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*** Child Sexual Abuse Television Discussion

DALLAS -- From seven to ten U.S. children die each day from child abuse, totaling 3,000-5,000 each year. Even more startling is the fact that about 1 million children have been the victims of physical abuse and another million sexually exploited during the last 12 months.

Southwestern Medical Forum: Child Sexual Abuse, a television discussion, will confront this sensitive issue and seek to offer legal and medical advice on how to take corrective action. It will bring together a panel of experts on the subject of sexual child abuse, who will answer questions posed by medical reporters.

Each panelist offers a different expertise on the subject of child sexual abuse. Dr. Allene Goldman is a family therapist in Dallas. Before coming to Dallas, she co-founded a family treatment center in California for the prevention of child abuse and helped prepare legislation for funding child abuse programs throughout the state of California. Attorney Barton Bernstein specializes in family law, legal problems in health care and psychology and law. Rosemary Satterwhite supervises one of the three Incest Treatment Units in Dallas County Welfare. She is a member of the Sexual Abuse Intervention Network Team and she helps train foster parents who care for sexually abused children. And Dr. Paul Prescott is director of the Child Abuse and Neglect Clinic at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas. He has written several medical publications on child abuse.

The panel will be interviewed by Alex Burton of KRLD-Radio and Rita Rubin from the Dallas Morning News.

Experts say sexual child abuse is a tragic crime that is not limited to any one race, ethnic group or income level. It plagues all levels of our society. More often than not, such crimes are never reported because parents are unwilling or unable to face the truth or because the victims themselves are too afraid to confide in anyone.

The aim of this program is to discuss how child abuse is dealt with in Dallas County and to inform viewers of what they can do if they know that a child is being abused. The program will air Sept. 1 at 5 p.m., and again on Sept. 5 at 10 p.m. on Dallas Cable Channel 9.

Child Sexual Abuse is the first in a series of medical discussions sponsored by The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas Office of Medical Information. Vicki Cason is the producer.

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