

**World Conference on Prevention of Family Violence 2005:
Baniff Ca.**

Abstract:

**The Impact of Family Violence Dynamics in Elder Abuse on
identification and intervention.**

Presenters:

Susan B. Somers, JD , Secretary General INPEA and Assist.
Commissioner, NY State Office of Children and Family
Services, Bureau of Adult Services,

Laura Bronstein, ACSW, PhD. The Univ. at Albany, SUNY,
Albany, NY, USA (invited)

Elizabeth Podnieks, EdD. Vice President INPEA, Facilitator

The impact of family violence on vulnerable adults and the elderly is felt around the globe. In the recent report, *Missing Voices*, WHO and INPEA gave voice to the oft unheard adults who suffer from abuse, neglect or self-neglect around the world. In the USA, our duty to protect the vulnerable from harm pursuant to *Parens Patriae* has lead to the development of laws against child abuse, domestic violence and elder abuse and mandated protective services for adults. However, although family violence as it relates to elder abuse has parallels in domestic violence and child abuse, identification and intervention strategies differ vastly.

This interactive session will explore the dynamics of family violence encountered during adult protective services investigations of elder abuse. Within the framework of family systems, a discussion by delegates will be facilitated through a case study of an abused elder by a younger family member. Delegates will further engage in a discussion on overcoming barriers to identifying, reporting and addressing family violence abuse by various professionals and the community.