The Contagion of Violence
A workshop of the Forum on Global Violence Prevention
April 30 – May 1, 2012

DRAFT PUBLIC AGENDA

The Keck Center of The National Academies
500 5th St NW
Washington, DC 20001
Room 100

OVERVIEW:
The contagion of violence is a universal phenomenon, occurring at all levels of society and affecting a broad spectrum of individuals. This workshop will present an interdisciplinary, ecological, life course perspective on the contagion of violence, the processes that promote it, and mechanisms to interrupt and prevent the contagion of violence and promote the contagion of non-violence.

OBJECTIVES:
- To examine the extent of contagion of violence, the different emotional and cognitive processes through which contagion occurs, and the social and structural moderators of the contagion of violence.
- To explore the role of exposure to violence and violent victimization in the spread of interpersonal and self-directed violence and of internalizing and externalizing psychological problems.
- To understand how the contagion of violence can be interrupted and prevented and how non-violence can become contagious.

DAY 1: MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2012

Check-in will begin at 8:15 AM. A continental breakfast will be available.

8:50 AM Welcome
Patrick Kelley, Institute of Medicine (audio)

9:00 AM Opening Remarks
Valerie Maholmes, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (audio)

9:10 AM Introduction
Jacquelyn Campbell, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and Forum on Global Violence Prevention Co-chair (audio)
9:20 AM  Overview of the Contagion of Violence  
GARY SLUTKIN, University of Illinois at Chicago (audio; PowerPoint presentation)  
Moderated Q&A and Discussion

10:05 AM BREAK

10:30 AM – 12:45 PM  
SESSION I: Contagion of Violence in Multiple Settings

This session will discuss how violence leads to additional violence. This can occur either as a “viral” spread of one act of violence to many acts of violence, or as a “spillover” effect from one setting or type of violence to another. How does the contagion of violence manifest across types of violence? How are types of violence interrelated? Conversely, how can the spread of violence be halted or prevented?

Facilitator: ROWELL HUESMANN, University of Michigan

10:30 AM Opening Remarks  
ROWELL HUESMANN

10:35 AM  The Contagion of Street and Community Violence  
JEFFREY FAGAN, Columbia Law School (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

10:50 AM  The Contagion of Self-Directed Violence  
MADELYN GOULD, Columbia University (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

11:10 AM  The Contagion of Collective Violence  
ERIC DUBOW, Bowling Green State University (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

11:25 AM  The Contagion of Family Violence  
CHARLOTTE WATTS, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

11:40 AM  Contagion, Group Marginalization, and Resilience  
CARL BELL, Community Mental Health Council (audio)

11:55 AM  Facilitated Panel Discussion

12:20 PM Moderated Q&A and Discussion (audio)

12:45 PM – 1:45 PM LUNCH

1:45 PM – 4:00 PM  
SESSION II: Theories, Processes, and Mechanisms of Contagion

How and why does violence spread? This section will explore the internal and external processes and mechanisms at work. It will also explore the interruption of such processes and mechanisms, and their use for spreading non-violent messaging and practices. Panelists will offer a brief overview of their respective perspectives and then engage in a facilitated discussion.
**Facilitator:** ROBERT URSANO, *Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress*

**1:45 PM Opening Remarks**  
ROBERT URSANO (audio)

**Brief Overviews**

1:55 PM Social-Cognitive Processes in the Contagion of Violence:  
ROWELL HUESMANN, *University of Michigan* (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

2:10 PM Social Contagion and Group Dynamics in Contagion:  
DEANNA WILKINSON, *The Ohio State University* (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

2:20 PM Contagion, Social Influence and Intimate Partner Violence:  
ANITA RAJ, *UCSD* (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

2:30 PM The Role of Emotions & Evolution in Contagion:  
JEFFREY VICTOROFF, *USC* (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

2:40 PM The Neuroscience of Empathy and Contagion:  
JAMIL ZAKI, *Stanford University* (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

2:50 PM Imitation and Mirror Neurons in the Contagion Process:  
MARCO IACOBONI, *UCLA* (audio)

3:00 PM Facilitated Panel Discussion

3:35 PM Moderated Q&A and Discussion

3:50 PM Wrap-Up  
ROBERT URSANO

4:00 PM BREAK

**4:20 PM – 5:30 PM**  
SESSION III: The Contagion at Work

This session will explore some recent, real-world examples of the spread of violence from singular events or settings. Speakers will also examine possibilities for preventing violence or mitigating the effects of violence.

**Facilitator:** GARY SLUTKIN

4:20 PM Opening Remarks  
GARY SLUTKIN

4:25 PM Contagion in the London Riots  
JASON FEATHERSTONE, *Surviving Our Streets* (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

4:40 PM Contagion in the Arab Spring  
ZAINAB AL-SUWAIJ, *American Islamic Congress* (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

4:55 PM Facilitated Panel Discussion and Moderated Q & A (audio)

5:30 PM ADJOURN DAY 1
DAY 2: TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2012

Check-in will begin at 8:15 AM. A continental breakfast will be available.

9:00 AM  Overview of Day 1
ROWELL HUESMANN (audio)

9:20 AM – 11:30 AM
SESSION IV: Social and Structural Moderators/Cofactors of the Contagion of Violence

This session will focus on how systems and practices can contribute to the exacerbation of, or the reduction and prevention of, the transmission of violence. Panelists will offer a brief overview of their respective perspectives and then engage in a facilitated discussion.

Facilitator: EVELYN TOMASZEWSKI, National Association of Social Workers

9:20 AM  Opening Remarks
EVELYN TOMASZEWSKI (audio)

Brief Overviews

9:30 AM  The Role of Punishment, Incarceration, and Re-entry:
BARRY KRISBERG, University of California, Berkeley School of Law (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

9:45 AM  The Role of Historical Trauma:
IRIS PRETTYPAINT, Native Aspirations, Kauffman & Associates, Inc (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

10:00 AM  The Role of Family and Positive Parenting:
DEBORAH GORMAN-SMITH, Chapin Hall (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

10:15 AM  The Role of Migration and Population Displacement:
FARIYAL ROSS-SHERIFF, Howard University (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

10:30 AM  Facilitated Panel Discussion

11:00 AM  Audience Discussion and Moderated Q&A (audio)

11:30 AM BREAK and LUNCH (provided)

11:50 AM – 2:00 PM
SESSION V: Film Screening – The Interrupters

Shot over the course of a year, The Interrupters captures a period in Chicago when it became a national symbol for the violence in American cities. The Interrupters tells the stories of three Violence Interrupters who work for an innovative organization, CeaseFire, which uses a public health model to stop the cycle of violence in neighborhoods and communities. The Violence Interrupters, who have credibility because of their own personal histories, intervene in conflicts before they explode into violence.
Note: This film contains scenes of violence and adult language

11:50 AM Overview
Brian Flynn, Uniformed Services University School of Medicine (audio)

12:10 PM Screening

2:15 PM BREAK

2:35 PM – 3:10 PM
SECTION VI: Scaling up or Translating Programs to Interrupt the Contagion of Violence

Following the film, a panel of speakers will share experiences with interruption in various settings, from the community to health care settings to elsewhere. Speakers will offer thoughts on how violence can be interrupted, and how programs utilizing the interruption mechanism can be scaled up or translated.

Facilitators: Brian Flynn, Uniformed Services University School of Medicine
Charlotte Watts, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

2:35 PM  Overview
Charlotte Watts (audio)

2:40 PM  Panel
The Experience of Interruption:
Tio Hardiman, Ceasefire (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

School-based Violence and Interruption:
Patrick Burton, Center for Justice and Crime Prevention, South Africa (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

Hospitals and Interruption:
John A. Rich, Drexel University, Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice (audio)

Interrupting Family Violence:
Valerie Maholmes, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

3:10 PM  Facilitated Panel Discussion (audio)

3:30 PM  Moderated Q&A (audio; PowerPoint presentation)

4:00 PM  ADJOURN DAY 2