Alcoholism linked to sexual abuse

Alcoholism and drug-abuse counselors are discovering that many of their clients were victims of sexual abuse as children. They are also finding out that some of their clients are child abusers themselves. A workshop on this subject was held at Maplegrove Facility in West Bloomfield. The workshop was sponsored by the Michigan Office of Substance Abuse Services (OSAS), the National Council on Alcholism — Michigan Division and the Institute for Identity Development in Flint.

Professional counselors attending the workshop learned how to deal with clients experiencing both substange-abuse problems and involvement in sexual abuse as a victim or an offender.

"SEXUAL ARUSE is a social taboo. People simply do not talk about it," said Carole Cooper, director of the identity Development Institute and a corganizer of the workshop.
"Not sharing such a traumatic experience with a counselor allows the problem to fester, and it blocks successful recovery from alcoholism or drug addiction. Such deeply rooted problems must be dealt with if freatment is to be effective."

Chemists at OCC

Oakland Community College's Southfield campus will bost the American Chemical Society's Two-Year College Chemistry Conference on Friday and

Yeat (College Chemistry Conference on Friday and Saturday.

Tamar Susskind, OCC science instructor and particular and program head, said the conference is an exchange of ideas among chemistry teachers and administrators in two-year colleges. Pour such conferences

This meeting will stress "New Dimensions in Chemical Education and Our Environment." The campus is at 22322 Rutland.

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Victims and offenders of child sexual abuse can never change what happened, but they can learn to change their thoughts about what happened.'

- Carole Cooper

Explaining the relationship between substance abuse and child sexual abuse, Ms. Cooper said, "Alcoholism and drug addiction often result when peoples of the second of the second second of the second of the second with the help of skilled counselors and letting go of painful incidents in the past.

"Victims and offenders of child sexual abuse can never change what happened, but they can learn to change their thoughts about what happened."

Ms. Cooper stressed the importance of dealing with a client's alcoholism or drug addiction first. "The fog must clear before a counselor can help the client deal with such a gul-level issue as sexual abuse," and addiction first."

ACCORDING TO Ms. Cooper, several myths in the public mind about child sexual abuse need to be dispelled.

"Victims are not at fault and should not blame themselves," he said. "Offenders are usually family members or friends, not strangers. Isolated inci-

dents are rare, abuse happens frequently and generally gets worse. All segments of society experience abuse cases.
"The problem of child sexual abuse is not getting worse in my opinion," Cooper added. "People are just talking about it more openly, and that becomes an all-important first step toward helping deal with his issue. Keeping such nightmares bottled up inside for years can only create further problems. Alcoholism and drug addiction are common examples of what can result."

She said information on child sexual abuse is

ples of what can result."

She said information on child sexual abuse is available from local Child Protection Services by calling a national Ioll-free holitine number for Parents Anonymous at 800-421-0353 or writing to the National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse, 332 S. Washington Ave., Chicago, Ill. 68604.



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Thursday, May 7, 1981

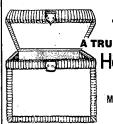
Of the following, which would be your best course of action?

- a. Remain in your car.
 b. Walk to the town for help.
 c. Seek shelter under the trees.
 d. Seek shelter on the lee side of a

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