

News

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****Spouse abuse program

A free public forum on spouse abuse will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8, in Gooch Auditorium at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. Called "The Terror of Spouse Abuse: Causes and Solutions," the program is sponsored by the Department of Psychiatry and Mrs. Betty Reed Woodward of Dallas.

Major speakers will be Leonore E.A. Walker, Ed.D., executive director of the Domestic Violence Institute in Denver, Colo., and K. Daniel O'Leary, Ph.D., distinguished professor of psychology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Walker will speak on "Terrifying Love" and O'Leary will speak on "Causes of Spouse Abuse." Both speakers are considered among the country's leading authorities on spouse abuse, said John Sadler, M.D., assistant professor of psychiatry and coordinator of the event.

Walker is author of widely read books on the subject, including "The Battered Woman" and "The Battered Woman Syndrome." She has recently completed a new book, "Battered Women Who Kill in Self-Defense," which will be published this fall. O'Leary is the author of numerous books and articles on behavioral and marital therapy. His research in the areas of behavior therapy and family violence has earned him inclusion in the "American Psychologist Top 100" cited psychologists in the English-speaking world.

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An afternoon panel will include two UT Southwestern faculty members as well as Walker and O'Leary. Lynne Kirk, M.D., associate professor of internal medicine, will speak on the medical aspects of the problem. Kirk is medical director of the outpatient clinic at Parkland Memorial Hospital, a major teaching hospital for UT Southwestern. In that role, she treats abused women who come to the emergency room. Abbie M. Meyering, Ph.D., is clinical instructor of psychiatry and is also involved in the hospital's spouse-abuse program.

Others on the panel are Donna Pope, M.S.W., executive director of Genesis Women's Shelter in Dallas; Lt. Bill Walsh, commander, Investigation of Youth and Adult Crime Division of the Dallas Police Department; and Gail Griswold, abuse advocacy worker and former executive director of The Family Place in Dallas.

Walker and O'Leary will also speak at a morning scientific program for the medical and social work community in Gooch, beginning at 9 a.m. and lasting until noon.

Three hours of continuing education credit will be given to professionals attending the morning program and two hours for the afternoon forum in Category I of the Physician's Recognition Award of the A.M.A. Professionals attending both sessions will receive five hours credit. There is no charge for continuing education hours.

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Note: The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas comprises Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School.