







News from the Children's Studies Center for Research, Policy and Public Service

Children and Youth Studies Program and Children's Studies Center for Research, Policy and Public Service

June 2012

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National Consultation Press Release

The Children's Studies Center of Brooklyn College and The City University of New York has just released on their website, complete videotaped recordings, transcriptions, and findings from its National Consultation: "Social Justice for Children: To End Child Abuse and Violence Against Children" held on November 4, 2011 at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

This multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral national consultation event was convened to draw concerted attention to the realities of child maltreatment and violence against children as a national condition of alarming proportions and to explore ways to meet this national epidemic. The participants included twentyseven distinguished speakers and panelists from neuroscience, the social sciences and public health, the courts and the judiciary, the New York State legislature, the U.S. Department of Justice, the United Nations, major child protection and advocacy organizations, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. In this expert consultation, the speakers presented the most recent biological, social, cultural and economic findings about the incidence, prevalence and long-ranging effects of maltreatment of children and young people in the home and many other social settings in our nation.

Together with the Children's Studies Center, researchers and policy makers called on the U.S. government to take immediate action to address the national epidemic of child abuse and violence against children.



James Mercy, Acting
Director, Division of
Violence Prevention,
Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention at the
November 4, 2011 National
Consultation, Social Justice
for Children: To End Child
Abuse and Violence Against
Children.

Many of the participants and invited guests at the National Consultation endorsed a Joint Statement, which outlined major policy and legislative initiatives and explored ways of collaboration between the different sectors in our society dedicated to the prevention of violence against children and to promote awareness in the nation of the deleterious effects of maltreatment of children.

To sign our Joint Statement from the National Consultation on "Social Justice for Children to End Child Abuse and Violence Against Children" download the attached PDF.

Once you've filled out the Joint Statement you can either email a PDF version to childrensstudies@brooklyn.cuny.edu or send by mail to:

Children's Studies Center 3104 James Hall, 2900 Bedford Avenue Brooklyn, NY

Please see the <u>attached PDF to view the full press</u> release.

Optional Protocol Submission

We have submitted an Alternative Report on *Legislative Measures Giving Effect to the Optional Protocol in* New York State to the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child in Geneva for their meetings in January 2013 when the official U.S. Periodic Report on the *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography* (OPSC)is scheduled for official discussion. The United States of America, which had signed and ratified this important international treaty, is therefore a state party to it, obligated by the treaty provisions to submit periodic reports on the implementation of the articles of the OPSC in the United States. Here is the link to the U.S. Report of January 22, 2010, scheduled for official discussion in January 2013: First Periodic Report Concerning the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography and Response to Recommendations in Committee Concluding Observations of June 25, 2008 -01/22/10 The U.N. Committee on the Rights of

the Child (CRC) is part of the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights.

June 18, 2012 Geneva Convention

The Children's Studies Center for Research, Policy and Public Service of Brooklyn College of the City University of New York has been invited as one of three U.S. non-governmental organizations to attend the Pre-sessional Working Group meeting and appear before the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), which are being held on June 18th, 2012 in Geneva. The purpose of the Working Group Session is to discuss with members of the CRC Committee the alternative reports submitted by U.S. organizations in preparation for the January 2013 meetings of the Committee with key representatives from the U.S. government. Gertrud Lenzer will be attending the official Pre-sessional Working Group meeting and hearings in Geneva.

For information or inquiries please contact:

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