

DVDs AVAILABLE ON OFFENDER REHABILITATION

Voices of Ex-Offenders: The Road to Restoration

Part one: Clemmie learned at an early age that she was not safe in her own home. She was sexually abused almost daily by men in the neighborhood. She got pregnant and had a child at age 13. Not knowing what to do with a baby, she left him with her mother and grandmother to raise and hit the streets to pursue a life of drugs and crime. Her son went on to join a gang which eventually led to this death. Clemmie takes full responsibility for her role in setting him up for a life of crime and is now on a mission to save other kids. She is also an advocate for the homeless and mentally-ill.

Part two: Ross grew up with an alcoholic father who would often leave for days or months at a time. When he would return he would expect to walk back in and have everything be the same. Ross hated his father's actions but eventually followed the same path. He also started drinking and eventually became addicted to cocaine. He lost custody of his son. To support his habit he began committing robberies. Eventually, he was caught and sent to prison and at that point he surrendered. He got involved with as many programs as possible. He is now out of prison and has been clean 5 years. Ross now serves as a mentor to inmates and teaches classes in the county jail.

Part three: Andrey's path to prison began in childhood. His father left the family and his mom was left to raise him on her own. Because his mother had to work he was often left alone. He was sexually abused at age 8 by a friend in the neighborhood. He began a life of crime and drug use during his teenage years. Between 1989 and 1996 he was arrested 37 times. In 1997 he set out to rob a convenience store as he had done many times before, but this time a man tried to stop the robbery and was injured in the process. Andrey was apprehended by the police who told him the man would likely die and the charges would be changed from aggravated assault to murder. Andrey began praying the man would live, but he died two days later. He was later felt convicted that his prayers were offered up out of his own self-interest, rather than for the man he had killed. It was at this point he saw himself for the first time. In prison he found support with others who wanted to change through an intensive reentry and aftercare program. He says he entered prison a child and left as a man. He is now in college and is pursuing certification in alcohol and drug counseling. *34 minutes, 2009, \$90.00*

There's No Place Like Home: Growing Up With Family Violence

Part one: Denise, 12, and her mother, Christina, moved halfway across the country to flee their abuser and start a new life. Denise witnessed her dad beat her mom for years. She insisted to her mom that they must leave. Cheated out of a childhood, Denise is always hypervigilant and overly protective of her mother. They have since sought counseling from the Domestic Violence Division of their local police department. Part two: Katlin, 19, experienced neglect by his mother and beatings by her boyfriend. He was later rescued by his aunt, Christina Dalpiaz. He has since struggled with substance abuse and suicidal feelings. Christina has dedicated her life to helping Katlin recover and has made a profession of

helping victims of family violence. She is the author of *Breaking Free, Starting Over: Parenting in the Aftermath of Family Violence*.

Part three: Mary and her children Josh, 14, and Ophelia, 12, have only been away from their abuser for a few weeks. To the outside world, he was a well-respected minister. At home he was a monster, slashing mattresses, punching holes in the wall, even forcing them to ask permission to use the bathroom. Both children are extremely fearful their stepfather will find them. Josh is constantly on guard, studying military and SWAT team tactics in case he needs to protect the family. Ophelia, more quiet and reserved, struggles with terrifying dreams.

Part four: Sandy, 45, is nearing the end of a twenty-year sentence for armed robbery. When he entered prison as a young man, he was angry, violent, and did all he could to fight the system. But he eventually decided he needed to break the cycle of violence and take advantage of the programs available in prison. Counseling helped him deal with his dark past. At the age of 8, he witnessed his father shoot his mother and then commit suicide. Afterwards, he was sexually abused in several different foster homes. He does not make excuses for his past criminal behavior, but believes the physical and sexual abuse are the root causes of his problems as an adult. *50 minutes, 2007, \$90.00*

Meth: Big Time Drug in Small Town America

Volume 1: *Victims*--John, 24, grew up in a home where drugs were easily accessible. As a young child he was cooking, cleaning and taking care of his younger sister, Ashley. He was in and out of foster care and eventually followed in the footsteps of his mother and began using meth. Soon afterwards, he was one of the biggest suppliers in his community. Ashley, 19, also became addicted to meth after being neglected by her mom and sexually abused by her father. John and Ashley are both in recovery, but constant peer pressure make it difficult not to fall back on old friends and old habits. Dr. Sullivan Smith talks about his experiences as an emergency room physician. He explains the trauma children suffer when they have to leave their home with nothing and then be examined and decontaminated in a cold, sterile environment. Pictures are shown to illustrate the squalor that children are exposed to in meth labs. *Length 18 minutes, \$70.00, 2005*

Volume 2: *Facing the Addiction*--Former users testify as to how they were able to get off the drug and become productive citizens. A detective discusses what law enforcement is up against in trying to apprehend criminals and prevent further crimes. Walter Williams, Executive Director of Synergy Treatment Center, believes that some meth addicts can recover if they have access to long-term treatment and an intensive aftercare plan. His center has a free, one-year residential program for adults. Darrick and Jamie were once enslaved by meth before they were able to get help through Synergy. Darrick learned how to make meth from his father and started using at 15. He was relieved when he finally went to jail. Jamie used drugs for 18 years. He attributes his recovery to treatment and a strong faith in God. David

terrorized his family during his years of meth use. When told by his wife that she was going to leave, he decided to commit suicide. He shot himself in the face, and though it did not kill him, it disfigured him permanently. He never used meth after that incident and now travels the country sharing his story. *25 minutes, 2005, \$70.00*

Spanish

La Guerra en Casa (The War at Home)

Anna's husband threatened that if she left, he would report her to immigration. Although it was difficult to leave, she knew she had to do it for her daughter's sake. She is now teaching her daughter about the importance of self-esteem and healthy relationships. When Theodora and her husband came to the United States, his behavior changed. He became very jealous, always questioning her whereabouts. She stayed in the relationship many years because she didn't think she could support the children without him. Aida grew up thinking a woman must stay with her husband forever. A domestic violence shelter helped her get out of the situation and become stronger so that she would not fall back into the same cycle of violence. As a victim advocate, Grace discusses batterer tactics, why victims stay, and the importance of taking precautions when leaving a relationship.

Antonio Ramirez is the founder of the Training Center to Eradicate Masculine Intrafamily Violence. He teaches batterers to reject the aspects of their culture that accept domestic violence. Men who finish the program successfully are invited to stay on as facilitators of the program, further reinforcing what they have already learned. Luis, a former batterer, admits that he used violence because he wanted total control of his partner. He entered a batterer treatment program for three years and was under an intensive probation program. Luis now works as one of Antonio's facilitators. *English subtitles 21 minutes, 2005, \$70.00*