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HEADLINE: WHY I STILL LOVE BILL;
'WEAKNESSES WERE CAUSED BY CHILDHOOD ABUSE', SAYS HILLARY

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BODY:

HILLARY CLINTON has revealed that she has stood by her man because he was abused as a child.

President Bill Clinton had affairs because of "weaknesses" sparked by the trauma of childhood abuse, she said.

"Yes, he has weaknesses," said Hillary. "Yes, he needs to be more disciplined. But it is remarkable, given his background, that he turned out to be the kind of person he is, capable of such leadership. He was so young, barely four, when he was scarred by abuse. There was terrible conflict between his mother and grandmother.

"A psychologist once told me that for a boy being in the middle of a conflict between two women is the worst possible situation.

"There is always a desire to please each one." Hillary also revealed how she thought the President had beaten his unfaithfulness - until the Monica Lewinsky affair was revealed.

In a frank interview with American high society magazine Talk Hillary also described how Clinton was a "hard dog to keep on the porch."

She added: "You have to be alert to it, vigilant in helping. I thought this was resolved 10 years ago. I thought he had conquered it.

"I thought he had understood it but he didn't go deep enough or go work hard enough."

Asked if her marriage could stand the strain of her campaign to become a New York Senator, Hillary said: "He's responsible for his own behaviour whether I'm there or 100 miles away.

"He has been working on himself very hard in the past year.

"He has become more aware of his past and what was causing this behaviour."

Hillary also described her husband's affair with Monica Lewinsky as a "sin of weakness" but added: "We have love."

She said: "I don't believe in denying things. There has been enormous pain, but I have been with him half my life and he is a very, very good man."

GRAPHIC: WE STILL HAVE LOVE: Looks of affection between Hillary Clinton and husband Bill on a public stage in Washington

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