



DANE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY ISMAEL R. OZANNE



May 1, 2014

Greetings –

Open and constructive conversations about race and culture can be uncomfortable. We may feel unjustly and inappropriately criticized; we may feel pressure to moderate our speech and contribution to the conversation because we do not wish to ask an honest question or state a sincere belief out of fear we will offend someone. Exactly these kinds of conversations, however, are necessary to meet our collective goal of protecting children and strengthening families by reducing violent parenting practices. Race and culture not only impact how people parent, they also impact how professionals and families engage each other and how both sides perceive outside intervention into the family. An effective solution that reduces violent parenting will reduce racial disparities in the criminal justice system, educational system, and in access to economic opportunity. But to be effective, that solution must be sensitive to the cultural and racial dynamics that surround violent parenting.

Therefore, I wish to invite you to an upcoming professional training opportunity scheduled for June 11, 2014 at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison, Wisconsin, entitled [Cultural Context of Corporal Punishment: Keeping Kids Safe](#). It will be hosted by the American Family Children's Hospital, the UW Department of Pediatrics, the Dane County District Attorney's Office, the Dane County Criminal Justice Council, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, and the American Bar Association's Racial Justice Improvement Project. We are pleased to welcome Lisa Aronson Fontes, PhD, Stacey Patton, PhD, and Barbara Knox, MD as our guest faculty.

Participants in this conference will be able to:

- Explain the negative impact of corporal punishment on child development and long term health and well-being based on current research;
- Describe the influence history and culture have on parenting strategies;
- Examine one's own personal history and biases in order to become aware of how these influence practice-based decisions;
- Name one strategy to reduce the influence of personal bias in your daily work with families;
- Identify one strategy to employ in your professional practice to promote positive, non-violent parenting.

Space is limited for this conference. The registration fee is \$75.00. To register, go to: <http://cultureanddiscipline.pediatrics.wisc.edu>

Sincerely,
Ismael Ozanne
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