

UT News

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****Violence Seminar

DALLAS--Professionals and volunteers who work in areas related to violence from a five-state area -- Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas and Louisiana -- will meet in Dallas Nov. 6-8 at the Plaza of the Americas Hotel. The meeting, which will include major national speakers, small group seminars and an emphasis on research, is being held under the auspices of the U.S. surgeon general's office. Regional host institution for "Violence in America: Southwest Regional Research Conference" is The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas.

Attending will be government officials, social agency personnel, representatives of major corporations interested in societal problems and service groups, says Dr. Robert McGovern, UTHSCD pediatrics faculty member and chairman of the steering committee. Subject matter to be covered includes such varied issues as child, spouse and elderly abuse; rape; homicide and suicide; the effect on victims; and special problems of violence in minority communities. There will be an emphasis on prevention and reviewing research on programs that are working to head off various kinds of violence, especially in the Southwest.

The major address will be given by C. Everett Koop, surgeon general, U.S. Public Health Department, who will speak at a luncheon Nov. 6. Following the luncheon Koop will hold a major press conference.

Other featured speakers will include Lois Haight Herrington, assistant attorney general, U.S. Department of Justice; Dr. Shervert Frazier, director of the National Institute of Mental Health; Dr. Herbert Nickens, director, Office of Minority Health, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services; and Dr. Mark Rosenberg, assistant director of science, Division of Injuries, Epidemiology and Control, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, Ga.

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Many outstanding professionals will participate in workshops on various topics related to the conference theme. Among them will be Dr. Edwin Shneidman, the University of California at Los Angeles, an internationally known expert on suicide; Dr. Mark Yudoff, dean of the School of Law at The University of Texas at Austin; and Dr. Martha Williams, dean of the School of Social Work at The University of Texas at Austin.

Other workshops will be led by Rear Admiral Faye Abdellah, deputy surgeon general, U.S. Public Health Department; Drs. Eli and Carolyn Newberger, faculty members at Harvard University and specialists in child abuse and child sexual abuse; Dr. Cliff Price, assistant commissioner of health for the State of Texas; and Richard Collins, president of the Texas Foundation, who will speak on issues related to the victims of violence.

Program chairman for the meeting is Dr. Annette Zimmern, assistant professor in clinical psychiatry at UTHSCD. For further information about the meeting or registration, call Zimmern's office at (214) 688-2913 or write to her at the following address: Children and Youth Project, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, TX 75235.

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Media calls should be directed to Ann Harrell at (214) 688-3404 or Cari Nolan at (214) 691-4888.

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