



EOP Presentations

SM Groups & Law Enforcement: Group Issues

It is important that SM-Leather-Fetish groups understand the relationship between the SM community and law enforcement authorities, as well as the numerous legalities that can affect group functions. Once this is accomplished, groups can dispel myths, educate members, and constructively interact with law enforcement as the need arises. This presentation will focus on three aspects: (1) interacting with local law enforcement, (2) avoiding legal trouble, and (3) group considerations.

The Alleged Domestic Violence Call

It is important for SM-Leather-Fetish practitioners to understand law enforcement and the numerous legal issues that can affect us - specifically the response to an alleged domestic violence call. Once this is accomplished, you can constructively interact with law enforcement officers if the need arises. This presentation will focus on two aspects: (1) constructively dealing with officers, and (2) avoiding legal trouble. This workshop does not deal with the "cycle of abuse" or actual domestic violence; instead it is about consensual SM being misinterpreted as domestic violence by law enforcement.

Zoning for SM & Swing Groups and Businesses

Zoning and permit issues are commonly used by local governments to attack the businesses or parties of SM and swing groups. It is much more difficult for police, prosecutors and courts to prosecute crimes" such as indecent exposure, lewd conduct, etc. Therefore zoning and permit violations are used to either move or shut down SM or swing activities because these administrative issues appear to be unambiguous and non-discriminatory. It is important for our communities to have an understanding of these administrative issues in order to safely organize and maintain SM, fetish, and swing events. Zoning and permits vary greatly depending on jurisdiction, so this discussion identifies and addresses the common issues in an overview fashion and suggests how to address the particulars.

Approaching Your Local Authorities

The purpose of this presentation is to help groups educate law enforcement, prosecutors, and other authorities about SM-Leather-Fetish or swing practices. NCSF's goal in presenting this material is to encourage local groups to develop a positive relationship with their local authorities. The content and delivery method of the outreach presentation are designed on a case-by-case basis. We suggest that local groups work together when presenting this information to officials.

Swing Groups & Law Enforcement: Group Issues

It is important for swing groups and businesses to have an understanding of the relationship between the swing community and law enforcement, as well as the numerous legalities that can effect group functions. Once this is accomplished, your group can dispel myths, educate members, and constructively interact with law enforcement as the need arises. This presentation will focus on

three aspects: (1) interacting with local law enforcement, (2) avoiding legal trouble, and (3) group considerations.

Life & Death Issues for the Alternative Community

This presentation assists those who practice alternative sexual expression in understanding more about the legal issues involving their relationships. People who are involved in dedicated relationships outside of the traditional "heterosexual-marriage-with-children" often acquire property and incur liabilities together. Yet many fail to realize that these relationships will eventually end; either from separation, or as a result of death or disability. This presentation addresses some of the issues and problems that might be encountered, and gives guidance on how to prepare for them.

Traveling With Toys

While there have always been security issues involved in travel, the current political climate, as well as new legislation, has changed the procedures used to achieve security, as well as changing the allowable items to be carried with the traveler. Security measures have been heightened as never before - to the point of creating a legal risk to individuals who practice alternative sexual expression for traveling with items that are commonplace for us. This presentation will address these issues and provide tips for traveling with toys.

Protecting Yourself Legally

Members of the SM/leather/fetish communities have always had some level of concern regarding the issues of privacy, discretion, and personal security. The religious extremist organizations, employers, ex-partners, and others may pose threats to these concepts. Many times their motivation comes from ignorance, but new motivations like custody of children, and revenge are also becoming commonplace. This presentation provides tips for protecting yourself legally for various circumstances.

Protecting Your Event

There are many considerations organizers must contend with when planning a large event. Large events include educational and social conferences, leather contests, weekend play parties, vendor markets, swing events and club run0s. In light of recent attacks by religious and political extremists, here are some suggested guidelines for protecting your event and attendees.

Doing SM Related Legal Research

The law is interpreted - sometimes to our favor, and sometimes not. For example, while the NCSF firmly believes that consensual SM activity between adults is legal, there are those that have a differing opinion and will intentionally interpret the law in an unfavorable way. Therefore, it is extremely important for the SM-Leather-Fetish communities to have an understanding of the laws that may affect us. Knowing relevant laws will greatly assist our communities in safely organizing and maintaining SM-Leather-Fetish activities and functions. This presentation attempts to help those doing research navigate the sometimes complex waters that we find ourselves in legally.