**Are You Sure?** **A Workshop Proposal for the 2013 Conference**.

A Case-Oriented Series of Talks To explain and improve:

Legal and Scientific Expressions of Certainty about Child Abuse.

A “Scientific” or quantitative expression of certainty would need to be “testable” in a reliable, replicatable way

1. Reasonable Suspicion: The Threshold for Concern, Reporting and Investigation
2. Probable Cause and Exigent Circumstances: Open the Door for protection or arrest.
3. Preponderance of Evidence: Good Enough For Civil and Tort Cases

4. Clear and Convincing Evidence: can establish Dependency

5. Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Conviction of Crime

Workshop Format: Each expression is discussed by a medical speaker, a legal speaker and the scientist. Requires about 30 minutes per expression and 150 minutes (2 1/2 hours) overall plus a “sumup”. About 2 hours total.

Coleaders: Chadwick and Fallon.

Possible Medical Speakers

DLC, Flaherty, Narang, Levi, Sege,

Possible Legal Speakers

Narang, Fallon, Bross, Myers, Holmgren, Harmon (author of ‘A Trout in the Milk’)

Statistician? To discuss scientific certainty. Finkelhor

Standard Error

Standard Deviation

Chi-Squared

Analysis of Variance

Confidence Interval

Sample Size

Case Examples: Statistical Analysis with forensic implication; e.g. mortality rates for various conditions. Homicide, SIDS, Falls of various types. Rarity of death in day care.

Session layout:

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|  | Medspeak | Legspeak | Scispeak |
| Reasonable suspicion | Flaherty or Sege | Fallon | Finkelhor |
| Probable cause and exigent circumstances | Flaherty | Judge Harry Elias | Finkelhor |
| Predominance of evidence | Narang | Judge Elias | Finkelhor |
| Reasonable Medical Probability | Chadwick | Fallon | Finkelhor |
| Clear and Convincing Evidence | Narang | Narang | Finkelhor |
| Beyond Reasonable Doubt | Flaherty | Fallon | Finkelhor |

The Session will produce a policy statement or guideline that will be submitted to APSAC, the Helfer Society and the AAP for approval. Fallon and Chadwick will write this guideline.