

## **The Lilith Project Women's Weekly News 314**

**07 August 2010 – 13 August 2010**

### **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN LONDON**

#### **Mother and daughter stabbed to death in east London**

A woman in her 40s, locally known as Svetlana Zolotovskiy, was found by police stabbed to death in Stansfeld Road, Beckton east London.

Identification documents on her body led police to her family home in Leamouth Road where they found the body of her mother, believed to be in her late 60s or early 70s, who had also been stabbed to death.

The house was on fire and fire-fighters extinguished the blaze before finding a man in the loft with a slash wound across his throat, which is believed to have been self-inflicted.

The man, locally known as Sergei Zolotovskiy, also in his 40s, is believed to be Svetlana Zolotovskiy's partner. He has been arrested on suspicion of murder.

Michael Herbert, a passerby, told reporters that he witnessed the knife attack. He said he heard screaming and then turned to see a man running away from the woman's body.

A Metropolitan Police spokesperson said, "Inquiries are under way to identify the deceased and trace next of kin".

Source: [Sky News](#) 12 August 2010

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### **Sex-trafficking pair who ran brothel empire jailed**

Nikki Chen, 57 and her ex-partner Michael Dalton, 43, were both given reduced sentences of two years and half and three years respectively, after pleading guilty to running a Surbiton-based brothel 'empire' in which they exploited victims of trafficking for several years, despite human trafficking carrying a maximum penalty of 14 years.

Chen and Dalton should have faced much longer sentences. However, the judge stated that he could not be sure whether or not they had been aware that the women they were pimping were being held in debt bondage – coerced into paying up to £28,000 out of their earnings and facing threats to the safety of their families in Thailand.

A spokesman for Croydon Community Against Trafficking (CCAT) criticised the Croydon Crown Court's decision saying, "Prosecution is a vital tool in the fight against modern-day slavery and such meagre sentences will do little to deter traffickers from continuing to exploit and trade human lives for their own profit.

"The fact that these people will serve less time in jail than they spent making money from the exploitation of women is an insult to the dignity and rights of the victims they exploited."

The court heard that Chen made more than £120,000 in just the nine months she was watched by police, and Dalton made in excess of £50,000 during the same period.

Detective Chief Superintendent Richard Martin, head of the Met Police's Human Exploitation Command, said, "Chen and Dalton took the vast majority of the cash they made through their illegal activities to fund their lavish lifestyles, living in expensive houses and driving luxury sports cars.

"The young women they controlled were exploited and obliged to have sex with in excess of 12 strangers a day, in order to pay off the debts they had accrued in being trafficked to the UK on false passports and visas."

Chen has agreed to pay back £120,000, and plans to return to her home country of Taiwan when released, and Dalton will face a proceeds of crime hearing later this year where police will try and retract his illegal gains.

Source: [Gazette](#) 11 August 2010  
[Surrey Comet](#) 11 August 2010

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## VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE UK

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### **Brent Mott jailed for life for rape and murder**

Brent Mott, 32, of Southport Merseyside, was sentenced to life imprisonment and was ordered to serve a minimum of 25 years.

Mott was found guilty of raping and strangling his wife, Kate Mott, 35, before abandoning her body in their car, which he dumped in a field in an attempt to fake a car crash. The couple were just days away from finalising their divorce.

In November 2009, Kate Mott got a court order banning her husband from entering a makeshift bedroom she had set up in their home or harassing her with his sexual behaviour.

Jailing Mott, Judge Henry Globe QC said, "You murdered her because you couldn't bear to lose her. You murdered her because you couldn't bear to think of her with anyone else."

The judge, referring to specific incidents that took place on January 20, 2010 said, "You came home determined to have sexual intercourse with Kate. It is inconceivable that she would have suggested having, and would actually have had consensual sex with you in these circumstances.

"You raped her at or around the time of killing her. Only you know exactly when it was and in what precise circumstances you raped her in connection with when you strangled her."

Mott had denied murder on the grounds of provocation.

Source: [Liverpool Local News](#) 12 August 2010

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### **Man who groomed 14-year-old girl on internet jailed**

Greg Dawson, 34, who posed as a 16-year-old on the website Bebo.com to groom a 14-year-old girl for sex was jailed just for 38 months.

Dawson was already on the sex offenders' register after been convicted of a sex offence in 2007, for which he was sentenced to ten months.

The court heard that in September 2009, after repeated requests from Dawson, the girl agreed to meet him at her home.

She refused to have intercourse with him initially, but under pressure she finally 'agreed' and they had unprotected sex three times.

Dawson was only caught when the victim's mother spotted him coming out of her daughter's bedroom.

Dawson admitted grooming the girl and having sex with her between June and October last year.

The victim's mother described the sentence as "disgusting". She said, "The Scottish justice system stinks. Who is looking after the Scottish people? Nobody..."

Source: [Daily Record](#) 12 August 2010

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### **Cab driver sentenced to ten years for rape**

Mohammed Ahmed, 42, of Manningham, Bradford, a mini-cab driver who repeatedly raped a 19-year-old woman on an isolated farm track, has been jailed for ten years.

Ahmed targeted the vulnerable woman after the taxi she had ordered did not turn up. It was her first night out in the city centre since suffering from post-natal depression.

The court heard that Ahmed was licensed only to take pre-booked fares. He was caught on CCTV however, picking up his victim outside Bradford University in October last year after noticing her alone in the street.

The woman gave evidence in court and told the jury that he had said "I'll show you a good time" before raping her in the Allerton area.

Judge John Potter sentencing Ahmed said, "You subjected her to a sickening, prolonged, and terrible ordeal. You lied and lied to the jury, as you did to the police, to try to cover up this disgraceful and disgusting behaviour". He also called Ahmed a "predatory sexual offender".

Judge Potter made a Sexual Offences Prevention Order without limit of time, barring Ahmed from ever working again as a cab driver. He was also placed on the sex offenders' register indefinitely.

Source: [Telegraph and Argus](#) 13 August 2010

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## INTERNATIONAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

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### **More Afghan women attempting suicide**

A new report from Afghanistan's Health Minister revealed that every year about 23,000 women and girls attempt suicide in Afghanistan, mainly due to mental illness, domestic violence and poverty.

The report shows a huge increase in attempted suicides compared to 30 years ago. 100 of these attempts involved self-immolation; the act of setting fire to oneself. This gives some indication of how desperate these women are to be prepared to die in this kind of painful way.

Rachel Reid, Afghan analyst from Human Rights Watch said, "There are extraordinarily high levels of child-enforced marriage, domestic violence, violence against women generally and huge cultural, social taboos on women seeking help when they've got problems.

"I have interviewed women in burns hospitals in Kabul who have tried to kill themselves and failed, and talked to them about what drove them to it and there will be a litany of awful stories of generally domestic abuse and a feeling of complete helplessness.

"They are already facing huge problems within their society and many of them pay a very heavy price in the conflict and desperately want it to end, but they also say that their rights might be sold out in hasty deals with the Taliban."

Source: [ABC News](#) 11 August 2010  
[The Frisky](#) 11 August 2010

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## **90% of women sexually harassed in workplace**

A researcher at the University of Michigan, USA, found that nine in ten women have suffered some form of sexual discrimination in some workplaces.

For the study, women in two male-dominated environments; the US military and the legal profession, were interviewed.

The research revealed that ten per cent of the women surveyed had experienced the most severe form of harassment, in which they were promised promotion or better treatment if they were “sexually cooperative”.

The results show that although few women were subjected to actual physical advances, such as being groped, 90 per cent had been subjected to some form of gender harassment, including offensive remarks about being female, their appearance, body or sexual activities.

The researchers argued that this “leads to negative personal and professional outcomes and as such is a serious form of sex discrimination. It creates a hostile environment that disadvantages women”, and that as a result, harassment victims often fared poorly at work.

Source: [The Times of India](#) 11 August 2010

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## **Taliban executed pregnant woman for alleged adultery**

Sanum Gul, a pregnant Afghan widow, was publicly executed after being flogged by Taliban insurgents in Badghis province in western Afghanistan.

Hashim Habibi, the district governor of Qades said that Sanum was held in captivity for three days and flogged 200 times before being shot in the head three times. He said Taliban commander Mohammad Yousuf carried out the execution.

Sanum, who had been widowed for four years, was accused of adultery for her relationship with an unnamed man, despite claims that the man had planned to marry her.

A Taliban spokesman has denied involvements saying, “We have not done anything like that in Badghis or any other province”.

Source: [Huffington Post](#) 10 August 2010

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## EVENTS

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### NSPCC

#### **“Moving on, but the fear always follows me”**

A collection of art and writings from a group of young people who experienced abuse through trafficking – this exhibition displays artwork and written pieces produced by members of the group, showing the different ways children can be exploited through trafficking, how it affects young people and how they move forward in their lives following their experiences.

**Venue:** Fresh Start, Alexandra Ciardi House, 7-8 Greenland Place, Camden, NW1 OAP

**Thursday 26 August, 12-4pm**

**Friday 27 August, 12-4pm**

**Special private view – Thursday 26 August from 5.30pm-8.00pm** with refreshments and a few words about the project

If you'd like to come to the private view, RSVP to Imogen Spencer Chapman by Friday 20 August on [ctail@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:ctail@nspcc.org.uk) or call 0800 107 7057

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### **Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI)**

#### **Research seminar – Parenting, Gender Socialisation and the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect in Low- and Middle-income Countries**

**Date:** 23 September 2010 from 16:00 - 20:00

**Venue:** The Boardroom, Trafalgar Hotel, London, UK

The harmful effects of child abuse and neglect on child development are increasingly understood as important for prevention of child sexual abuse victimisation and sexual violence perpetration. Parenting and the home setting is one of the influences on risk of abuse in childhood and the gender socialisation of boys and girls. Parenting factors have been found to buffer and mediate the effects of wider family and community factors on children's development. Parenting interventions are an important and potentially fundamental approach to the prevention of child maltreatment and promotion of safe, nurturing, non-violent home settings – both in the immediate family and in the next generation of young

men. A number of parenting interventions have been shown to reduce harsh parenting, prevent or reduce child maltreatment and improve child outcomes.

To attend please RSVP to Lize Loots on [lloots@mrc.ac.za](mailto:lloots@mrc.ac.za) or call 021 938 0422

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## **Capita's 6th National Prostitution Conference**

### **Engagement, Enforcement and Effective Partnerships**

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2010 – Central London**

If you are responsible for policing prostitution or supporting the people involved, this November's national Prostitution Conference is designed specifically for you.

Benefits of attending:

- Identify improvements to existing policing strategies to tackle prostitution and human trafficking for sexual exploitation
- Examine the best approaches to curbing demand for prostitution and the associated anti-social behaviour from effective partnership case studies
- Hear urban and rural police forces share their experiences of engaging sex workers and local neighbourhoods to make communities safe
- Deepen your understanding of the sentencing and treatment of sex workers in the criminal justice sector
- Discover improved ways to provide a range of sexual health, emotional wellbeing and substance misuse services to those most in need
- Identify how to improve the engagement of 'off street' sex workers to increase access to mainstream services.

**For more information visit:** <http://www.capitaconferences.co.uk/public-sector-conferences/police-criminal-justice/full-conference/article/tackling-prostitution-conference.html?code=MKCM>

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## ***Eaves - Free Seminar on the New Equality Act***

***What does the New Equality Act mean to the women's sector?***

**Monday September 13<sup>th</sup> 2010, 14:00 – 17:00**

The Equality Act received Royal Assent on 8 April 2010 and is due to come into force starting October 2010. Over the last four decades we have used a combination of laws on issues of equality and discrimination. The new Act is intended to streamline all of this into a single act; to provide a new cross-cutting

legislative framework to protect the rights of individuals and advance equality of opportunity for all.

The intention is to deliver a simple and more accessible framework of equality law by updating and simplifying previous legislations which in effect protects individuals from unfair treatment and helps organisations to comply with the law, thus promoting a fair and more equal society.

**Speakers:**

- **Karon Monaghan QC** – Matrix Chambers (*Karon is a barrister practicing principally in the fields of equality and discrimination law, human rights, public law and EU law*)
- **Flora Williams** – Law Center Federation (*Equality and Diversity Manager*)
- **Third Speaker to be confirmed.**

**Refreshments will be provided!**

To RSVP please email Nisan Kesete on [nisan.kesete@eaveshousing.co.uk](mailto:nisan.kesete@eaveshousing.co.uk)

**We will confirm your booking via email, including venue details.**

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**\*\*Save the Date\*\* – 18th October 2010, 9.30 – 16.30**

**Nia Project**

**Conference – Hearing and Listening: Enabling young people’s voice and influence in sexual exploitation services**

**Venue:** The Tomlinson Centre, Queensbridge Road, Hackney

This conference aims to:

- Understand how the voices of sexually exploited young people can be heard
- Explore how young people can influence the development and delivery of services that support sexually exploited children and young people.

Benefits of attending:

- To celebrate examples of good practice in participatory work
- To share practical tools for use in delivering participatory work
- To hear from young people about how they understand sexual exploitation, how they want services to run and how they can be involved
- To explore ways that services can reach all young people, including BAMER young people and young men, and involve them in service delivery

- To hear what young people want from professionals and services in supporting their risk of exposure to sexual exploitation.

**For more details and to book please contact: Jennifer Parnham on: 020 7683 1270 ext: 228 or email [jparnham@niaproject.plus.com](mailto:jparnham@niaproject.plus.com)**

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## **AVA Conference**

### **Whose movement is it anyway? Survivors' role in ending violence against women and girls**

**5 November 2010**

The violence against women and girls movement was instigated and led by survivors, determined that others should not suffer as they did.

With the increasing focus on professionalisation of the VAWG sector, survivors have become much less visible in their own movement.

This conference aims to reverse this trend. Showcasing over a dozen inspiring examples of survivor led initiatives, we want to challenge the stigma and shame of being a victim and demonstrate the creative and innovative ways that women respond to and resist VAWG. As well as hearing from inspirational examples, delegates will also be able to:

- Gather ideas on how your service can deliver more for less
- Generate new creative ideas for service delivery
- Understand how your agency fits into the 'Big Society'
- Learn about new ways of including survivors in your work
- Network with practitioners from across the VAWG spectrum.

**Venue:** CBI Conference Centre, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU

**Price:** £119/£129 vol/stat when booking before the 3 September  
£139/£159 vol/stat thereafter

**To book your place or for more information go to the AVA website [here](#)**

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## **Eaves – Scarlet Centre**

### **Resettlement workshops**

The Scarlet Centre's Resettlement Team is holding a series of new workshops for service users:

- **Letting hurt go!** – Wednesday 8th September, 2:00pm to 3:30pm
- **How to say 'No'** – Wednesday 13th October, 2:00pm to 3:30pm
- **Unlock your potential** – Wednesday 10th November, 2:00pm to 3:30pm

To find out more and make a booking contact the Resettlement team on 020 7793 9521 or e-mail on [resettlement@eaveshousing.co.uk](mailto:resettlement@eaveshousing.co.uk)

### **New support workshops**

The Scarlet Centre runs courses and events every week. All courses are free and open to women who live and work in London. These courses are not for training staff but for supporting women.

- **Mental Wellbeing for Life (16+)** – Friday 20th August, 11:00-3:00pm
- **Dealing with Depression (18+)** – Friday 27th August, 11:30am-1:30pm
- **Promoting self esteem and emotional wellbeing!** – Wednesday 8th September, 2:00pm-3:30 pm
- **Assertiveness Skills (18+)** – Friday 10th September, 11:30am-1:30pm
- **Dealing With Panic Attacks (18+)** – Friday 24th September, 11:30am-1:30pm
- **The Early Years (18+)** – Friday 8th October, 11:30am-1:30pm
- **How to say 'NO'** – Wednesday 13th October, 2:00pm-3:30pm
- **What is it like in a refuge?** – Friday 15th October, 1:00pm-3:00pm
- **Self Esteem & Confidence Building (18+)** – Friday 22nd October, 11:30am-1:30pm
- **Unlock your potential!!!** – Wednesday 10th November, 2:00pm-3:30pm.

**Call on 020 7840 7142 to book a place.**

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**\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\* – Thursday 23rd September 2010 (12:00 – 16:00)**

### **A seminar exploring research methodology in the women's sector – Research, policy and activism: ways forward in ending violence against women**

As a second tier project working to end violence against women, Eaves' Lilith Research & Development team often find themselves at the nexus of producing high quality, original research, engaging in work to change policy, and working as grassroots activists.

This seminar will explore how the relationship between research, policy and activism is reflected in research methodology in the women's voluntary sector.

Speakers to be confirmed and more information to follow.

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## **London Feminist Network**

### **Feminism in London 2010, a one day conference**

Feminism in London aims to bring together the many feminist and women's groups working in London to share ideas and learning, network and inspire each other.

The event is open to women and pro-feminist men.

#### **9:30am-5pm, Saturday 23 October**

Friends Meeting House  
173-177 Euston Road,  
London, NW1 2BJ

**£3-£20 depending on income**

#### **Speakers include**

Helena Kennedy, Natasha Walter, Ceri Goddard, Nadjie Al-Ali, Wendy Savage, Naana Otoo-Oyortey, Rebecca Mott, Leila Alikarami, Ann Rossiter, Finn Mackay, Heidi Mirza, Cynthia Cockburn, Rahila Gupta, Virginia Heath, Vera Baird, Jill Radford.

Find out more and register at: <http://www.feminisminlondon.org.uk/>

Email: [info@feminisminlondon.org.uk](mailto:info@feminisminlondon.org.uk)

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## **Tender for Rape Crisis provision for North London**

**Islington Council** invites suitable expressions of interest from suppliers to deliver Rape Crisis provision for North London. In conjunction with the publication of the Mayor's 'The Way Forward' Strategy, the Mayor of London's office has allocated funding to seven Local Authorities, defined as the North quadrant in London. This funding has been made available to enable the development and delivery of specialist Rape Crisis provision across the North of London; a service providing support, counselling and advice to victims of rape and sexual assault, both recent and historic.

The funding from the Mayor is initially for 18 months, with the options for continuation subject to satisfactory evaluation after the first twelve months, and funding availability from the boroughs involved. The boroughs included in the North quadrant are Islington, Westminster, Camden, Haringey, Kensington & Chelsea, Enfield and Barnet.

**The deadline for expressions of interest is: 12 noon on Thursday 26 August 2010.**

**Submission of Pre-Qualification Questionnaires by 12 noon on Friday 27 August 2010.**

**Late applications will not be accepted.**

For further information contact: Ms Charlie Kime on [charlotte.kime@islington.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.kime@islington.gov.uk) or call 020 7527 3133

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## **MOSAC**

### **AGM and Mini Conference**

**Thursday 23rd September 2010, 6.00pm to 9.00pm**

**The Forum at Greenwich Trafalgar Road SE10 9EQ**

**Guest speaker: Dr Valerie Sinason** will present on childhood sexual abuse and working with lethal attachments.

Valerie Sinason is a poet, writer, child psychotherapist and adult psychoanalyst. She is Director of the Clinic for Dissociative Studies, and consultant research psychotherapist at St George's hospital. Valerie specialises in work with abused/abusing and dissociative patients including those with a learning disability.

**Julia Webb-Harvey** will be presenting on her new book, *Hurt: What happens when you discover your child has been sexually abused?*

**Denise Hubble** Clinical Services Manager, Mosac, will present on children who are sexually abused: Can we create safety in disclosure and what are the complexities surrounding disclosures?

**Refreshments and networking make this an event not to be missed.**

To attend please email [denisehubble@mosac.org.uk](mailto:denisehubble@mosac.org.uk)

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**CONSULTATIONS AND REPORTS**

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## **WRC launches ‘Power and Prejudice’ report**

WRC has launched a new report **‘Power and Prejudice – combating gender inequality through women's organisations’**, which identifies the barriers facing women’s organisations in creating change at a local level. The report examines what tools can be used to support local engagement and offers clear, practical solutions to both public bodies and women’s organisations to improve engagement and services for women locally.

For more information and a copy of the report [go here](#)

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## **NEP equality impact assessment guide now available!**

**Equality Action** – an equality impact assessment guide for the voluntary and community sector is now available from the National Equality Partnership (NEP).

This practical and innovative guide offers a set of tools, techniques, case studies and best practice resources for second tier voluntary and community sector organisations.

The guide aims to help develop effective equality audits and equality impact assessments (EIAs). Hard copies are now available from NEP and the pdf can be downloaded [here](#).

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## **New guide to UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

A new guide to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRDP) has been published by the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

The Commission’s guide will help disabled people to know what their rights are and how to use them. It will help people to challenge injustices and improve services for themselves and others, and will also help organisations understand what their responsibilities are.

The Convention, which was signed by the UK Government last year, sets out disabled peoples’ basic rights in one place. It covers health, education, employment, access to justice, personal security, independent living and access to information.

The UN Convention also describes what the Government has agreed to do to make these rights a reality. It has until next July to report back to the UN on its progress on this agreement. The Commission’s guide also sets out how

organisations can report to the UN.

Copies of the Commission's guide are available to download from its website at: [www.equalityhumanrights.com/UNCRPDguide](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/UNCRPDguide)

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### **Supporting Families Affected by Substance Use and Domestic Violence: Research report**

**Dr Sarah Galvani, University of Bedfordshire (2010)**

This report is the culmination of work undertaken with two groups of people: (a) young people accessing services for their parents' substance use and (b) adult family members who run support groups for those affected by a family member's substance use (Family Members Support Providers). The work was funded by Comic Relief and led by the University of Bedfordshire in partnership with Adfam and the Stella Project.

[The full report is available here.](#)

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## **DIRECT ACTION & CAMPAIGNS**

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### **Women's National Commission**

#### **Impact of both the Emergency Budget and the Comprehensive Spending Review on individual women**

The Women's National Commission is collecting Partners' views on the impact of both the Emergency Budget and the Comprehensive Spending Review on individual women, women's organisations and services to women. To find out more information about the Emergency Budget please [click here](#).

We are seeking to use this information to inform Ministers and key Departments to help them conduct full and meaningful Gender Equality Impact Assessments on their decisions. This does not of course mean that difficult funding decisions will not have to be made, but we hope that it will inform government of any disproportionate negative impact on women.

We are, therefore, asking you for any information, views, or research you have on the impact of both the Emergency Budget and Comprehensive Spending

Review. We would also like to hear any positive ways you have to suggest, either to lessen the negative impact, or advance equality for women which the current financial climate has created.

Please send your views to the Women's National Commission at [wnc@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:wnc@communities.gsi.gov.uk) by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

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## **ECPAT UK / The Body Shop UK**

### **Campaign petition to Stop Trafficking of Children and Young People**

ECPAT and The Body Shop have launched a global petition as part of their three-year campaign to stop child trafficking. As part of the UK campaign, ECPAT UK is calling on the Government to provide greater care and protection for child victims of trafficking.

ECPAT UK is asking people to sign the petition online or in any of The Body Shop stores across the UK. The petition specifically calls on the Government to develop a system of guardianship for children who have been trafficked. A system of guardianship would mean that every child victim of trafficking would have:

- Someone with parental responsibility to care for and support them and take decisions based on their best interests
- Someone to ensure they receive the educational, medical, practical and legal support they need to help rebuild their lives.

You can sign the petition online and read more about the campaign here: [http://www.ecpat.org.uk/body\\_shop\\_campaign.html](http://www.ecpat.org.uk/body_shop_campaign.html)

Please publicise the petition amongst your contacts and networks to encourage as many people as possible to sign it.

**For further information, please contact Andrew Howard, ECPAT UK Campaigns Officer, on 020 7233 9887 or at [a.howard@ecpat.org.uk](mailto:a.howard@ecpat.org.uk)**

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## **Rights of Women**

### **No impunity for rape – no anonymity for defendants**

Thank you for supporting our campaign against the coalition government's proposals to give those who are investigated and prosecuted for rape anonymity.

After a lot of hard work we have been successful as Crispin Blunt MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice, has stated that the Government is now only considering “non-legislative options” on this issue. This means that the government is no longer proposing to bring forward legislation giving suspects anonymity in the autumn. In a written answer to a question asked by Caroline Flint MP, Crispin Blunt MP said: “As I made clear at the all day debate on this subject on 8 July (*Official Report*: columns 533-602), the Government will consider over the summer recess how best to go about strengthening anonymity up to the point of charge and will bring proposals to Parliament in the autumn. The Government is only considering non-legislative options on this matter and, as I said in the House on 20 July (*Official Report*, columns 160 & 161), we are trying to find the best non-statutory solution.”

However, the government has said that it will publish an assessment of the existing research and statistics on ‘false reports’ in September, so while we can celebrate our victory, we need to remain alert to the fact that this is an issue that could resurface. **Consequently, we are still asking organisations to endorse our position statement and individuals to contact their MP and ask them to sign Fiona Mactaggart MP’s Early Day Motion** (you can see who has already signed it by checking here:

<http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/EDMDetails.aspx?EDMID=41020>). We are hoping to have over a hundred signatories to our position statement before the research is published in September.

**To endorse the position statement please contact Catherine Briddick on [Cate@row.org.uk](mailto:Cate@row.org.uk)**

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### **Sponsor Robina Qureshi!**

Robina Qureshi is going to be sleeping rough for one night in Glasgow on October 6th 2010. **Her goal is to raise 24,000 pounds for Positive Action in Housing's Hardship Fund which gives out money for food and shelter to destitute individuals and families** from Iraq, Sudan, Somalia and China as well as other countries from where they are fleeing persecution. If you would like to sponsor her or read more about the cause, visit her justgiving page at: <http://www.justgiving.com/Robina-Qureshi>.

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### **The Global Campaign to Stop Killing and Stoning Women (SKSW Campaign) and Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML)**

#### **Sign our petition**

SKSW and WLUML are seriously concerned about the reported arrest of the wife and brother-in-law of human rights lawyer, Mohammad Mostafaei. Arrested on 24

July 2010, they are being held in the infamous Evin Prison in Tehran. Mostafaei's wife, Fereshteh Halimi, called her parents to confirm her arrest and detention. Her brother, Farhad Halimi, is also believed to be detained there. There are strong indications that their arrest is intended to pressure Mohammad Mostafaei to turn himself in.

Mohammad Mostafaei is a leading human rights lawyer who defended Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani, who was sentenced to death by stoning, and a number of other detainees in Iran.

For more information and to take action visit the following link

<http://www.gopetition.com/petition/38025.html>

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## TRAINING

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### **Oxfam Routes to Solidarity Project**

#### **Voice of Solidarity Free Training (Sheffield)**

**The provisional dates for the training are Wednesdays 6th, 13th, 20th October 2010, 10.00 – 16.00**

The training aims to strengthen the BME women's voice in the North through a set of three day sessions designed to help women from BME women's organisations to enhance their skills, experience and knowledge, enabling them to become more effective in their roles, engage with decision makers and develop a strengthened policy voice.

**Participants are expected to attend all three sessions. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. Child care costs will be reimbursed.**

**For any further information, or to request a place on the course, please email [routestosolidarity@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:routestosolidarity@oxfam.org.uk)**

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### **Positive Action in Housing**

#### **Mental health awareness: best practice strategies**

**Date: Tuesday, 24 August 2010 (9.30 am – 4.30 pm)**

**Venue: Positive Action in Housing, 98 West George Street, Glasgow, G2 1PJ**

**Details:** This course will give you an understanding of the signs and symptoms of the most common forms of mental illness. You will explore the range of factors in people's lives that can have a negative impact on their mental health. You will also explore the additional pressures which can affect people from refugee and new migrant communities. You will be able to identify appropriate support for those with mental health problems.

By the end of the day you will:

- Understand and recognise the signs/symptoms of the most common forms of mental health problems
- Have a better awareness of the issues affecting people with mental health problems
- Learn about the adjustments that can be made to overcome the barriers or difficulties that can affect people's day to day lives.
- Be equipped to effectively review and update your organisation's policy and practice.

**Cost:** Non-members: £220

Community/voluntary organisations: £150

Members: £125

**To book your place on either of the above courses, please contact Suki Sangha, Training Officer, Positive Action in Housing Ltd, 98 West George Street, Glasgow, G2 1PJ, Tel: 0141 353 2220, email [suki@paih.org](mailto:suki@paih.org)**

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**AVA**

**Adolescent Domestic Violence**

**Date:** 3 September 2010

**Venue:** Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, Kings Place, 90 York Way, London, N1 9AG

**Price:** £90 vol / £130 stat

This course will expand on previous knowledge about domestic violence and will focus particularly on the experience of teenagers as victims and as perpetrators, with the inclusion of the following key issues:

- teenage pregnancy
- gender
- child to parent abuse

- barriers to accessing services
- sexual violence within a gang culture
- sexualisation of young people.

The course will discuss how to speak about violence in teenagers' own intimate relationships, how to give advice and how to risk assess and safety plan. The course will comprise interactive activities, group discussions and the use of films to illustrate key topics.

## **Recovering from the Impacts of Domestic Violence – Unresolved Anger**

**Date:** 15 September 2010

**Venue:** AVA office, 1 London Bridge, London, SE1 9BG

**Price:** £90 vol / £130 stat

Anger is a natural reaction to domestic violence but anger is a particularly problematic emotion in our society, especially for a woman. Many learn that 'nice' women don't raise their voices – they are supposed to just cry or cope. A woman might also learn to hide anger because her abuser 'would give her something to be really angry about' or because she is determined not to 'sink to his level'. Women become prevented from the natural expression of their feelings – but may suffer from suppressing or over-controlling their emotions. Having these left-over feelings can come out in various ways: women might feel like they have lost any feeling, like zombies; they might snap when they don't mean to or they might get depressed or sick (turning the anger on themselves). This course is based on principles that all feelings are healthy, that beliefs influence how we express feelings and that we can complete 'unfinished business' or unresolved anger in a safe way, using techniques adapted from experiential therapies.

**For more information or to book your place on either of the above courses visit:** <http://www.avaproject.org.uk/our-training--events/open-training.aspx>

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## **Domestic Violence Integrated Response Project (DVIRP)**

### **Training Programme Autumn 2010**

#### **Course 1 – Violence and Abuse: How it affects our mental health Full Day course**

**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> August 2010

**Venue:** Ramada Jarvis Hotel Leicester

**Cost:** £80 Voluntary Sector / £110.00 Statutory Sector/All Other

**Offer: Book three places and receive a 10% discount**

This course is essential for anybody who works in the domestic violence or mental health fields. It would also benefit staff from statutory organisations who come into contact with people with dual issues.

The aim will be to highlight how domestic violence affects mental health, and provide best practice tools to respond. The course will look at psychological abuse and post traumatic stress. It will enable participants to deal more effectively with service users and work closely with partner agencies.

**Course 2 – Domestic Violence Tier 2: Risk Assessment, Practice, Law and the IDVA/MARAC Process**  
**Full Day course**

**Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010

**Venue:** Ramada Jarvis Hotel Leicester

**Cost:** £80 Voluntary Sector / £ 110.00 Statutory Sector/All Other

**Offer: Book three places and receive a 10% discount**

This course is essential for anybody who works in the domestic violence field or in a safeguarding role. It would also benefit staff from statutory organisations that come into contact with people who have experienced or are experiencing issues of domestic violence.

The course will look at common risk indicators within a domestic violence situation and in support. We will work through a CADDRA risk assessment form, which is an assessment tool used across agencies locally. The course will also look at current legislation including a reference to the functions of the Specialist Domestic Violence Courts, the role of an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) and the links to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process. It will enable participants to identify and deal more effectively with victims and survivors of domestic violence, especially those who may be at high risk of harm, and as well as helping participants to work closely with partner agencies to provide a coordinated multi agency response. Special guest DI Pete Williams, MARAC chair, will also be delivering a short presentation on the extent to which the MARAC has been instrumental in the information sharing process within a multi agency context to ensure that victims of domestic violence continue to receive holistic and coordinated support to reduce or eliminate the risks of harm.

**To book a place or to request a booking form for these courses please contact admin on 0116 2550003, or alternatively email [admin@dvirp.co.uk](mailto:admin@dvirp.co.uk)**

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## Refugee Council

### Supporting women affected by sexual violence – One day course

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October – The Refugee Council in Brixton, London**

This course is informed by the stories related by female clients of the Refugee Council Specialist Team during the three year Comic Relief-funded Vulnerable Women's Project, designed to support refugee and asylum seeking women survivors of rape or sexual violence.

During this one day course participants will explore the impact of gender based violence in a systemic context, looking at the potential consequences it may have on the lives of asylum seeking women according to their varied experiences in the country of origin and the host country.

**Cost** (per delegate): £175 (standard rate) / £109 (reduced rate for registered charities)

To attend and for more information email [training@refugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:training@refugeecouncil.org.uk) or call 020 7346 6733

### Other training events scheduled in London include:

- **21 September** – An introduction to working with unaccompanied children – [Read more](#)
- **22 September** – The Refugee Council's Therapeutic Casework Model: Supporting clients with mental wellbeing needs – [Read more](#)
- **23 September** – Key Issues in asylum – [Read more](#)
- **24 September** – An introduction to asylum support – [Read more](#)
- **4 October** – Working with refugee children in schools – [Read more](#)
- **5 October** - Emotional wellbeing of refugee children and young people – [Read more](#)
- **6 October** – An introduction to homelessness – [Read more](#)
- **7 October** – Age assessment awareness and working with age-disputed young people – [Read more](#)
- **21 October** – Supporting women affected by sexual violence – [Read more](#)
- **1 November** – End of Process: Support for asylum seekers who have been refused asylum – [Read more](#)
- **2 November** – An introduction to child protection issues when working with children from abroad – [Read more](#)
- **4 November** – Refugees and migrants: Entitlement to housing and other services – [Read more](#)

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**Just Whistle**

## **Safe and Sound – 4th National Conference**

### **Tackling child sexual exploitation: The way forward**

**21 September 2010 – Nottingham Conference Centre**

Hear leading speakers from Europe and the UK talk about the key strategic issues of the day in the fight against child sexual exploitation, including:

- The UK Government's plans for changes to the child protection system
- The Dutch model for protecting children against CSE
- Tackling sexual exploitation in highly diverse communities
- The role of television and digital media in raising public awareness of CSE

**Cost:** £175.00 + VAT per delegate

Registered Charities are entitled to a 10% discount

To register or to find out more contact [events@justwhistle.org.uk](mailto:events@justwhistle.org.uk)

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## **SKiLD in partnership with the NEP**

### **Human rights and equalities**

**7th September (London)**

Do you work with groups that work specifically with individuals, or with people from diverse backgrounds and experiences? Does your role involve working with groups and enabling them to improve the lives of the people they support?

By attending this course you will understand how Public Sector Duties can be used to enable individuals and groups that you work with to take positive action in challenging inequality and prejudice, understand how human rights relate to equality and diversity, and also understand the core principles, standards and features of human rights and how rights 'work'.

For more information or to book on these courses visit: [www.skild.org.uk](http://www.skild.org.uk)

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## **Safe Choices Training**

### **Young Women, Gangs and Serious Youth Violence**

**London based training: Wednesday 25th August, 10:00 – 4:30 pm**

**Full Rate:** Statutory Agencies, Commercial Sector – £200.00 per delegate  
**Concessionary rate:** Non-statutory agencies – £150.00 per delegate

For more information and to register contact Laura Bettinson:  
[safechoices@niaproject.plus.com](mailto:safechoices@niaproject.plus.com)

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## VACANCIES AND VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

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### **London Irish Women's Centre**

#### **Advice and Outreach Worker**

**Closing Date:** 18 August 2010

**Salary: £21 – £23k** depending on experience plus 7.5% employer pension contribution

We are looking for an experienced Advice and Outreach Worker with at least 18 months working knowledge of welfare benefits and housing. Knowledge of debt advice is also desirable. You will manage a client caseload and report to the Advice Coordinator. You will be expected to have knowledge of standards required and an understanding of the issues facing Irish women in London.

#### **Trainee Advice Worker**

**Closing Date:** 18 August 2010

**Salary: £20k**

There is also the opportunity for a candidate with the right attitude and aptitude for advice work to join our team as a trainee. A background in advice work is desirable and the training programme for a suitable candidate will be tailored as required. The post is open to women of Irish birth or descent.

To apply and for more information and an application pack contact Caroline Foulkes on 020 7249 7318 or [info@liwc.co.uk](mailto:info@liwc.co.uk)

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### **Women & Girls Network**

#### **Telephone helpline volunteers**

Women & Girls Network is a multicultural organisation that provides counselling and therapeutic services for women overcoming experiences of violence, physical, sexual or emotional. We work with all women: lesbian, refugee, black minority ethnic and disabled. Women from these communities are particularly encouraged to apply.

- Are you a woman motivated & passionate about making a difference in the lives of women & girls affected by violence?
- Are you able to volunteer once a week for at least one year?

**All selected applicants will receive our accredited helpline volunteer training programme & supervision.**

**To apply and for more information go to the 'join us' page at [www.wgn.org.uk](http://www.wgn.org.uk)**

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## **Make Justice Work**

### **Head of Operations – up to £35K depending on experience**

Make Justice Work is a new media campaign launched by Roma Hooper to highlight the cost and ineffectiveness of short term prison sentences and improve public confidence in community sentences.

For more information contact Roma Hooper:  
[romahooper@makejusticework.org.uk](mailto:romahooper@makejusticework.org.uk)

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## **Women's Environmental Network**

### **Fundraising Volunteer**

**Closing Date: 20 August 2010**

The Women's Environmental Network (WEN) is seeking a fundraising volunteer to help with trust, corporate and major donor fundraising. This is an excellent opportunity for someone looking to gain good all-round skills, and support the work of a great organisation. Hours are flexible but will hopefully be at least one day per week.

You will join a team of three part-time staff in our East London office, just off Brick Lane. You will support WEN staff in their fundraising efforts by preparing letters, drafting applications, researching funding opportunities and assisting with fundraising events.

To apply please send a CV and cover letter to [fundraising@wen.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@wen.org.uk)

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***If you have any information about new events, consultations, reports, campaigns, direct action, training, vacancies or volunteering opportunities, especially those with a London focus, that you would like us to consider for inclusion in Women's Weekly News please email us at:***

[Weekly\\_News@eaveshousing.co.uk](mailto:Weekly_News@eaveshousing.co.uk)

