



Reducing the Risk

Issue 13 November 2010

This is issue 13 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](#)

If you would like to unsubscribe from this e-bulletin please [click here](#).

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. Responding to Children and Young People who are At Risk from Domestic Abuse

Reducing the Risk and Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board have produced a paper on policy and guidance for professionals for responding to Children and Young People who are At Risk From Domestic Abuse...

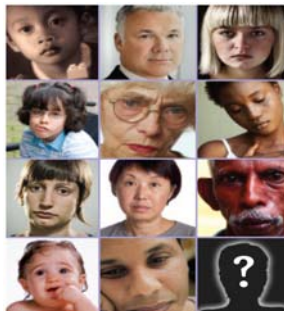
[CLICK HERE](#) to read paper

2. Christmas Gifts for Children in the Refuge – Can You Help?

A plea for donations for Oxfordshire Refuge [CLICK HERE](#) for details

3. Domestic Abuse Leaflets now translated into four languages !

您被家庭暴力伤害过吗？



ODAS have very kindly translated our DA leaflets into four different languages, Punjabi, Urdu, Polish and Chinese. They will be added to the reducing the risk website as a printable resource.

A big thanks to Clare Dines for making this happen.

4. Provider changes to the CRI 'Evolve Young Person's Substance Misuse Service'

Effective from the 1st October 2010, Evolve Young Person's Substance Misuse Service has now been taken over by Addaction. The service is now rebranded '[Young Addaction Oxfordshire](#)'

www.addaction.org.uk

[CLICK HERE](#) for contacts and further information.

5. Bicester Parenting Network

Help Available in Bicester

Parent Talk; Family Links Parenting Course; Parent Partnership; Self Help Groups etc.

[CLICK HERE](#) for flyer

6. Headington Parenting Network to be launched

A new network is to be launched in Headington on Thursday 2 December 1.00-3.00, venue to be decided depending on numbers, and hope people will be able to commit to attending. It will be really useful to have everyone involved in parenting in the area together, including a few representative parents – volunteers welcome! The plan is to meet just 3 times a year to assess need and coordinate the parenting offer. We also plan to produce our own version of the Bicester information flyer (see above) and will welcome details for that.

Our schools partnership includes Barton & Wood Farm, therefore Slade & Headington & the Roundabout Children's Centres; parenting is an important part of the work we do.

Please could you let Lesley Williams (*contact details below*) know whether you will be able to send a representative and, if so, provide a name and contact details.

And if you know of other agencies working with parents in this area of Oxford, please forward the e-mail or let me know who to contact.

Lesley Williams
Extended Services Coordinator : Headington Partnership
Oxfordshire County Council
L25 Cricket Road Centre
Cricket Road
OXFORD OX4 3DW

tel : 01865 428 059 fax: 01865 428 025 mob: 07982 439 828

7. End Violence against women and children Campaign 25-10 December

The materials for this campaign are now available online at www.dh.gov.uk/vawc

The communications information pack provides context and guidance on how to run the campaign and there are various resources that can be tailored locally and used in local

media activity. Please use the next few weeks to prepare for the campaign launch on 25 November.

On International Violence Against Women Day (25th November), a ministerial visit is planned to NHS Barking and Dagenham. VAWC are also in the process of lining up trade, consumer and broadcast coverage.

It would be great if you can send examples of your campaign activity and evaluations via this email address violence@dh.gsi.gov.uk

8. Stop it Now!

is a public education campaign aimed at preventing child sexual abuse by increasing public awareness and empowering people to act responsibly to protect children.



It is developing a public health approach to the prevention of child sexual abuse through a network of local projects and national initiatives. Supported by a dedicated free phone Helpline, its aim is to provide adults with the information needed to recognise worrying behaviour in themselves or others, and with confidence to take responsible action when they suspect that something is wrong.

In the Thames Valley, Stop it Now! is hosted by the Thames Valley Partnership.

Helpline: Freephone 0808 1000 900

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

9. Gender and Domestic Abuse

www.learningthelessons.org.uk

Ask yourself: Could it happen here?

Learning the Lessons October 2010

Bulletin 11: **Gender and domestic abuse**

This bulletin explores learning from IPCC and police investigations into the police response to reports of gender and domestic abuse. It includes cases where women have been subjected to violence, harassment or rape by former or current partners, or other family members. An increase in the number of referrals and complaints prompted the IPCC last year to set up a Gender Abuse Strategic Support Group (SSG), including representatives from external expert groups, to ensure that IPCC investigations result in sound practical recommendations which can improve police performance and ensure women are better protected and supported in future. This bulletin draws on the work of the Group. The cases featured do not focus exclusively on issues specific to policing of gender and domestic abuse; some illustrate the importance of good policing generally in protecting those vulnerable to gender and domestic abuse. The summaries include questions for the force or police officers/staff and in some instances detail action taken by the force to respond to recommendations. Detailed learning reports can be downloaded from www.learningthelessons.org.uk for each case. These include more detail about the case, the full recommendations and details of action taken by the force. [CLICK HERE](#) for further details.

10. Network for Surviving Stalking - Cyber-Stalking Project Launched

Over 1 million women and 900,000 men are stalked in the UK every year** but until now there's been very little research available about cyber-stalking. Today sees the launch of a research project expected to reveal the true extent of the problem. The Electronic Communication Harassment Observation ([ECHO](#)) was commissioned by the charity Network for Surviving Stalking and will be carried out in partnership with University of Bedfordshire. [CLICK HERE](#) for further information.

11. France outlaws psychological violence in attempt to tackle domestic abuse (article from *The Guardian*)

Law proposed by members of parliament from ruling majority and opposition wins backing of centre-right government

The French parliament has approved a groundbreaking law that makes psychological violence an offence as part of a broader range of measures aimed at improving protection of victims of domestic abuse.

Magistrates have criticised the bill, fearing that it will be hard to define what exactly constitutes such mental abuse. They say it will be difficult to prove in court. The law was proposed by members of parliament from both the ruling majority and the leftist opposition and won the backing of the centre-right government.

"We have introduced an important measure here, which recognises psychological violence, because it isn't just blows [that hurt] but also words," Nadine Morano, the minister for family affairs, told the lower house of parliament.

Anyone found guilty of breaking the law faces up to three years in jail and a €75,000 fine. The bill defines mental violence as "repeated acts which could be constituted by words or other machinations, to degrade one's quality of life and cause a change to one's mental or physical state".

Morano said witnesses could be called on to testify in such cases, and doctors' certificates detailing a patient's descent into nervous depression could be used as evidence.

"The judge could [also] take into consideration letters, SMSs or repetitive messages, because one knows that psychological violence is made up of insults," she added.

The law can be used to protect both women and men who might suffer from such abuse. Parliamentarians have acknowledged, however, that women are the main victims.

According to government statistics, 675,000 women have suffered physically violent attacks over the past two years, with 166 women murdered in 2007 and 156 in 2008.

Killings arising from domestic violence account for 20% of all murders across the country.

Morano said the main abuse helpline for women in France received 90,000 calls a year.

"Of these, 84% concern psychological violence," she added.

12. Anti Bullying week 15 – 19 November - Taking action together

www.antibullyingalliance.org.uk

The 2010 campaign is about *Taking action together*. It challenges all of us - as individuals, as communities and as organisations - to work together to send a clear and positive message that bullying is neither acceptable nor inevitable.

[CLICK HERE](#) for further information

13. No Recourse to Public Funds Network

NRPF Bulletin Issue 26 [CLICK HERE](#)

- 1 – Pathway to Support for Homeless People with NRPF
- 2 – NRPF Training Programme – NEW Voluntary Sector Training! NEW Open Access Training Course in London!
- 3 – NEW! Useful Resources Page for Social Workers/Caseworkers
- 4 – South East Regional NRPF Network Event – Oxford

14. Transition Fair 2010

Are you a parent/carer of a teenager or young adult with learning disabilities? Wondering what support might be available when your child becomes an adult? Feeling a bit lost in Transition? Want some help and advice?

THEN COME ALONG TO THE TRANSITION FAIR 2010

Produced by parents for parents

Saturday 13th November – 1- 5pm

@ The Kassam Stadium, Grenoble Road, Oxford, OX4 4XP

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

[CLICK HERE](#) for booking form

15. Reaching for Gold!

A Big Competition for groups aged 14-19 living in SE England.

Ideas for a product or service that will change the lives of others in a positive way.

[CLICK HERE](#) for poster/details

16. Scrutiny of vetting and barring scheme gets underway

(Home Office press release - Friday, 22 Oct 2010)

The system of checks that people working with children and vulnerable adults are required to undergo will be considered afresh in a radical examination of the Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS).

The Government today outlined the terms of a thorough review of the VBS which will re-examine whether the scheme is the most appropriate mechanism to protect children and vulnerable people and, if so, how many roles should be covered by it.

In June the Home Secretary, Theresa May, made clear the Government's intention to bring the scheme back to common sense levels. This was in response to public concerns that in its current form the scheme was overly bureaucratic and burdensome....

[CLICK HERE](#) for full details

17. Guidance on regulating childcare in women's refuges



Guidance for the National Business Unit, inspectors and the Compliance, Investigation and Enforcement Team on regulating childcare in women's refuges

Published: August 2010
Reference number: 100164

[CLICK HERE](#) for full details

18. The Effectiveness of Schemes to Enable Households at Risk of Domestic Violence to Remain in their Own Homes

Research summary

This summary presents the key findings of a study conducted on behalf of Communities and Local Government (CLG) by the Centre for Housing Policy, working in association with the Centre for Criminal Justice, Economics and Psychology, at the University of York on the effectiveness of schemes to enable households at risk of domestic violence to remain in their own homes.

[CLICK HERE](#) for full details

19. Training: Sexual Violence, Drugs and Alcohol, 9/10 December

Dates 9 December 2010
Venue Alcohol Concern, 64 Leman Street, London, E1 8EU
Price £160 vol / £240 stat

This course has been developed in partnership with South Essex Rape and Incest Crisis Centre (SERICC).

Course description

This two-day experiential course will look at all forms of sexual violence (child sexual abuse, sexual assault, rape) and post-trauma responses and coping mechanisms specifically focusing on drugs, alcohol (legal, prescription as well as illegal drug use). Participants will also gain an opportunity to meet individuals from across the substance misuse, mental health, domestic and sexual violence services and exchange knowledge and experiences. Participants should come away from the course with increased confidence in supporting and signposting sensitively and effectively.

Learning objectives

- To understand what sexual violence is
- To explore the links between different forms of sexual violence, drugs and alcohol
- To understand emotional, physical and behavioral responses to sexual violence as trauma
- To learn how different substances are used to cope with trauma
- To learn to respond appropriately to disclosures of sexual violence and/or problematic substance use
- To experience and practice useful techniques for supporting service users

Who should attend?

Anyone working in the following sectors: sexual and domestic violence, mental health, substance misuse; dual diagnosis.

[CLICK HERE](#) for further information and to book this course

20. Training: CAADA - On the frontline: practical risk training for working with domestic abuse victims



Practical risk training specifically designed to help build your skills, knowledge and confidence in identifying and working with victims of domestic abuse

Dates: Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th January 2011

Location: London

Dates: Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th February 2011

Location: Bristol

To Book: call 0117 3178750 or e mail risk@caada.org.uk

[CLICK HERE](#) for further details

21. Training: Broken Rainbow UK



Broken Rainbow

LGBT Domestic Violence Awareness II

Date: Tuesday 16th November 2010, from 10am to 4pm

Venue: London (J109, Tower Bridge Business Complex, 100 Clements Rd, SE16 4DG)

Rate: £99 per person

Reduced rate for registered charities: £69 per person

(The rates include sandwich lunch and refreshments)

Who is it for?

The LGBT Domestic Violence Awareness II Training Day is aimed at professionals who already work in DV and/or have some DV knowledge

[CLICK HERE](#) for further information

22. Stella Project breakfast networking: launch of the young women's initiative



Dates 1 December 2010
Venue AVA, Downstream Building, 1 London Bridge, London, SE1 9BG
Price Free (funded by the GLA)
Time 9:30am - 12:30pm

Research highlights how women use drugs and alcohol as coping mechanisms for experiences of violence and abuse. However, no scoping work has yet been done on violence and substance use experienced by young women in adolescent relationships. This breakfast networking event will launch the Stella Project's three-year research and development initiative to improve responses to young women with experiences of domestic and/or sexual violence and substance misuse in two London boroughs.

Programme

Launch of the Stella Project's young women's initiative

Shannon Harvey is the Stella Project London Coordinator. She will introduce the young women's initiative, the aim and scope of the project and what we hope to achieve.

Keynote presentation: Young women, problematic substance use and gender-based violence: what we know and what we don't

Dr Miranda Horvath is a Senior Lecturer in Psychology at Middlesex University with extensive research experience, including projects with a focus on women and children who have experienced sexual and domestic violence.

Panel discussion: providing effective services for young women experiencing domestic and/or sexual violence and problematic substance use

A panel of frontline workers (TBC) from London young people's services will lead an audience discussion.

Tea, coffee, juice and pastries will be provided.

This is a free event, funded by the Greater London Authority.

23. White Ribbon Day – 25th November - A date for your diary

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
Watch out for events in your area

[CLICK HERE](#) for campaign history

24. Farewell to Debbie Bell !

Last but by no means least, we would like to bid farewell to Debbie who will be leaving the IDVA Service at the end of the month. Very many thanks to her for everything she has done and for her management of the IDVA Service when Trish was away. Very best wishes to Debbie and her family.

I hope you find the above interesting and informative.

With best wishes

Julia

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