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INTRODUCTION TO CD ON
FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME

Dear Reader,

Here you will find some articles on Fetal Alcohol and the law by David Boulding, a criminal/family trial lawyer with some 15 years' experience in Provincial and Supreme Courts of British Columbia, Canada, and an important article written by Dr. Caron Byrne, M.D.

Dr. Byrne is a Psychiatrist who, for 22 years, worked with the developmentally delayed/disadvantaged on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Dr. Byrne speaks from experience

and with the authority of a keen mind.

Dr. Byrne has spoken at International Forensic Conferences and is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia.

Dr. Byrne's article, although it comes from the heart, relies on her years as a Psychiatrist and has a solid factual foundation. Dr. Byrne continues to actively work on behalf of persons with developmental issues today. To reprint Dr. Byrne's article you must ask her. Dr. Byrne always says yes, but you do need to ask.

David Boulding wrote the other articles. You have permission to use/reprint any of David Boulding's articles for any educational purpose. You do not need further written permission. All I ask is that you send me an e-mail telling me who you are and where you are printing which piece, or which website you have placed that specific article. I ask this courtesy to gauge interest and to see if these pieces are still of use to people reading on this difficult topic.

Law Professors, social workers, parent magazines, and some modern hospitals and prisons have reprinted these pieces for their own educational programs.

The articles repeat material as each piece was written to fill a request to speak on the topic in the title. You will note they are all spoken pieces given to live, squirming, people in chairs who paid to hear them. They were not written to grace the pages of peer reviewed Journals.

If you are inclined to reprint pieces, I suggest you always include the two page article called *A Lawyer's Brief*.

The Brief is as simple as I can boil down the message and in an age when most people seem reading challenged or suffer from mass attention deficit disorder, the two page Lawyer's Brief works. I have used this Brief in short meetings with Judges, Probation Officers, and Lawyers to catch their attention. The Brief can be used to give Reporters or Interviewers, of any sort, some basics. It can be used as part of a presentation to a School Board or as an attachment in a school essay.

As all the pieces are part of the process to educate about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, I am interested in your comments. Tell me if you see problems or disagree with what I have written.

While I am not a Neuroscientist, a Psychiatrist or a Psychologist, or even slightly educated in these specialized fields, some talented types, who have some education in these fields, have read them and I have not been violently corrected.

All errors are mine. If you see a mistake, tell me. I learn slowly but easily.

Thank you and enjoy.

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