



Reducing the Risk

Issue 16 : February 2011

This is issue 16 of the Reducing the Risk e-bulletin. All information contained in this e-bulletin will be available on the reducing the risk website. Please use the website as your first point of call for information, advice and support regarding domestic abuse. Feel free to forward this e-bulletin onto anyone you feel would benefit from receiving this information.

If this email has been forwarded onto you but you would like to be included on the mailing list please [click here](#)

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Also, if you would like to contribute to the content e-bulletin then email Julia.McCormack@oxfordshire.gov.uk

www.reducingtherisk.org.uk or www.amiabused.co.uk

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[1. Freedom Programme Book Sale](#)

Freedom Programme are offering 'Living with the Dominator' and the 'Freedom Programme Home Study Course Work Book' at the lowest possible price which is £3.50 per copy (including postage) within the UK mainland only. This offer is NOT available on line via my web site as this price cannot accommodate credit card charges. Please e mail your orders directly to Pat Craven (see below)

1 - 49 copies cost £9.00 per copy
50 - 500 copies cost £5.00 per copy

500 plus copies cost £3.50 per copy

BARNARDOS in Dorset have recently bought 850 copies to distribute to their service users.

Please also note that if you buy 100 or more copies you are entitled to receive a free DVD support pack.

Contact: Pat Craven patcraven@msn.com

<http://www.freedomprogramme.co.uk>

Tel: 01547 520 228/Fax: 01547 529 223/Mobile 07789871309
PO Box 41, Knighton, Powys LD7 9AF

2. Swept under the carpet: Children affected by parental alcohol misuse

This report by Alcohol Concern and The Children's Society exposes the significant impact on children of parental alcohol misuse. It highlights research showing that an estimated 2.6 million children live with a parent whose drinking puts them at risk of neglect, and 705,000 live with a dependent drinker. The two charities argue for a national inquiry into the scale of harm and impact on society and for improved resources to protect children.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

3. Frank Field's Independent Review on Poverty and Life Chances – Report Published

In June this year the government announced that Frank Field MP had been appointed to lead an independent review into poverty and life chances. The main aims of the review are to:

- explore how a child's home environment affects their chances of being ready to take full advantage of their schooling;
- generate a broader debate about the nature and extent of poverty in the UK;
- recommend potential action by government and other institutions to reduce poverty and enhance life chances for the least advantaged, consistent with the Government's fiscal strategy;
- examine the case for reforms to the poverty measures, in particular for the inclusion of non-financial elements.

The review was asked to report to the Prime Minister by the end of the year. The final report of the Independent Review on Poverty and Life Chances was published on 3rd December 2010. The report sets out a new approach to meeting the Government's target of abolishing child poverty.

[Frank Field's Independent Review on Poverty and Life Chances report published](#) CLICK on the link for report.

4. Cyber Stalking

The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) said cyber-stalking is becoming more of a problem than traditional stalking in Britain. Stalkers are using GPS tracking technology involving mobile apps and internet to track victims' locations. In September, the CPS warned stalkers could be barred from targeting their victims on Facebook and other social networking sites. According to the CPS guidance, prosecutors could issue restraining orders that could include orders "not to display any material relating to the victim on social networking sites including YouTube, Facebook and Twitter". [CLICK HERE](#) for more information

5. Supreme Court extends meaning of domestic violence

The Supreme Court has unanimously ruled that "domestic violence" in **section 177(1) of the Housing Act 1996** includes physical violence, threatening or intimidating behaviour and any other form of abuse which, directly or indirectly, may give rise to the risk of harm.

The effect of the decision is that anyone threatened with domestic violence, within the Supreme Court's wider meaning, will not be expected to remain in local authority housing with their abuser. Although the judgement, given by Baroness Hale, did not mention human rights, it clearly impacts on [article 8](#) rights to family life, and alongside the recent decision in [Pinnock](#), could greatly increase the number of people to which local authorities are obliged to provide housing. [CLICK HERE](#) for full article.

Kevin O'Malley, Principal Housing Facilitator, Community Housing at Oxford City Council has produced updated notes in the light of the Supreme Court decision which overturns the Court of Appeal's view as to what constitutes 'violence'. The Supreme Court has decided that the narrow interpretation of 'physical' violence is wrong and that DV encompasses not only physical violence and threats but also any abuse (psychological, financial etc) that causes harm to the victim. [CLICK HERE](#) for notes.

6. Ministry of Justice's legal aid proposals

The Ministry of Justice is proposing to make a number of changes to legal aid which will have significant negative effects on women, particularly women experiencing violence. This [template consultation response](#) has been developed by Rights of Women to help organisations to respond to the Ministry of Justice's proposals to 'reform' legal aid.

Women's Aid will be sending a response using this template but we would really like to hear your views and experiences to help inform a national response from Women's Aid. Please send your comments and any case study examples you would like to add to [Nicki Norman](#) at Women's Aid by 7th Feb 2011.

7. A quarter of young men 'won't take no for an answer when it comes to sex'

The 'Where Is Your Line?' survey found that:

- A quarter of young men don't believe it is rape if a woman says no to sex and the man continues anyway.
- Nearly half of the men questioned don't think it's rape if the other person changes their mind during sex.
- More than 40% said they had been pressured into sex they did want.
- A tenth of women in London aged between 18 and 25 had been ignored after saying no to sex.
- One in five men in the age group expect to have sex after kissing.
- One in 20 men said they would try to have sex with someone if they thought the other person was asleep.
- Around one in eight men (12%) would try to have sex if they thought the other person was being flirty.
- 6% of men would try to have sex if the other person was drunk.
- A quarter of women have been silent and allowed sex to happen even though they did not want it to.
- 17% of 18-19 year-olds have been pressurised into sex because there had been previous sexual contact.
- 17% of 24-25 year-olds have said no to sex but changed their minds as a result of pressure from their partner.

8. Royal College of General Practitioners - Why is Domestic Violence a priority for the RCGP?

The Clinical Innovation and Research Centre (CIRC) is in the process of recruiting clinical champions to lead work on the College's four clinical priorities for 2011-2013. These are: Chronic Pain, Domestic Violence, Nutrition for Health, and Social Exclusion.

Domestic violence is an abuse of human rights with devastating health consequences. Violence is a major public health problem because of the long-term health consequences for people who have experienced it and for their children who witness the overt violence and coercion. It does not follow that there is necessarily a specific role for general practice in responding to the problem, other than the management of acute injuries and treatment of the long term consequence of abuse, such as chronic pain, gynecological problems, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder. However, a compelling argument for its centrality to primary care is that many people (women and men) experiencing abuse believe that their general practitioner can be trusted with disclosure and in the practical support that can be offered to protect people who disclose abuse. The isolation that survivors of domestic violence experience as a direct result of their abuser's control over their relationships with friends, family and professionals means that the general practitioner may be one of the few people to whom they can turn.

Areas of focus from stakeholder meeting

- RCGP should take up an advocacy stance for domestic violence on behalf of the profession.
- RCGP should ensure that the programme of work covers the broadest definition of issue of domestic violence.
- Identify models of good practices and evidence-based data.

- Develop a domestic violence toolkit for primary health care professionals to promote and encourage early intervention and support.
- Be involved in the provision of high quality domestic violence awareness training and education programmes for primary health care professionals.
- Improve engagement of primary health care professionals in the existing multi-agency initiatives already working to tackle domestic violence e.g. MARACS.
- Commissioning support for new GP consortia.

[CLICK HERE](#) for full article

9. Devon council cabinet to review domestic violence money

Plans by Devon County Council to cut funding for domestic violence support have been referred to the cabinet.

The council wanted to save £1m by axing funding to Against Domestic Violence in Devon (Adva), which funds many schemes.

The Conservative council's leader, John Hart, said he was referring the matter at a debate at County Hall in Exeter. The cabinet will meet in February.

He said in the meantime money for 2011 would come from a special fund, but was only likely to total about £500,000.

The move was originally part of £55m of spending cuts being discussed by the council.

It wanted to axe its grant of £1,017,000 to Adva, about half of Adva's entire budget.

After the announcement, more than 1,200 people joined an online campaign on Facebook opposing the Adva cuts.

[CLICK HERE](#) for article

10. Women's domestic abuse charity helps two men a week

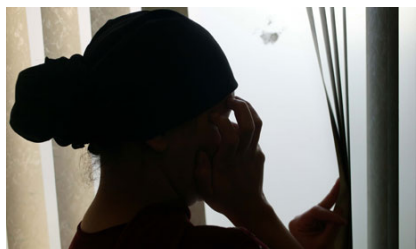


Berkshire Women's Aid has reported it is supporting 100 male victims of domestic violence a year.

A man who was raped and assaulted by his male partner said he could not have survived his ordeal without the help of the charity. [CLICK HERE](#) for full BBC article

11. Women's groups struggle amid funding cuts

Centre promoting women in science and domestic violence charities affected by financial decisions



Charities supporting the victims of domestic violence have been badly affected by cuts. Photograph: Don Mcphee for the Guardian

Buried in a Department for Business document published a few days before Christmas was the news that the UK Resource Centre for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology would lose all its government funding.

The organisation's clunky title obscures an important role. Set up in 2004 to increase the proportion of women in the science, engineering and technology workforce (just 12.5% of the workforce is female at present), the body is almost entirely government funded.

"It was a devastating blow," Annette Williams, founding director of the centre, said. "One interpretation is that equality organisations are seen as a boom-time nice-to-have. In times of reduced funding, it is equality activities that suffer."

Funding cuts to organisations that support women or promote gender equality are hard to map because they are scattered in so many places, but campaigners are increasingly anxious that these groups may be among the worst hit as central and local government cuts are announced.

The problems come at both national and local levels. Barely noticed among the quangos named for abolition in November was the Women's National Commission, a body that helped ensure that government decisions took women's interests into account.

"The abolition of the WNC will make it harder for government to devise informed policy that reflects the unique position of women in the UK," the Fawcett society, a campaigning group, responded.

At a local level there is growing anxiety that groups that support women are viewed as easier to cut. Last month Devon county council announced plans to reduce funding for domestic violence support services by 100%, and other groups that provide similar services across the country are uncertain whether their funding will be renewed after April.

A final decision in Devon has been postponed until later this month, but there has been nationwide concern at the prospect that three local charities, which last year supported 2,709 victims of domestic violence, will have to close if the council withdraws £1m in funding.

"These cuts will increase the harm caused by domestic violence," said Christine McKenna, general manager of Devon's domestic violence and abuse service.

The next few weeks will be a particularly critical time for charities that provide services funded by local authorities. Council budgets will be decided at the end of this month, and with an average of 20% cuts expected, small, niche organisations feel particularly vulnerable.

The umbrella organisation Women's Aid, which unites small charities working to end domestic violence against women and children, is monitoring how many of its member organisations have had their funding renewed for the next financial year. [CLICK HERE](#) for full article.

12. Domestic Violence Oral Answers to Questions — Attorney-General

House of Commons debates, 18 January 2011, 2:30 pm from They Work for You

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more

13. International Women's Day 8th March 2011; How will you celebrate?



International Women's day (IWD) is fast approaching; this is a global day celebrating the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future.

Women's Aid are a part of the Equals Coalition. International Women's day has been celebrated since the early 1900's and this year will be its 100th year so let's make it a good one!

Every year International Women's day has a theme and this year the theme is "Around the World", so please help us to make this year the best ever.

Why not host a party or sponsored dress down day at work as a fundraiser? In keeping with the theme, make it really special with attendees wearing women's traditional dress from different countries around the world. If it is for a party or ball you could sell tickets to the event and hold a raffle in support of Women's Aid.

If you would like to host a fundraiser or make a donation for **International Women's day** please contact [Faye](#) by email or on; 0117 915 7451.

For further ideas and to see what else is happening around International Women's day please see the [International Women's Day website](#).

14. Women's Aid joins Annie Lennox and the EQUALS partnership to celebrate the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day

Women's Aid is one of the key charity partners forming the EQUALS coalition, brought together by Annie Lennox OBE to join the Big Inequality Debate and celebrate the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day on 8th March 2011. The charities involved, all of which champion the rights of women, include ActionAid, Amnesty International, Care International UK, The Fawcett Society, Oxfam, Plan UK, Save the Children, The White Ribbon Alliance For Safe Motherhood, Women's Aid and Women for Women International. It is also supported by an evolving partnership of organisations, including 1Goal, Dance4Life, Merlin, Mumsnet, Object, One World Action, UKFeminista, VSO, WomanKind and Women for Refugee Women, and is collaborating with arts partners such as Birds Eye View, Brightwide, Britdoc/Good Screenings, Funny Women and the Southbank Centre.

Annie Lennox says: "EQUALS brings together the expertise of some of the most respected and influential charities that champion women's rights. A lot has changed since 1911, but there is still a long way to go. Gender inequality continues to permeate all sectors of society, from health and education to politics, employment and culture. The EQUALS partnership aims to step up the call for a more equal world and galvanise a new generation of men and women to work together to make gender parity a lived reality here in the UK and worldwide." CLICK the link to [Find out more and sign up to the campaign](#).

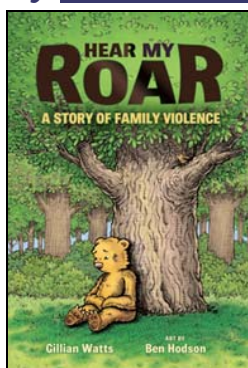
15. CAADA : Measuring the impact of local funding cuts

Because many services are receiving news now about next year's funding and this will inevitably include news of cuts, CAADA will be keeping a log of all the local funding cuts so that they can build a clear picture of how domestic abuse services are being impacted by the spending review. Please send CAADA the information ceo@caada.org.uk about your area, as soon as possible so that the picture is as comprehensive as possible. They will share the results with the Home Office and other key stakeholders on your behalf.

16. CAADA : FREE guidelines for services: Are you promoting your success? Contacting local media

Do you have a relationship with your local media or need to highlight the impact cuts could have to your service and clients? Promoting your organisation through positive stories can make a real difference to how your organisation is perceived by important stakeholders. CAADA has produced some guidelines on how to sell a positive story to your local media. If you'd like to receive a copy of these, or if you'd like any further advice on working with the media, please contact Head of Communications, Samantha Brown samantha.brown@caada.org.uk today.

17. Hear My Roar : A Story of Family Violence
by Gillian Watts illustrated by Ben Hodson – Annick Press



Told in an easy-to-read, graphic narrative format, HEAR MY ROAR provides a gentle, non-threatening approach to talking with children about family violence. With a foreword and afterword to help parents, teachers and caregivers use the story with young readers.

[CLICK HERE](#) for further information

18. Training - DASH Masterclass and the DASH Train the Trainer sessions.

Due to the success of the last series of Masterclasses, Laura Richards who developed the DASH on behalf of ACPO and in partnership with Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse (CAADA), will be holding further training events in central London, introducing all agencies working in public protection, to the DASH (2009) Risk Identification, Assessment and Management Model.

The dates are the 24th March 2011 and 14th April 2011 respectively.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

[CLICK HERE](#) to Register for Train the Trainer;

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for DASH Masterclass.



Breaking Free

(CLICK HERE for application form for following courses)

19. Training - The Impact of Domestic Abuse on Young People

This course is suitable for all those who engage with or educate young people or who have responsibilities for safeguarding and child protection. The training will be interactive and as practical as possible.

A full day experiential & interactive training around the impact of living with domestic abuse on young people and the implications this may have for their future relationships.

When: 10th May 2011

Where: Clore Management Centre, Birkbeck College, London

Cost: £145 or £125 (Voluntary Sector) – discounts for multiple agency bookings – closing date for bookings 21st April 2011. [Click Here](#) for further details

20. Training - Dating Violence & Abuse within Adolescent Relationships

This course is suitable for all those who engage with or educate young people or who have responsibilities for safeguarding and child protection. The training will be interactive and as practical as possible.

This study day will explore the dynamics of abuse in adolescent relationships with a particular focus on dating violence and sexual abuse within this context.

When: 12th May 2011

Where: Clore Management Centre, Birkbeck College, London

Cost: £145 or £125 (Voluntary Sector) – discounts for multiple agency bookings – closing date for bookings 21st April 2011

The cost includes a full days training, associated relevant materials, handouts & resources. [CLICK HERE](#) for full details

21. Training - Exploring Child to Parent Violence

This course is suitable for all those who engage with or educate young people or who have responsibilities for safeguarding and child protection. The training will be interactive and as practical as possible.

A full day's interactive training which explores child to parent violence and its impact in the short and long term for both child and parent.

When: 11th May 2011

Where: Clore Management Centre, Birkbeck College, London

Cost: £145 or £125 (Voluntary Sector) – discounts for multiple agency bookings – closing date for bookings 21st April 2011 [CLICK HERE](#) for info

I hope you find the above interesting and informative.

Julia

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