

Education Briefs

■ LSC-Montgomery professor, Conroe grad publishes novel

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Cangemi



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sexual abuse and depicts the aftermath this type of abuse can entail," Cangemi said. "It also shows that healing is not automatic when the abuse stops. It is a process, and this fact may bring comfort to the many victims of childhood sexual abuse who will also see that they are not alone in their own plights."

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LSC-Montgomery Professor Alice Cangemi has published a novel about child-on-child sexual abuse titled, *The Darkness Before Dawn*.

Cangemi, a graduate and a former teacher of Conroe High, wrote *The Darkness Before Dawn* to warn people of the prevalence and severity of child-on-child sexual abuse, she said. According to Psychology Professor Dr. Karen Buckman, a former social worker in child abuse, "this book is very relevant today."

"Alice Cangemi has written a cautionary story about how older children abuse younger children," Buchman said. "Her book is also about survival and resilience and relates how a young girl experiences her first love after sexual abuse. This book raises awareness of sexual abuse and sheds light on the trauma it causes."

"I had to let people know what it feels like to be the child being abused, to show them how easily it occurs and how it is just as easily prevented," said Cangemi about her reasons for writing the book. "I also needed to expose readers to the aftermath of the abuse, the way it lingers and manifests itself throughout the child's life."

Cangemi believes this story can prevent countless cases of sexual abuse from ever happening. People will remember young Dawn's trips to the shed, the simple ways in which they could have been prevented and the heartfelt love story of her healing, she said.

The Darkness Before Dawn is the first romance novel in a trilogy. Cangemi plans to release two more books, *The Break of Dawn* and *The Light of Dawn*, after promoting her first book.

"Romance novels are a popular genre, but this one is different. It gives insight on how to prevent child-on-child

To learn more about the books visit www.AliceCangemi.com or www.TheDarknessBeforeDawn.com. *The Darkness Before Dawn* is available in paperback and on Kindle through Amazon.