Intelligence Summary

Department of Justice

Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council

Southern District of Illinois

May 10, 2012

(U) This summary is provided as part of the United States Attorney’s Office and the Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council (ATAC) initiative to provide information to ATAC members and other interested parties.

(U) Children in the United States are more likely to be exposed to violence and crime than are adults In 2005, juveniles and young adults ages 12 to 19 were more than twice as likely to be victims of violent crimes as the population as a whole. Children are exposed to violence every day in their homes, schools, and communities. Such exposure can cause them significant physical, mental, and emotional harm with long-term effects that can last well into adulthood.

(U) The U.S. Attorney General launched Defending Childhood in 2010 to unify the Department of Justice’s efforts to address children’s exposure to violence under one initiative. Through Defending Childhood, the Department is raising public awareness about the issue and supporting practitioners, researchers, and policymakers as they seek solutions to address it. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention conducted the National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence to measure the extent and nature of the violence that children endure and its consequences on their lives. This is the first study to ask children and caregivers about exposure to a range of violence, crime, and abuse in children’s lives.

(U) Attachments:

1. “Child and Youth Victimization Known to Police, School, and Medical Authorities,”(8 pp.) presents the results from OJJDP's National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence regarding authorities' knowledge of victimization incidents involving children and youth, specifically police, school, and medical authorities.

2. “Children’s Exposure to Violence: A Comprehensive National Survey,” the most comprehensive nationwide survey of the incidence and prevalence of children’s exposure to violence to date, sponsored by U.S. Depart. Of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

3. “Tips for Parents and othe Caregivers”

4. “Tips for Teachers”

(U) Resources & Reports:

· Children's Exposure To Domestic Violence: A Guide to Research and Resources. National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. 2006. Reno, NV. Available online for a fee at http://www.ncjfcj.org.

· Healing the Invisible Wounds: Children's Exposure to Violence-A Guide for Families. Safe Start Center. 2009. North Bethesda, MD. Download PDF or order print copies at http://cart.safestartcenter.org.

· Healing the Invisible Wounds: Children's Exposure to Violence-Quick Reference Guide. Safe Start Center. 2009. North Bethesda, MD. Order free print copies at http://cart.safestartcenter.org.

· Judicial Checklist for Children and Youth Exposed to Violence. National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. 2006. Reno, NV. Available online for a fee at http://www.ncjfcj.org.

· Incidence and Prevalence of Children Exposed to Violence: A Research Review. August 2005 Yanique Edmond, Megan Fitzgerald and Kristen Kracke. 1995. www.safestartcenter.org

· Safe Start Promising Approaches Communities: Working Together to Help Children Exposed to Violence. Safe Start Center, 2007. North Bethesda, MD. Download PDF

· Sanemos las Heridas Invisibles: Niños Expuestos a Violencia-Guía para Familias. Safe Start Center. 2009. North Bethesda, MD. Download PDF or order free print copies at http://cart.safestartcenter.org.

· Sanemos las Heridas Invisibles: Niños Expuestos a Violencia- Guía Rápida. Safe Start Center. 2009. North Bethesda, MD. Download PDF or order free print copies at http://cart.safestartcenter.org.

· Understanding Children's Exposure to Violence. Moving From Evidence to Action: The Safe Start Series on Children Exposed to Violence, Issue Brief #1. Elena Cohen, Betsy McAlister Groves, and Kristen Kracke. 2009. Download PDF or order print copies at http://cart.safestartcenter.org.

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