

**“It taught me things I would never know and opened my eyes to reality.”**

**—New Jersey student**

### **The issue:**

## **Students need to know about social predators**

Dating violence, sexual assault, bullying, drug and alcohol abuse, suicide — what do all of these issues have in common? Problems that are often caused by sociopaths.

No, sociopaths are not all deranged serial killers — that is a fiction perpetrated by Hollywood. Rather, they are social predators who make up 1% to 4% of the population. They live by exploiting others, but few of us know they exist.

Why? Because sociopaths do not look crazy or hostile; they often appear to be charming, charismatic and energetic. In reality, these are the people who abuse their partners, neglect their children, steal from employers, swindle customers and bully co-workers. We all need to know about them — especially young people who are just starting out in life.

This presentation teaches students the warning signs of sociopathic behavior, especially in dating relationships, so they can recognize the signs of an exploiter and avoid interactions that could irrevocably damage their lives.

### **Why should you care?**

- More likely to meet a lying sociopath than a serial killer
- May meet a lying sociopath in a romantic relationship
- Sociopaths in dating relationships are always abusive
- Most sociopaths really start lying and manipulating in high school

*A slide from the presentation explains why the information is important to students.*



### **The presenter:**

## **Donna Andersen, author of Lovefraud.com and Red Flags of Love Fraud**

Donna Andersen was once one of the uninformed. Even though she holds degrees in journalism and psychology, when a charismatic Prince Charming swept into her life, she believed his promises of unending love.

The guy was lying. He took \$227,000 from her, cheated with six women, had a child with one of them, and then committed bigamy. She tells the whole outrageous story in her book, *Love Fraud*, and she was featured in the TV show, *Who the (Bleep) Did I Marry?*, on the Investigation Discovery network.

Donna launched Lovefraud.com to teach people to recognize and recover from sociopaths; it now attracts 50,000 visitors per month. One reader says:

*“I am just beginning to understand what happened to me. I have been reading your website and you have probably saved my life and I am not kidding.”*

Donna’s new book, *Red Flags of Love Fraud*, explains how sociopaths target unsuspecting victims for abusive relationships, and how to escape them.

### **The presentation:**

## **Sociopaths and Abusive Dating Relationships**

Donna Andersen explains what a sociopath is, how students get hooked by them, and how to escape. The 90-minute program covers:

- How many sociopaths are there?
- Where can sociopaths be found?
- Male and female sociopaths
- 10 signs you’re dating a sociopath
- Dangers of online dating
- When sociopaths say, “I love you”
- Real love and empty love
- Sociopaths and bullying
- Healthy dating relationships
- Abusive dating relationships
- Why young people are more at risk
- Why the relationships are addictive
- How to break up with an abuser
- Protecting yourself from sociopaths

### **Professional development:**

## **Sociopathy Awareness for Staff and Counselors**

Generally, a few students, after hearing the Lovefraud presentation, realize they already have a sociopath in their lives — a friend, dating partner or family member. They may turn to teachers and counselors for advice, so staff need to be familiar with this disorder and how it may affect young people.

Lovefraud offers a one-hour professional development program, *Sociopathy Awareness for Staff and Counselors*. We strongly recommend that schools provide this program along with the student presentation. It was developed in consultation with Dr. Liane Leedom, a psychiatrist experienced in dealing with at-risk children.

**LOVE FRAUD**  
EDUCATION & RECOVERY

A New Jersey Nonprofit Corporation

### **Contact Terry Kelly**

609-945-1384 (EST) or [terry@lovefraud.com](mailto:terry@lovefraud.com)

More information, including student testimonials and a video clip, is available at

[www.lovefraud.com/teen\\_dating\\_abuse](http://www.lovefraud.com/teen_dating_abuse)