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# THE VICTIMOLOGIST

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Newsletter of the World Society of Victimology



## Editor's Welcome

Michael O'Connell

Yet another information packed edition of *The Victimologist*. First, congratulations to the recipients of the WSV Awards; then a report on the WSV delegation to the United Nations of Drugs and Crime Commission earlier this year in Vienna. Next, a new WSV member writes about victim assistance for victims of terrorism in Russia, followed by more congratulations but this time to WSV Executive Member, Frans Willem Winkel and the founders and organizers of the victimology course in Dubrovnik, Croatia, which celebrates its 25th anniversary. A few words on two new texts on victimology lead into an article on a manual on anti-human trafficking, before other bits and pieces from around our world.

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## Announcement from the President on the WSV Award Recipients for 2009

*John Dussich, President, WSV*

It is my pleasure and honor to announce the winners of the 2009 accomplishment awards. Each three years the Executive Committee organizes the awards process. First nominees were gathered from the general membership; then the names were vetted and prepared for voting by the Awards Committee; and finally, the Executive Committee voted on the candidates. These accomplishment awards will be given at the upcoming 13th International Symposium on Victimology on August 28th at the Awards Ceremony. I am happy to present these results.

- \* Hans von Hentig Award: Ezzat A. Fattah
- \* Benjamin Mendelsohn Young Scholar Award: Rianne M. Letschert
- \* Certificate of Appreciation: Sarah Ben David
- \* Honorary Memberships: Hilda Marchiori; Koichi Miazawa

In addition to these accomplishment awards, the Student Paper Competition was conducted. This process was also managed by the Awards Committee. Twelve students submitted papers for this competition. Three judges from different parts of the world were selected; and, based on a uniform grading procedure, points were assigned and the results were calculated.

Here are the results which will be formally announced at the symposium also on August 28th.

\* First place winner: Ryoko Takiguchi;

\* Second place winner: Stephanie Schmidt

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**WSV @ the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention & Criminal Justice - April 2009 – Vienna, Austria**

*INTERVICT*

Marc Groenhuijsen attended the 18th session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. This was held from 16-24 April 2009 in Vienna. He was a member of the delegation from the World Society of Victimology. The other representatives of the WSV were: John Dussich, Michael O'Connell, Janice Joseph, Maria de la Luz Lima and Hidemichi Morosawa. The delegation primarily focused on increasing victim awareness among the members of the Crime Commission. One of the strategies to pursue this objective was to link up with other NGO's in consultative status with the UN. Members of the WSV also contacted many government delegations in order to attract attention for the upcoming triannual WSV-symposium in Mito, Japan (August 2009) and to ask their support for a draft resolution calling for a [UN Convention on victims' rights](#). We (the delegation) participated in a Round Table on 'Standing and rights of victims in the US criminal justice system', organised at the University of Vienna. Members of the WSV-delegation made presentations at the UN on the benefits of aiming for a UN Convention on victims' rights. The 18th session of the Crime Commission was also intended to prepare for the next UN Crime Congress, to be held in April 2010 in Salvador, Brazil. Unfortunately, the agenda for that Congress

does not include an explicit reference to victims' issues. However, the WSV-delegation did register an ancillary meeting during that Congress on the proposed UN Convention on victims' rights.

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**REGIONAL PUBLIC ORGANIZATION FOR THE ASSISTANCE OF, AND THE DEFENSE OF THE RIGHTS OF, PEOPLE WHO HAVE SUFFERED A TERROR ACT**

*Irina Khalay, Chair, Don Volga\**

On 16 September, 1999 an act of terrorism was made when Russian southern town Volgograd was struck by an act of terror. More than 15 thousand citizens suffered, including more than one thousand children, as a result of a huge explosion. Nineteen people were killed and seventy-three became invalids, as well forty-two houses and two schools were damaged.

Most, if not all, citizens in three sections of the town endured a personal injury – some physical, some psychological, and many both. The physical injuries included cuts and bruises but also serious harm. The psychological injuries included 'heavy' stress, anxiety, adjustment disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder. Some of the injuries were short term, such as headaches, temporary hearing loss and irritability; whereas others were long term, such as cardiovascular problems and panic attacks. In the aftermath, limited lump sum compensatory payments were made - \$463 to families who lost a relative; \$116 - \$463 for invalidity and \$34 to those who were injured.

Terrorism and other political violence is not unique to Russia. These crimes have no

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citizenship nor nationality, they are a world problem.

Russia future rests with its children. A concerted effort should be made to ensure that they grow into sound individuals who do not live with the legacy of terrorism. Yet, there is no structured system or process to diagnose the harm done to children as victims of terrorism. There is no supervision over young children and youth who suffered 'heavy' traumas at child and youth age – unfortunately there are short-comings in victim assistance and care for adults as well. Thus, children can become secondary victims of their mothers' trauma. This is evident in Volgograd among children of mothers who were traumatized by the explosion. These children are not recognized as victims of that crime.

Nobody knows the exact number of victims of terrorism in Russia. There have been many incidents: Volgograd, Moscow, Beslan, Vladikavkaz, St.-Petersburg, Volgograd, Kabardino-Balkaria, Stavropol Territory, Dagestan, Chechen republic and others.

In an endeavour to draw greater attention to the victims' plight, Don Volga members have communicated with the President of Russia, the Chairman of the Government of Russia, the State Duma of Russia, the Representative on Human Rights in Russia, as well as regional and local authorities. In particular the group requested to help with social (medical, legal, professional, psychological) rehabilitation which, they argued, is a fundamental entitlement under Russian law. Their demand was no consistent with the principle that a civilised state is obliged to protect its citizens and to indemnify their a loss.

There are several instruments that suggest this principle is strongly up-held in Russia. For example, Russian federal law on "Countering Terrorism", as well as a resolution of the Russian federal government, titled "Confirming the Rules for Providing Social Rehabilitation to Persons Suffering as the Result of a Terror Act".

However, there is still no mechanism for fully compensating victims' losses to health.

In the aftermath of the terror in Volgograd, because the government response was unsatisfactory, Don Volga turned to the Russian Courts for help. They filed a suit for the compensation for the harm done to our health in 2002 identifying the Government of Russia as the respondent. They argued that the Government was culpable for not protecting the rights of those who suffered harm resulting from the act of terrorism. The courts, however, rejected the victims' claim and found in favour of the Government. The courts held that the right did not give rise to an automatic entitlement and that the State Duma of Russia could act on its initiative. The courts indicated that those who perpetrated the terrorism – in other words the individual offenders – are liable to compensate for the harm they caused.

The harm caused by terrorism is, in reality, impossible to calculate, and it is impractical to provide full remedy for everyone. Notwithstanding, compensation should be provided to victims of terrorism that is adequate to maintain a worthy standard of living. Yet the Government has shown an unreasonable stubbornness and the courts had found this appropriate. In light of the adverse ruling of the Russian courts, victims next turned to the European Court of Human Rights.

The victims of the terrorism in Volgograd decided that only together could they achieve practical improvements for themselves and other victims. In 2006, although handicapped by the terror act and the political set-backs, the victims officially registered the non-government organization. In September 2007 representatives for "Volga-Don" participated in a meeting on victims of terrorism in Vienna, Austria. They argued there must be enforceable, international standards of the help for victims of terrorism.

Since then there have been notable developments. Victims of terrorism have been acknowledged in discussion on a draft Convention on victims rights and basic

principles of justice, which was promulgated by Intervict, Tilburg University, Netherlands and the World Society of Victimology. Don Volga maintains that it is very important that a Convention on victims cover victims of terrorism.

In the spring 2008 Don Volga developed the model Bill on the social protection for victims of acts of terrorism, and sent it to non-government organization "Nord-Ost" ("Voice of Beslan"). Once again, politicians showed a lack of interest -- nobody among the state officials took it under consideration.

The United Nations Secretary-General's Symposium on Supporting Victims of Terrorism took place on 9 September 2008 in New York. Very important recommendations for Members States of the United Nations were endorsed. These include strengthening legal instruments; establishing easily accessible health services; and providing financial support to victims.

Don Volga's members hope that questions will also be asked at the forthcoming International Symposium on Victimology, hosted by the WSV.

It is necessary to attract the international medical centers and trauma experts. Given terrorism knows no borders, it is necessary to develop and run an international program of rehabilitation of the victims of terrorism. This program should focus on the needs of victims and should be grounded on the victimological knowledge.

It is also necessary to create an international fund to help governments – rich and poor – implement the program. It is also necessary to develop an international database on the victims of terrorism so that their experiences and knowledge can be recorded and available to all. Only then will the aspiration of Article 25 of the United Nation's Universal Declaration of Human Rights - "All have the right to a standard of living necessary to support health and well-being of themselves and their families and the right to support in the case of a loss of work or other cases of the loss of the means of existence

independent of the circumstances" hold true for victims of terrorism.

\*Editor's note: Adapted from a PowerPoint presentation submitted by the author.



## **25th Anniversary – Post-graduate Course on Victimology and Victim Assistance**

**Inter-University Center,  
Dubrovnik**

Acting head of the Administrative Department of Education, Culture and Sport, Jagoda Jakir, welcomed the participants to a ceremony to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Victimology and Victim Assistance Post-graduate Course in Dubrovnik, Croatia. Tributes were paid to the founders including Professors Gerd Kirchhof (Germany), Paul Friday (United States of America) and Zvonimir Separovic (Croatia). On this occasion, a book titled "25 years of victimology in Dubrovnik" was launched and meritorious awards were given.

**WSV Executive Member  
and Chair of Research  
Committee -- Frans  
Willem Winkel – awarded  
Inter-University Center  
(IUC) Dubrovnik**

*INTERVICT*

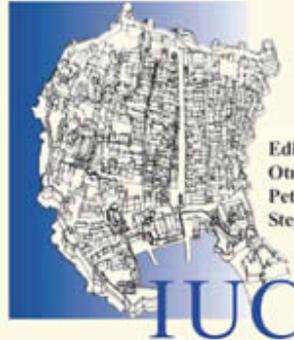
During an emotional meeting at the Lero hotel in Dubrovnik an IUC Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Frans Willem Winkel by his fellow-co-director Professor Paul Zvonimir Separovic, former rector of the University of Zagreb and Minister of Justice for Croatia during the Balkan war. Descending from a Maquizard family in Zadkine's Guernica of the north, Frans Willem's decision to continue the WSV postgraduate course "Victimology, Victim Assistance, and the Criminal Justice System" in exile was a modest answer to Paul's emotional request to "do something", made in the Hague, when Dubrovnik was shelled. Commemorating the 25th anniversary of the WSV- course two books were published: one edited by Professor Separovic, "25 years of Victimology in Dubrovnik, Hrvatska" and "Perspectives shared by international experts at the IUC-Dubrovnik", edited by course alumni Otmar Hagemann, Peter Schaefer, and Stephanie Schmidt. Keeping Jericho, Berlin, and Nicosia in mind, these books provide excellent reading material for future WSV-courses on trauma recovery.



Photo by: Frank Ruiter

**Victimology,  
Victim Assistance  
and Criminal Justice**

Perspectives  
Shared by International Experts  
at the Inter-University Centre  
of Dubrovnik



Edited by  
Otmar Hagemann,  
Peter Schäfer &  
Stephanie Schmidt

The WSV is please to help announce the publishing of *Victimology, Victim Assistance and Criminal Justice: Perspectives Shared by International Experts at the Inter-University Centre of Dubrovnik* edited by: Otmar Hagemann, Peter Schäfer and Stephanie Schmidt. See - <http://www.worldsocietyofvictimology.org/vvc.pdf> - to download the flyer, with ordering information.

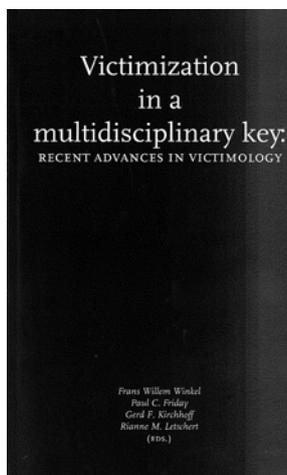
Outstanding experts in the fields of victimology, victim assistance and criminal justice from Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Israel, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa and the United States of America contributed to this reader which covers a broad range of topics currently discussed in theory and applied in practice in the field of victimology and victim assistance.

Containing contributions of Ivo Aertsen, Christine Alder, Sarah Ben-David, Nils Christie, Ute Ingrid Haas, Otmar Hagemann, Albert Hauber, Frank Hutsebaut, Bernard Jervis, Janice Joseph, Hans-Jürgen Kerner, Stephan Parmentier, Robert Peacock, Kenneth Polk, Xin Ren, Natti Ronel, Peter Schäfer, Stephanie Schmidt, Lode Walgrave, Jo-Anne Wemmers and Latham Thomas Winfree.

## Victimization in a multidisciplinary key: Recent advances in victimology

Essays on the 2006 WSV International Symposium on Victimology

Orlando, USA



*Frans Willem Winkel*

*Victimization in a multidisciplinary key* (edited by Winkel, F.W.; Friday, P.C.; Kirchhoff, G.F.; Letschert, R.M.) is relevant for academics and practitioners in the domain of juridical, forensic, criminological and psychological victimology, who share an interest in the current state of the art. The focus of this edited volume is on four trends relating to: the victims' rights explosion, expanding evidence-based knowledge, role construct revival, and spousal assault vulnerability. This volume contains contributions by Sam Garkawe, Marc Groenhuijsen, Gerd Ferdinand Kirchhoff & Hidemichi Morosawa, Michael O'Connell, Dame Helen Reeves, Armando Saponaro, and many others.

Publisher: Wolf Legal Publishers, Nijmegen

## ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING MANUAL FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCEDURES

*Janet Smith*  
*Australian Institute of Criminology*

The UN Office on Drugs and Crime and the UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking have released an important new manual to support criminal justice practitioners in the prevention of human trafficking, the protection of its victims, the prosecution of its culprits and in the international cooperation needed to achieve these goals.

To download the Anti-human trafficking manual for criminal justice procedures, see: <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/anti-human-trafficking-manual.html>

With an introductory volume and 14 separate modules, the manual covers definitions, indicators, psychological responses of victims, control methods, risk assessment, international cooperation, physical and witness evidence, interpreters, victim needs protection and compensation, and sentencing.

The manual is the result of a global cooperative process in which expert representatives from academia, NGOs, international organisations, law enforcement officers, prosecutors and judges from all over the world contributed their expertise and experiences.

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## **A View From Inside The Box' series: Invisible Boys - the needs of male victims/survivors of sexual crime.**

*Bob Balfour*

*Founder: Survivors West Yorkshire*

Sexual violence/abuse victims male and female are often an ignored community of interest, says the NSPCC. They believe the failure of policy makers to address the needs of all victims is a major human rights, justice and health issue. Such indifference reinforces traumatic outcomes for survivors of sexual crime whether female or male - young or old. The Latest research from the NSPCC reinforces the issues facing victims, see:

[http://www.nspcc.org.uk/whatwedo/mediacentre/pressreleases/2009\\_20\\_july\\_Sexually\\_abused\\_children\\_suffering\\_mental\\_health\\_problems\\_through\\_lack\\_of\\_therapy\\_wdn67055.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/whatwedo/mediacentre/pressreleases/2009_20_july_Sexually_abused_children_suffering_mental_health_problems_through_lack_of_therapy_wdn67055.html)

[http://www.nspcc.org.uk/whatwedo/mediacentre/pressreleases/2009\\_27\\_july\\_Surge\\_in\\_boys\\_calling\\_ChildLine\\_wdn67172.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/whatwedo/mediacentre/pressreleases/2009_27_july_Surge_in_boys_calling_ChildLine_wdn67172.html)

For the first two reports in the series see: [www.cnet.org.uk/useful\\_publications.php](http://www.cnet.org.uk/useful_publications.php) {Click on "View All" and 1 & 2 are the first two reports.}

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## **LAUNCH OF THE WEBSITE OF THE SOUTH ASIAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY AND VICTIMOLOGY (SASCV)**

The South Asian Society of Criminology and Victimology (SASCV) is an international association founded to nurture criminology and victimology in countries such as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India,

Pakistan, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Nepal. Academics, researchers and practitioners worldwide have joined hands to establish SASCV and share of best practices in the context of South Asia. Literature, religion and cultural practices of this region demonstrate a traditionally rich understanding of criminology and victimology in this region. South Asian literature is replete with stories of victim justice and restorative practices. Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Islam and various Tribal religions played a great role with regard to the concept of justice and non-violence, both at individual and community level. Colonial period introduced a new and formal centralized criminal justice system dismantling the then existing idea of justice. The 20<sup>th</sup> century saw the establishment of new states where ethnic, religious, linguistic, caste, communal, tribal and other identities played a role in institution of constitutions and in the legal sphere of criminal and victim justice. Today, South Asian countries face acute problems of corruption, criminal violence, terrorism, extremism, poverty, environmental degradation, white collar/cyber crimes, violations of human rights, state sponsored terrorism, crime against humanity, individual and collective victimization. In this context, the South Asian Society of Criminology and Victimology (SASCV) has emerged as a novel initiative to assist countries in criminal justice policy making and support victims of crime and abuse of power. For more information, see: <http://www.sascv.edu.tf>

## **AROUND OUR WORLD**

**~ Australia ~**

### **Resistance to Corruption**

The Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity, has released a new report, *Resistance to Corruption* - a pilot review of the internal anti-corruption arrangements of the Australian Crime Commission and the Australian Federal Police, see: [www.aclei.gov.au](http://www.aclei.gov.au).

**Factors Affecting Perceived Criminality: Evidence from victims of assault,**

Australian Institute of Criminology  
'Recent research shows that not all assaults described in victimisation surveys are considered to be crimes by the victims. This paper investigates this issue and puts forward findings which have implications for the role surveys play in measuring crime.'

See:  
<http://www.aic.gov.au/documents/F/6/6/%7BF660238D-0B74-460B-902D-AA093A428F82%7Dtandi376.pdf>

**Intrafamilial Adolescent Sex Offenders: Psychological Profile and Treatment,**

Australian Institute of Criminology  
This paper examines the nature and causes of adolescent intra-familial sex offending and which treatment approaches are likely to be successful. See:

<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/tandi/361-380/tandi375.aspx>

**Virtual Harm and Attachment,** Australian Institute of Family Studies

Virtual sexual assaulted are often traumatic and deeply upsetting for the victims, sometimes a greater extent than the victims themselves would have anticipated. See:  
<http://www.aifs.gov.au/acssa/pubs/newsletter/n21pdf/n21d.pdf>

**Time for Action Report,** National Council to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children

'The report makes recommendations that tackle unacceptable levels of sexual assault and domestic and family violence in Australia.'

**Family Safety Framework: Final Evaluation Report,** Office of Crime Statistics and Research (2008)

This report outlines the results of the evaluation of the trial phase of the Family Safety Framework. See:

<http://www.officeforwomen.sa.gov.au/siteFiles/OFW/FSFEvaluationFinalReport.doc>

**Study of Reported Child Sexual Abuse in the Anglican Church,** Parkinson P, Oates K & Jayakody A (2009)

'The report analyses 191 alleged cases of child sexual abuse, reported from 17

dioceses throughout Australia between 1990 and 2008 to see what lessons can be learned to improve child protection.' See:  
<http://www.melbourne.anglican.com.au/main.php?pg=download&id=20819&m=1245205208>

**Framing Best Practice: National standards for the primary prevention of sexual assault through education,** Social Justice and Social Change Research Centre.

The research indicates that 'the most useful framework or guiding principles for the field can be achieved by the development of standards for sexual assault prevention education'. See:

[http://www.nasasv.org.au/PDFs/Standards\\_Full\\_Report.pdf](http://www.nasasv.org.au/PDFs/Standards_Full_Report.pdf)

**Online child grooming: a literature review on the misuse of social networking sites for grooming children for sexual offences,** Choo, Kim-Kwang Raymond, AIC Reports: Research and public policy series no. 103, July 2009. See:

<http://www.aic.gov.au/documents/3/C/1/%7B3C162CF7-94B1-4203-8C57-79F827168DD8%7Drpp103.pdf>

**Responding to online child sexual grooming: an industry perspective,** Choo, Kim-Kwang Raymond, AIC Trends & issues in crime and criminal justice no. 379, July 2009. See:

[http://www.aic.gov.au/documents/1/1/1/%7B11123EFB-5712-4E6A-A445-2D2CDF14297D%7DT&I379\\_online%20child%20grooming\\_FA1.indd.pdf](http://www.aic.gov.au/documents/1/1/1/%7B11123EFB-5712-4E6A-A445-2D2CDF14297D%7DT&I379_online%20child%20grooming_FA1.indd.pdf)

**When the glitter settles: safety and hostility at and around gay and lesbian events,** Stephen Tomsen & Kevin Markwell, *Research and public police series* no. 100,

Large scale gay and lesbian events such as the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras are major international festivals with considerable tourist attendance. Good order and goodwill are emphasised as positive aspects of the events, but an internet survey of participants shows that there is an undercurrent of hostility, abuse and unreported violence, particularly after the events. Participants can feel unsafe or threatened by abuse based on sexual prejudice as well as the more general issues

of large night-time occasions. The report finds that, although much has been done to improve event safety, there is room for improvement. See:

<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/rpp/100-120/rpp100.aspx>

**Child complainants and the court process in Australia**, Kelly Richards, *Trends & issues in crime and criminal justice* no. 380

It has been recognised that child complainants in the criminal justice system can experience difficulties over and above those of other complainants. This paper outlines the major factors that contribute to making court processes harrowing for child complainants and analyses the different types of initiatives in place to address these factors. See:

<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/tandi/361-380/tandi380.aspx>

### ~ United States of America ~

[Post Traumatic Stress Disorder \(PTSD\)](#)  
(USA) *National Institute of Mental Health*

## CONFERENCES

### ~ Australia ~

#### **The 2009 eCrime Symposium**

This one-day symposium will be hosted by the Internet Safety Institute, Slattery IT and conference advisors Nigel Phair (CEPS Associate Investigator and member of the Asia Pacific Civil-Military Centre of Excellence) and Alastair MacGibbon (Trust and Safety Director, eBay Australia and New Zealand).

The symposium focuses on the impact of emerging threats for businesses operating online; topics covered will include privacy and information protection, corporate responsibility, reputation and brand, emerging threats to online security, how to protect critical data as social media intersects with people's personal lives, and the latest developments in technology to fight ecrime.

Visit the symposium website:

<http://www.slatteryit.com.au/eCrime2009/>

**17<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Domestic & Family Violence Action Groups**, 10-11 September 2009, Clapham.

Conference themes to include: Family Court; brain development and the effects of violence on children; domestic violence and employment; Domestic Violence Homicide Review; and showcasing of DVAG's. See: [http://www.victimsa.org/files/filecabinet/folder25/Registration\\_Form\\_2009.pdf](http://www.victimsa.org/files/filecabinet/folder25/Registration_Form_2009.pdf)

### ~ Belgium ~

**Rehabilitation and Reintegration of War-Affected Children (RRWAC)** - 22-23 October 2009, Brussels, Belgium.

The conference focuses on both the more individual oriented psychosocial support to war-affected children and the more society oriented transitional justice perspective. The content will investigate how to bridge the gaps between differing perspectives (rights, transitional justice, care and aid), and different phases (emergency relief, development aid) regarding the needs of this particular target group. See:

<http://www.rrwac.be/>

### ~ United States of America ~

**2010 Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Conference** - "Beyond Our Boundaries: The Inclusivity of Criminal Justice Sciences" - February 23-27, 2010. San Diego, California

See:

[http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167\\_668\\_2915.cfm/](http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167_668_2915.cfm/)

## Letter from the Secretary General



### Notice of Election Results from the General Secretary

On June 16 2009, Emilie Raymond, Madeline Lamboley and Jo-Anne Wemmers met at the 3150 Jean-Brillant, Université de Montréal, Pavillon Lionel Groulx, Bureau C-4124, Montreal, H3T 1N8, Canada to scrutineer the counting of the votes.

The following persons were elected to the EC from 2009 to 2015:

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. John Dussich      | 4. Robert Peacock       |
| 2. Gerd Kirchhoff    | 5. Maria de la Luz Lima |
| 3. Michael O'Connell | 6. Sam Garkawe          |

The following person was elected to the EC from 2009 to 2012.

7. Annette Pearson



#### ***The Victimologist*** -- Newsletter of the World Society of Victimology



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