

April 6, 2001

Play Therapist to Present Workshop at USI

Collaborative event to acquaint students/professionals to importance of helping children through play

A local therapist is conducting a play therapy workshop at the University of Southern Indiana to introduce and inform the participants of how play therapy can be used to help children deal with emotional issues in their lives. John L. Day, LCSW, LMFT, of Vincennes, will be featured in the day-long workshop, "Welcome to Play Therapy," on Friday, April 20. The workshop will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 4:15 p.m.

The goal of this workshop is to provide a thorough and practical introduction to the clinical practice of play therapy. The workshop is designed to help social workers, marriage and family therapists, school counselors, pastoral counselors, and others in the helping professions to understand the role of play in working with children. Unlike adults who are more able to communicate verbally, children communicate their thoughts and feelings more effectively through their play. Being able to recognize and help children process those thoughts and feelings is both science and art.

John Day, currently instructor of psychology at Wabash Valley College, has been in the practice of clinical social work for 21 years. He specializes in working with children, adolescents, and families. He has received extensive training in play therapy.

This event is being co-sponsored by DOULOS Ministries (Princeton, Indiana), Mulberry Center, University of Southern Indiana (Department of Social Work), and the Indiana Association for Play Therapy. The cost for attending the seminar is \$50 per person. Students currently enrolled in undergraduate and graduate degree programs may attend for \$10. Pre-registration is required to ensure adequate space is available. Persons wanting more information or wishing to register for the workshop may call DOULOS Ministries at 812/386-9293, or e-mail their request to doulos@gibsoncounty.net.

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