

Speaker Profile:

Jan Marshall

Scribe, Speaker, Survivor



Topic 1: Dangers of love ... in an online world

My experience of an online dating scam

Based on my true story **Love Over Money** (publication pending) hear how when Eamon did not make contact again after leaving from Dubai for England, I realised I had been scammed of over AU\$260,000 and lost the love of my life. Hear about the intimate interactions that lead to that loss, my coming to terms with it, and the emotional and financial difficulties I found myself in.

Having come through my process of recovery, I am keen to share my story so others will not make the same mistakes, and warning signs can be better understood.

An explanation of my story through the following topics, depending on time available, can include:

- My story - I lost over \$260,000 in 72 days, and why I am talking about this
- General statistics on scams and who they are impacting
- Why people say – “how could you give money away to someone you have not met?” and how I respond to this
- How scams generally are carried out
- Why scams work
- How being scammed affects people once they realise - how do they recover from this?
- Warning signs, and how to protect yourself from scams, and report it if you have been
- Symptoms of it happening to others....
- Support resources available
- What needs to change
- Questions

Ambassador for



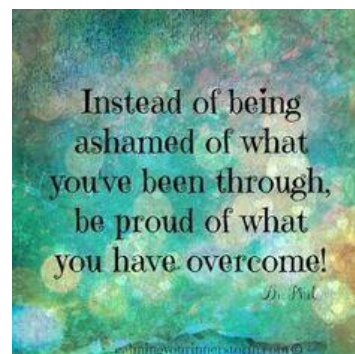
ACORN
Australian Cybercrime Online
Reporting Network

Topic 2: Beyond shame

How shame works: the power of speaking out

Based on my own experience of a shameful experience, I talk about how shame works, and what we can do to deal with shame and move beyond shame. Topics can include:

- Definitions of shame, vs guilt
- Shame as children
- Shaming incident in adulthood
- Gender and shame
- Is shame good or bad?
- Internet's role in shaming
- What feeds shame, silence; secrecy; judgement
- Feeling shame from fear of shame
- What gets us beyond shame
- The power of speaking out and self respect
- Developing shame resilience



Jan's Bio

For the past 30 years Jan has worked in the IT industry, being a consultant, and for the past 14 years working in the field of Change Management. In this context she has undertaken strategic, proposal, statistical, newsletter, web and report writing. She has run workshops and facilitated large and small meetings.

Over two years ago she moved from Brisbane to Melbourne for work and to be closer to family, and now reside in the northern suburbs of Melbourne.

Having lived alone for many years, she wanted some companionship to explore Victoria with, so engaged in online dating. She connected with a man who she only later came to know as a scammer, and was defrauded of over \$260,000 over a several month period.

As part of her recovery from this she has written a book (memoir) of her experience, called Love over Money. In speaking out about her experience of a scam, she is claiming back her self-respect, and lifting the veil from the shame, secrecy, silence and judgement around scams of this nature.

Meet-up Group

On the first of January 2015 Jan set up a Meet-up group called [Melbourne Dating Scam Survivors](#). These meetings are designed for those who have been a victim of a dating scam, and are ongoing

Ambassador for Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network (ACORN)

ACORN is a Nationwide policing initiative, focussing on Cybercrime. As a result of her willingness to speak out Jan has been selected to be an Ambassador, and in this role, has had an Article written about her ordeal published in the Herald Sun newspaper in Victoria.



“Shame needs three things to grow out of control in our lives: *secrecy, silence and judgement*” Brené Brown ‘*The Gifts of Imperfection*’. (p.40).

Media

ABC Local7 Jan 2015

Setting up the support group was picked up by the ABC Local Radio (ABC 774 Melbourne) who interviewed her and produced an [online article](#) about setting up of the group. This article was then posted on their Facebook site, which generated many likes and comment/replies, about equally split between ‘how could she be so stupid’ to ‘it can happen to anyone’.

Jan also participated in an hour long radio panel that evening with George McEncroe, broadcast nationally.

A Current Affair

As a result of the ABC Article I was contact to do an expose for [A Current Affair](#). This was aired on **22 January 2015**, and further posted on their [Facebook](#) page.

Consumer Affairs Victoria Prevention Campaign

I was part of a prevention campaign being run by Consumer Affairs Victoria, for a campaign leading up to Valentine’s Day 2015. See the online My Story [here](#).

Coverage of the campaign for CAV was in the News Media on Channel 9 News on Thursday 12 February (not provided online).

ABC News

In the lead up to Valentine’s day, ABC News did a segment on scamming, broadcast on Thursday 12 February (not provided online).

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