During the 1980's, there was a dramatic increase in the number of ritual crime cases investigated by law enforcement agencies. The number of occultic and Satanic organizations continues to rise and the members are mostly adolescents who are social outcasts. These highly destructive groups are creating a reign of terror and death upon our society which cannot be ignored.

Experts agree that there may be as many as 60,000 human sacrifices per year in this country. Recent statistics from the F.B.I.'s Uniform Crime Report and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children indicate a distinct correlation with these sacrifices and the high number of missing persons.

Not all Satanists are involved in criminal activities; however, many are and these well-organized groups or individuals make families their primary target. The Satanic philosophy teaches that personal pleasure is the ultimate achievement...even at the expense of others.

SATANIC CULTS AND RITUAL CRIME is a program (Video) which explores this mysterious and sometimes deadly lifestyle. It explains some of the reasons why people are drawn to the Satanic way of life and reveals the symbols used by members of the occult world. The program also highlights some of the criminal activities associated with ritual practices and ceremonies and gives important dates when these crimes are most likely to occur during the year.
SUGGESTED USES:
To provide select audiences with accurate current knowledge about satanic cults and ritual crimes. To provide an educational program to serve as an introduction piece for audience discussion.

RECOMMENDED FOR:
Community and corporate crime prevention programs. Prevention programs in schools, colleges, universities, 4-H youth programs and other community prevention programs.

PRODUCERS:
Syndistar, Inc.
125 Mallard Street
St. Rose, LA 70087
1-800-841-9532

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Q. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE REASONS WHY PEOPLE ARE DRAWN TO THE OCCULT WORLD?

A. Breakdown of the family unit, lack of closeness, negative lifestyles, self-centeredness, and a "me-oriented" society full of throw-away and latchkey kids.

Q. WHY ARE ADOLESCENTS RIPE FOR SATANIC OR OCCULT INVOLVEMENT?

A. Because of their maturing nature and developing sexuality; a need to belong to a peer group structure; to be accepted or identified with and "stand out" among their associates and friends. Teenagers also tend to be impatient. They desire quick answers and the ability to cause instant changes.

Q. HOW ARE YOUNG PEOPLE INFLUENCED BY SATANISM?

A. Through fantasy role-playing games and heavy metal rock music.

Q. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SYMBOLS USED BY SATANISTS?

A. The "Mark of the Beast", the "Sign of the Horns", the "swastika", an inverted cross, the "cross of confusion", a hexagon, a circle or triangle, and the inverted pentagram.
Q. WHAT ARE THE LEVELS OF SATANIC INVOLVEMENT?

A. The "fun and games" level, the "dabblers" level and the "no turning back" level.

CONCLUSION

Many parents are concerned about the influence that heavy metal music is having on their children. Some of these heavy metal groups flaunt Satanic symbols on their album covers and anti-Christian messages in their music. Other young people become involved with Satanism through fantasy role-playing games. SATANIC CULTS AND RITUAL CRIME, developed and produced by Syndistar, will help parents, teachers, and law enforcement officials determine if someone they know might be involved with Satanism. This program explains the different levels of Satanic involvement, the warning signs of Satanic behavior, and shows the ritual items to look for. Satanism can be stopped, but it will require parents to provide proper education, keep the lines of communication open, and give their children all the love and attention they seek.

Detailed questions concerning any form of crime prevention should be directed to your local police or sheriff's department. Consult your local Extension office for additional crime prevention resources made available by the Community Resource Development programs.
NOTES:

COMMUNITY RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

A Public Service Program
of Virginia Tech
and the
Virginia Cooperative Extension Service

James Douglas McAlister
Assistant Director, VCES and
Executive Director, Community
and Economic Development Programs