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Child Sexual Abuse: The Gag Order Has Been Lifted

Detroit, MI – In her bold book, *The Enemy Between My Legs*, author Stephanie L. Jones **tackles the taboo subject of child sexual abuse**. In what the press has called “*a well-written revelation and a must-read for every man and woman,*” readers are allowed uninhibited access to the heart and soul of a child sexual abuse survivor. **Jones shares her own story of the ongoing impact of over seven years of child molestation** and how the damage done in her childhood resurfaced in her teenage and adult life, causing promiscuity, substance abuse, and difficulties maintaining relationships.

“It’s very challenging to tell a young person to abstain from sex once they’ve been sexually abused. My first sexual experience was at age five. **I had been touched, kissed, and fondled so much as a child that, by 13 years old, I didn’t want it to stop,**” says Jones.

Jones is not alone. **As many as one in three females and one in five males is sexually abused.** According to the organizations Darkness to Light and ChildHelp.com, the effects of child molestation extend far beyond the years of the actual abuse. A few statistics:

- 66% of teen pregnancies and abortions are preceded by sexual assault.
- 96% of teen prostitutes are sexual abuse victims.
- 75% of rapists are sexual abuse victims.

“Sexual abuse is a taboo subject,” says Jones. “When it is discussed, the conversations tend to focus on Internet predators, neighborhood pedophiles, and strangers lurking in the park. But most sexual abuse takes place right in our homes. We must address what’s happening in our very own families.”

The Enemy Between My Legs summoned painful memories for Jones. But by writing it she turned the negative experiences of her youth into something positive—a **guide for parents seeking to protect their children** and a story of empowerment and encouragement for adult sexual abuse victims still seeking help from the pain of their past.

Jones has been called upon by hundreds of television and radio stations, newspapers, and magazines around the country to address the tough issues surrounding child molestation, including abortion, infertility, sexual dysfunction, and teen pregnancy. She is also a contributing writer to an upcoming collection of hope-inspiring essays, *Sistahfaith: True Stories of Hope and Healing*, a February 2010 release from Howard Books: A Division of Simon & Schuster.

Stephanie L. Jones is a child sexual abuse expert and a sought-after speaker for schools, churches, and organizations. Her book, The Enemy Between My Legs, is an ESSENCE magazine and Amazon.com bestseller. Contact 313.493.0001, media@stephanieljones.com, or visit www.stephanieljones.com.

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