Creating Safer Organizations:  
Practical Implications of Research Regarding Child Sexual Abuse in Youth Serving Settings

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Children spend a significant portion of their lives involved with youth serving organizations (YSOs); e.g., US schools (50 million), US sports (45 million), US health care (26 million), yet there is minimal direction for how professionals can enhance YSO safety. Internationally a growing number of Commissions and Task Forces have investigated CSA in YSOs and offer rich guidance for prevention, policy enhancement, and best practice.

The goal of this training is to position participants to more effectively work as a consultant with YSOs to enhance child safety. The presenters will draw on their own broad YSO safety consultation and research experience in the US and UK, their recently completed comprehensive literature review on organizational CSA for the Australian Royal Commission; and findings from international commission and task force reports. This highly interactive training will provide participants with strategies and materials for working effectively with YSO to improve organizational safety.

Learning Goals and Objectives:

- A clear understanding of the current research and thinking regarding best practices to prevent child sexual abuse in YSOs.
- Practical strategies for translating these critical findings into effective prevention, policy, and practice initiatives.
- Guidance from the literature, consultation experience, and offender interviews on how risk can be minimized in YSOs.
- Discussion of specific directions for prevention, policy, and practice.
- Promising prevention approaches will be described including situational prevention and a value based organizational approach.
- Handouts and case based materials to support participants' use of these strategies in their own practice.