



School of Continuing Education
Marketing

NEWS RELEASE

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Chris Dunning, coordinator of the Trauma Counseling Program, says grief therapists and trauma counselors could apply information from this workshop, "Traumatic Grief in Adults & Children," to treatment for those who lose husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters and others during the war in Iraq. This one-day workshop explores the impact of traumatic and violent death on co-victims and survivors and appropriate interventions for responding to the diagnosis of traumatic grief. Dunning may be reached at 414-460-4452 (cell).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UWM WORKSHOP EXPLORES HOW TO TREAT TRAUMATIC GRIEF

MILWAUKEE - Deborah Spungeon draws from firsthand experience as the instructor of "Traumatic Grief in Adults and Children," a one-day workshop on Wed., April 23, for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Continuing Education Trauma Counseling Program.

Sid Vicious, bassist for the punk band the Sex Pistols, was arrested for fatally stabbing her daughter, Nancy Spungeon, Oct. 12, 1978. Deborah took the title of her book, "...And I Don't Want To Live This Life," from a letter Sid sent her. He was bailed out of jail a few months after Nancy's death, only to overdose on heroin.

Her book has met with critical and popular acclaim. She has since written "Life and Homicide: The Hidden Victims: A Guide for Professionals.

Spungeon is eminently qualified to teach the workshop. Spungeon serves as Special Projects Director of the Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia (AVP), a non-profit, charitable organization that addresses the cycle of violence by providing intervention, prevention, support and clinical services for children and adults. She is a former executive director for the organization. She also has supervised three projects, funded by the Office of Victims of Crime (OVC), U.S. Department of Justice on grief, loss and homicide.

This one-day workshop explores the impact of traumatic and violent death on co-victims and survivors and its unique presentation in trauma, grief and bereavement. Clinically, grief therapists only focus on grief issues in their clients and trauma counselors on trauma. Without recognizing the full nature of what is taking place, the client frequently fails to resolve grief and develops complicated mourning. Grieving traumatized clients' symptoms do not fit into current models of treatment.

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