



## End Abuse Long Beach

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[www.EndAbuseLB.org](http://www.EndAbuseLB.org)

### **End Abuse Long Beach Proudly Announces Father Boyle will be the speaker at its April meeting.**

**Long Beach, California** – March 16th, 2011, *End Abuse Long Beach*, the local Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Prevention Council, announces that Father Gregory Boyle, S.J., author of "Tattoos on the Heart" will present an extended program at it's monthly meeting in honor of National Child Abuse Month. His lecture is entitled "*Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*". The public is invited to join **End Abuse Long Beach** for this free event on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011, from 8:00 to 10:30 a.m. at the Alpert Jewish Community Center, 3801 E. Willow Street, Long Beach CA 90815.

Father Greg speaks to his decades of experience as a priest working in Boyle Heights, one of the poorest communities in Los Angeles, with the largest concentration of gangs in the city. He shares stories of many of the young people he's worked with over the years, who in most cases have been traumatized by child abuse or neglect, or have been witnesses to domestic violence, and carry the scars of all this far into adulthood. He illuminates how these youth seek alternative "families" in order to escape the lack of nurturing at home, and how by offering hope and unconditional love, these young people can grow into confident, productive adults and citizens.

**Fr. Gregory Boyle** – best known as Fr. Greg by all who meet him -- was born in Los Angeles, one of eight children. His father, a third-generation Irish-American, worked in the family-owned dairy in Los Angeles County and his mother worked to keep track of her large family. As a youth, Fr. Greg and several of his siblings worked side by side with their father in the dairy. After graduating from Loyola High School in Los Angeles in 1972, he decided to become a Jesuit and was ordained a priest in 1984.

*End Abuse Long Beach* (previously *The Long Beach Area Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Prevention Council*) is a voluntary group of professionals and concerned community members who work in some way with abused or neglected children, domestic violence victims or perpetrators, and their families. *End Abuse Long Beach* provides a monthly forum and sponsors related conferences for community members to learn, discuss, question, network and share ideas relating to the treatment and prevention of child abuse and domestic violence.