that can address their concerns.

## **Victim Information Online**

Information about crime victims is now available from OVCRC 24 hours a day through the Internet and Fax-on-Demand System. The NCJRS World Wide Web Justice Information Center (JIC) home page ([www.ncjrs.org](http://www.ncjrs.org)) can lead you to menus that provide information and publications from all OJP agencies—Office for Victims of Crime, National Institute of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Bureau of Justice Statistics, and Bureau of Justice Assistance—as well as from the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Many publications are available in a format that allows you to download full text and graphics. Announcements about current publications and developments in criminal justice also are published in the free Justice Information (JUSTINFO) Electronic Newsletter ([www.ncjrs.org/justinfo/](http://www.ncjrs.org/justinfo/)) distributed on the 1st and 15th of every month. For more information and help with online services, first-time users can send an e-mail message to [look@ncjrs.org](mailto:look@ncjrs.org). If you require technical assistance or have specific questions on criminal and juvenile justice topics, you can send an e-mail containing your query to [askncjrs@ncjrs.org](mailto:askncjrs@ncjrs.org). Additionally, selected publications can be obtained through the Fax-on-Demand System. Call 1-800-627-6872 and follow the instructions to receive, by fax, a listing of available publications.

## **Publications**

OVCRC distributes victim-related publications produced by OVC, other OJP agencies, and the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Most publications are free, including OVC documents, Bureau of Justice Statistics data reports, National Institute of Justice research publications, Bureau of Justice Assistance program descriptions and evaluations, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention bulletins, and Office of National Drug Control Policy drug-related crime fact sheets.

## **Specialized Products**

OVCRC information specialists work with you to determine what products would best meet your information needs. Specialized products include:

- Information packages containing data and research summaries on specific victim issues, relevant OJP documents, a reading list, and contact referrals.
- Fact sheets summarizing new issues affecting victims and their service providers.
- Videos that can be used as training tools for victim service providers and allied professionals.

## **OVCRC Outreach**

In keeping with its primary purpose—to increase awareness of crime victims' needs and to improve services to them—OVCRC maintains a close alliance with victim service professionals. As part of its outreach efforts, OVCRC staff attend national, State, and local conferences and distribute free literature at OVCRC exhibits. In addition, OVCRC provides publications and resource materials for training workshops, seminars, and conferences upon request.

## **About This Resource Guide**

This resource guide, to be updated annually, presents a catalogue of available OVC publications, arranged alphabetically by topic. The publication date, cost, and NCJ number are listed at the end of each description; if the document is available online, a URL is given. Generally, documents that are available in PDF format are also available in ASCII text and HTML formats. To order a publication listed in the catalogue, please contact the Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center by phone at 1-800-627-6872, by fax at 410-792-4358, by e-mail at [askncjrs@ncjrs.org](mailto:askncjrs@ncjrs.org), or by mail at NCJRS, P.O. Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20849-6000.

## About OVC

### Conference Planning Guide

The task of coordinating a statewide conference or hosting a national conference on victim services involves many challenges, and this guide provides assistance to conference planners by developing conference planning skills and giving an overview of the elements of a successful conference. The guide is organized in seven parts. The first three parts cover getting started, site selection, and negotiating agreements and contracts. The next three parts focus on planning the conference program, inviting speakers and presenters, and executing the conference plan. The final part focuses on training initiatives and technical assistance available from OVC. *September 1997; Free (NCJ 166593).*

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/res/confguid](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/res/confguid)

### The Federal Crime Victims Division, Fact Sheet

Through the Federal Crime Victims Division, the Office for Victims of Crime is committed to ensuring that Federal crime victims are protected and that they receive needed services through initiatives described in this fact sheet. *October 1999; Free (FS 000209).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/fcvi-jun.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/fcvi-jun.htm)

### Mission and Goals of the Office for Victims of Crime, Fact Sheet

The Office for Victims of Crime is committed to enhancing the Nation's capability to assist crime victims and to providing leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime. This fact sheet describes OVC's 10 goals. *May 1999; Free (LT 000316).*

### The Office for Victims of Crime International Activities, Fact Sheet

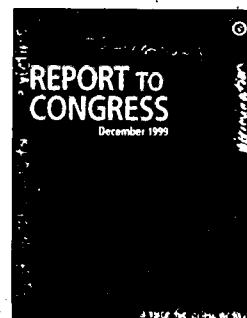
This fact sheet includes a list of recent OVC initiatives to improve international awareness of and responsiveness to victims' rights and needs and to further the integration of crime victim issues into all international discussions of crime. *July 1999; Free (FS 000229).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/interact.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/interact.htm)

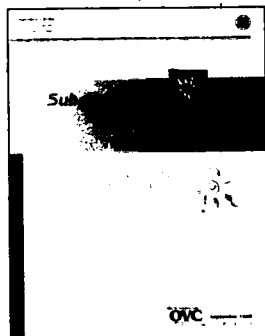
### Office for Victims of Crime: Report to Congress December 1999

This report contains a complete description of the grants, programs, and initiatives funded by OVC using moneys deposited in the Crime Victims Fund. This statutorily required document contains information regarding activities funded during fiscal years 1997 and 1998. *December 1999; Free (NCJ 178933).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/welcovc/repcong2000/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/welcovc/repcong2000/)

### The Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center: Your Primary Source for Information About Victims of Crime

As a component of the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS), OVCRC has direct access to the most comprehensive criminal justice library in the world—the NCJRS Research and Information Center. This brochure describes OVCRC in detail and the types of information and services it can provide. *March 1999; Free (BC 000610).*





## The Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center, Fact Sheet

The mission of the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC) is to make comprehensive, quality technical assistance and training resources available to victim service providers and allied professionals to increase the Nation's capability to provide skilled, capable, victim-sensitive assistance to crime victims. This fact sheet gives an overview of all the services provided by OVC TTAC. *March 1999; Free (FS 000236).*

## Special Projects Division, Fact Sheet

The Special Projects Division is the program development and training and technical assistance arm of the Office for Victims of Crime. This fact sheet describes this division and its duties and accomplishments. *August 1998; Free (FS 000228).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/spdfacts.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/spdfacts.htm)

## The State Compensation and Assistance Division, Fact Sheet

Through the State Compensation and Assistance Division, the Office for Victims of Crime administers two major formula grant programs: Victim Compensation and Victim Assistance. This fact sheet describes these programs in detail. *February 2000; Free (FS 000226).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/scad2.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/scad2.htm)

## State Crime Victim Compensation and Assistance Grant Programs, Fact Sheet

The Office for Victims of Crime administers two major formula grant

programs: Victim Compensation and Victim Assistance. Victim Compensation Program funds awarded to states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories each year reimburse victims for crime-related expenses such as medical costs, mental health counseling, funeral and burial costs, and lost wages or loss of support. Victim Assistance Program funds awarded to states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories each year support more than 2,300 community-based organizations that provide services to crime victims including crisis intervention, counseling, emergency shelter, criminal justice advocacy, emergency transportation, and other services. This fact sheet describes these programs and lists contact information for compensation and assistance programs in the United States and U.S. territories. *February 2000; (FS 000178).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/comp&asst.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/comp&asst.htm)

## Victims of Crime Act Crime Victims Fund, Fact Sheet

This fact sheet describes the Crime Victims Fund, how it was established, its purposes, and how it is disbursed. It also describes victim compensation and victim assistance programs, as well as discretionary funds. *July 1999; Free (FS 000082).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/cvfvca.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/cvfvca.htm)

## VOCA Subgrantees' Training Guide

The purpose of this guide is to provide technical assistance to Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)-funded victim services organizations in three areas: developing human resources, managing money and fundraising, and adhering to the VOCA Victim Assistance Grant Guidelines. *September 1999; Free (NCJ 175717).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/subgrantee/ncj175717.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/subgrantee/ncj175717.pdf)

## What Is the Office for Victims of Crime?, Fact Sheet

This fact sheet describes the mission and major responsibilities of OVC. *September 1999; Free (FS 000181).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/ovcfact.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/ovcfact.htm)

## American Indian/Tribal

### Bitter Earth: Child Sexual Abuse in Indian Country Discussion Guide

This discussion guide accompanies the video that examines incidences of, patterns of, and responses to child sexual abuse in American Indian communities. It provides a basis of discussion of this problem among members of Tribal and American Indian organizations, Tribal court and law enforcement personnel, victim advocates, child welfare and human services professionals, and community organizations. *1993; Free (NCJ 179105).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/bitter/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/bitter/)

### Bitter Earth: Child Sexual Abuse in Indian Country, Video

This 44-minute video examines the incidences of, patterns of, and responses to child sexual abuse in American Indian communities. *1993; Free (NCJ 144998).*

### B.J. Learns About Federal and Tribal Court, Video

This 10-minute video instructs American Indian children in the jobs performed by Tribal and Federal court personnel and

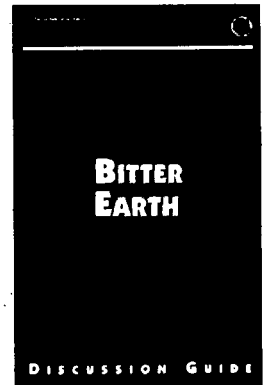
provides answers to questions about court procedures that are likely to be asked by child witnesses. *December 1996; Free (NCJ 139730).*

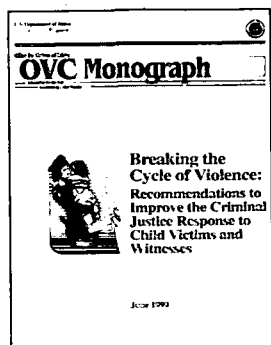
### Learning All About Court With B.J.: An Activity Book for Children Going to Federal or Tribal Court

This activity book contains games, puzzles, and information designed to instruct children on the jobs performed by Tribal and Federal court personnel. The activity book uses the same characters as and is designed to accompany the video *B.J. Learns About Federal and Tribal Court. September 1997; Free (NCJ 167252).*

### Young Once, Indian Forever: Protecting the Children of Indian Country, Video

This 21-minute video presents the perspectives of adult American Indian survivors of child abuse, Tribal leaders, Tribal justice personnel, and social service providers on the problems of domestic violence and child abuse on Indian reservations, measures needed to address the problem, methods that could be employed to prevent the abuse of American Indian children in the future, and exemplary programs and services. *1996; Free (NCJ 164621).*





## Business Community

### New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #13: Business Community

In the past 15 years, employers have begun to recognize that it is good business to offer employees a full spectrum of assistance programs to help them deal with problems, including criminal victimization, that affect job performance and the safety of the workplace. Employee assistance programs are now routinely offered in many workplaces. This bulletin describes some policies that enlightened employers and unions are implementing to prevent violence in the workplace and to assist employees who become victims. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172823).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn13.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn13.pdf)

## Child Victims

### Breaking the Cycle of Violence: Recommendations to Improve the Criminal Justice Response to Child Victims and Witnesses

This monograph describes best practices and programs that focus on the most effective responses to child victims and child witnesses by those working in the criminal justice system. Specific recommendations are offered for law enforcement agencies, prosecutors' offices, and the courts. *June 1999; Free (NCJ 176983).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/factshts/monograph.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/factshts/monograph.htm)

### Children Exposed to Violence: Criminal Justice Resources

The bulletin, a companion to *Breaking the Cycle of Violence: Recommendations to Improve the Criminal Justice Response to Child Victims and Witnesses*, provides information about the resources, tools, training, and services available to improve criminal justice responses to children who face crime and violence in their lives. *June 1999; Free (NCJ 176984).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/factshts/cevcjr.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/factshts/cevcjr.htm)

### Child Sexual Exploitation: Improving Investigations and Protecting Victims—A Blueprint for Action

This report provides guidelines for collaboration among Federal, State, and local agencies involved in the investigation and prosecution of child pornography and prostitution cases and in the provision of services to young victims of these crimes. *January 1995; Free (NCJ 153527).* [www.ncjrs.org/txtfiles/exploit.txt](http://www.ncjrs.org/txtfiles/exploit.txt)

### Child Victims and Witnesses: A Handbook for Criminal Justice Professionals

This handbook discusses the vulnerability of children to criminal behavior and the severe consequences of victimization for children. It cautions against "revictimizing" child victims in criminal justice proceedings and provides guidelines for becoming a "child-friendly" professional. The handbook concludes with a discussion of children and posttraumatic stress disorder and lists resources for information and training. *July 1998; Free (NCJ 172840).*

## Funding Court Appointed Special Advocate Programs, Fact Sheet

OVC views child neglect and abandonment as serious crimes that can harm children as severely as physical and sexual abuse. Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs may use Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds to support services to child victims of neglect and/or abandonment. This fact sheet discusses the role of VOCA funding and how CASA programs must meet certain eligibility criteria for VOCA funding. *July 1998; Free (FS 000208).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/casa.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/casa.htm)

## Improving Tribal/Federal Prosecution of Child Sexual Abuse Cases Through Agency Cooperation

This bulletin describes how close cooperation between Tribal and Federal law enforcement agencies will ensure effective investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases. Such cases often present a jurisdictional maze, a result of the difficulty of determining jurisdiction in light of provisions for concurrent jurisdiction of certain cases. The Federal Government has undertaken a number of new initiatives to facilitate Tribal and Federal cooperation. *September 1999; Free (NCJ 172877).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/tribal/tribalbult.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/tribal/tribalbult.htm)

## Initiatives To Combat Child Abuse, Fact Sheet

OVC has joined the Bureau of Indian Affairs to target family violence in Indian Country. OVC also collaborates with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the U.S. Department of

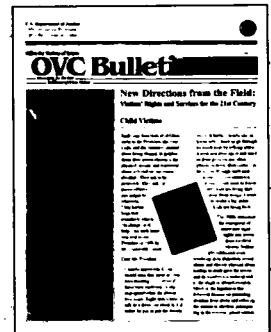
Health and Human Services to address these issues. This fact sheet discusses efforts made as well as funding sources and recipients. *August 1998; Free (FS 000212).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/childabu.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/childabu.htm)

## Inside Federal Court, Video

This 9-minute video was developed as a resource to help children ages 10 and up who must testify in Federal court. Instructing children and their families about the court process builds confidence and reduces anxiety about testifying. The video should be used only after it has been determined that the child witness will testify in court. Its use should be supervised by an adult. *September 1995; (NCJ 157156).*

## New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #18: Child Victims

Children who are victims of crime or who witness violence often experience long-term consequences including posttraumatic stress disorder and other medical, mental health, and behavior problems. This bulletin provides an overview of the impact that victimization or witnessing crimes has on children, summarizes current legislation and national programs that address the problem, and describes innovative programs that offer coordinated, multidisciplinary responses to children and improve support for children involved in the criminal justice process. Recommendations from the field to enhance services for child victims and witnesses are included. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172827).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn18.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn18.pdf)





## President's Child Safety Partnership—Final Report 1987

This report by the President's Child Safety Partnership identifies and addresses issues in child victimization in the United States, offering recommendations for how the private sector, parents, concerned citizens, and governmental agencies at every level can increase child safety. *1987; Available through the OVCRC Document Loan Program or the OVCRC Photocopying Service (NCJ 106484).*

## Sworn To Protect, Video

This six-part video series (for a total time of about 150 minutes) provides instruction for law enforcement agencies on conducting sensitive child abuse investigations. Included are discussions of the roles of law enforcement professionals in child maltreatment investigations, issues of sensitivity and victim trauma, and indicators of physical, emotional, and sexual child maltreatment. The series also contains information on conducting an investigation, interviewing a child, interviewing a suspect, and making a successful case in child abuse investigations. *September 1996; Free, Available to Federal victim service providers only (NCJ 161411).*

## Through My Eyes, Video

Through the voices, artwork, and writings of children, this 9-minute video conveys how child victims experience violence in their lives. The video helps viewers understand, from a child's viewpoint, the trauma children experience when they have been victims of abuse, have witnessed violence in the streets, or have seen their mothers beaten by their fathers. Experts in child development and mental health services for child victims explain

the impact of exposure to violence on children and discuss the critical steps that lead to recovery from the devastating effects of exposure to violence as a child. The video can be used in training sessions or discussion groups to raise awareness of the needs of child victims and witnesses. *November 1999; Free (NCJ 176984).*

## Time To Act, Video

This 13-minute video opens with a dramatization of Federal law enforcement agents knocking on the door of a house to execute a search warrant. A young girl answers the door and says that she is the only one home. The agents ask her to let them enter the house, and she does so. They discover no adults at home, and the girl indicates she has been alone for days. The agents find a baby in a crib in one room whose diapers have not been changed for a long time. Further, no food is found in the house. The dramatization closes as one agent asks another, "What should we do?" The question is answered through interviews with Federal law enforcement administrators and child-protection workers as well as narration. *1996; Free (NCJ 167245).*

## Working With Grieving Children After Violent Death: A Guidebook for Crime Victim Assistance Professionals

This guidebook is a companion piece to the *Working With Grieving Children* video. It serves as a quick reference and how-to guide for victim assistance professionals in their work with parents, schoolteachers, counselors, clergy members, and others as they address the needs of grieving children. *June 1997; Free with video, limited copies available (NCJ 165814).*



## Working With Grieving Children After Violent Death: A Guidebook for Crime Victim Assistance Professionals— Instructor's Guide

This publication is a train-the-trainer instructor's guide and a companion piece to *Working With Grieving Children After Violent Death: A Guidebook for Crime Victim Assistance Professionals* and its accompanying three-part video, both published by the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA). This instructor's guide is designed to train victim advocates, particularly those who work with families in the aftermath of a violent death. The document provides the instructor with complete information and directions for conducting a 4-day training course. *Forthcoming; Free (NCJ 178939).*

## Working With Grieving Children, Video

This 27-minute video provides a discussion on the effects on children of a loved one's violent death. The video contains interviews with children who have lost a loved one through violence and offers explanations on coping with loss. *June 1997; Free, limited copies available (NCJ 165927).*

## Civil Remedies

### New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #17: Civil Remedies

This bulletin explains that victims experience tangible costs of crime

estimated at \$105 billion annually, plus intangible costs of an estimated \$345 billion annually. Civil remedies compensate victims financially, empower victims to exercise their rights, and can have preventive effects. Attorneys, victim service providers, and victims are often unaware of the relief available through civil lawsuits. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172826).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn17.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn17.pdf)

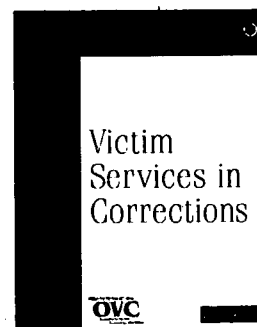
## Corrections

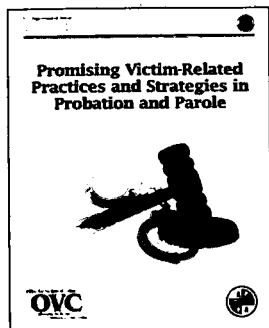
### New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #6: Corrections

The field of corrections addressed in this bulletin includes the adult and juvenile justice agencies responsible for the incarceration, detention, supervision, and surveillance of those accused or convicted of committing crimes. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172816).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn6.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn6.pdf)

### Promising Practices and Strategies for Victim Services in Corrections

This document offers an overview of correctional practices and planning strategies for responding to victims of crime. It contains a wealth of ideas to establish and enhance corrections-based victim services, particularly improving treatment of crime victims in the postsentencing phase of their cases. The needs of crime victims—to be notified of the offender's status or case disposition, to complete victim impact statements, to be protected, and to receive





restitution—should be recognized throughout the correctional and judicial processes. Programs are highlighted as models for replication in local, State, and Federal jurisdictions. *July 1999; Free (NCJ 166605).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/victims/victserv.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/victims/victserv.pdf)

### **Promising Victim-Related Practices and Strategies in Probation and Parole**

With more than two-thirds of the offender population in the United States under some form of community supervision, community corrections agencies and practitioners are facing incredible challenges, including decisions on how to implement effective practices and strategies for serving victims of crime. Significant strides have been made by probation and parole over the past two decades in addressing victims' rights and needs; however, the quest to instill victims' rights and services as commonplace and routine practices is a goal that has yet to be realized. This document describes how increasingly more community corrections agencies are responding to crime victims by implementing promising victim-related practices within their jurisdictions. *July 1999; Free (NCJ 166606).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/probparole/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/probparole/)

## **Crime Victim Compensation**

### **New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #15: Crime Victim's Compensation**

Victim compensation programs provide financial assistance to victims of nearly every type of violent crime. The programs pay for expenses such as medical care, mental health counseling, lost wages, funerals, and loss of support, but generally do not cover lost, stolen, or damaged property. Eligibility requirements and specific benefits vary by State. This bulletin provides an overview of the goals and growth of crime victim compensation programs. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172829).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn15.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn15.pdf)

## **Death Notification/ Homicide**

### **Death Notification: Breaking the Bad News With Concern for the Professional and Compassion for the Survivor—A Seminar for Clergy and Funeral Directors**

This training curriculum, developed by Mothers Against Drunk Driving, provides training tips, an annotated literature review, and overhead and handout

templates to instruct clergy and funeral directors in providing compassionate and thorough death notifications. *1996; Free, limited quantities available (NCJ 162362).*

### **Death Notification: Breaking the Bad News With Concern for the Professional and Compassion for the Survivor—A Seminar for Crime Victim Advocates**

This training curriculum, developed by Mothers Against Drunk Driving, provides training tips, an annotated literature review, and overhead and handout templates to instruct crime victim advocates in providing compassionate and thorough death notifications. *August 1996; Free, limited quantities available (NCJ 162360).*

### **Death Notification: Breaking the Bad News With Concern for the Professional and Compassion for the Survivor—A Seminar for Law Enforcement**

This training curriculum, developed by Mothers Against Drunk Driving, provides training tips, an annotated literature review, and overhead and handout templates to instruct law enforcement personnel in providing compassionate and thorough death notifications. *August 1996; Free, limited quantities available (NCJ 162363).*

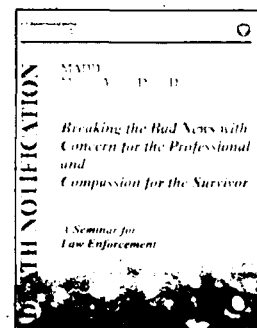
### **Death Notification: Breaking the Bad News With Concern for the Professional and Compassion for the Survivor—A Seminar for Medical Professionals**

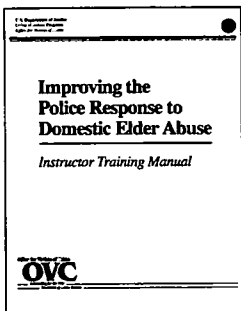
This training curriculum, developed by Mothers Against Drunk Driving, provides training tips, an annotated literature review, and overhead and handout templates to instruct medical professionals in providing compassionate and thorough death notifications. *August 1996; Free, limited quantities available (NCJ 162361).*

## **Disabilities**

### **Working with Victims of Crime with Disabilities**

Historically, crime victims have been denied full participation in the criminal justice process. Crime victims with disabilities and their families have been particularly disadvantaged. Advocates for disabled persons report that crimes against people with disabilities are often not reported to police. Of those that lead to investigation and arrest, very few are prosecuted. This bulletin provides suggestions for victim assistance professionals who deal with victims of crime with disabilities. *September 1998; Free (NCJ 172838).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/disable.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/disable.htm)





## Education Community

### New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #11: Education Community

This bulletin notes that because of the high rate of crime in schools and on campuses, a number of schools have established victim service programs that offer crisis intervention counseling and stress-reaction training as well as curricula on victim assistance and violence prevention. The educational community has a responsibility to prevent crime and ensure the safety of students and faculty. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172821).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn11.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn11.pdf)

## Elder Abuse

### Improving the Police Response to Domestic Elder Abuse: Instructor Training Manual

Domestic elder abuse is a complex problem that requires a multidisciplinary response tailored to the particular needs of elderly victims. Law enforcement plays a critical role in developing a comprehensive strategy to meet the needs of a growing elderly population. This training manual is intended to increase student understanding of the legal mandates of police officers, the process of aging, and aspects of elder abuse that police may encounter. The manual offers practical information that can be applied to police encounters with elder abuse victims, suspects, and witnesses. Learning

objectives, participant materials, and activities are identified. Training resources are listed, model police response and investigation procedures are noted, and a literature review is included. *1993; Free, limited quantities available (NCJ 147558).*

### Improving the Police Response to Domestic Elder Abuse: Participant Training Manual

Domestic elder abuse is a complex problem that requires a multidisciplinary response tailored to the particular needs of elderly victims. Law enforcement plays a critical role in developing a comprehensive strategy to meet the needs of a growing elderly population. This training curriculum for improving the police response to domestic elder abuse is designed to increase participants' understanding of police officers' relevant legal mandates, the process of aging, and aspects of domestic elder abuse that police may encounter. The manual offers practical information that can be applied to police encounters with elder abuse victims, suspects, and witnesses. Each section of the manual lists learning objectives and provides an outline of information presented. Lists of resources and additional reading materials are included. *1993; Free, limited quantities available (NCJ 148831).*

### Towards A Society for All Ages: International Year of Older Persons, 1999

This pamphlet notes that the rapid increase in the number of older people worldwide represents a social phenomenon without historical precedent. The percentage of people in the United States ages 65 and older has increased from 4.1 percent in 1900 to 12.6 percent in 1999. Older people now make up 14.3

percent of the population of developed countries and 5 percent of the population of developing countries. *March 1998; Free (NCJ 172951).*

## **Faith Community**

**New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #12: Faith Community**

Faith-related programs have grown in number in communities throughout the United States and have expanded the services they provide. Most promising has been the willingness of religious organizations to collaborate with the secular victim assistance community. This bulletin describes the numerous faith-based victim-offender mediation programs in which meetings between victims and offenders are arranged when victims request them and courts allow offenders to participate. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172822).*

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn12.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn12.pdf)

## **Health Care Community**

**New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #8: Health Care Community**

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime recognized that the medical community is often the first to come

into contact with crime victims who have experienced some form of injury. This bulletin outlines significant advances that have been made in identifying and treating victims of family abuse, providing support services for sexual assault victims, and reimbursing crime victims for medical expenses. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172818).*

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn8.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn8.pdf)

## **International Perspectives**

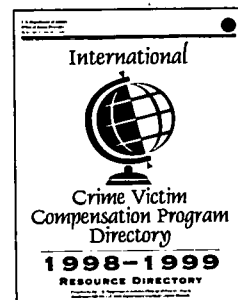
**International Crime Victim Compensation Program Directory: 1998–1999 Resource Directory**

For the 1998–1999 edition of this directory, OVC contacted victim assistance programs around the world requesting programmatic details on existing compensation programs. The 115 responses, detailing programs in 28 countries and the United States, are listed in the directory. *March 1999; Free (NCJ 173392).*

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/intdir/intdir.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/intdir/intdir.htm)

**New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #19: International Perspectives**

Victimology is increasingly recognized as an international field of research and action. This bulletin points out that crime and victimization cross international borders, and countries must look beyond their boundaries to share information,





technology, and resources to assist victims. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172828).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn19.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn19.pdf)

## United Nations Guide for Policy Makers

This guide was developed to accompany the *United Nations Handbook on Justice for Victims* and to highlight programs and policies that have been put into effect in various jurisdictions to implement the U.N. Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power and to ensure that the effectiveness and fairness of criminal justice, including related forms of support, are enhanced in a way that respects the fundamental rights of crime victims. The guide is for policymakers and local authorities who are concerned with improving the positions of crime victims in all countries and providing them with necessary assistance and access to justice. *February 2000; Free (NCJ 179084).*

## United Nations Handbook on Justice for Victims

This handbook, developed as a manual on the use and application of the U.N. Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (ECOSOC resolution 1996/8), outlines the basic steps in developing comprehensive assistance services for crime victims. The handbook is meant not to be prescriptive but to provide sample victim service programs for jurisdictions to examine and test within the contexts of their own legal systems and social support structures. *February 2000; Free (NCJ 179083).*

# Judiciary

## New Directions from the Field: Victims Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #5: Judiciary

The final report of the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime recognized the important role of judges in ensuring the rights of victims as well as defendants. According to a focus group of judges and judicial administrators from diverse regions of the Nation, many judges find it difficult to view victims as having a legitimate role in the justice process when they are not official parties to the criminal proceedings. Judges are also sometimes unaware of the specific services to which victims are entitled. Moreover, judges often worry that paying "special" attention to victims other than as witnesses for the prosecution impinges on the impartiality of the court and creates the appearance of impropriety. This bulletin emphasizes that, as community leaders, judges can be catalysts for coordinating the delivery of services to both victims and offenders and ensuring the legal rights of both. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172815).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn5.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn5.pdf)

## Victims, Judges, and Juvenile Court Reform Through Restorative Justice

This bulletin documents the findings of a project that examined the role of crime victims in the juvenile justice system. Crime victims and juvenile court judges gathered in focus groups to discuss the problems victims experience in juvenile court processes. The groups also explored concerns of juvenile court

judges in responding to needs and perceived rights of victims in the juvenile court system. The bulletin examines restorative justice principles and how to apply them to improve the responses of courts, judges, and the entire juvenile justice system to crime victims. *Forthcoming; Free (NCJ 179383).*

## Law Enforcement

### First Response to Victims of Crime

This handbook instructs “first responders” to crimes, usually law enforcement officers, on how best to respond to victims during the initial contact after a crime. Law enforcement officers are provided with basic guidelines to observe when approaching and interacting with five categories of crime victims: elderly victims, victims of sexual assault, child victims, victims of domestic violence, and survivors of homicide victims. The handbook provides hotline numbers and referral information that first responders can offer victims. *January 2000; Free (NCJ 176971).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/firstrep/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/firstrep/)

### New Directions from the Field: Victims’ Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #3: Law Enforcement

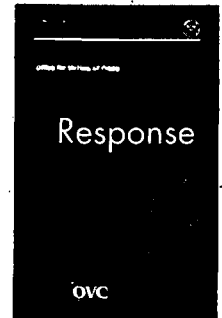
The way victims are treated by dispatchers, officers who arrive first at the crime scene, and detectives investigating the case shapes victims’ expectations of how they will be treated throughout the criminal justice process. Therefore, law enforcement personnel who interact with victims, either

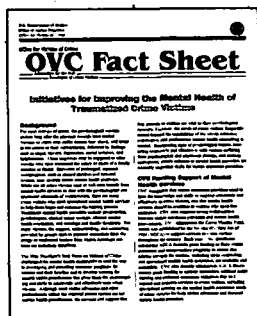
in person or over the telephone, must know how to respond effectively. This bulletin recognizes the significant role law enforcement plays in providing information and assistance to victims of crime. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172813).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn3.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn3.pdf)

## Legal Community

### New Directions from the Field: Victims Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #10: Legal Community

Trust and estate attorneys encounter domestic violence victims and homicide survivors. Civil rights attorneys encounter victims of assault, rape, and hate crimes. Personal injury attorneys encounter victims of drunk driving crashes and other personal crimes. Attorneys need to understand the dynamics of victimization and know how to refer their clients to appropriate victim services. Promising efforts by the legal community to respond to the needs of crime victims are highlighted in this bulletin, with emphasis on increasing victim access to the criminal justice system, assisting victims of violence and abuse, and helping communities. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172820).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn10.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn10.pdf)





## Mental Health Community

### Bridging the Systems To Empower Victims: Mental Health and Victim Services

This combined instructor and student resource manual contains a curriculum on victim empowerment, with particular attention to rape victims, and contains a collection of articles and information written from either a mental health or a victim services provider perspective (originally printed under the title *Victim Empowerment: Bridging the Systems—Mental Health and Victim Service Providers*). May 2000 (Reprint); Free (NCJ 179217).

For instructor manual, go to [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/vestmtl/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/vestmtl/).  
For student manual, go to [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/student/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/student/).

### Initiatives for Improving the Mental Health of Traumatized Crime Victims, Fact Sheet

OVC recognizes that victim assistance providers need to have the knowledge and skills to respond sensitively and effectively to crime victims and that mental health services should be available to victims who need assistance. This document describes the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) discretionary and formula grant programs that support crime victims' access to victim assistance services and crime victim compensation for mental health services. The fact sheet also details specific training and technical assistance resources that focus on improving mental health services to crime victims. July 1998; Free (NCJ 171665).

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/mentalhe.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/mentalhe.pdf)

### Meeting the Mental Health Needs of Crime Victims, Video

This 40-minute video presents a panel discussion hosted by Anne Seymour, Public Safety Consultant and national expert in the field of crime victim assistance, which includes two nationally recognized experts in the field of mental health: Dr. Dean Kilpatrick and Dr. Connie Best. Findings from current mental health research are presented, including issues involved with crime-related psychological trauma of crime victims, identification of the major types of immediate and short-term trauma associated with crime victimization, factors related to victims' healing and recovery, and how the criminal and juvenile justice systems can address the needs of traumatized crime victims. October 1997; Free (NCJ 167235).

### New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #9: Mental Health Community

Crime victims suffer a broad range of psychological and social injuries that persist long after their physical wounds have healed. This bulletin explores new directions related to victim rights and services that focus on the importance of understanding and treating crime-related psychological trauma, crisis reactions and short-term trauma, long-term psychological trauma, counseling and mental health interventions, and cultural competency in mental health counseling. August 1998; Free (NCJ 172819).  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn9.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn9.pdf)



## News Media Community

### New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #14: News Media Community

This bulletin notes that the news media has a significant role in public safety, but media coverage sometimes raises legitimate concerns about victims' rights to privacy. Timely and sensitive coverage of victims' cases can be helpful; coverage of specific cases and emerging crimes also has contributed to positive changes in public policy. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172824).*

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn14.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn14.pdf)

### The News Media's Coverage on Crime and Victimization, Video

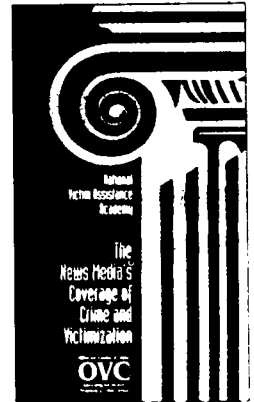
The news media provide a necessary and invaluable public service, but their work can often result in the painful revictimization of victims. This 26-minute video explores how the news media tend to cover crime and victimization, what can be done to help victims effectively deal with this sometimes insensitive coverage, and how victim service providers can work together with members of the media to promote timely, sensitive media coverage. *February 2000; Free (NCJ 178239).*

## Prosecution

### New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #4: Prosecution

In 1982 the final report of the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime examined specific areas in which prosecutors could improve their response to crime victims. This bulletin discusses innovations beyond the 1982 President's Task Force on Victims of Crime, such as special prosecution units that serve victims, innovative programs for victims with special needs, "community prosecution," and the role of prosecutors in crime prevention. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172814).*

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn4.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn4.pdf)



## Restitution

### New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #16: Restitution

Restitution is most often ordered in cases of property crime but also may be used to reimburse violent crime victims for expenses related to their recovery and to make up for loss of support for homicide victim survivors. Other cases in which restitution is ordered include theft of services, fraud, forgery, and vehicle and traffic law violations. This bulletin explains that restitution is not a punishment or an alternative to offender fines, sanctions,



and interventions; rather, it is a debt owed to victims. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172825).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn16.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn16.pdf)

## Stalking/ Domestic Violence

### Initiatives To Combat Violence Against Women, Fact Sheet

In collaboration with other government agencies and organizations, OVC administers funding to programs that combat victimization of women. This fact sheet provides an overview of the funding sources, including formula and discretionary grant programs, that support sexual assault and domestic violence programs. *July 1998; Free (FS 000211).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/factsht.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/factsht.htm)

### Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Development and Operation Guide

This how-to guide provides comprehensive information on the clinical, legal, and operational aspects of developing and administering a community-based Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program. SANE programs provide a multidisciplinary, victim-centered response to sexual assault victims and enhance the collection of forensic medical evidence to improve prosecution of sex offenders. The Sexual Assault Resource Service in Minneapolis,

Minnesota, developed the guide using expertise and "lessons learned" from existing SANE programs throughout the country. *August 1999; Free (NCJ 170609).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/sane/saneguide.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/sane/saneguide.pdf)

### When Will They Ever Learn? Educating to End Domestic Violence—A Law School Report

Many legal professionals have not been trained adequately on appropriate legal interventions for domestic violence. Failure to fully understand domestic violence legal issues undermines the competency of individual lawyers and judges as well as the legal profession as a whole. By integrating domestic violence issues into their curricula, law schools can provide lawyers with the tools to assist victims effectively and to improve the legal system's response to family violence. The recommendations in this report stem from a 2-day meeting of experts convened by the American Bar Association in 1996. Law school professors who teach domestic violence seminars or administer clinical programs, victim advocates, experts in intervention with perpetrators of domestic violence, and other practitioners attended the conference and provided information about current law school practices and recommendations for the future. *December 1997; Free (NCJ 168098).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/etedv/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/etedv/)

# Victim Assistance Community

## 1996 Victims' Rights Sourcebook: A Compilation and Comparison of Victims' Rights Legislation

This sourcebook provides information about more than a dozen legislatively mandated victims' rights in each State. It can be used to access and compare the basic legal protections that exist for crime victims. It is current through 1995. *1996; Available through the OVCRC Document Loan Program or the OVCRC Photocopying Service (NCJ 165359).*

## After the Robbery: Crisis to Resolution, Video

This 20-minute video traces a robbery from crisis to resolution and is designed to help bank robbery victims cope with the emotional trauma of victimization and to inform victims about the criminal justice process. *October 1996; Free (NCJ 162842).*

## Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance 2000

The guidelines presented in this document establish procedures to be followed by the Federal criminal justice system when responding to the needs of crime victims and witnesses. *January 2000; Free, Available to Federal victim service providers only (NCJ 178249).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/agg2000/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/agg2000/)

## Civil Legal Remedies for Crime Victims

This bulletin reveals that crime victims are increasingly pursuing civil remedies to redress their physical, psychological, and financial injuries. In addition to discussing the benefits of civil litigation, it serves as a guide for victims in determining when such litigation should be pursued. *Forthcoming; Free (NCJ 172876).*

## Community Crisis Response, Fact Sheet

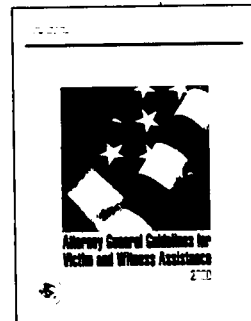
This fact sheet describes the Community Crisis Response (CCR) program that works to improve services in communities that have experienced crimes resulting in multiple victimizations. It describes CCR's goals, objectives, program strategies, and selection criteria. *August 1999; Free (FS 000148).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/ccr.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/ccr.htm)

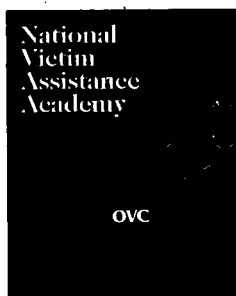
## HIV/AIDS and Victim Services: A Critical Concern for the '90s

This manual provides information about the effect that HIV/AIDS has had on the role of victim assistance professionals. It provides basic information about the disease, its impact on victims of crime, its impact on the workplace, and the possible responses of victim assistance professionals. *1996; Free (NCJ 161415).*

## Looking Back, Moving Forward: A Program for Communities Responding to Sexual Assault

This guide is designed to help communities develop a training program for responding to sexual assault and write a protocol based on community needs and resources. *October 1995; Available to Federal victim service providers only through the OVCRC*





*Document Loan Program or the OVCRC Photocopying Service (NCJ 153768).*

### **Looking Towards the Future: A National Teleconference on Promising Practices for Crime Victims, Video**

This video provides footage of a teleconference broadcast from the National Organization for Victim Assistance's 23rd Annual North American Victim Assistance Conference in Houston, Texas, on March 18, 1997. This broadcast focused on many of the "promising practices" that benefit crime victims—new, effective ways to ensure that victims' rights are enforced and needed services are provided. *Forthcoming; Free (NCJ 166817).*

### **National Victim Assistance Academy Text**

The National Victim Assistance Academy is a university-based, foundation-level course in victim assistance and victimology. This rigorous, 45-hour academic curriculum emphasizes foundations in victimology, victims' rights and services, and new developments in the field of victim assistance. The comprehensive textbook covers 32 subject areas and serves as the course curriculum. *Available through the OVCRC Document Loan Program or the OVCRC Photocopying Service (NCJ 164870).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/assist/nvaa99/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/assist/nvaa99/)

### **New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #7: Victim Assistance Community**

The victim assistance movement has grown rapidly into a full-fledged advocacy and service field dedicated to meeting physical, financial, and psychological

needs of victims and their families. More than 10,000 programs now provide support and assistance to victims in the aftermath of crime. This bulletin points out that public awareness of the need for victim assistance has increased, victim assistance services have expanded, and communities have begun to effectively respond to the needs of crime victims. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172817).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn7.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn7.pdf)

### **OVC Victim Assistance National Resource Directory**

This directory lists, by State, the contact names, mailing addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses for the six Federal grants programs that provide assistance to crime victims: Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program (Byrne), Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (PHHSBG), Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), and Children's Justice Act (CJA) State and Tribal Grant Programs. *March 1999 (2000 edition forthcoming); Free (NCJ 167892).* [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/nrd/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/nrd/)

### **President's Task Force on Victims of Crime: Final Report**

This historic report presents a list of recommendations (with commentary) devised by the 1982 President's Task Force on Victims of Crime to help crime victims receive the financial, medical, and legal help they need. The recommendations are directed toward Federal and State governments, criminal justice agencies, and private agencies such as hospitals, schools, and mental health agencies. *December 1982; Free, limited copies available (NCJ 087299).*

## Promising Practices: Community Partnerships Helping Victims, Video

This video highlights victim services programs and practices around the country. It features 10 promising approaches, including crisis response systems, children's advocacy centers, TRIAD programs, community impact statements, victim impact panels, gang victim services, sexual assault nurse examiner programs, services for deaf and deaf-blind victims, and telemedicine. The video emphasizes the effectiveness of partnerships within communities and encourages replication of the practices highlighted. February 1998; Free (NCJ 167243).

## Restitution Reform: The Coordinated Interagency Approach—A Guide for State and Local Criminal Justice Professionals

This bulletin presents information about the purpose and use of restitution, its historical evolution, and major reasons why its tremendous potential for victims, offenders, and society so often remain unfulfilled. The coordinated interagency approach, a model for addressing many of restitution's most common difficulties, integrates the numerous tasks constituting the restitution process that are spread throughout the entire criminal justice system. Forthcoming; Free (NCJ 166603).

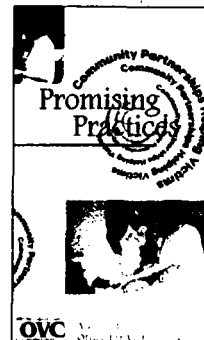
## The Restorative Justice and Mediation Collection

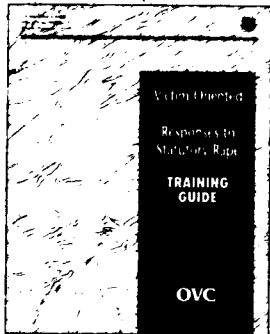
This collection of five documents covers a number of important issues related to restorative justice. The first of these documents is *Guidelines for Victim-Sensitive Victim-Offender Mediation:*

*Restorative Justice Through Dialogue*, which assists administrators in developing or enhancing their restorative justice programs. It provides practical guidelines for mediators to facilitate balanced and fair mediation that will ensure the safety and integrity of all participants. The *National Survey of Victim-Offender Mediation Programs in the United States* contains information about the characteristics of the various victim-offender mediation programs operating nationwide and the major issues facing them in their day-to-day operations. This document describes much about the actual functioning of the programs, whereas the guidelines set standards for the practice of victim-offender mediation. The *Directory of Victim-Offender Mediation Programs in the United States* lists all identified victim-offender mediation programs in the country, providing contact and program information. The *Family Group Conferencing: Implications for Crime Victims* document discusses a related form of restorative justice dialogue that originated in New Zealand and Australia and has been replicated in some communities in the United States. Finally, *Multicultural Implications of Restorative Justice: Potential Pitfalls and Dangers* discusses the implementation of restorative justice frameworks when working with persons of different cross-cultural perspectives. Forthcoming; Free (NCJ 176970).

## State Legislators' Handbook for Statutory Rape Issues

This handbook seeks to improve the criminal justice response to statutory rape victims and to hold offenders accountable. It provides a framework for developing and analyzing legislation that would make sexual intercourse with a minor a crime based on the age of the minor. Its purpose is to assist legislators and policymakers who are amending their statutory rape laws. Although each State must determine what kind of laws to pass, this handbook provides a framework for discussing and





considering the issues as well as examples of how States have dealt with the complex issues involved in statutory rape cases. *February 2000; Free (NCJ 178238).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/statutoryrape/handbook/statrape.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/statutoryrape/handbook/statrape.pdf)

### **Survivors of Politically Motivated Torture: A Large, Growing, and Invisible Population of Crime Victims**

This report summarizes discussions and ideas for collaboration from the first national meeting of representatives from U.S. treatment centers for torture survivors, sponsored by OVC in October 1998. The document provides a definition of politically motivated torture and discusses the extent and intent of torture around the world; the aftereffects of torture on survivors and their families; how torture survivor treatment centers intervene to help victims deal with the physical and psychological aftermath of their victimization and provide training to victim assistance programs to identify immigrants and refugees who have been victims of political torture; and what helps these survivors heal. The report also includes a list of U.S. treatment centers. *January 2000; Free (NCJ 178911).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/motivatedtorture/torture.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/motivatedtorture/torture.pdf)

### **Victim-Oriented Multidisciplinary Responses to Statutory Rape Training Guide**

This training guide offers practical suggestions to increase reporting of statutory rape as a crime, improve investigations and prosecutions, enhance treatment of victims and offenders, and develop sound sentencing practices

nationwide. An included report on promising practices focuses on how professionals handle statutory rape cases and what suggestions they could offer to other communities to improve responses to victims and offenders. *February 2000; Free (NCJ 178237).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/statutoryrape/trainingguide/victimoriented.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/statutoryrape/trainingguide/victimoriented.pdf)

### **What You Can Do If You Are a Victim of Crime, Fact Sheet**

This fact sheet describes the rights of crime victims, ways in which victims of crime can obtain help, and ways they can work for positive change. It also contains a list of resources that can assist victims of crime. *May 1999; Free (FS 000176).*  
[www.ncjrs.org/txtfiles/fs1766.txt](http://www.ncjrs.org/txtfiles/fs1766.txt)

## **Victims' Rights**

### **From Pain to Power: Crime Victims Take Action**

Following an overview of the effects of crime on its victims, this monograph addresses some of the benefits of community involvement for crime victims, including rebuilding self-esteem, reducing isolation, regaining a sense of power, and dealing with fear and anger. The monograph discusses victim assistance, victims' rights advocacy, and violence prevention and presents some caveats regarding victim activism. *September 1998; Free (NCJ 166604).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fptp/welcome.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fptp/welcome.html)

## Information for Victims and Witnesses Who Report Fraud Crimes

Federal law enforcement officials are concerned about victims and witnesses of financial crimes, who often have questions about how their case will be investigated, what services and information will be available, and how to begin to cope with financial losses. This brochure was designed to provide general information to address these common concerns.

August 1998; Free (BC 000599).  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fraud/brochur.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fraud/brochur.htm)

## New Directions from the Field: Strategies for Implementation—Tools for Action Guide

This resource guide, in conjunction with the video, provides background on the concepts discussed in *New Directions* and tools for implementing recommendations contained in the *New Directions* report. Forthcoming; Call for shipping and handling charges (NCJ 179558).

## New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century

This document is a comprehensive report and set of recommendations on victims' rights and services concerning every community involved with crime victims across the Nation. It highlights the progress made in the Nation's justice systems and in the private sector since the release of the 1982 final report of the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime, identifies hundreds of innovative public policy initiatives and community partnerships that are revolutionizing the treatment of crime victims in America today, and recommends improvements

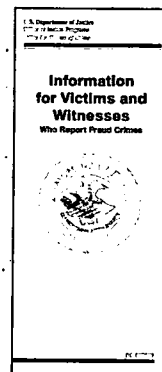
that still need to be implemented on behalf of crime victims. Contributors include crime victims themselves and representatives of the agencies and organizations that serve them. *New Directions* challenges the Nation to renew and refocus its efforts to improve the treatment of victims of crime. 1998; Fee-for-Service (NCJ 170600).  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/direct.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/direct.pdf)

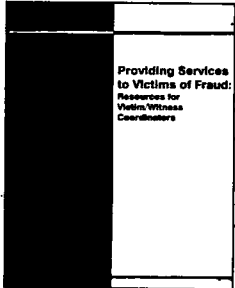
## New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #1: Executive Summary

This executive summary briefly describes the 18 chapters in *New Directions from the Field*. The document provides examples of promising practices, partnerships, and programs and a summary of the five global challenges that must be met to respond effectively to crime victims in the 21st century. August 1998; Free (NCJ 172811).  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn1.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdfxt/bulletins/bltn1.pdf)

## New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Bulletin #2: Victims' Rights

This bulletin presents the broad agenda established in the final report of the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime for implementing victims' rights and services; many of the report's 68 recommendations are highlighted. The recommendations pertain to such areas as the right of victims to notice of public court proceedings, the right of victims to be present throughout public court proceedings, the right of victims to victim-prosecutor consultation, and the right of victims and witnesses to





reasonable protection. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 172812).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn2.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/new/directions/pdf/bulletins/bltn2.pdf)

### **New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century, Video**

This 20-minute video is based on OVC's *New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century* and highlights the global challenges presented in the *New Directions* report. The video is a useful tool in changing attitudes, policies, and practices within the justice, social services, and nonprofit arenas serving this nation's nearly 32 million crime victims. *February 2000; Free (NCJ 178283).*

### **Providing Services to Victims of Fraud: Resources for Victim/Witness Coordinators**

This manual presents effective program service strategies, suggestions to enhance services by Federal personnel to fraud victims, and referrals to outside agencies and programs that provide fraud victims with services or information. Individual sections explain the types, victims, perpetrators, costs, and emotional consequences of fraud and the role of victim/witness coordinators in providing services to fraud victims. *July 1998; Free (NCJ 170594).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fraud/psvf/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fraud/psvf/)

### **Roles, Rights, and Responsibilities: A Handbook for Fraud Victims Participating in the Federal Criminal Justice System**

Designed for distribution to victims of fraud, this handbook covers victims' roles, rights, and responsibilities during the criminal prosecution of a case; the Federal justice process; support services available to fraud victims in the Federal justice system; frequently asked questions about the process; national organizations and government agencies that provide services regarding fraud crime; suggestions on how to address credit problems; a glossary of legal terms; case contact information; and guidelines for documenting financial losses. *September 1998; Free (NCJ 172830).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fraud/rrr/welcome.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fraud/rrr/welcome.html)

### **Telemarketing Fraud Prevention, Public Awareness, and Training Activities, Fact Sheet**

Using moneys appropriated by Congress, OVC funded four innovative projects designed to prevent and intervene in telemarketing fraud schemes that target elderly citizens. This fact sheet describes these initiatives—namely, the Elder Financial Exploitation Prevention Program; the Telemarketing Fraud Project for Latino Elderly; Operation Fraudstop: A Partnership to Reduce Telemarketing Fraud and Assist Victims; and Telemarketing Fraud Prevention, Public Awareness, and Training Activities. *August 1998; Free (FS 000214).*  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/telemark.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/factshts/telemark.htm)



## Victims of Fraud and Economic Crime, Bulletin

This bulletin documents a May 1998, OVC-sponsored focus group that studied the concerns, needs, and issues of the traditionally underserved fraud and economic crime victim population. Several OVC contributions to change are described. The meeting successfully generated numerous training ideas, promising practices, recommendations, and an action plan to assist economic crime victims. *May 2000; Free (NCJ 176357).*

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fraud/victfraud.txt](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fraud/victfraud.txt)

## Victims of Fraud: Beyond Financial Loss, Video

Fraud is defined as an illegal act by non-physical means to obtain money or property. This 20-minute video, designed to instill in allied professionals a deeper appreciation of the emotional, financial, and sometimes physical impact of fraud, may ultimately help fraud victims receive more sensitive treatment by criminal justice personnel. *August 1998; Free (NCJ 170593).*

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fraud/v-fraud.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/fraud/v-fraud.htm)

## Victims' Rights Compliance Efforts: Experiences in Three States, Bulletin

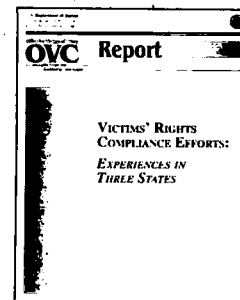
This bulletin summarizes the Victims' Rights Compliance Efforts report that describes innovative programs in three States—Colorado, Minnesota, and Wisconsin—to improve the enforcement of victims' rights. *May 1998; Free (NCJ 167241).*

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/vrce.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/vrce.htm)

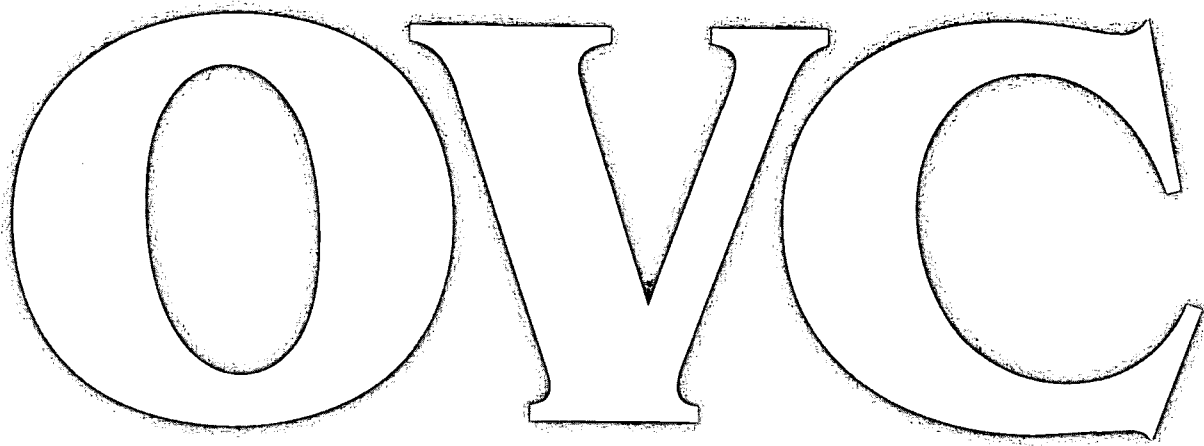
## Victims' Rights Compliance Efforts: Experiences in Three States, Report

Many victims and their advocates believe that one of the greatest challenges of the criminal justice system is ensuring compliance with victims' rights laws. This report describes innovative programs in three States—Colorado, Minnesota, and Wisconsin—to improve the enforcement of victims' rights. The report documents the experiences and challenges faced by State criminal justice systems in providing and enforcing victims' rights, identifies common themes that enhance and impede the compliance enforcement process, and suggests general models and cautions for program replication. This report is designed for State-level decisionmakers concerned with the provision and enforcement of victims' rights and should be viewed as a tool for lawmakers and policymakers who are searching for ways to help improve the provision of victims' rights in their States. *May 1998; Free (NCJ 168099).*

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/vrce.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/infores/vrce.pdf)







## Publications Resource Guide

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