

What Is ISTSS?



International Society
for Traumatic Stress Studies

The International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies is a nonprofit organization whose goal is to ensure that everyone affected by trauma receives the best possible professional response, and to reduce traumatic stressors and their immediate and long-term consequences worldwide.

ISTSS creates an independent community for supporting and sharing research, clinical strategies, public policy concerns, and theoretical formulations on trauma.

What does ISTSS do?

ISTSS publishes:

- the *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, a research journal in which professionals share new developments;
- a recently completed set of guidelines that outline state-of-the-art treatments for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder;
- a newsletter, *Traumatic Stresspoints*, which features news, book reviews and ISTSS activities; and
- a series of public and professional education pamphlets on traumatic stress, children and trauma, sudden traumatic loss, the role of friends and family in supporting survivors, natural disasters, physical health, indirect trauma, and primary care.

Our newly launched sister organization, The Trauma Foundation, will support new initiatives including a training program for minority clinicians and scholars, a public education awareness program and a fund to support consumer-driven research in the field of traumatic stress.

Each year the ISTSS awards program recognizes researchers, clinicians, students, and outstanding professionals in the field.

We use our collective expertise to tackle and understand tough issues, such as recovered memories. We are the only organization to have published a thorough analysis of trauma and memory, integrating clinical and research understanding (*Childhood Trauma Remembered* and a companion public education pamphlet, *Remembering Childhood Trauma*).

We train and help student professionals gain expertise in the field.

ISTSS is working with the United Nations to develop a document to guide practice and public policy in countries torn by exposure to traumatic events.

Our annual conference is the premiere event for sharing information about the latest scientific and clinical developments in the trauma field. The conference features leaders in trauma treatment and research as well as laypersons who are on the front lines including award-winning journalists, United Nations leaders, and trauma survivors.

ISTSS members participate in special interest groups, including Assessment and Diagnosis, Ethics, Public Policy, Research Methodology, Grief and Mourning, Treatment Innovation, Human Rights, Child Trauma, Occupational Trauma, Psychopharmacology, and Political Oppression.

Who should join ISTSS?

ISTSS members include psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses, counselors, researchers, journalists, clergy, law enforcement, correctional facilities administrators, advocates and others with an interest in the study and treatment of traumatic stress. Members work in clinical and nonclinical settings around the world, including public and private health facilities, private practice, universities, and research foundations.

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