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THE WOMAN, a Birmingham office manager, said she identified with the nurse so much — both women

— Duane LaMoreaux
victim's father

Particularly, said the woman, she was pleased that coverage of the Rose Marie Kado case has not succumbed to the level of reporting that

Their first brush with the media was stupefying to say the least, when a TV reporter crossed under the yellow police tape at the scene "to get a better look at our daughter's naked body," said Duane LaMorse, Jr.

Another gripe they had with the press was a TV story that later ran concerning the convicted murderer and how he might be innocent after all. The couple was shocked to learn the reporter based the story only on a letter the murderer had written to the station from jail. The reporter never checked the facts, including trial transcripts, nor contacted any of the attorneys on the case. The story was wrong, Duane LaMoreaux added.

THE LAMOREAUXS, however, had little quarrel with newspaper coverage of the tragedy. In fact, it was newspapers printing their daughter's picture that brought forth witnesses to help convict the murderer, they said. Still, the parents called for a more personal and humane touch to such stories, rather than just a police-blotter type style to them.

"You cover the jump, and the fall, but not the splash. We'd like to see a little more splash," said Duane LaMorceaux.

By Amy Rose
staff writer

Two police representatives were among a panel of professionals last week who discussed victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and how the media handle their sto-

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Detective Sandra Rochford of the Farmington Hills police, who has 10 years experience in handling such violent cases, told a panel of journalists and victims in Southfield "there are a lot of similarities" among all violent crimes.

"It's an emotional nightmare for each of them," she added, saying victims often feel intimidated by the press. "There is a stigma attached to being labeled a sexual assault victim."

Troy Police Lt. Bill Tullock, like Rochford, said he is adamantly against the reporting of victims' (in the paper)."

names in such stories, but acknowledged that most metro Detroit news organizations adhere to that policy.

Traditionally, when there is a conflict between the "right to know" and "the right of privacy," police and media often clash during high-profile abuse or violence cases. The key to overcoming that, he added, is trust and rapport.

AS AN EXAMPLE, he cited this year's two male rape cases, in which two Troy teenage boys were abducted and sexually assaulted at knife and gun point. Tullock said he told two local reporters about the first instance, but asked them not to write a story until more information was known.

— who was also worried about being identified in the press — when shortly afterward the second attack occurred.

"I immediately went to my superiors and told them we have to go public with this now. I caught a lot of flack from investigators who assured the victim nothing would get

out about it," he said.

In that case, he added, the public's right to know clearly outweighed promises told to the victim that the story would be suppressed for his privacy.

To date, neither victims' names have been used by any media reporting on the attacks.

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