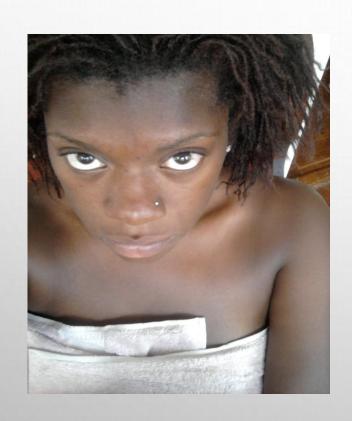
# WHEN TAMAR/TYRONE SPEAKS: ACKNOWLEDGING, ADDRESSING AND LAMENTING ABUSE IN THE CHURCH

**LDR WEEKEND 2019** 

SUZANNE R. BATES, MA, LPC



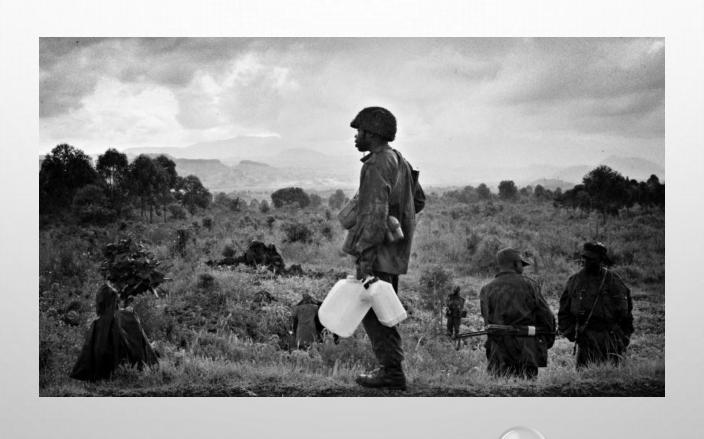
# WHEN TAMAR/TYRONE SPEAKS...





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# WHEN TAMAR/TYRONE SPEAKS...

- IN A REPORT GIVEN BY HER ON HER CULTURE, STATED THAT AS A YOUNG GIRL, SHE HATED THE THOUGHT OF BECOMING A WOMAN.
  - SHE DECIDED TO STEP AWAY FROM ANYTHING ASSOCIATED WITH BEING A WOMAN IN HER CULTURE.
  - TO HER BEING A WOMAN MEANT BEING USED AND ABUSED BY THE CULTURE...BY MEN. IT MEANT HAVING NO OPINION OR CHOICE, HAVING TO BE PERFECT...THE PERFECT HOMEMAKER, NURTURER.
  - IT MEANT HAVING TO AGREE TO SEX WITH ANY MAN AT ANY TIME DICTATED BY HIM...EVEN IN THE MARRIAGE.
  - IT MEANT BEING STUCK IN A LIFESTYLE THAT SHE DESCRIBED AS OPPRESSIVE.
- IN HER MIND AND HEART, WOMEN HAD NO POWER, THEY WERE MERE OBJECTS. SHE WAS ANGRY ABOUT BEING MADE A WOMAN.



#### WHO WILL LISTEN?

- "I WANT TO SUGGEST SOME OF THE THINGS THAT SHOULD BEGIN YOUR LIFE'S BLUEPRINT. NUMBER ONE...SHOULD BE A DEEP BELIEF IN YOUR OWN DIGNITY. YOUR WORTH AND YOUR OWN SOMEBODINESS... ALWAYS FEEL THAT YOU COUNT. ALWAYS FEEL THAT YOU HAVE WORTH, AND ALWAYS FEEL THAT YOUR LIFE HAS ULTIMATE SIGNIFICANCE."
- MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR..

#### WHO WILL LISTEN?

- "IT IS BECAUSE GOD HAS ASSIGNED WORTH TO MAN AND WOMAN THAT HUMAN DIGNITY IS ESTABLISHED.
- MAN'S GLORY IS DERIVED, DEPENDENT UPON GOD'S GLORY FOR HIS OWN.
- IT IS BECAUSE MANKIND BEARS THE IMAGE OF GOD... HIS ORIGIN IS SIGNIFICANT-HIS DESTINY IS SIGNIFICANT-HE IS SIGNIFICANT."
- R.C.SPROUL (1983) SEARCH FOR DIGNITY. PP. 97-98

#### SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN THE BIBLE

GENESIS 34 DINAH VIOLATED BY SHECHEM - ENDS IN MURDER

JUDGES 19 THE CONCUBINE VIOLATED BY THE BENJAMITES IN

GIBEAH - ENDS IN CIVIL WAR

2 SAMUEL DAVID AND BATHSHEBA – MURDER, LOSS OF A

CHILD

2 SAMUEL 13 TAMAR RAPED BY AMNON — ENDS IN MURDER

#### **SEXUAL VIOLENCE TODAY**

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DATE RAPE, RAPE, INCEST, SEXUAL ASSAULT, STALKING

- HARVEY WEINSTEIN
- CATHOLIC CHURCH
- USA GYMNASTICS SEXUAL ABUSE SCANDAL
- PAIGE PATTERSON SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
- SEX TRAFFICKING JEFFREY EPSTEIN
- #METOO & #TIMESUP

#### **STATISTICS**

#### NATIONAL SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESOURCE CENTER

- 1/5 WOMEN, 1/71 MEN RAPED IN LIFETIME
- 46.4% LESBIANS, 74.9% BISEXUAL WOMEN AND 43.3% HETEROSEXUAL
  WOMEN REPORTED SEXUAL VIOLENCE OTHER THAN RAPE DURING THEIR
  LIFETIMES, WHILE 40.2% GAY MEN, 47.4% BISEXUAL MEN AND 20.8%
  HETEROSEXUAL MEN REPORTED SEXUAL VIOLENCE OTHER THAN RAPE DURING
  THEIR LIFETIMES.
- 1/10 WOMEN HAS BEEN RAPED BY AN INTIMATE PARTNER IN LIFETIME,
- 91% OF RAPE AND SEXUAL VICTIMS ARE FEMALE, 9% MALE
- 8/10 RAPE CASES, VICTIM KNEW THE PERPETRATOR
- 81% OF WOMEN, 35% OF MEN REPORT PTSD SYMPTOMS

#### **STATISTICS**

#### NATIONAL SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESOURCE CENTER

- CHILDREN
- 1/4 GIRLS AND 1/6 BOYS WILL BE SEXUALLY ABUSED BY 18 YEARS OLD
- FIRST INCIDENT: 12.3% WOMEN WERE 10 OR YOUNGER, 30% WERE 11-17 YEARS OLD
- FIRST INCIDENT: 27.8% MEN WERE 10 OR YOUNGER
- COLLEGE
- 1/5 WOMEN AND 1/16 MEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED IN COLLEGE
- MORE THAN 90% OF COLLEGE SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS DO NOT REPORT
- 63% OF SEXUAL ASSAULTS ARE NOT REPORTED TO POLICE. ONLY 12% OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IS REPORTED TO THE AUTHORITIES
- AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN RAPED AT A HIGHER RATE THAN WHITE WOMEN AND LESS LIKELY TO REPORT (ROBINSON, 2002)

### **IMPACT OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

#### **IMPACTS EVERYONE**

- THE VICTIM
- THE PERPETRATOR
- FAMILY AND FRIENDS
- THE COMMUNITY
- THE CHURCH FOR THOSE WHO BELIEVE
- THE TESTIMONY OF CHRIST



- PHYSICALLY
- PHYSICAL PAIN
- CUTTING
- BURNING
- EATING DISORDERS
- ALCOHOL/DRUGS

- EMOTIONALLY
- GUILT/SHAME
- POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER
- FEAR FEAR OF FUTURE AND FUTURE RELATIONSHIPS
- DEPRESSION/DESPAIR
- BITTERNESS/HATRED/MURDER
- GRIEF

# WHO'S REPORT AND WHEN WILL YOU BELIEVE?



Hundreds of protesters rally in the Hart Senate Office Building while demonstrating against the confirmation of Supreme Court nominee Judge Brett Kavanaugh on Capitol Hill September 24th, 2018, in Washington, D.C. (Photo: Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images)

# **QUERIES**

 WHAT BELIEFS/FEARS MIGHT GET IN THE WAY OF THE CHURCH RESPONDING?

• WHAT ARE THEMES IN THE BIBLE THAT ADDRESS THE FEARS?

HOW DID JESUS RESPOND TO THE MARGINALIZED?

### WHAT MUST WE DO?

- THE CHURCH MUST RESPOND!
  - WE MUST BELIEVE! PREVALENCE OF FALSE REPORTING BETWEEN 2% AND 10%
  - WE MUST GAIN UNDERSTANDING AND KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE ISSUES
  - WE MUST BE INTENTIONAL MICAH 6:8
    - DO JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY, WALK HUMBLY

#### WHAT MUST WE DO?

- PAUL MILLER LOVE WALKED AMONG US
  - JESUS LOOKED
  - JESUS WAS MOVES WITH COMPASSION
  - JESUS ACTED
- WE MUST LOOK/SEE THE INJUSTICE AND THE BROKENNESS,
- WE MUST BE MOVED WITH COMPASSION LET IT TOUCH US/LAMENT
- WE MUST ACT
  - PSALM 10:17-18, JEREMIAH 22:15-16
- WE MUST PRAY AND ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT'S HELP TO SEE AND ENGAGE ONE ANOTHER AS GOD SEES EACH OF US
- WE MUST SPEAK LIFE!
  - EZEKIEL 37. CAN THESE DRY BONES LIVE?

# CARING WELL FOR VICTIMS

- ADVOCACY
- SAFETY
- MEDICAL ATTENTION
- LEGAL ASSISTANCE
- COUNSELING
- FAMILY CARE
- VICTIM'S RIGHTS (SURVIVOR'S BILL OF RIGHTS)

#### SURVIVOR'S BILL OF RIGHTS

(TAKEN FROM SAFE HORIZON'S AFTER SEXUAL ASSAULT PAMPHLET)

- YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE BELIEVED.
  - YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE GIVEN THE SAME CREDIBILITY AS ANY OTHER CRIME VICTIM.
  - YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO SEEK AND RECEIVE HELP.
  - YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO COURTEOUS, EFFICIENT TREATMENT.
  - YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE TREATED WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT, WITHOUT PREJUDICE AGAINST RACE, CLASS, LIFESTYLE, AGE, GENDER, RELIGION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, OR OCCUPATION.
  - YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ACCURATE INFORMATION, PRESENTED IN A WAY THAT YOU UNDERSTAND.
- YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK QUESTIONS.
- YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE YOUR OWN DECISIONS.
- YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHANGE YOUR MIND.
- YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO GET HELP AND SUPPORT FROM OTHERS.
- YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO HEAL.

# GOD SEES AND SPEAKS INTO THE LIVES OF THE SEXUALLY BROKEN — HEALING AND RESTORATION

- RAHAB, THE PROSTITUTE...JUSTIFIED
  - JOSHUA 2:1; HEB 11:31; JAMES 2:25
- SAMARITAN WOMAN AT THE WELL KNOWN BY MEN/KNOWN BY JESUS
  - JOHN 4:9-26
- ADULTERESS WHO ACCUSES? "NEITHER DO I CONDEMN YOU..."
  - JOHN 8:7-11

#### THE LORD USES US...

- THE CHURCH AS A MODERN DAY BOAZ RUTH
  - FROM THE MOMENT HE MEETS RUTH, HE TREATS HER WITH DIGNITY EVEN THOUGH SHE IS A MOABITESS. HE SEES HER AS GOD SEES HER.
  - PROCLAIMS DIGNITY OVER RUTH
  - PROVIDES FOR RUTH –
  - **PROTECTS RUTH** TELLS THE MEN TO DO HER NO FOOD, WATER, WITH SOME LEFTOVER HARM; DO NOT REPRIMAND OR REBUKE HER
  - ON THE THRESHING FLOOR HE HONORS HER AND PROTECTS HER; HE COULD HAVE FELT A SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT AND TAKEN HER
  - NAOMI AND RUTH WIDOWS, A MOABITESS, LOSS RESTORATION
    - MARA THE LORD HAS DEALT BITTERLY WITH ME; THE LORD HAS TESTIFIED AGAINST ME; THE ALMIGHTY HAS BROUGHT CALAMITY UPON ME
    - BOAZ REDEEMER KINSMAN TREATS RUTH AND NAOMI WITH DIGNITY
    - OBED A RESTORER OF LIFE; THE WOMEN BLESS NAOMI

# THE LORD'S PROMISE IN THE BROKENNESS BEAUTY FOR ASHES ISAIAH 61:1-3

THE SPIRIT OF THE SOVEREIGN IS ON ME, BECAUSE THE LORD HAS ANOINTED ME TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR TO BESTOW ON THEM A CROWN OF BEAUTY INSTEAD OF ASHES,

HE HAS SENT ME TO BIND UP THE BROKENHEARTED, TO PROCLAIM FREEDOM FOR THE CAPTIVES AND RELEASE FROM DARKNESS FOR THE PRISONER, THE OIL OF JOY INSTEAD OF MOURNING, AND A GARMENT OF PRAISE INSTEAD OF A SPIRIT OF DESPAIR.

TO PROCLAIM THE YEAR OF THE LORD'S FAVOR AND THE DAY OF VENGEANCE OF OUR GOD,

THEY WILL BE CALLED OAKS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, A PLANTING OF THE LORD

TO COMFORT ALL WHO MOURN,

FOR THE DISPLAY OF HIS SPLENDOR



IN ALL OF THESE SITUATIONS, THE LORD HE HEARS THE CRY OF THESE WOMEN...

- HE SEES AND CARES FOR THEM AND ACTS ON THEIR BEHALF....
- WE CAN ONLY LAMENT SEXUAL ABUSE AS WE LOOK AND SEE ITS IMPACT ON THE LIFE OF THE VICTIM, THE PERPETRATOR, THE COMMUNITY AND THE CHURCH
- WE CAN THEN PRAY AND ASK THE LORD TO SOFTEN OUR HEARTS AND BE MOVED WITH COMPASSION
- AND WE MUST PRAY FOR THE SPIRIT'S WISDOM AND POWER TO ACT
  - TO DO JUSTLY, TO LOVE MERCY, AND TO WALK HUMBLY

#### LOOK!

**QUERIES:** 

WHO ARE THOSE THAT ARE BROKEN BY SEXUAL VIOLENCE AMONG YOU?

WHAT ARE THEY SPEAKING ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE?

WHO NEEDS TO BE GIVEN CARE?

WHAT DOES YOUR CHURCH HAVE IN PLACE TO BEGIN TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE VICTIM AND THE PERPETRATOR?

"AGAIN I LOOKED AND SAW ALL THE OPPRESSION THAT WAS TAKING PLACE UNDER THE SUN; I SAW THE TEARS OF THE OPPRESSED — AND THEY HAVE NO COMFORTER, POWER WAS ON THE SIDE OF THEIR OPPRESSORS — AND THEY HAVE NO COMFORTER" ECCLESIASTES 4:1

#### BE MOVED WITH COMPASSION

**QUERIES:** 

WHAT MIGHT SHE/HE AS THE VICTIM BE FEELING?

IN WHAT WAYS IS THE PERPETRATOR BROKEN?

WEEP WITH THOSE WHO WEEP, MOURN WITH THOSE WHO MOURN

"THUS SAYS THE LORD,: EXECUTE JUSTICE...AND DELIVER FROM THE HAND OF THE OPPRESSOR ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN ROBBED, OR ELSE MY WRATH WILL GO FORTH LIKE FIRE, AND BURN, WITH NO ONE TO QUENCH IT, BECAUSE OF YOUR EVIL DOINGS." JEREMIAH 21:12

### BE MOVED WITH COMPASSION

#### • LAMENT!!

- HEIN (2018) "A BROKEN HALLELUJAH" JOY AND SORROW
- SEVEN COMPONENTS:
  - ADDRESS TO GOD ("O GOD")
  - REVIEW OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN THE PAST
  - COMPLAINT
  - CONFESSION OF SIN OR CLAIM OF INNOCENCE
  - REQUEST FOR HELP
  - GOD'S RESPONSE (OFTEN NOT STATED)
  - A VOW TO PRAISE, STATEMENT OF TRUST IN GOD
- PSALM 13

#### **ACT!**

- BE AN ADVOCATE
- INSTITUTE CARE/ENTER THE BROKENNESS AND PAIN
- OPEN UP CONVERSATION WITHIN THE BODY AND IN FAMILIES
- DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A POLICY FOR HOW THE CHURCH WILL ENTER AND CARE FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE IN THE CHURCH
- PRAY, ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT'S WISDOM IN HOW TOO COME ALONGSIDE THOSE WHO HAVE SUFFERED SOME FORM OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE.
- GOD IS WORKING JOIN HIM!

#### **ACT!**

"THUS SAYS THE LORD,: EXECUTE JUSTICE...AND DELIVER FROM THE HAND OF THE OPPRESSOR ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN ROBBED, OR ELSE MY WRATH WILL GO FORTH LIKE FIRE, AND BURN, WITH NO ONE TO QUENCH IT, BECAUSE OF YOUR EVIL DOINGS." JEREMIAH 21:12

THE RIGHTEOUS KING WILL "DEFEND THE AFFLICTED" AND "CRUSH THE OPPRESSOR" PSALM 72:1-4

"HE WILL RESCUE THEM FROM OPPRESSION AND VIOLENCE, FOR PRECIOUS IS THEIR BLOOD IN HIS SIGHT". PSALM 72:14



# **A PRAYER**

### "THE VOICE OF A SILENT CRY"

ROBINSON (2002, PP. 148-149)



UNDERSTANDING SEXUAL ABUSE: A GUIDE FOR MINISTRY LEADERS

TIM HEIN

**BRINGING CHRIST TO ABUSED WOMEN** 

ON THE THRESHOLD OF HOPE: OPENING THE DOOR TO HEALING FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

THE SPIRITUAL IMPACT OF SEXUAL ABUSE

DIANE LANGBERG

HANDS THAT HEAL: INTERNATIONAL CURRICULUM TO TRAIN CAREGIVERS OF TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS

BETH GRANT AND CINDY LOPEZ HUDLIN

AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCES

SURVIVING THE SILENCE: BLACK WOMEN'S STORIES OF RAPE

CHARLOTTE PIERCE-BAKER

I WILL SURVIVE: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN GUIDE TO HEALING FROM SEXUAL ASSAULT AND ABUSE

**LORI S. ROBINSON** 

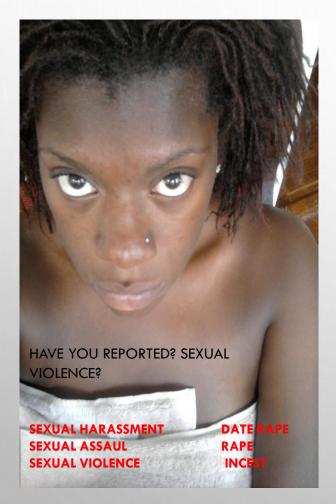
NO SECRETS, NO LIES: HOW BLACK FAMILIES CAN HEAL FROM SEXUAL ABUSE

**ROBIN D. STONE** 

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEEDS HELP, CALL THE <u>NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT TLEPHONE HOTLINE</u> AT 1-800-656-4673 TO BE CONNECTED WITH A TRAINED STAFF MEMBER FROM A SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICE PROVIDER IN YOUR AREA.

#### DOCTORAL RESEARCH STUDY

REPORTING PRACTICES OF AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED SOME FORM OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE



Are you an African American female, age 18 and over, who has experienced some form of sexual violence?

Share your perspective and reporting practices by participating in this doctoral research study conducted by Suzanne Bates, MA, LPC.

Just click or copy and paste the link below to access this brief and anonymous survey.

https://tinyurl.com/ReportingPractices