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## Church mulls options for troubled priests

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In the Oct. 29, 1994, issue of *America* magazine, Father Stephen Rossetti described an incident that occurred during a workshop he presented on sexual abuse by clergy.

As he was speaking, Father Rossetti recounted, a shaken priest stood and asked, "So these newspaper stories of abuse are true? I thought they were all made up."

That incident took place three years ago. Since then, Father Rossetti observed, times definitely have changed.

"I don't see anyone anymore who thinks it is a made-up problem," he told the *Catholic Courier* in a

telephone interview from Maryland, where he is executive vice-president of St. Luke's Institute psychiatric hospital.

One source of increasing awareness about the problem is the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse. The bishops created the committee two years ago to address issues concerning child molestation by priests.

In November of 1994 and 1995, the committee provided U.S. dioceses with two volumes of resource material on the topic — including policy samples and relevant articles.

Recently, Philip Jenkins' *Pedophiles and Priests* (1996) also became available. Jenkins' book pre-

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