



Against the Grain

July 2007

Please forward to other people. To get onto this network email:
ralph.brew@health.sa.gov.au

Page 1:

1. DASH Course 2 for 1 deal
2. Upcoming Forums

Page 2:

3. Training Calendar from Respond
4. Changes in SHine SA Library and Resource Centre
5. What Christians Say About Sex

Page 3:

6. New Resources
 - Traffic Light Model
 - "From Girl to Woman"
 - "About Me" Website Tool
 - Finger Tips and Handmade Love
7. New Referral Form on Trial at SHine SA

D.A.S.H. COURSE 2 FOR THE PRICE OF 1

Support two staff from one agency to develop skill, knowledge and competence in delivering *sexual health* education and support to their clients for the low price of **\$350**

Sexuality and Disability Forums:

Following consultation with the Sexuality and Disability email network two topics have been identified for Forums for late this year. These will mostly be short workshops facilitated jointly with Disability workers and will be provided free-of-charge.

Acquired Brain Injury and "Disinhibited" Sexual Behaviour

Tuesday 30th October 2007

1.30 - 4.30 pm

Venue: SHine SA @ Woodville GP Plus
64c Woodville Road, carpark off Bower Street.

RSVP: SHineSACourses@health.sa.gov.au

Further details to be released closer to the date.

Forums coming up in November: dates to be advised

- Sexuality and Human Relations Policy
- Working Well with Gender and Power as a sexual health strategy

Disability And Sexual Health Course: SHN9040013 Semester 2: 2007

The next offering of the accredited 6-Day Disability and Sexual Health Course begins on August 23rd and 24th. For full details and to download a registration form and the general disability worker training brochure, click on:

<http://www.shinesa.org.au/go/courses-and-workshops/disability-worker-training>

Attendance at the course gives participants the option to complete theoretical and practical assessment tasks which can result in gaining two standards of competency in sexual health at Certificate IV Level and support in planning a program for clients.

To negotiate group fees, please call the course coordinator: Ralph Brew on 8300 5300 or email Ralph.brew@health.sa.gov.au

Violence and Abuse Training Calendar Respond SA

Respond SA is a service of Relationships Australia which is advancing the community service's sector's ability to support adults who have experienced sexual violence and abuse as children.

People with a disability are very over-represented in the sexual abuse estimates and the disability sector needs to improve the skills, confidence and opportunity for staff to take up both preventive and therapeutic work.

Respond has a program of training for the year. Click below to visit their website for details:

http://www.respondsa.org.au/respondsa_services/Training_Calendar.htm

Changes in SHine SA Library and Resource Centre

The move to 64c Woodville Road, (GP Plus Health Care Centre) means that most teaching resources, games, charts, CD Roms, DVD's & VHS Tapes are now on display in the same space as the Library and can be examined thoroughly on-site.

Feel free to come in and browse. Parking via Bower Street. Library membership is still free-of-charge and the Resource Centre charges an organisational membership of \$66.00 per year. Bookings of teaching resources still require a one-week notice and availability is not guaranteed.

<http://www.shinesa.org.au/go/library-and-resources/resource-centre>



What Christians Say About Sex

by Scott Higgins

review by Ralph Brew

Many disability workers come from a strong Christian perspective or can encounter non-negotiable values in parents and community which relate to Biblical instruction.

For instance many people with a disability are brought up with the belief that they cannot have sex unless they get married, when often marriage is realistically not going to be possible; or that masturbation is a sin, when often this is the only form of sexual self expression which is available to them. How to negotiate these issues can be both a source of inspiration and a major challenge to supporting the sexuality and sexual health of clientele.

Scott Higgins has put together a document which provides a comprehensive and critical overview of the quite different perspectives on sexuality and sexual self-expression contained in both the Old and New Testaments. He avoids taking a selective position, instead opening the reader's eyes to the many different positions which are taken, with an emphasis on the need to interpret them critically from an historical perspective.

This document should be very useful for anyone who finds they have an inadequate or narrow understanding of what the Bibles actually say or who want to be able to engage in useful and meaningful discussion with others about sexual matters from a Christian perspective.

www.baptistsocialissues.org.au/papers/sexual_ethics.pdf

State Sexual Health Strategy Consultation Report back

Thankyou to all the people in the disability services sector who contributed so well to the consultation about the sexual health of people with disabilities at the end of 2006. The evidence paper and recommendations have now been drafted and there is a strong presence of material relating to disability. Individuals and organisations who participated will be approached regarding dates for consultation feedback in coming months and a future issue of this newsletter will also provide date and venue details and how to get hold of copies.

New Resources @ SHine SA

Responding positively to sexual behaviours: the traffic light model

Abstract: This resource is designed to assist staff in school environments to respond positively to sexual behaviours. It helps educators to promote a healthy sexuality as well as protect them from harm or abuse. The package includes a DVD, a fact sheet on "Sexual behaviours in children and adolescents" and a CD-Rom with supporting materials and resources made by Family Planning Queensland.

Call No: DVD00674

The two DVD resources below were highlighted recently by Isobel Henault when she ran a two day workshop on Sexuality and Aspergers Syndrome through Autism SA.

Finger tips: teaching women with disabilities about masturbation through understanding and video (DVD) (3.14 FIN RC)

19 minutes – 2003

This manual and DVD is aimed at teaching women with developmental disabilities about masturbation, privacy and pleasure. It also confronts typical myths about female sexuality. A gentle, positive film that is clear, graphic and dignified. The manual includes a step by step photographic essay about masturbation, and the joy of private time.

Handmade love: a guide for teaching about male masturbation through understanding and video (DVD) (3.14 HAN RC)

16 minutes - 1998

This manual and DVD is aimed at men with developmental disabilities and discusses privacy, pleasure and the realities of sharing living spaces with others. The narrator of the video talks about myths and suggests that masturbation can be a way of learning about sex, while the book discusses masturbation from the point of view of both health and pleasure.

On Line Resources:

From Girl to Woman – Ideas and Choices

Downloadable augmentative materials for educating women about menstruation, sterilisation, relationships and sexuality.

<http://www.fromgirltowoman.wmb.org.au/lowim/worbooks.htm>

What I'd Like You To Know About Me

A web-based communication tool that can support parents and people with a disability to present a consistent set of information to the diverse professionals with whom they have to deal; stopping them having to tell the same story *ad nauseum*.

<http://www.aboutme.org.au/index.php> :

New Disability Referral Form Being trialled by SHine SA

SHine SA is about to trial for a six-month period a new referral form for workers and parents who wish to refer people with disabilities to SHine SA for education services.

This form will give disability workers the opportunity to really do their homework on the client's background sexual health issues and therefore provide SHine SA workers with much more comprehensive information than has been possible in the past.

For enquiries, please contact:

Disability Referrals

Northern Primary Health Care Team
SHine SA
PO Box 719,
Davoren Park 5113
Tel: 8252 7955

Disability Referrals

East/West Primary Health Care Team
SHine SA
PO Box 76,
Woodville, 5011
Tel: 8300 5300

Disability Referrals

Southern Primary Health Care Team
SHine SA
PO Box 17,
Woodcroft 5162
Tel: 8325 8164

www.shinesa.org.au