

## Appendix III

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

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

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

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

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

**FaithTrust Institute**

[www.faithtrustinstitute.org](http://www.faithtrustinstitute.org)

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1-877-860-2255 • 1-206-634-0055

## **Domestic Violence Multi-Faith Resources**

### ***Broken Vows: Religious Perspectives on Domestic Violence (DVD)***

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

### ***Family Violence and Religion: An Interfaith Resource Guide***

**Compiled by the Staff of Volcano Press**

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

### ***Forgiveness and Abuse: Jewish and Christian Reflections***

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

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

### ***Love: All that and More (DVD)***

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

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

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

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

**Edited by Jean Anton**

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

### ***What Every Congregation Needs to Know about Domestic Violence***

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

### ***Jewish Resources***

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

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

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

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

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

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

### ***Christian Resources***

#### ***Circles of Healing***

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

#### ***Domestic Violence: What Churches Can Do (DVD)***

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