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Outline

A. These are the symptoms I see when I first interview victims and/or their parents:

- First off it is very hard to get a meeting, even with parents (think USTA)
- Most of the times the parents come to see me because they want to protect their child
- They are:
 - Guarded
 - Distrustful
 - Suspicious of motive
 - Leery
 - Guilty
- When I ultimately meet the victim these are the common signs:
 - Withdrawn
 - Embarrassed
 - Quiet
 - Distrustful
 - Powerless

B. This is what I try to do to get their heads in a place where we can help them

- Transfer guilt to the institution that was supposed to protect them
- Have them embrace at least one solid truth that they cannot let go of at any time- they did nothing wrong
- Make change so that you can help others
- This means not only putting the perpetrator in jail so that he cannot harm again
- It is also about making changes in the institutional setting along the following lines to protect others:
 - Public accountability (press conferences/release/media interviews) of wrongdoing- transfer of blame
 - Increase awareness that this is happening- victim is not alone
 - Creation of rules/laws- empowerment
 - Implementation of training

C. Victim advocate/support system- camaraderie/teamwork

D. Never lose sight that this is not just about money but rather change

- Always demanding non-monetary terms as part of settlement, i.e. training/streamlined complaint procedure etc.,

E. Examples of clients who have successfully made this transformation from wounded/broken little bird to a powerful hawk/eagle (videos?):