



a Ford Foundation project

**Rev. Dr. Marie M. Fortune**

**Founder, Senior Analyst**

**FaithTrust Institute**

(formerly the Center for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence)

**Seattle, WA**

Contact through Sharon Lewis at Douglas Gould & Co., Inc

ph: 914-833-7093, fax: 914-833-7094

Email: [slewis@douglasgould.com](mailto:slewis@douglasgould.com)

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"Religious institutions have spent too much time and money protecting the institution from its people instead of protecting the people from their institution. What is needed is for them to take up the task of protecting their people, even when that means admitting they have failed them."

Rev. Dr. Marie M. Fortune

### Areas of expertise

- Professional ethics and abuse by religious leaders
- Religion and sexual or domestic violence
- The role of religious traditions in ending violence against women and children
- Domestic violence in the military

### Topics in the News

- Deposition of Church provided therapists in clergy abuse cases
- Reform of Diocesan administrative rules
- Domestic violence and the military

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## Biography

Since 1976, Marie Fortune has been a pioneer in the field of religion and domestic violence and a leading national expert on sexual exploitation by religious leaders. She is the Founder and Senior Analyst at the Seattle-based FaithTrust Institute (formerly the Center for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence). Rev. Fortune is an ordained pastor in the United Church of Christ as well as an author, educator, practicing ethicist and theologian. She served on the National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women for the U.S. Department of Justice from 1994–2002 and currently serves on the Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence for the US Defense Department. She is also the editor of the *Journal of Religion and Abuse*.

## Resources by this expert

- *Is Nothing Sacred? The Story of a Pastor, the Women he Sexually Abused, and the Congregation he Nearly Destroyed* (United Church Press, 1999)
- *Keeping the Faith: Guidance for Christian Women Facing Abuse* (Harper, 1995)
- *Love Does No Harm: Sexual Ethics for the Rest of Us* (Continuum Publishing Group, 1998)

## Recent Interviews & Articles

- The Providence Journal, February 20, 2004 "[Diocese releases numbers on abusive priests](#)" 
- *Seattle Times*, February 16, 2004 "[Briscoe Memorial School: 'It was truly a brutal place'](#)" 
- *Post Standard*, April 5, 2003, [Conference Looks At Issue Of Abuse](#) 
- *Albany Times Union*, March 23, 2003, "[Meeting of minds on crisis of faith; Colonie Forum aims to give scholars, clergy and laity a chance to air views on sexual abuse scandal](#)" 
- *Sunday Gazette*, March 9, 2003, "[Siena forum to key on trusting clergy](#)" 
- *Fort Worth Star Telegram*, March 4, 2003, "[Murdock Uses 'Love Bonding' To Reach Donors](#)" 
- *News-Journal*, February 3, 2003, "[Diocese will not name abusers: Offending priests no longer serve](#)" 

## Organizational links for this expert

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