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**Scratching the Surface:
30 Years of Questions,
Victimization, and Advocacy**

Jane Straub, Jared Scheierl, Patty Wetterling
Evergreen Conference
Hope and Healing for Youth and Families
May 2, 2019

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Introduction to 30 Years



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Agenda

- Jane Straub: Introduction
- Patty Wetterling: History of Jacob's case
- Jared Scheierl: Jared's case history
- Jane Straub: Connecting the past to the present: Impact of trauma/ Survivors
- Patty Wetterling: What now? Impact on others
- Jared Scheierl: Transition from victim to witness to survivor (+/-)
- Jane Straub: Utilizing information for cases and advocacy
- Questions

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Mission of Jacob Wetterling Resource Center

- Create a world where kids can grow up safe.
- Support and resources for families with a missing or exploited loved one (all ages)
- Education/Prevention
- Advocacy and support to victims and families of abuse, violence and crimes

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Trauma

What is Trauma?

Individual trauma results from an **event**, series of events or set of circumstances that is **experienced** by an individual as physically or emotionally harmful or life threatening and that has lasting adverse **effects** on the individual's functioning and mental, physical, social, emotional, or spiritual well-being.

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Trauma & Resilience



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Themes to listen for

- Trauma
- Safe places
- Telling your story
- Things have changed
- Connection
- Necessary details
- Healing
- **Misinterpretations**

- **Anger/ Frustration**
- **Fear/ Anxiety**
- Other victims
- Mistakes
- Trauma begets trauma
- Recognizing victims
- Limited information
- Never ending


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October 22, 1989 St. Joseph, MN



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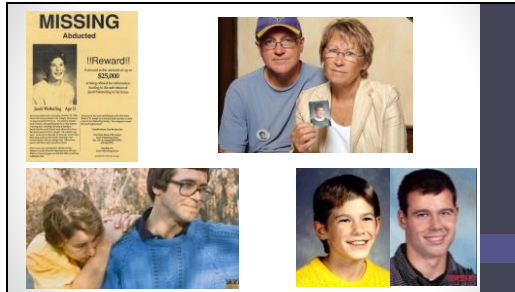
Search expands for boy abducted at gunpoint near St. Joseph



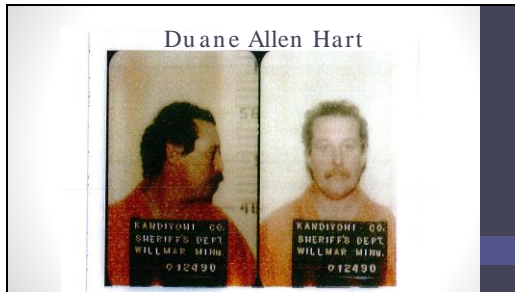
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Kramer Lake – attempted abduction
July 3, 1989

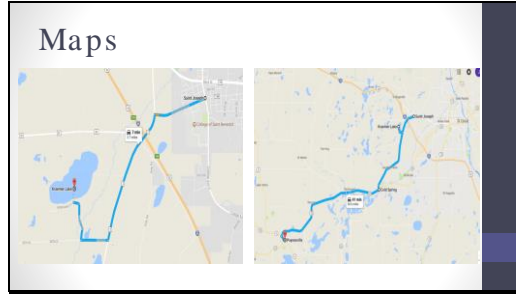
- Dr. Newton's son
- 12 years old
- White van
- 5 miles from Wetterling home

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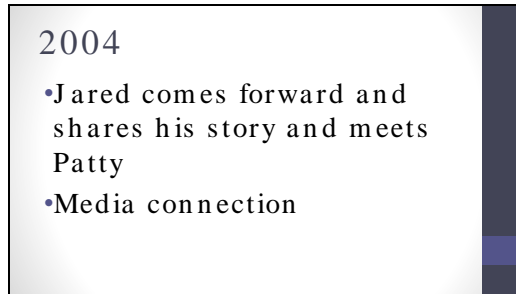
Jared Scheirl Abducted January, 1989

- Cold Spring, MN
- 12 years old
- Impact of event

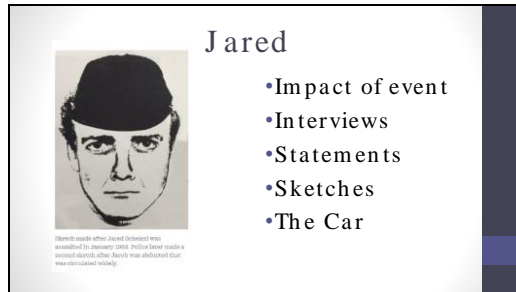
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July 2013



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Joy the Curious and Jared

13 Paynesville victims 1986-87

- Stearns County
- Boys – aged 11-16
- Night time – on their way home
- Near their homes
- Wore a mask
- Deep raspy voice
- Threatened to have a gun or a knife



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Paynesville victims



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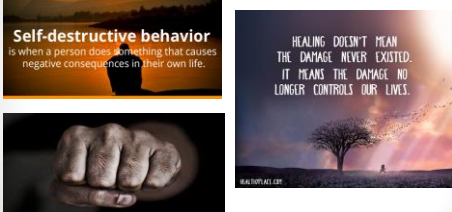
Connection



The slide titled "Connection" features four photographs. The top left shows two small portraits of a woman. The bottom left shows a man and a woman in conversation. The right side shows two women embracing warmly.

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How Does Trauma Come Out?



The slide titled "How Does Trauma Come Out?" contains three images. On the left, a hand holds a lit match with the text: "Self-destructive behavior is when a person does something that causes negative consequences in their own life." On the right, a quote reads: "HEALING DOESN'T MEAN THE DAMAGE NEVER EXISTED. IT MEANS THE DAMAGE NO LONGER CONTROLS OUR LIVES." Below the quote is a sunset scene with a tree.

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5 Concepts of Trauma-Informed Care

1. Relationships
2. Self-Regulation
3. Environment
4. Self-Care
5. Community

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Relationships

"Don't ever take a fence down until you know why it was put up."
-Robert Frost



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Self-Regulation

trigger

/ˈtrɪɡər/ (4)

noun

1. a small device that releases a spring or catch and so sets off a mechanism, especially in order to fire a gun.
"he pulled the trigger of the shotgun"

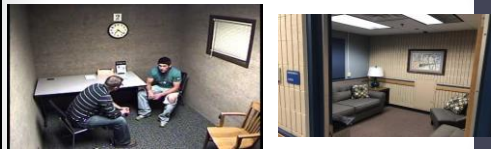
verb

1. cause (an event or situation) to happen or exist.
"an allergy can be triggered by stress or overwork"

synonyms: precipitate, prompt, elicit, trigger off, set off, spark (off), touch off, provoke, stir up.
[More](#)

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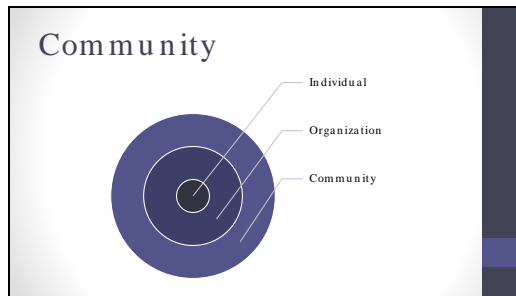
Environment



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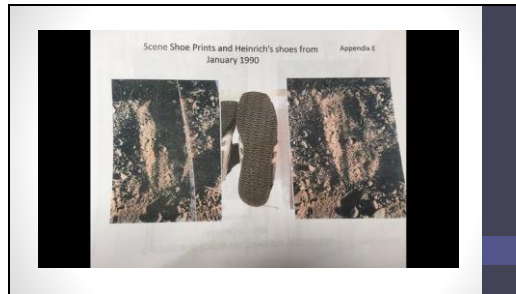
25th anniversary approaching

- Jerry and I called a meeting
- Bring back the team
- Jared was on fire
- Joy the curious
- FBI CARD Team
- NCMEC Billboard campaign
- John Walsh "The Hunt"
- Jared's DNA

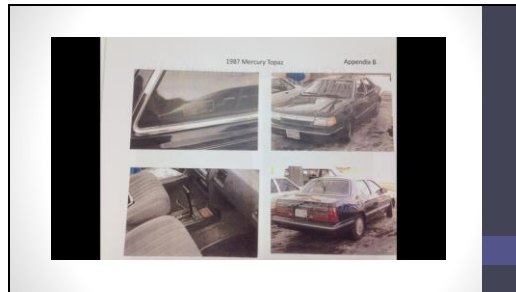
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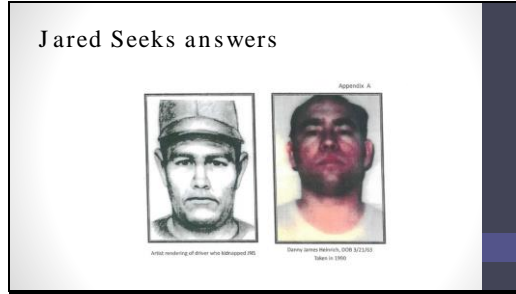
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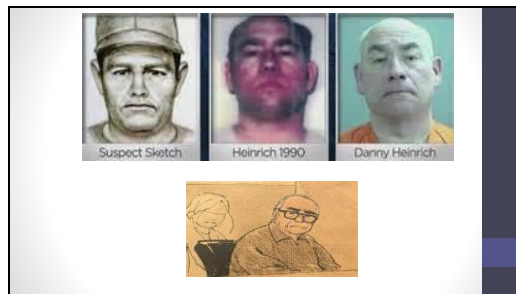
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Hearing



Patsy Wetherling, mother of Jacob Wetterling, speaks after a hearing for Danny Heinrich hearing, Tuesday Sept. 6, 2011 at Minneapolis.

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Sentencing Victim Impact Statements



SKETCHES BY MARY MULLIGAN

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Sentencing



Alison Feigh, child safety specialist at the Jacob Wetterling foundation and a former classmate of Jacob's, and an unidentified woman walked into the Federal Courthouse Monday's sentencing of Danny Heinrich. (Renee Jones Schneider, Star Tribune)

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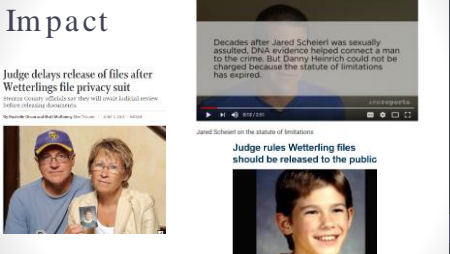
Impact

Judge delays release of files after Wetherlings file privacy suit

Decades after Jared Scheiert was sexually assaulted, DNA evidence helped connect a man to the crime, but Danny Heinrich could not be charged because the statute of limitations has expired.

Jared Scheiert on the statute of limitations

Judge rules Wetherling files should be released to the public



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Impact



WETHERLING DOCUMENTS RELEASED
RECORDS CHRONICLE SEARCH - '89 TO '16
DANNY HEINRICH
MAIN SUSPECT
SHOEPRINTS & TIRE TRACKS MATCHED
FAILED A LIE DETECTOR TEST
ASKED FRIEND HOW TO GET RID OF A BODY

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Impact



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Little things make a huge difference

- Disclosure Rates
 - Low
 - Set the space
- Language
 - Ownership
 - Active vs Passive
- Neutrality



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More Victims

- Disclosure
- Long Term Support
- Outreach

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Long Term Support



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