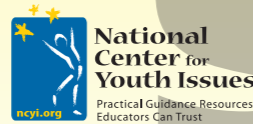


To Don – Thanks for your devotion.

–Julia

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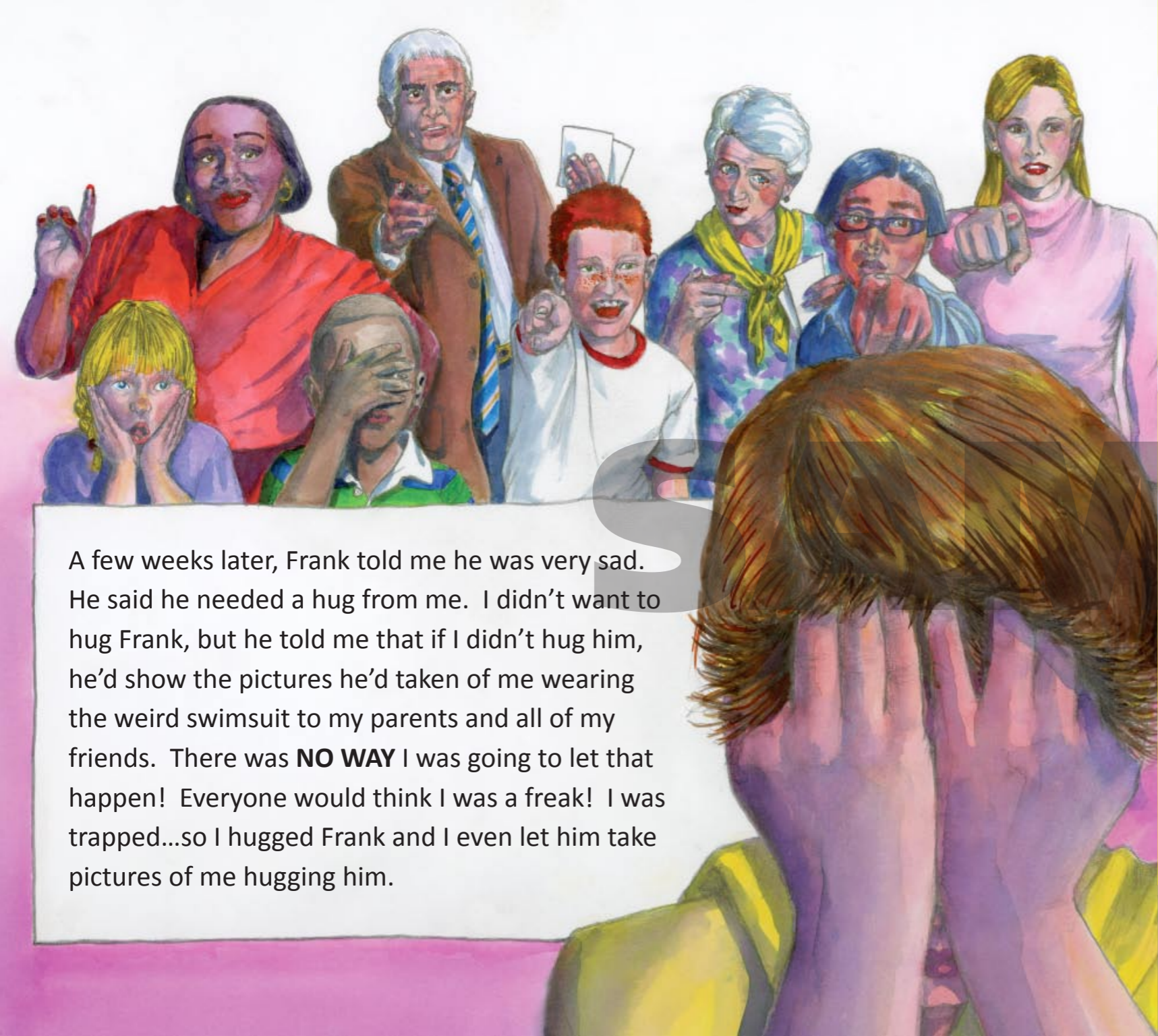


INTRODUCTION

As a school counselor, my job became extremely difficult when I needed to address the problem of suspected sexual abuse. The Kid Trapper book will hopefully make this unbearable task a bit easier for all involved. The illustrations for this book are very specific and non-threatening. Any person will be able to pick up The Kid Trapper and not be offended by what they see or by what they read. It takes the extremely sensitive issue of child-molestation and presents it in a way that gives the victim power and strength. I see it being used by school counselors and clinical counselors, as well as by parents and educators. The book can be used to teach children and adults how to recognize and prevent traps that acquaintance molesters often set. It can also be used as a diagnostic tool, as any child who has been offended will get it, while the child who has not been offended will only become more aware of how to prevent themselves from becoming “trapped.” Finally, it can be therapeutic to any parent who suffers from both blame and guilt as a result of their child being violated.

With child victimization, we cannot undo what has already been done. Our only option is move forward, heal, and prevent it from happening again.

– Julia Cook



A few weeks later, Frank told me he was very sad. He said he needed a hug from me. I didn't want to hug Frank, but he told me that if I didn't hug him, he'd show the pictures he'd taken of me wearing the weird swimsuit to my parents and all of my friends. There was **NO WAY** I was going to let that happen! Everyone would think I was a freak! I was trapped...so I hugged Frank and I even let him take pictures of me hugging him.



I was empty,
just like the butterfly.

Frank had taken away my insides. I felt so ashamed. I was trapped and there was no way out. It was all my fault! I felt like an ugly, bad person.