



EVENT REPORT

The Missionary Corps Training Day

On New Year's Eve and New Year's Day Kairos brought together 144 of the students and staff who work with St. Paul's Outreach (SPO) and University Christian Outreach (UCO) for a Missionary Corps Training Day. It was the largest gathering of Kairos missionaries to date. The worship was strong, the word of the Lord potent, and the fellowship rich.

We met just north of Columbus and began with a "Ho Down" on New Year's Eve that was highlighted by dancing the Virginia Reel. (A "Ho Down" is when a bunch of friends get together for some old-time, country dancing and to have a howling good time!) And good time was had by all!

On New Year's Day Mike Shaughnessy (Kairos Director in North America) spoke about the opportunities for a life time of service as missionaries in our work. He and Barbara Stock (a Senior Mission Leader in SPO) reviewed how to discern the call of God. John Keating (the founder of UCO) recounted what the Lord did in calling the first generation of university students into mission nearly forty years ago. Debbie Putnam (Senior Woman's Leader for Kairos youth work) covered what the Lord is saying about the times we live in today.

~ Brian Fischer

ANOTHER BAD SHOT

It's another stupid, American, reality TV show. MTV's *Double Shot at Love* brings together 12 straight males and 12 lesbians in a dating elimination game with an attractive young lady. Who will win her love? A guy or a gal? The plot changes when it is revealed that the attractive young lady is, in fact, twins who have been switching in and out of the lead role. The contestants are pleasantly surprised that they now have a double shot at love. Yes, two of them will win, but only by winning the hearts of both twins. All 24 get sexually involved with both twins – then the elimination starts. The twins must agree on who stays or goes. Are the twins straight? Lesbian? Surprise, they are bi-sexual. They too get a double shot at love.

Bi-sexual chic is in. Angelina Jolie, Lindsay Lohan, Britney Spears, Nelly Furtado, Drew Barrymore, Madonna have all



"TWELVE HOT STRAIGHT GUYS AND TWELVE SEXY LESBIANS FIGHT FOR LOVE IN AN EPIC BATTLE OF THE SEXES – WITH A TWIST. INSTEAD OF TRYING TO CAPTURE JUST ONE HEART, THEY'LL BE GUNNING FOR BEAUTIFUL BI-SEXUAL TWINS RIKKI AND VIKKI."

~ MTV

been acclaimed "honest and open" about their bi-sexuality on magazine covers. (Bi-sexual men are not as popular.)

CUPID CONFUSED



The normal love of women for women, men for men, a parent for a child, friends for friends, a teacher for a student, sister and brother and human beings for animals is not intended to

be sexual. Occurrence of sexual desire in these relationships is simply temptation.

TEMPTATION SELLS
Children and teens are buying.

Bi-sexuality is getting coverage in [magazines](#) aimed at eight- to twelve-year-old girls. The aim isn't only to get bi-sexuality off the abnormal behavior list but to actually get it to be seen as normal – at least for women.

With Valentine's Day coming this month, expect to see even more reports about love among sexually confused people.

Unfortunately, according to the National Center for Health Statistics, the [number of sexually confused girls is rising](#) rapidly. Today's teen girls are experimenting with bi-sexuality earlier and more than ever.

Cutting More Than Class

Princess Diana, Angelina Jolie, Johnny Depp and Christina Ricci, among other celebrities, have admitted to purposely injuring themselves.

The most common form of self-injury or [deliberate self-harm](#) (DSH) involves cutting oneself with sharp instruments, including razors, scissors, pins, knives, or glass. Cutting behavior has been on the rise for over a decade, particularly among adolescents.¹ Parents and youth workers need to know how to respond if they meet a young person who self-harms.

The Journal of Mental Health Counseling estimated that 1-4% of the general population engage in deliberate self-harm behavior; but among adolescents and college-aged young adults the prevalence ranges between 10 and 20%.²

Self-harming sometimes occurs as a means of dealing with unwanted, unpleasant emotions toward oneself or toward others. Physical pain is then used to drown one's overwhelming emotional pain because it is more manageable. Many teens report relaxation and an emotional calm afterward.

Among other teens, self-harm is a means to deal with being emotionally numb or dead inside. It makes them feel alive.



IN GREAT BRITAIN THE NUMBER OF TEENS REPORTED AS CUTTING THEMSELVES [QUADRUPLED](#) FROM 2000 TO 2007

Although cutting the forearms and wrists is most common, other sites include the back, thighs, genitals, and breasts. Cutting can be superficial and heal with no visible trace or it can produce deep cuts that leave permanent scars.⁴

Most who engage in cutting do it secretly and are not intending to gain attention. They attempt to hide their behavior and are ashamed of it. Often they dress in long sleeves and pants, even in warm months to

cloak their scars.¹ However, a few may be [seeking attention](#) or are just [copying](#) their friends.

If you come across someone who self-harms, it is best to avoid any strong or negative reaction. Self-harmers are seldom suicidal.⁶ You can ask them about their cuts or scars in a nonjudgmental manner; tell them you care about them and volunteer to pray for or with them. Finally, try to win them to getting professional help so that they might be healed.

~Debbie Putnam LLMSW

¹**Adolescent Self-Mutilation: Diagnosis & Treatment.** Katherine A. Williams; Katherine A. Bydalek *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing & Mental Health Services*, Dec 2007; 45, 12; Alumni - Research Library pg. 9-23

²**Superficial Self-Harm: Perceptions of Young Women Who Hurt Themselves.** Katherine Ryan; Melissa Allen Heath; Lane Fischer; Ellie L Young, *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*; Jul 2008; 30, 3; Alumni - Research Library pg. 237-254

³**Self-mutilation a Problem Among Columbus Teens.** J. Blum McClatchy - *Tribune Business News, Wire Feed*, Feb 26, 2008; Alumni - ABI/INFORM Dateline database.

⁴ibid: **Williams and Bydalek**

⁵ibid: **Williams and Bydalek**

⁶**A Literature Review of Deliberate Self-Harm.** Jacqueline Mangnall; Eleanor Yorkovich, *Perspectives in Psychiatric Care*; July 2008; 44,3; Alumni Research Library pg. 175-184.

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F.R.I.E.N.D.S. Helps Friends Get Pregnant

The November 2008 issue of *Pediatrics Magazine* revealed the results of a survey of 2,003 American 12- to 17-year-olds. In 2001 they were asked about their TV viewing habits, specifically about how often they watched any of twenty popular shows, many of which had high sexual content. The programs included *Sex and the City*, *That 70s Show* and *Friends*.

The teens were re-interviewed in 2004, and asked about pregnancy. Pregnancies were **twice as common** among those who had watched such shows regularly, compared with teens who said they had hardly ever watched them.

ABC Family Channel is airing *The Secret Life of an American Teenager* about a 15-year-old who becomes pregnant at band camp. They aim to help teens avoid pregnancy. The show almost certainly will have the opposite effect.

**MAY GOD DEFEND
ME FROM MY
FRIENDS.
~ VOLTAIRE**