

Abuse and Violence: The Response of a Nonvictim

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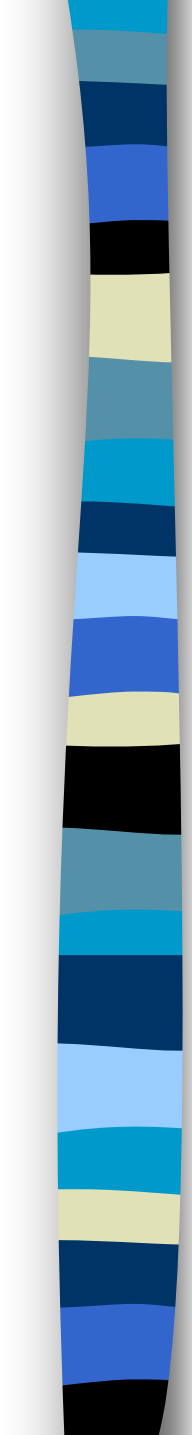
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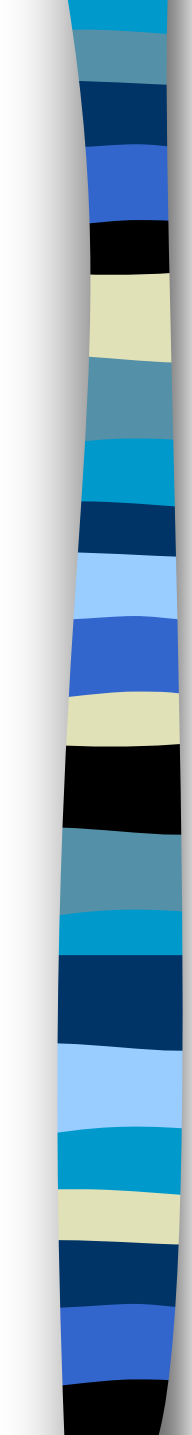
From VICTIM . . .

. . . to AGENT



“We warn that individuals . . . who abuse spouse or offspring, . . . will one day stand accountable before God.”

The Family: A Proclamation to the World, 1995



“But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depths of the sea.”

Matthew 18:6



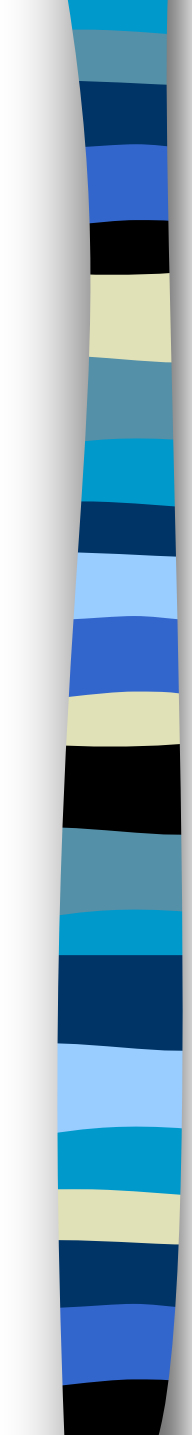
Who can be victimized?

- Anyone
- However, no adult can be consistently victimized—over time—without some measure of assent.
- Children, because of their complete dependency on adults, can be.



Responding to the Abuse of Children Includes:

- Protecting the victim
- Providing treatment for the victim
- Responding to the perpetrator
- Adhering to applicable laws
- Assisting family members



When a child abuse case is correctly handled, the child can avoid getting trapped in a victim role and identity.

Two types of thinking



■ Victim think

- Assume responsibility
- Accommodate the victim system
- This is out of my control and may happen again
- Forgiveness is necessary, now

■ Nonvictim think

- Assume no responsibility for the perpetrator behavior
- Learn to reject victimization
- Learn to take more control of your life, recognize what's different
- Forgiveness comes, in time



A gospel-based

Three-Realm Model

can guide adult response in coping
with abuse.



Scriptural Basis

Doctrine and Covenants 88:21–24

- 21 And they who are not sanctified through the law which I have given unto you, even the law of Christ, must inherit another kingdom, even that of a terrestrial kingdom, or that of a telestial kingdom.
- 22 For he who is not able to abide the law of a celestial kingdom cannot abide a celestial glory.
- 23 And he who cannot abide the law of a terrestrial kingdom cannot abide a terrestrial glory.
- 24 And he who cannot abide the law of a telestial kingdom cannot abide a telestial glory; therefore he is not meet for a kingdom of glory. Therefore he must abide a kingdom which is not a kingdom of glory.



The Three-Realm Model

Realms of Light and Law

- Celestial Realm
- Terrestrial Realm
- Telestial Realm



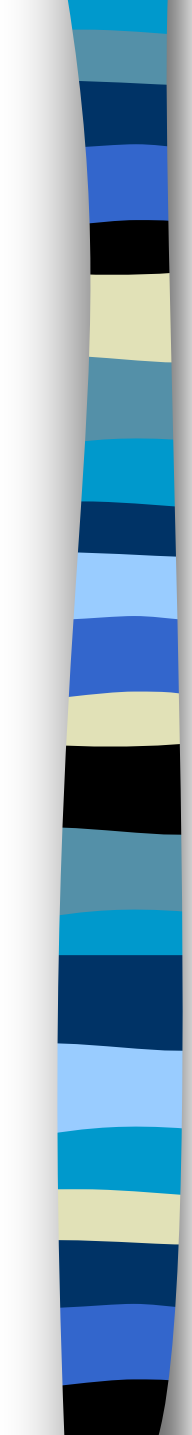
Terrestrial Realm

Laws: Self-Control
 Deferred Gratification

*The Natural Man is Harnessed
Conforming to Accepted Standards of Behavior*

Outcomes: 1-External peace
 2-Safety
 3-Power

Those living terrestrial law are not offensive to God.



*In the terrestrial realm,
obedience to basic commandments
creates a safety net.*



Celestial Realm

Law: Christ-like Being

Integration of the heart with the behavior

Doing exactly what you want to do, which, by the way, is God's will.

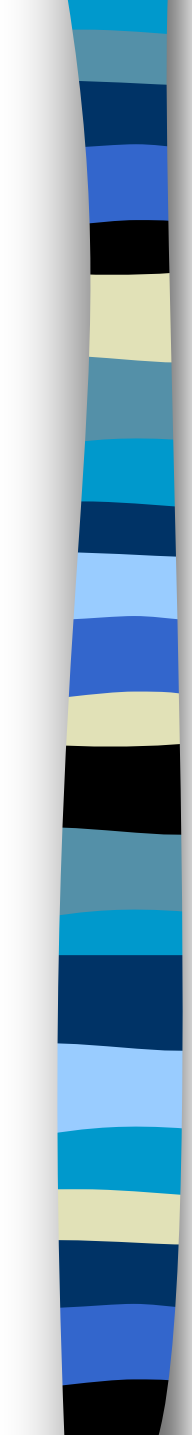
Outcomes: 1-Peace that passes understanding
2-Creation, new birth

The celestial realm Must Be built upon a terrestrial foundation.



Basic Principles of the Three-Realm Model

- 1-**You “can’t skip.”** You can’t go from the telestial realm to the celestial realm immediately. Celestial living must be built on a firm foundation of terrestrial principles.
- 2-**The telestial realm mimics the celestial.** Telestial behaviors/institutions may mimic celestial forms, but the content is diametrically different. The celestial goal is to save and bless; the telestial goal is to compel and control.



The Three-Realm Model can be used to establish safe boundaries in marriage and parenting.



Doctrine and Covenants 121

God's treatise on correct relationships

Doctrine and Covenants 98

Doctrinal "limits of long suffering"



. . . if you're getting wet . . .



About Forgiveness—

“I would like to make it clear that ***forgiveness of sins should not be confused with tolerating evil . . .*** The Savior asks us to forsake and combat evil in all its forms, and although we must forgive a neighbor who injures us, we should still work constructively to prevent that injury from being repeated. ***A woman who is abused should not seek revenge, but neither should she feel that she cannot take steps to prevent further abuse . . .*** Forgiveness does not require us to accept or tolerate evil. It does not require us to ignore the wrong that we see in the world around us or in our own lives.”

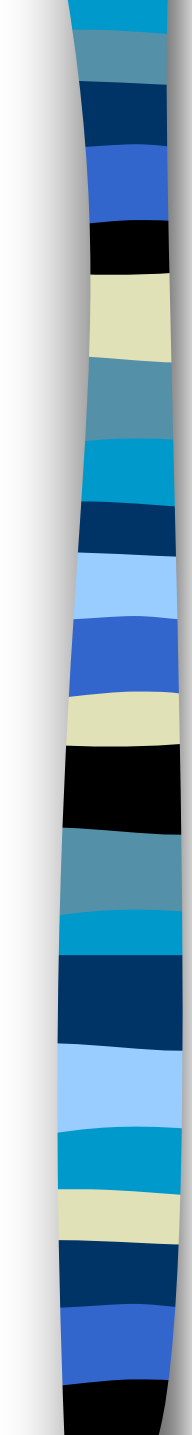
Elder David E. Sorensen

Ensign, May 2003 (emphasis added)

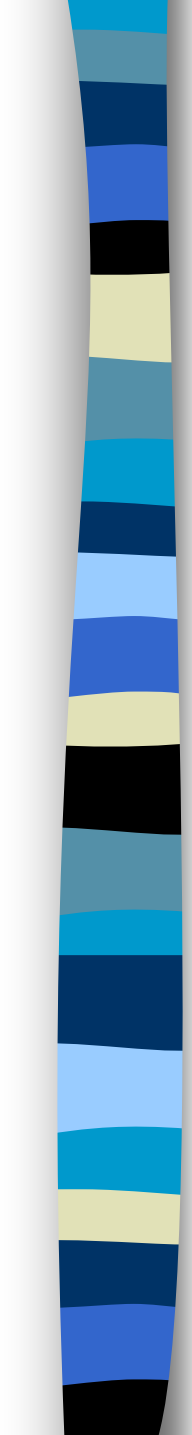


President James E. Faust,
Ensign, November 2001 (emphasis added)

“A sister who had been through a painful divorce wrote of her experience in drawing from the Atonement. She said: ‘Our divorce . . . did not release me from the obligation to forgive. I truly wanted to do it, but it was as if I had been commanded to do something of which I was simply incapable.’ Her bishop gave her some sound advice: ***‘Keep a place in your heart for forgiveness, and when it comes, welcome it in.’***”

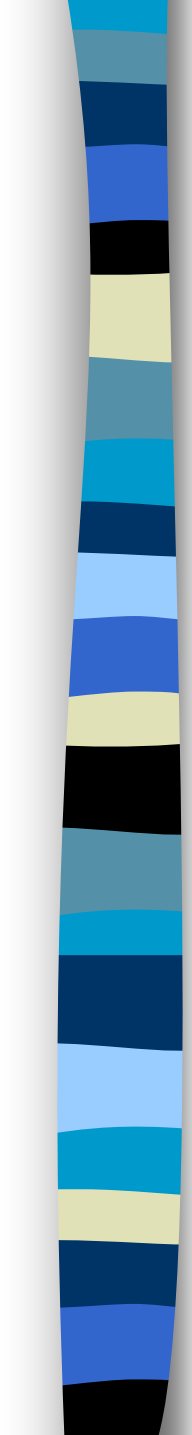


Many months passed as this struggle to forgive continued. She recalled: ‘During those long, prayerful moments . . . I tapped into a life-giving source of comfort from my loving Heavenly Father. ***I sense that he was not standing by glaring at me for not having accomplished forgiveness yet; rather he was sorrowing with me as I wept.*** . . . In the final analysis, what happened in my heart is for me an amazing and miraculous evidence of the Atonement of Christ. I had always viewed the Atonement as a means of making repentance work for the sinner. I had not realized that it also makes it possible for the one sinned against to receive into his or her heart the sweet peace of forgiving.’”



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The Family: A Proclamation to the World, 1995



“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

John 14:27