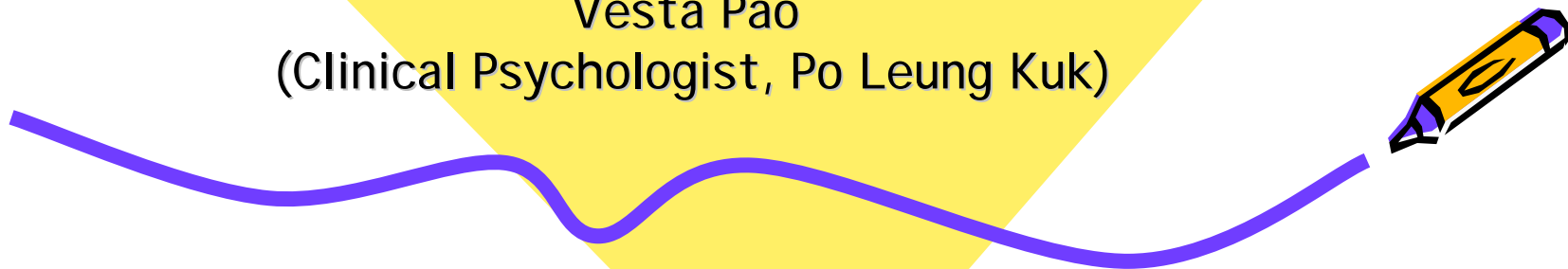


**Sharing on the Program Manual: "Group
Work with Children Exposed to
Woman Abuse"
- Children's Aid Society**

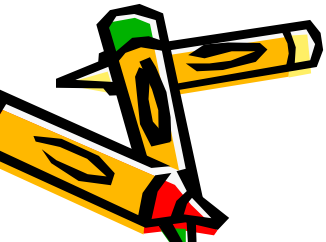
Vesta Pao
(Clinical Psychologist, Po Leung Kuk)



The Community Group Program for children exposed to woman abuse

History and development of the program

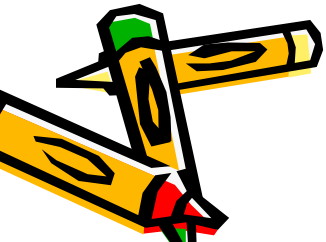
- 1993 first treatment program for children was organized
- 1997 first group manual for children was published
- 2000 a concurrent group model was developed



The Community Group Program for children exposed to woman abuse

Objectives (Help children....)

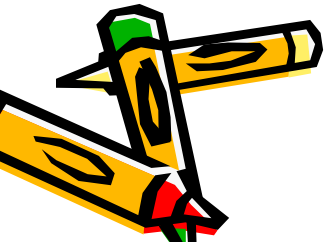
- to heal from the impact of being exposed to abuse
- to understand what happen between their moms and dads is not their fault
- to develop plans for their safety
- to recognize and express their feelings about separation and loss



The Community Group Program for children exposed to woman abuse

Concurrent Model

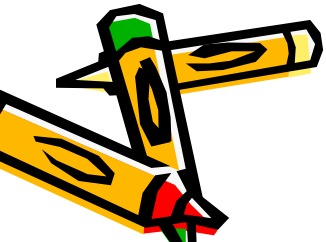
- Children and their mothers attend group concurrently
- To engage and support mothers to validate, inform and support their children's healing
- Mother develop their own network of support



The Community Group Program for children exposed to woman abuse

Service Delivery

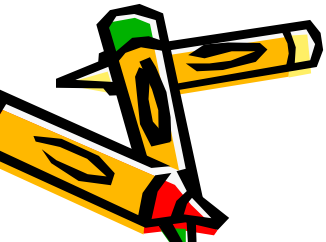
- **Age** – Preschool Group; Latency Group, Adolescent Group
- **Gender** – even split of gender for children group is preferred
- **Group Size** – 6 (Preschool); 8 (Older age children and mother)
- **Length** – 12 sessions
- **Times and days** – 75mins (Preschool); 1.5 hrs (Older age groups); 2hrs (Mothers' groups)
- **Group facilitators** -2 for each group; Women or peaceful, gentle, nurturing men



The Community Group Program for children exposed to woman abuse

Preparation and Assessment of Group Members

1. Phone contact
2. First Meeting
3. Second Meeting
4. Child's choice to attend group



Children's Session Sequence

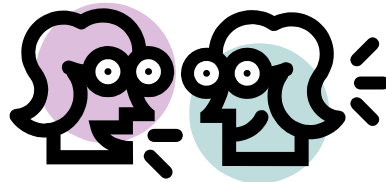
1. Hello



2. Feelings



3. Snack

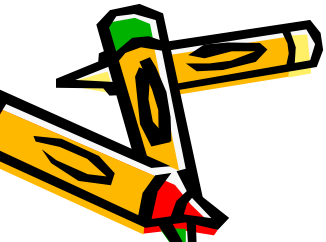


4. Theme of the week

5. Free Play
Free time



6. Checkout

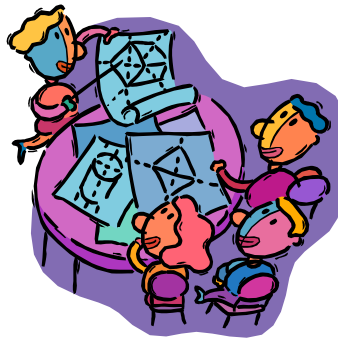


Mothers' Session Sequence

1. Welcome



3. Theme of the week

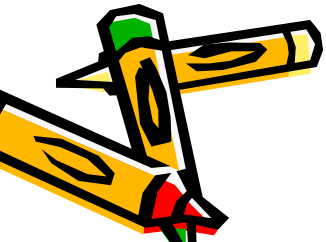


5. Check-out



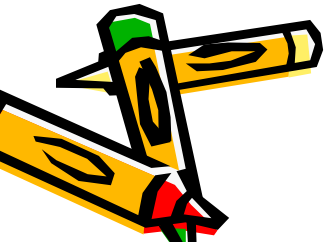
2. Check-in

4. Children's group review



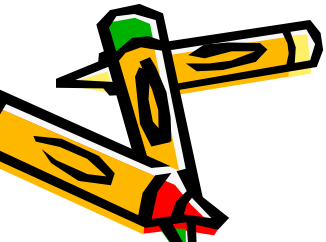
The Group Sessions

1. Getting to know you...
2. Breaking the secret
3. Understanding our feelings
4. Children's experience of violence
5. My personal safe plan
6. Understanding responsibility for abuse



The Group Sessions

7. Understanding anger
8. Problem solving
9. Dealing with family changes
10. Sexual abuse prevention/Staying connected
11. Self-esteem/ Self-care
12. Saying goodbye



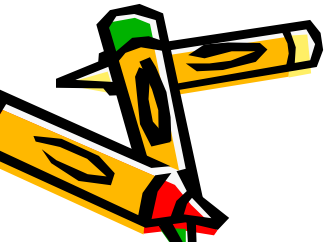
Understanding Responsibility

Children's Group

- Children are responsible for??
Brushing teeth, being friendly...
- Children are not responsible for??
Buying foods, Mom and Dad's behavior

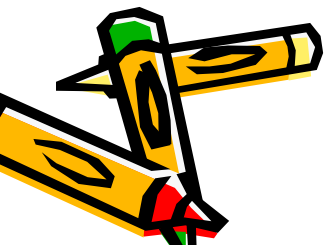
Mothers' Group

- Responsibility means..
- Why do woman "stay"?
- The power and control wheel



Challenges to Program Facilitation

- Unique nature of the model
 - Not a Woman abuse group, nor a parenting group, but something in between
- Diverse needs of participants
- Effects of abuse on woman
- Program supports

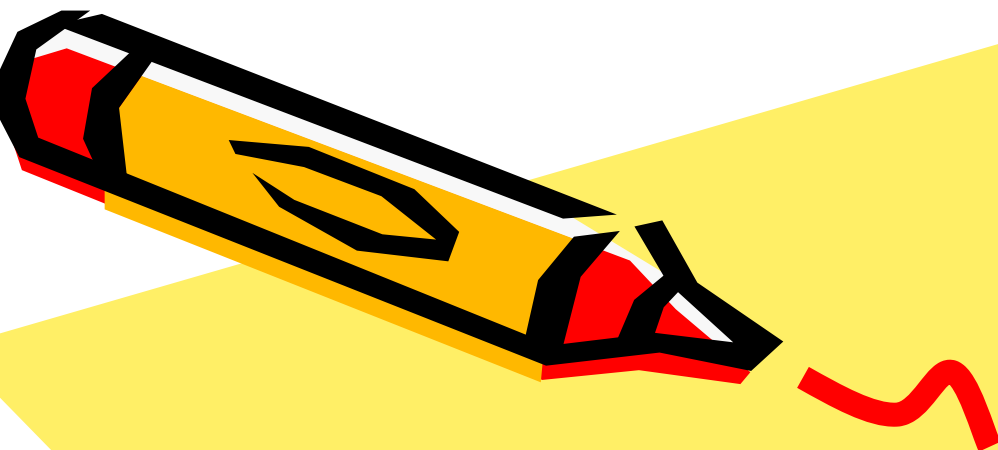


Implications to Hong Kong

- Organize program for children exposed to woman abuse
 - * Provide immediate support
 - * Use of group work
 - * Encourage mothers' involvement
 - * Promote mother-child communication
 - * Organize regularly in various settings



Promote fully functioning



Thank you!!

The children Aid Society of
London and Middlesex
(Web) www.caslondon.on.ca

