

ICEBERG

AN EDUCATIONAL NEWSLETTER FOR PEOPLE CONCERNED ABOUT FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME (FAS) AND FETAL ALCOHOL EFFECT (FAE) ... BECAUSE THE PROBLEMS WE READILY SEE ARE ONLY THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG

"THE BROKEN CORD" Airs on ABC Television, February 3, 9-11p.m.

A personal journey with FAS Monday, February 3rd. is an evening to pay attention. The television premiere of *The Broken Cord*, a made-for television movie based on the award-winning book of the same title by Michael Dorris, chronicles the real-life story of an unmarried adoptive parent raising a child with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. ABC television's Community Affairs Department considers *The Broken Cord* "the most important show we're doing this year." With an estimated viewing audience of 20 million people world-wide, this movie will heighten awareness and understanding of fetal damage from drinking alcohol while pregnant.

ABC will release the home market video immediately following the television premiere.

Jimmy Smits, best-known for his starring role in the television series *L.A. Law*, stars as David, a college professor who believes he has much to offer a four year-old boy described as being developmentally delayed. Searching to understand why, he learns the hard facts of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.

On-line help

Throughout the program and immediately following, ABC affiliates across Washington State will advise interested viewers to call toll-free the Alcohol/Drug Help Line at 1-800-562-1240 for

additional information. Forty trained operators answer this number 24-hours-a-day. Children's Trust Foundation will send a complimentary copy of ICEBERG to every caller asking for information about FAS/FAE.

Local news coverage

People involved in FAS/FAE related activities are encouraged to contact community television, radio stations and newspapers about local FAS/FAE parent support groups and appropriate school and community coordinators. To share this information with our readers, send copies of media releases and local coverage to ICEBERG Editor, Dale Leuthold.

Editor's note: The following tribute was written by Michael Dorris upon the death of his son Abel. In "The Broken Cord", Abel was called "Adam."

An Obituary for My Son *by Michael Dorris*

REYNOLD ABEL DORRIS

January 22, 1968 - September 22, 1991

Abel died of injuries he received on September 8 while crossing the street on his way home from his job at Harry's Truck Stop in Lebanon, New Hampshire. He didn't regain consciousness and we are assured he didn't suffer. He had enjoyed one of his happiest and healthiest summers.

Abel was ever a brave, forgiving, and trusting person, gentle of heart and quick to laugh. He did his best, and managed to get through his whole life without ever wishing ill or doing intentional harm. Through his example, he improved us all, and he will be greatly missed.

Contributions in Abel's name may be sent to:

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Fund, The Seattle Foundation, Washington Federal Building, Suite 510, 425 Pike Street, Seattle, Washington 98101.



Michael Dorris, author of "The Broken Cord", is a member of the Modoc tribe. He advised the screenwriter and producer of this made for TV production.