

## Ohio Department of Youth Services NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**

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### **Conference to Address Concern of Juvenile Sex Offenders in Ohio**

**Columbus, Ohio** – The Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) in collaboration with the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) and the Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies will hold a one-day conference on juvenile sex offenders August 30<sup>th</sup>.

Nationally, juveniles account for about one-quarter of the sex offenses committed in the United States. Within Ohio, sex offenders are about 20% of the current DYS population. Although the number of youth adjudicated for sex offenses has remained relatively consistent over the past few years, there has been an increased focus on recognizing the distinct differences between juvenile and adult sex offenders.

The conference will focus on ways Ohio's communities can improve their ability to safely manage and treat juvenile sex offenders and youth with sexually abusive behavior. Discussion will surround options for a continuum of juvenile justice and interventions that emphasize community safety through legal sanctions, monitoring and supervision strategies, and specialized clinical programming for the offenders.

**Conference: Juvenile Sex Offenders: A Profile of Youthful Offenders & Treatment Options**

**Date:** Thursday August 30, 2007

**Time:** 9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

**Location:** Hyatt on Capitol Square  
75 East State Street, Columbus, OH

***Featured Presenter: Dr. David Burton, Smith College, Massachusetts***

Nationally known author, researcher and professor, Dr. David Burton, has worked in the field of sexual aggression for over 15 years as a clinician with adolescents and children. Dr. Burton holds a Doctorate in Social Work and is currently Assistant Professor of Social Work at Smith College. Prior to coming to Smith, Dr. Burton worked with Boysville in Saline, Michigan for seven years specializing in the clinical trauma amelioration of adolescent sexual abusers. Currently Dr. Burton is a case consultant for adolescent abusers and works with foster parents who house abusers at Northeast Center for Youth and Families, Inc. Dr. Burton is also an active board member on the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA), one of the largest and most established organizations on sex offenders.

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