

## **The Lilith Project Women's Weekly News 315**

**14 August 2010 – 20 August 2010**

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

#### **At least 2,600 women trafficked into sex industry, says police report**

A new report published by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) has found that at least 2,600 women have been trafficked into England and Wales and forced into prostitution in the off-street sex industry.

According to the report, police found that 17,000 of the 30,000 women estimated to be involved in the off-street sex trade are migrants, and that at least 2,600 of these have been trafficked across international borders. A further 9,200 women identified in brothels were considered to be "vulnerable migrants". These estimates are based on face-to-face interviews police held with women found in brothels across England and Wales.

The research, conducted under the title 'Project Acumen', was coordinated over twelve months by a team in south west England, supported by the Metropolitan Police.

Investigators found that the off-street sex industry in England and Wales is comprised of 6,000 premises. The majority of women identified as trafficked had been coerced into selling sexual services through the use of cultural, financial or

other factors, including debt bondage. The largest number of brothels was found in London (2,103), followed by Yorkshire and the Humber (534), the South East (426) and the West Midlands (342).

According to the research, some of those trafficked and forced into prostitution are made to pay off bonds of up to £30,000 by criminal gangs operating a multi-million pound underground trade.

The report states that most of those who have been trafficked – 2,200 – are from Asia, primarily from China. However, the police have admitted that these findings are incomplete estimates that may miss brothels that advertise in other languages or only accept clients by invitation.

However, Eaves, a charity that provides support to trafficked women through the Poppy Project, has a number of concerns about how the research was conducted. Abigail Stepnitz, national coordinator of the Poppy Project, said that whilst it is impossible to establish a completely accurate picture, the real number of women trafficked into prostitution is likely to be higher than the police estimate. She said that out of the 9,200 women identified as “vulnerable”, a significant percentage might also be regarded as trafficked.

Amnesty International UK, called the police figure “a low estimate of the true scale of the problem”. Kate Allen, director of Amnesty, said, “Even when trafficked women are free from their tormentors, the system often lets them down and even treats them as illegal immigrants, rather than as victims of a terrible crime.”

Damian Green, the Immigration Minister, referring to the report said, “Human trafficking is a brutal form of organised crime where people are traded as commodities and exploited for profit by criminal gangs. Combating trafficking and looking after its victims is a priority for the new Government.

“Having any number of people trafficked into the UK is unacceptable, therefore it is vital that we use Acumen to re-focus our efforts both at targeting the criminal gangs that trade in this human misery and in helping victims escape and recover from their ordeal.”

You can read the full report [here](#).

Source: [The Independent](#) 18 August 2010  
[BBC](#) 18 August 2010

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### **Police appeal for information on sex attacker**

Police have released CCTV images and are appealing for anyone with information to come forward about an attacker who barged into a woman's home after he followed her there from a tube station.

The man stalked the 28-year-old woman after she got off a Piccadilly Line train at Arsenal Underground station. He tried to converse with her as he followed her along the road, but when she got home he forced his way in, pushed her to the floor and sexually assaulted her in the hallway.

The suspect, reported to be aged between 25 and 35, around 5ft 11 and of medium build with short brown hair was caught on CCTV on the Underground, at around 12.20am on May 13, and walking back along Gillespie Road, north London, after the attack.

Detective Inspector Beverly Hawes, the investigating officer, said, "The victim suffered a terrible attack on her own doorstep. I urgently appeal to anyone who may recognise the man captured on CCTV, or has any information that can assist this investigation, to contact police."

Source: [Press Association](#) 19 August 2010

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### **Man brutally killed ex-wife in 'row' over child support**

Adam Mann, 29, brutally murdered Lisa Beverley, 30, at her south London home, battering her with a hammer and then cutting her neck with a knife because she had tried to get him to pay towards their son's upkeep through the Child Support Agency.

Lisa's five-year-old son found her body the next day and rang his grandfather, Stephen Beverley, as he was taught to do if his mother went into a diabetic coma.

The Old Bailey heard that Beverley had no chance of surviving after being struck on the face, head, neck and body. Mann was found guilty of murdering Beverley on September 15 last year, and he will be sentenced on October 4.

The victim's father, said, "What he has done to my daughter was indescribable, I couldn't put it into words. We'll always miss her. She'll always be part of us." Lisa's parents are now left to look after her son.

Source: [Press Association](#) 17 August 2010

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## VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE UK

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### **Rape centre in Leicester threatened by budget cuts**

Jasmine House, previously known as Leicester Rape Crisis Centre, a charity helping victims of rape and sexual violence in Leicester, fears possible funding cuts may jeopardise its future.

It costs £60,000 a year to maintain the centre. £47,000 of that amount comes from Leicester City Council. However, the council has announced that it will make £100m worth of cuts by 2015, and all areas of spending have to be reviewed. The centre counsels about 60 women every week.

Cindy Allen, centre manager of Jasmine House, said, "Some women aren't functioning on any level. They can experience mental health issues, eating disorders, self-harm. If they don't come to us where do these women go?"

Vi Dempster, Leicester city council deputy leader, said, "We are expecting to have to make huge budget cuts and this means reviewing everything we do. If we do have to cut our funding to Jasmine House it won't be because we don't value the work they are doing."

The charity is now contacting all of the region's MPs to highlight its serious concerns.

Source: [BBC](#) 19 August 2010

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### **New licenses for Liverpool lap-dancing clubs**

Liverpool Councillors have voted to introduce new lap-dancing club rules for the city, which will now go to public consultation.

Councillor Christine Banks, chairman of Liverpool Council's licensing committee, said, "This gives us more powers to regulate them and, if needs be, close them down."

This move will give the public greater power to express their concern and views on current or planned lap-dancing clubs in the area.

According to the new licensing regulations, councils have been granted the option of imposing these new licenses. This means that current lap-dancing venues will have to reapply for a permit. Some owners say they fear that this new system will leave them at risk of closure.

One licensing committee member said he had observed “scantily-clad girls standing outside a club with flyers”, which is against stipulated rules.

Source: [Liverpool Echo](#) 20 August 2010

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### **Rapist facing life sentence for attack on 18-year-old**

Andrew Hamilton, 23, of Linnet Brae, Livingston in Scotland, who raped an 18-year-old in daylight hours on a normally busy path near a hospital, is facing a possible life sentence.

The woman went through an underpass and realised the man was picking up speed. She moved to the side to let him past, but he suddenly grabbed her by the arms.

Paul Kearney, an advocate-depute, said “Initially, she thought it must be one of her friends larking about, but soon realised she was wrong.”

The High Court in Edinburgh heard that Hamilton told the victim to hand over her mobile phone, and when she turned to try to look at him, he put up his arm to cover his face and began pulling at her clothes.

The terrified woman begged him to stop, saying, “Please don't” but he replied, “I'll decide.” He then raped her and said, as he left, “You aren't a virgin.”

When the woman got to a main road she saw a friend, hugged her and broke down. Kearney said, “She asked the friend to use her phone so she could phone her dad. She tried to use it but was crying so much she was unable to do so. Her state of distress was such that, for a time, she could not remember her own home telephone number”.

Three months after the attack, the woman says she still feels “unsafe all the time”.

Lord Tyre was asked by the Crown to consider imposing an order for lifelong restriction (OLR), under which Hamilton could be detained indefinitely.

Hamilton denied any involvement in the robbery and rape of the woman when interviewed by detectives. However, swabs taken at the scene contained DNA which matched Hamilton's profile.

Source: [News Scotsman](#) 19 August 2010

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## INTERNATIONAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

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### **UN acknowledges Sarah Shourd's treatment is torture**

The U.N. Special Rapporteur on Torture has sent an urgent appeal to the Iranian authorities on Sarah's behalf and acknowledged her treatment in solitary confinement as torture.

Shourd, 31, has been working for over a decade for the rights and welfare of women worldwide. On July 31st 2009, during a hiking trip with two friends in the Kurdistan region of Iraq, she was taken prisoner by the Iranian government and accused of illegally crossing the Iraq/Iran border.

For more than a year now, Sarah has been living in a cell measuring about two metres by three metres. She has one small window high up in the wall, too high to see out of, and in her door is a tiny hatchway, which is kept closed. To use the bathroom, Sarah has to ring a bell and then the guards take her, blindfolded, along the corridor.

Sarah has pre-cancerous cervical cells and has developed a lump in her breast. Results of tests taken several months ago have been withheld. Sarah is being denied medical care and monitoring. There has been no assessment of the state of her mental health.

Sarah is permitted approximately one hour a day in an exercise yard with her two fellow captives, Shane Bauer and Josh Fattal. Withdrawal of this privilege is used as a punitive measure for 'bad' behaviour.

Sarah has access to just fifteen minutes of television a day (sometimes withdrawn as a punishment) and has limited reading material. Access to writing materials was withdrawn in April, possibly as a punishment when Sarah threatened to go on hunger strike.

Sarah's mother, Nora, writes to her daily but Sarah only receives some of her letters, and only about once every two months. Letters from other family and friends do not reach her and Sarah has never been able to send any letters herself.

Sarah has been allowed two phone calls since being in captivity, one in March and one at the end of July, and just one family visit. The visit by her mother took place in May, amidst worldwide media attention. They had no private time, apart from visiting the bathroom together when Sarah was able to show Nora her breast lump.

The Swiss Consulate have been permitted by the Iranian Authorities to visit on three occasions, in September and October 2009 and then again in April 2010. Sarah has had no other visitors.

Over the last twelve months, accusations of espionage have been made by Iranian government sources. In addition, official Iranian media channels have repeatedly broadcast false information that the three prisoners have been charged with espionage.

Iran was one of the first countries in the world to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), in 1975. The ICCPR entered into force in 1976 and is legally binding on all signatory parties. Its provisions are interpreted and its implementation monitored by the UN Human Rights Committee (HRC).

Under Article 40 of the ICCPR, all State parties are required to periodically submit a report on their compliance with the ICCPR. Two articles of the ICCPR relate directly to the treatment of prisoners and prison conditions, including solitary confinement.

To read more and to take action click [here](#).

Source: [A safe world for women the 2011 campaign](#).

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### **UN attempt to put wartime sexual violence on international policy map**

The United Nations is trying to put wartime sexual violence on the international policy map, telling political and military leaders that wartime mass rape “is no more inevitable than, or acceptable than, mass murder.”

The UN is now monitoring five countries closely – the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, the Darfur region in Sudan, Chad and the Cote d'Ivoire because of sexual violence involved in conflicts in those areas.

Letitia Anderson, women's rights specialist with the UN's Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict initiative, said, “It's not just Africa at which the UN is looking; it's cross-regional.”

Anderson added that armed groups are branding the bodies of women and children with signature patterns, as cattle are branded, leaving scars so that their families and community members know they are victims of aggravated sexual violence.

Margot Wallstrom, the UN Secretary-General's special representative on sexual violence in conflict, said of the perpetrators, "Many are child soldiers, and they maybe have to rape their mother or their siblings and then kill them afterwards."

She said that wartime rape "is one of the great peace and security challenges of our time. It has been the least condemned and most silenced war crime. Rape is not a side effect, but it is actually a new frontline."

"I'm responsible not only to the Secretary-General and Security Council but above all, to the survivors of this soul-shattering crime."

Source: [CNN](#) 13 August 2010

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## EVENTS

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### **Object**

**Funny Women Awards 2010 – Mon 20th Sept 2010, 7.30pm**

**Leicester Square Theatre**

OBJECT is thrilled to have been chosen as the beneficiary of the 2010 Funny Women Awards.

Funny Women is the leading showcase of British female comedians. A series of heats across the UK culminates in the final to find the year's 'best new female stand up'.

The evening is hosted by the previous winner, now a major breakthrough act, Andi Osho (Channel 4's 'Nightly' and 'Stand Up for the Week', and BBC2's 'Mock the Week').

Proceeds will be directed towards OBJECT's cutting-edge campaigns.

Click [here](#) to book tickets

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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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**\*\*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.

- **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 us 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.

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

**Due to the limited spaces available for this seminar, please do not request more than one place per organisation. We will confirm your booking via email, including venue details.**

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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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**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 (UNCPRD) 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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### **University of Worcester**

#### **Postgraduate certificate in professional development: The dynamics of domestic violence**

##### **Intensive weekends**

The course has traditionally been taught on a part-time basis on a Tuesday evening over one full year. This structure will continue for local students but we have now introduced intensive weekends over one full year to allow for accessibility for students who cannot make the weekly journey.

There will be two intensive weekends (three full days) per semester; over three semesters (one full year) and ongoing interactive contact while students are not on campus.

##### **Entry requirements:**

- A good first degree *or*
- A professional qualification in an appropriate area *or*
- Relevant practical experience.

The course offers the opportunity for those who already have a professional qualification and/or are working in the field of domestic violence to enter study at postgraduate level. It is also a good progression route from lower level domestic abuse qualifications.

For further information please contact Ruth Jones at [r.jones@worc.ac.uk](mailto:r.jones@worc.ac.uk)

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### **The Sheila McKechnie Foundation (supported by Trust for London)**

#### **Influencing Change – An introductory course**

Influencing change is an introductory level course on how to gain influence and campaign for change in public policy. The course examines how local authorities, Parliament and central government make decisions, and offers expert advice on how to influence them. Participants will learn about campaign strategy and planning, working with the media, tactically addressing issues and involving stakeholders.

This is a four-day course spread over four months and includes the opportunity for further group sessions and one-to-one coaching. Guest speakers with expertise in campaigning, tactics, media and government will provide in-depth knowledge and insider perspectives.

**For more information and if you would like to attend please email:**  
[iffat.shahnaz@smk.org.uk](mailto:iffat.shahnaz@smk.org.uk)

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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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## **AVA**

### **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.

### **Safeguarding Against Forced Marriage and so called Honour-Based Violence, 28 September**

**Date:** 28 September 2010

**Venue:** Peterborough Women's Centre, 69-71 Broadway, Peterborough, PE1 1SY

**Price:** £90 vol / £130 stat

This course is designed to increase participants' knowledge and awareness of forced marriage and so called 'Honour Based Violence' and to offer space for reflection on current and future work approaches in order to operate within a good practice framework.

The course looks at the overlapping issues of domestic violence, patriarchy, power and control and examines the impact of these. The course involves skill development on practice based issues such as safeguarding children and young people, safety planning and risk assessment, as well as providing an oversight of the relevant legislation, policies and procedures for staff working with women fleeing forced marriage or so called 'Honour Based Violence'.

### **Working with Domestic Violence Perpetrators within a Substance Misuse Agency**

**Date:** 6 October 2010

**Venue:** LCVS, 151 Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 2AH

**Price:** £90 vol / £130 stat

This course looks at identifying domestic violence perpetrators, giving safe messages and making appropriate referrals upon identification. It will also explore theoretical perspectives around domestic violence, the links to substance misuse and the perpetrator's choice to use violence.

**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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## **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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### **Survivors' Network**

#### **Female Young Person's Counsellor**

**Salary:** £21,840 – £24,980 (Pro rata)

**Closing date:** 15<sup>th</sup> September 2010

**Interviews week commencing:** 27<sup>th</sup> September 2010

Survivors' Network, a dynamic Brighton based charity supporting women who have experienced sexual abuse and violence, is recruiting a Female Young Person's Counsellor.

Working ten hours a week with clients 14-18 years old you will be experienced in the particular needs of young women and counselling survivors of sexual trauma.

**Application packs are available to download from**  
[www.survivorsnetwork.org.uk](http://www.survivorsnetwork.org.uk) or by calling the office on 01273 203380.

**This post is exempt from the Sex Discrimination Act 1972 and subject to a full CRB disclosure.**

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## **RISE**

### **Health Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (Health IDVA)**

**Closing Date:** 30th August 2010

**Salary:** £24,646 -£26,276 (1 year fixed term contract)

The Health IDVA will work in Rise's Independent Domestic Violence Advisor service. This service is an essential component of Brighton and Hove's coordinated response to domestic violence. The worker will be primarily based in Brighton and Hove's Accident and Emergency Unit.

### **High Risk (MARAC) Independent Domestic Violence Advisor**

**Closing Date:** 3rd September 2010

**Salary:** £22,221 - £23,708 pro rata 22.5 hours (1 year fixed term contract)

The High Risk (MARAC) IDVA will work within the remodelled crisis and support service leading the provision of specialist domestic violence support to survivors identified as being at high risk of serious harm/homicide as a result of domestic violence. She will ensure that the service provided is consistent with the local/organisational MARAC protocol, and will maintain a role in monitoring the effectiveness of its implementation.

**These posts are open to female applicants only as being female is deemed to be a genuine occupational qualification under section 7(2) (d-e) of the Sex Discrimination Act.**

**For more information and to apply, please download the application pack from the following link <http://www.riseuk.org.uk/index.asp?PageID=26>**

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## **Refuge**

### **Floating Support Worker – Tower Hamlets**

**Fixed Term until 31 March 2011**

**Full Time:** 35 hours per week

**Salary:** £26, 334 per annum, pro rata

You will have evidence of strong casework management skills, good written and verbal communication, and an understanding of the importance of maintaining clear professional boundaries. It is essential you have direct experience of

providing support to women and an understanding of current welfare rights/civil/criminal legislation relating to domestic violence.

### **Sanctuary Worker – Greenwich**

#### **Full Time, Permanent Post**

**Salary:** c. £26, 000 per annum

You will have evidence of strong casework management skills, good written and verbal communication, and an understanding of the importance of maintaining clear professional boundaries. It is essential you have direct experience of providing support to women and an understanding of current welfare rights/civil/criminal legislation relating to domestic violence.

### **Floating Support Worker – Southwark**

#### **Full Time, Permanent Post**

**Salary:** £26, 334 per annum, including ILW

You will have evidence of strong casework management skills, good written and verbal communication, and an understanding of the importance of maintaining clear professional boundaries. It is essential you have direct experience of providing support to women and an understanding of current welfare rights/civil/criminal legislation relating to domestic violence.

All candidates must have a commitment to the values of empowerment, support and equality, which underpin all the work undertaken by Refuge.

**Closing date: 4pm, 31st August 2010.**

**For more information and download an application pack please visit**

**<http://refuge.org.uk/working-for-refuge/>**

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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 and passionate about making a difference in the lives of women and 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 and supervision.

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

