

Hello my name is Shona (show -na). I was born and raised in our fellowship. I made my choice when I was 23. My husband was also born and raised in this fellowship. We have two college~ bound teens.

In middle school, I was peer to peer sexually assaulted.

At one time, I was close friends (outside of fellowship) with someone who was charged with attempted murder of their stepdad. The stepdad had allegedly sexually abused the younger sister (his own daughter).

Later, I was involved in a emotionally and mentally toxic relationship. (Outside of our fellowship). At one point I knew I was going to be killed. I prayed "Not my will but thine." and was filled with such great peace. I made my choice about a year after that.

As a massage therapist I was sexually assaulted many times. I'm just starting to unpack how this has affected me.

Then, I was aware of 2 situations of CSA in our fellowship. The survivors were adults when they came forward.

I was present at one worker visit. The workers said we must not talk about it, we must only pray, we must not seek counseling.

In the second situation, the survivor was blamed, shamed, discredited and shunned. I didn't know to what extent at the time. The perpetrator was moved to another state. This didn't feel right to me, but at the time I felt the elder workers must be wiser and more godly than me.

Time went on and I heard of one or two here or there who were convicted. Because of this I assumed that these things were being taken care of.

Through my work and own healing journey I've learned how prevalent emotional and psychological abuse is in our society.

More recently, I spoke up to a senior worker who I felt was taking advantage of some aging saints' good nature. I was immediately shut down by a friend. I was later viciously attacked verbally (written) by that person. Like workers are above reproach or something.

Fast forward to Dean's exposure. And all that's been revealed since then.

I'm looking forward to connecting with others who are also seeking to be spirit filled.