

For Immediate Release

January 23, 2017

Contact:

Shannon Kennedy
Communications Coordinator
skennedy@kcsdv.org
785-232-9784 ext. 335

International Filmmaker and McArthur Fellow to give Keynotes at Topeka Conference

TOPEKA, KS – February, Kansas Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence will be hosting their second conference for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence, focusing on ways to prevent sexual and domestic violence.

The conference is open to the public. Organizers intend for the material to be relevant to anyone interested in finding ways to prevent sexual and domestic violence.

“Everyone has a role in preventing sexual and domestic violence. It will take all of us to stop this violence” says Kathy Ray, Director of Advocacy, Education & Rural projects. “Our vision is that this conference provides a learning opportunity for anyone who wants to know more about what they can do to prevent sexual and domestic violence.”

With internationally recognized keynote speaker Jean Kilbourne and 2014 MacArthur Fellow Sarah Deer, the conference offers attendees the ability to learn about sexual and domestic violence and ways prevention is possible and also an excellent networking and learning opportunity for all those working to end sexual violence, domestic violence, and dating violence.

Jean Kilbourne is best known for her groundbreaking work on the image of women in advertising. Her films, lectures, and television appearances have been seen by millions of people throughout the world. She is the creator of the renowned *Killing Us Softly: Advertising's Image of Women* film series and the author of the award-winning book *Can't Buy My Love: How Advertising Changes the Way We Think and Feel* and *So Sexy So Soon: The New Sexualized Childhood and What Parents Can Do to Protect Their Kids*. In 2015, she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame. Kilbourne is internationally recognized as an expert on addictions, gender issues, and the media. She is known for her wit and warmth and her ability to present provocative topics in a way that unites rather than divides, that encourages dialogue, and that moves and empowers people to take action in their own and in society's interest.

Attendees will be offered the opportunity to hear from Jean Kilbourne as the keynote speaker on February 6th at 10:30 am in the Regency East room in the Ramada Inn and Conference Center in Topeka. The topic: **The Naked Truth**, reviews if and how the image of women has changed over the past 20 years. It encourages dialogue and discussion and a new way of looking at oneself, as well as one another. Kilbourne will be available for questions and press interviews after the Keynote session ends at 11:30 am.

Sarah Deer, J.D., will be the keynote speaker for the second day of the conference. Professor Deer is no stranger to working to end violence against women as she spent much of her undergraduate years

volunteering as a rape crisis advocate in Lawrence, Kansas. Sarah received her B.A. in Women's Studies and Philosophy from the University of Kansas and later attended law school with a focus on the unique legal issues facing Native rape survivors. Deer joined the faculty of Mitchell Hamline School of Law in 2008 and is also an appellate judge for the Prairie Island Indian Community Court of Appeals and the White Earth Nation Court of Appeals. Professor Deer's scholarship focuses on the intersection of tribal law and victims' rights. Deer is a co-author of three textbooks on tribal law. She has received national recognition for her work on violence against Native women and was a primary consultant for Amnesty International's Maze of Injustice campaign. Her latest book is *The Beginning and End of Rape: Confronting Sexual Violence in Native America*. She is the recipient of a 2014 MacArthur Fellowship and KU Law's first Langston Hughes appointment.

Deer will be the keynote speaker on Tuesday the 7th at 9:30 am in the Regency East room at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center. The topic: **Sovereignty of the Soul: Sexual Violence in Native America** will discuss why addressing violence against Native women requires extensive partnerships between tribal nations and community service providers. Deer will be available for questions and press interviews after the session ends at 10:30 am.

Registration is now open for this 2-day event packed with breakout sessions around topics of campus safety, finding information for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities, how to use data to inform prevention practices, and exploring the complexities of culture, privilege, and oppression; just to name a few. \$150 gets you a ticket to both days (lunches and snacks included).

For additional resources to learn more about the conference or to register visit:
www.kcsdv.org/partners-in-progress .

Founded in 1982, the purpose of KCSDV is the prevention and elimination of sexual and domestic violence through a statewide network of programs providing support and safety for all victims of sexual and domestic violence and stalking, with primary focus on women and their children; direct services; public awareness and education; advocacy for victims; comprehensive prevention; and, social change efforts. Learn more at www.kcsdv.org.

Follow us:

•facebook.com/KCSDV • @KCSDV • Instagram.com/KCSDV •

###