

## Media Relations

Sept. 17, 2012

### **MEDIA ADVISORY: National Child Abuse Expert Available to Discuss New Allegations Against Boy Scouts**

DURHAM, N.H. – Prof. David Finkelhor, director of the Crimes against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire and authority on prevention of sexual abuse in youth serving organizations, is available to discuss the new Los Angeles Times story about the Boy Scouts's handling of child molesters in its ranks.

The Los Angeles Times is reporting that for two decades, the Boy Scouts failed to report hundreds of alleged child molesters to police and often hid the allegations from parents and the public.

A nationally recognized expert who has published extensively in the field of child abuse treatment, prevention, and developmental victimology, Finkelhor served on the Youth Protection Advisory Board for the Boy Scouts of America, and Cardinal Bernard Law's Commission for the Protection of Children. He also was a consultant to the National Catholic Risk Retention Group in developing abuse prevention strategies for Catholic dioceses around the country.

Finkelhor has been studying the problems of child victimization, child maltreatment and family violence since 1977. He is well known for his conceptual and empirical work on the problem of child sexual abuse, reflected in publications such as *Childhood Victimization* (Oxford University Press, 2008), *Sourcebook on Child Sexual Abuse* (Sage, 1986) and *Nursery Crimes* (Sage, 1988). He has also written about child homicide, missing and abducted children, children exposed to domestic and peer violence and other forms of family violence. He is editor and author of 11 books and more than 150 journal articles and book chapters. In 1994, he was given the Distinguished Child Abuse Professional Award by the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children and in 2004 he was given the Significant Achievement Award from the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers.

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#### **Photo**

<http://www.unh.edu/news/img/finkelhor.jpg>

David Finkelhor, director of the UNH Crimes against Children Research Center.

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UNH Experts available for comment:

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