

mmct communiqué

The MMCT COMMUNIQUE is a periodic digest of member care resources and events delivered to your agency or personal e-mail. We welcome comments and suggestions. Click [HERE to remove your address](#) from future mailings. Click [HERE to subscribe to the MMCT COMMUNIQUE](#) or [update your email address](#).



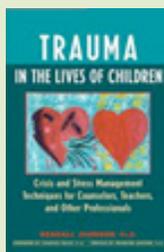
QUICK links to features in this issue:

TCKs ON THE WEB

Online resources & services for and about TCKs

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS

Children & Fear, Trauma, Adolescents & Grief, TCKs, Learning Disabilities



ISSUES & CONCERNS

*Self-Injury
Learning Disabilities
Child Abuse Awareness
Eating Disorders
Re-Entry Seminars*

EXPATRIATE EDUCATION WEEK

*MK Education Conference for West Africa in Jan. '09.
Info at bottom of page 5*

This Month's Communiqué Focus:

Member Care Resources for and about TCKs

Dear Friends,

There's no shortage of Third Culture Kid (TCK) member care resources for parents who work in cross-cultural settings, and for a very good reason: If the kids are doing well, there's a better chance the parents will do well too. For this issue of the **Communiqué**, we turned to some "experts" in our member care network (listed below) to learn about the issues facing TCKs and their parents as well as the resources they recommend to address those issues. They, in turn, have graciously offered to make themselves available to our readership. Feel free to contact them by email with questions in their areas of specialization.

Many blessings to you and your teams.

The Mobile Member Care Team

Accra, Ghana

EDUCATIONAL CONCERNS I: [Sandy Emery](#) is an educational consultant with IMB and is happy to consult with families about their educational concerns.

EDUCATIONAL CONCERNS II: [Debbie Clouser](#) and [Deanna Harrison](#) are regional educational consultants with C&MA and invite **Communiqué** readers to ask about educational resources available to them.

BOARDING SCHOOL QUESTIONS: [Evan and Jewell Evans](#) are dorm parents who can answer questions about boarding schools and MK/TCK concerns.

LEARNING DISABILITIES: [Lorraine Foute](#) works with Learning Disabled children and would be happy to correspond with field personnel who have questions about learning disabilities.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION: John and [Becky Leverington](#) lead workshops on abuse awareness and the prevention of child abuse among missionaries.

RE-ENTRY SEMINARS: [Perry Bradford](#) directs Mu-Kappa, a fraternal organization for MKs, and has up-to-date information on TCK Re-entry Seminars.

TRANSITIONS: [Scott Hicks](#) is a counselor who has done some great stuff on transitions.

FAMILY LIFE: [Annemie Grosshauser](#) is a psychologist and mother who writes and speaks extensively about family life in overseas setting. She welcomes your questions about raising children in cross-cultural settings.

TCKs on the Web: *The internet is serving Third Culture Kids in ways that were unimaginable just a few years ago. Here are a few of the most popular TCK websites:*



Interaction International! “Today’s voice for Third Culture Kids and internationally mobile families.” It features programs and services to better meet the needs of families living and working across cultures. “Cutting edge!”

Mu Kappa is “a fraternal organization for MKs, by MKs... a chance to embrace our past while building toward our future.” Features hot links to resources and MK events with links to exceptional re-entry programs.

MK Ministries Reaching out to MKs (past and present), keeping them connected to each other and to their rich history while addressing issues like culture shock, loneliness, isolation and re-entry into a home country.

International Society of TCKs Assemblies of God ministry to TCKs. Its passion is “to equip TCKs emotionally, educationally and spiritually for their transition to the field, life and ministry on the field, and re-entry into American society.” The website contains info relevant to TCKs and missionary families.

The UK Network for World Missions includes the **TCK Forum**, “dedicated to helping in the care and training of TCKs through family-orientated events and summer camps,” while the **The EuroTCK Network** supplies information and links about **seminars** and **conferences** for European-based TCKs and their families.

Xenos brings European TCKs together “to reach their full potential through camps, conferences and resources.”

Connecting TCKs

A Home for Third Culture Kids is a community forum and blog by Third Culture Kids for other TCKs. The site includes stories, videos, documentaries and active forum discussions

MK Planet is “a growing community designed and run by TCKs providing information, interaction and support.”

MK Connection A place for finding things of interest to MKs and TCKs with lots of links to other resources.



Understanding TCKs

International Schools Services: An important study of adult Third Culture Kids.

Growing Up Abroad: International exposure at an early age appears to have an enduring impact.

According to my Passport, I’m Coming Home: A book for parents as they plan to move across cultures... for children to validate their feelings... for teachers and counselors who want to learn about the TCK experience.

GO TO: • **QUICK LINKS** page 1 • top of this page • top of page 3 • top of page 4

MMCT-WA, P.O. Box OS-3063, Osu-Accra, Ghana • PHONE 233 (21) 77.48.82

Visit us at www.mmct.org

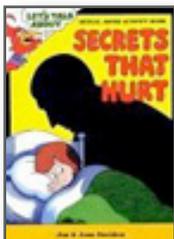
Books Here's a sampling of MMCT library books that address member care needs for TCKs. To borrow one or several of them, send **an email to MMCT** with your request; be sure to tell us where you are and how to get the book to you from Accra. A **complete list of titles by topic** is just a click away on the MMCT website.

Where in the World Are you Going? is an activity book that helps children, ages 5 to 10, through the process of moving abroad. Children can complete activities alone or with a parent

The Hurt a beautiful book dealing with the anxiety, loneliness and upset that results from internalizing feelings.



Secrets That Hurt This book seeks to break the silence barrier surrounding child sexual abuse and is used extensively in schools as well as private agencies.



The Scared Child: Helping Kids Overcome Traumatic Events Provides detailed instructions for encourage frightened kids of any age: How to reveal their feelings through words, drawings, and role playing with step-by-step advice

Working With Traumatized Children: A Handbook for Healing Practical ways to help children suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), offering step-by-step process for healing.



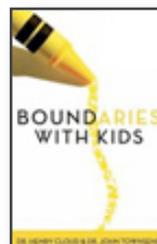
Trauma in the Lives of Children Identifying how past problems manifest themselves in current behaviors, some of which require professional help to work through.

Helping Children Cope With Disasters and Terrorism addresses the immediate and lasting effects of trauma on children and adolescents.



Third Culture Kids: The Experience of Growing Up Among Worlds For TCKs who've lived through the unintended consequences of decisions made by others.

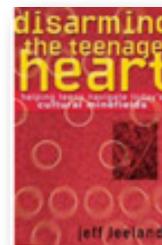
Boundaries with Kids The ins and outs of establishing family boundaries and of instilling the kind of character in your children that will help them lead balanced, productive, and fulfilling adult lives.



Grieving Child is a guide for any adult helping children cope with the death of a loved one.

The Grieving Teen: A Guide for Teenagers The special needs of adolescents struggling with loss and gives them the tools they need to work through grief.

Disarming the Teenage Heart: Helping Teens Navigate Today's Cultural Minefields How to help teens replace lies, anger, fear and pain with God's "Four C's of Inner Power" -- Conscience, character, courage, and compassion.



Raising Global Nomads: Parenting Abroad in an On-Demand World A look at parenting abroad in an on-demand world, assessing the impact of digital and virtual living on expatriate life.

ISSUES and CONCERNS

Some of these concerns are unique to TCKs; others are common to children and adolescents everywhere though their impact may be amplified by our cross-cultural lifestyles and ministry settings.

LEARNING DISABILITIES

Lorraine Foute has worked for 15 years with students from many different countries who struggle with learning disabilities and recommends:

The National Institute for Learning Disabilities: Dedicated to assisting schools, organizations, and individuals in the development of programs for students with specific learning disabilities.

Rick Lavoie: “Information and inspiration for parents and teachers of children with learning disabilities.”

Teaching with the Brain in Mind by Eric Jensen,

An Uncommon Gift by Jamie Evans,

The Way They Learn by Cynthia Tobias.

Parenting the Misunderstood by Nancy Jessen



MK Re-entry Programs I

Perry Bradford writes, “Check out the **Mu Kappa** website for a list of MK seminars and TCK internet resources.” Other organizations that do MK reentry programs include: **MTI's CHIPS program** (a family based program) and the TCK re-entry seminars sponsored by **Barnabas International** and **Missionary Resources Connection**.

MK Re-entry Programs II

Evan and Jewell Evans, dorm parents at Dakar Academy, recommend the **Transition Seminar** offered by Interaction International. One will be held in **NY from July 17-25** and another in **CO Aug. 2-8**. Registration details can be obtained from their website along with the program overview.

SELF INJURY

Self-injury is something that is more common than we realize and because it's often hidden in secrecy and shame. MMCT's clinical director, Dr. Karen Carr, addresses this important topic in an article entitled **Self-Injury: Understanding and Responding to It**.

FAMILY LIFE I

Several excellent downloadable e-books on Understanding Adolescents, TCKs and Adolescence, and Reentry for Elementary Children are available at the **Missionary Care** website.



FAMILY LIFE II Annemie Grosshauser recorded an **audio series on family in ministry** several years ago. The original broadcasts and transcripts are now available for downloading from **Member Care Radio**. “My focus is on parents: Their responsibility to understand the consequences of the steps they take, the importance of spiritual formation... and resting on our identity in Christ for the protection of our families and ministries.” Also available **for German speakers**.

ISSUES and CONCERNS (continued)

TCK Education I

ICHED (International Children's Education) provides information and materials for families and teachers of students who are studying outside their home country.

Miscellaneous TCK Issues are addressed in articles on the [Peter's Wife](#) website, "a place for women working outside their home culture to connect..."

School Alternatives
Helping Kids Adjust
Seven Kinds of Smart
Kids and Money
Masterpiece or Mess?

Third Culture Kids
Learning Disabilities
MK: Fit In or Misfit?
Teen Re-Entry



Child Abuse awareness and prevention is on the rise thanks to websites like the [Missionary Kids Safety Net](#). Check it out for child abuse policies, tips on reporting abuse and links to related websites.

Eating Disorders like anorexia and bulimia are sometimes dismissed or ignored because of ignorance, embarrassment or concern for privacy. The [Troubled With](#) website offers a **wealth of information** about this important topic.

TCK Education II [Expatriate Education Week](#), a conference for families who are educating their children as they serve throughout West Africa, will be held in Niamey, Niger on the campus of Sahel Academy from January 8-13, 2009. The program will include workshops for parents and educators on:

- Learning Styles
- Curriculum choices
- Standardized testing
- Special needs learners
- How to home school
- Using national schools
- Transitions for TCKs
- Learning in a 2nd language
- Using technology

The conference will include opportunities to consult with educators and counselors who care about your family's unique needs as well as opportunities to examine new resources for educating children. Achievement and diagnostic testing for children will be available by qualified testing consultants.



Age-appropriate classes designed to reach all learning styles will be taught by qualified educators for pre-school to pre-teens. Infants and toddlers will receive loving care from a team of child care workers.

For a conference brochure and information about how to register, email [Steve Mosman](#). **SPECIAL NOTE:** If you are a missionary, you may contact the member care or education office of *your* agency for registration information.

Dr. Kathy Koch of [Celebrate Kids, Inc.](#) will be the conference plenary speaker