

The Lilith Project Women's Weekly News 358

02 July 2011 – 08 July 2011

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN LONDON

Man convicted for trafficking girls out of the UK

Anthony Harrison, 32, the first man to be convicted of trafficking females out of the UK, was sentenced to 20 years for four trafficking offences and two of false imprisonment at Woolwich Crown Court in east London.

The victims, aged 14 and 16, came from small villages in Edo, Nigeria, and were sold into prostitution with the help of the local Juju priest. They were also both controlled by Juju magic rituals.

One of the girls was gagged and bound in Harrison's bathroom at his home in Albert Square, Stratford. He then attempted to traffic the girls to Spain and Greece for prostitution.

Police say he was a key player in a sophisticated network of West African people traffickers operating in the UK.

Detective Constable Andy Desmond of Metropolitan Police, said: "These young women suffered the most terrifying and degrading ordeal - leaving them emotionally, psychologically and physically traumatised.

"Most cruelly of all, they were brainwashed into believing that if they disobeyed their captors by seeking help, they would die. They were also told that if they went to the police for help they would be handed straight back to their captors."

The prosecution said: "This has been something of a unique case and groundbreaking. It's the first time there has been a prosecution for trafficking out of the UK. It's the first time the Crown has been able to persuade victims of these types of offences to give evidence."

Source: [BBC](#) 07 July 2011

Man arrested in India in relation to a murder and assaults in London

A 26-year-old man has been arrested in New Delhi airport in India, in connection with the murder of Michelle Samaraweera a 35-year-old woman who was raped and strangled in east London two years ago. He is also wanted in connection with three other assaults.

Samaraweera was strangled and raped as she returned to her boyfriend's address after going to a local supermarket in Walthamstow area, in 2009. When police launched an investigation of the murder three other DNA-linked sexual assaults in the area were discovered.

The first occurred in March 2009 as a 59-year-old woman was walking to her home near Queens Road. She approached her front door and noticed the suspect standing nearby. As she entered to her house he forced his way inside, raping her in her bedroom.

The second assault took place in April 2009, a 46-year-old woman was walking along Lea Bridge Road and the suspect was attempting to talk to her when she was forced into an alleyway near to St James Street rail station. She was raped and the suspect fled, warning her not to leave the scene.

The third attack also occurred in April 2009, a 32-year-old woman had been walking towards the same Somerfield store as Samaraweera when she realised a man was following close by. The victim has no further recollection of the attack but a member of the public heard noises and called police.

When police arrived at the scene they found the victim semi-clothed and in a distressed state in the churchyard.

The Metropolitan Police will now be seeking the man's extradition to the UK.

Source: [BBC](#) 04 July 2011

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE UK

Women in Britain lose jobs during the recession more than men

A recent study by the Office for National Statistics revealed that British women were more likely than men to lose their full-time jobs.

The study showed that there were 5.7% per cent fewer women in full-time employment last year than in 2008, but there was only a drop of 4.7% in men's employment.

Since June 2010, female unemployment has increased by 46,000, while male unemployment has fallen by 103,000. Currently there are a total of 11,154,300 full-time male workers in the UK, compared to 6,829,000 full-time female workers.

Moreover, women face a further risk and would be hit the hardest as the government begins to cut an expected 400,000 state jobs since women hold two-thirds of public-sector positions.

Besides, the study showed that of all the new jobs created in the past year; only one in six went to a female candidate.

Brendan Barber, General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress, said: "This analysis shows the recession was a devastating blow for millions of workers and their families."

Source: [WVoN](#) 08 July 2011

School worker jailed for raping 13-year-old girl

Mikhail Mohammad, 45, of Radford, Nottingham was sentenced to 10 years for rape of a 13-year-old girl and nine months for fraud for failing to disclose a previous conviction of indecent assault on a girl in 1991.

Nottingham Crown Court heard that Mohammad, a school worker where the 13-year-old is a pupil, befriended the girl, her mother and sister before taking her back to his flat and raping her in November last year.

Sentencing him Judge Jonathan Teare said: "You were friendly with her mother and sister and, as a result, you had told her that you wanted her to go to your flat because you wanted to give her something.

"You took her back to your house and there in your bedroom you raped her. The courts well know that victims such as this may suffer for years as a result of what has been done to them and some may never recover from such an attack". He added, "The abuse of trust was gross."

Mohammad, who is disqualified from working with children for life, was also given a Sexual Offence Prevention Order and was placed on the sex offenders' register for life.

Source: [BBC](#) 08 July 2011

INTERNATIONAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Women demand action on missing and murdered aboriginal women

National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE) participants, attending the Women's Worlds 2011 conference in Ottawa, Canada together with hundreds of women marched demanding the government address the violence against aboriginal women across the country, who are continually missing and murdered.

NUPGE has supported the Native Women's Association of Canada which was started in 2006 to raise awareness to the issues of violence facing aboriginal women and girls. The organisation has been active throughout the country drawing attention to this alarming issue.

According to Statistics Canada's 2009 General Social Survey (GSS) on Victimization, nearly 67,000, or 13% of Aboriginal women aged 15 or older who lived in the provinces, reported that they had been the victim of one or more violent crimes in the 12 months prior to the survey and nearly two-thirds, 63% of Aboriginal female victims were aged 15 to 34.

Participants of the conference called on the government to develop an action plan or task force to prevent further violence.

However, Rona Ambrose, federal minister for the status of women Canada, rejected any call for a national action plan on the issue and said that the government is already doing enough to address the issue of violence against aboriginal women.

Brenda Hildahl, NUPGE's Chair of the Advisory Committee on Women's Issues said: "This minister stood before participants on the eve of the conference, declaring how her Harper government would eradicate violence and inequality for women and then two days later, tells us they are already doing enough for women in this country. It's shameful and we won't accept it."

Source: [First Perspective](#) 07 July 2011
[NWAC](#)

Argentina bans classified sex ads on newspaper

Argentine President Cristina Kirchner banned classified sex ads on newspaper stating that they are discriminatory against women and encouraged human trafficking.

The three-page decree "prohibits advertisements that promote sex for hire or make explicit or implicit reference to soliciting people for sexual commerce." It also states that the government will establish the Office of Monitoring of Publication of Advertisements of Sexual Commerce, within the Justice Ministry to enforce the provisions of the decree.

Andrés D'Alessandro, executive director of the Argentine Journalism Forum, a professional group, said that his organization had been trying for more than a year to nudge newspapers to eliminate the ads voluntarily. He added that the decree doesn't appear to apply to the many websites that advertise sex services confining itself to print outlets.

The international debate over banning classified sex ads has increased since Craigslist last year shut down its "adult services" section in the face of widespread public pressure.

Source: [Wall Street Journal](#) 07 July 2011

EVENTS

Women's Resource Centre and Voluntary Action Westminster

FREE Funding Seminar

Date: Tuesday 19 July 2011 from 9:30am - 2.00pm

Venue: Paddington Arts, 32 Woodfield Road, London, W9 2BE

Women's Resource Centre, in partnership with Voluntary Action Westminster, would like to invite you to attend a FREE Funding Seminar geared specifically for organisations delivering services to women.

Local commissioners and funding experts from the Women's Resource Centre will look at ways in which you can make your organisation more sustainable including social enterprise, income from individuals, commissioning and partnership working. There will also be an opportunity to meet with other groups delivering services to women and see how you may be able to support one another.

Speakers will include:

John Bolton - Interim Strategic Director for Adult Services, Westminster Council

Maura Jackson - Director, Advance Advocacy and Minerva Projects

Noelle Gilbert - Income Generation Officer, Women's Resource Centre

Helen Johnson - Policy Officer, Women's Resource Centre

To book a place contact Samantha Smallcombe at development@wrc.org.uk

Public Policy Exchange

Human Trafficking in the UK: Working in Partnership to Strengthen Prevention, Protection and Prosecution - Symposium

Date: 14 July 2011

Venue: Central London

Current figures indicate that between 100,000 and 800,000 people are trafficked into the EU each year and at least 5,000 victims are held in the UK. Pledging a renewed offensive against the organised gangs behind human trafficking, the Government has opted into the EU directive to enable better protection for victims and increase the chance of successfully prosecuting the gangs that exploit them.

A new Government strategy on tackling human trafficking, due to be launched imminently is expected to place a greater focus on prevention, intercepting traffickers before they reach the UK. During a period of great change in the sector, this special symposium offers a timely opportunity for practitioners in the police service, social services, health sector and third sector to:

- Examine the next steps in prevention, tackling the supply of, and demand for, human trafficking
- Explore how to improve awareness and identification of victims
- Consider how to safeguard victims, strengthen victim support and improve prosecution rates
- Assess how to ensure the safe resettlement and repatriation of victims.

For more information or to book a place visit the following website:

<http://publicpolicyexchange.co.uk/events/BG14-PPE.php>

London Feminist Network

The London Feminist Network Feminar Group is showing a documentary by the charity WORLDwrite about suffragette and revolutionary Sylvia Pankhurst.

In feature length essay form, Sylvia Pankhurst, Everything is Possible traces Sylvia Pankhurst's ideas, campaigns and political life. Researched and filmed by over 100 volunteers, the film is packed with facts from primary sources, rare images from museums and archives, interviews with historians and compelling testimony from Sylvia's son Richard Pankhurst and his wife Rita.

Sylvia was imprisoned more than any other suffragette for her tireless campaigning and unlike her mother Emmeline and sister Christabel, who dropped the fight for votes for women to support the war effort, Sylvia refused to sacrifice the fight for universal suffrage until it was won. Her opposition to the war and her internationalism were and remain exemplary and her bravery in fighting for equality and opposing all misanthropic trends puts her, as one interviewee we filmed put it, "up there with the angels".

Date: Tuesday 19 July 2011, 7.30pm-9.30pm (please arrive promptly for 7.30 start)

Venue: Millman Street Resource Centre, 50 Millman Street, London WC1N 3EW

Accessibility: The venue is completely accessible with no steps.

Refreshments: light refreshments will be available

How much: we will be asking for a suggested donation towards venue cost of £2-£5 based on what you can afford, please feel free to give what you can

RSVP: Please RSVP Jennifer at jennifer.milligan@btinternet.com

NB: This is a women only event

Making Research Count Practice Development Seminar

Working with Children and Young People Involved with Gangs: A Critical Analysis of Current Initiatives

Prof John Pitts - Vauxhall Centre for the Study of Crime, University of Bedfordshire

Date: Wednesday 28 September 2011 10.00am – 1.00pm

Venue: King's College London SE1

Attendance is free to members of Making Research Count at the Universities of Bedfordshire and King's College London. **For non-members, the cost is £95 per person.**

Places are limited, so you will need to book - by 14th September 2011.

Please contact the MRC Administrator at University of Bedfordshire, Cara Senouni, Institute for Applied Social Research, Park Square, Luton LU1 3JU, mrc@beds.ac.uk, (01582) 743085.

DIRECT ACTIONS, CAMPAIGNS & RESOURCES

Join NUS Women's Campaign on a Pro-choice Demo

Date: Saturday 9th July, from 1.30pm

Venue: [Old Palace Yard](#), Westminster - opposite the public entrance to the Houses of Parliament. Nearest tube station: Westminster

In the last few months there have been a stream of anti-choice measures coming out of Westminster, aimed at rolling back our right to safe, legal abortion.

From [amendments](#) to the Health and Social Care bill imposing new counselling requirements for women seeking abortions, to the [appointment](#) of anti-choice group LIFE to the government's sexual health advisory panel, to cuts in contraception, sexual health and teen pregnancy services and increasing waiting times for abortion as the NHS comes under increasing financial strain.

We have seen Nadine Dorries and other anti-choice advocates take to the airwaves to push the (mistaken) notion that women are being [denied information](#) about the mental and physical side-effects of abortion, and, of course, to plug their now-notorious bid to introduce girls-only [abstinence-based](#) sex education.

What if I can't make the demo?

Download this [flyer](#) and distribute to friends and colleagues to publicise the demo. Sign up to Abortion Rights for information on their campaigns and take part in [actions to lobby](#) your MP

Justice for Jane Clough Petition

On Sunday 25th July 2010, Jane Clough was savagely murdered in the grounds of Blackpool Victoria Hospital as she arrived to start her night shift as an A & E nurse.

Her killer, Jonathon Vass, was her former partner. He had appeared in court on 1st December 2009 charged with 3 counts of rape against Jane. Jane had been strong enough to report the cases to the police and the CPS had met the required thresholds for prosecution of the rapes.

He was further charged nine days later with 6 counts of rape, 3 assaults and 1 sexual assault. Despite objections by the Police and Crown Prosecution Service, and having been told that 'he was extremely likely to interfere with the witness' he was released on bail by Judge Simon Newell.

To read more and to sign the petition click [here](#).

TRAINING

Tender's Training update

Three Day Training: Developing and Delivering Domestic Violence Training

Dates: Wednesday 28th to Friday 30th September 2011

Venue: Central London

This course has Open College Network Accreditation (Level 3)

Course Aims:

- To improve participants' understanding of the relevant information, models and theories required to plan and deliver basic Multi Agency Awareness and Best Practice Domestic Violence Training in a range of settings.
- To gain the research and group work skills required to plan and deliver basic Multi Agency Awareness and Good Practice Domestic Violence Training

Target Audience:

It is aimed at participants who have a good grounding in the subject and who will deliver training on issues of domestic violence. They should have some training experience or similar transferable experience. The course will also help those who have a strategic or developmental role who want to increase their domestic violence presentation skills.

One day training: Awareness and Good Practice when working with women experiencing violence and abuse in relationships

Dates: Thursday 13th October 2011

Venue: Central London

This training will equip participants with an understanding of the issues for women experiencing violence from men they know, the pressures on women to stay in violent relationships and the impact on children witnessing and experiencing domestic abuse.

The programme is designed to give participants an appreciation of the barriers experienced by abused women, which might prevent them from seeking and securing the help they need.

The day is aimed at staff in any agency who may be called upon to support, advise, treat, or otherwise assist a woman experiencing violence from a man she knows.

NEW!!! One Day Training: Working effectively in and with Schools: a practical approach to successful partnerships with schools

Date: Tuesday 18th October 2011

Venue: Central London

Over the last 8 years, Tender has worked in over 150 schools and Pupil Referral Units across Greater London. This has been a journey that has enabled Tender's staff to develop effective strategies for creating healthy partnerships that result in effective work with students and an integrated approach to the work within the whole school.

The one day training programme is designed to equip participants with skills and knowledge around:

- Making initial contact with schools – strategies and methods
- Working with key teachers; Maintaining relationships once a project is underway
- Secondary, Primary, Special, Pupil Referral Units – identifying their differing needs
- School-speak; becoming familiar with the language that schools and teachers use
- Developing and delivering teacher training

The day is aimed at staff in any organisation that may be starting to work directly in primary, secondary, special schools and pupil referral units.

One Day Training: Working with young people to address violence in teenage relationships

Date: Thursday 20th October 2011
Venue: Central London

The day is aimed at professionals working directly with young people. Participants do not need to have previous experience of drama or theatre to take part in the day.

This training will practically examine how drama techniques can be used to engage young people in order to explore the early warning signs of abusive relationships, what abuse is and how to seek support.

If you would like to book a place or find out more information about the above trainings and costs, please contact Dorota Small at Tender dorota@tender.org.uk; 0207 431 7227

Engaging families to reduce domestic violence

Free 2 day training course for professionals

Date: 21 – 22nd July
Venue: NCVO, Regents Wharf, 8 All Saints Street, London N1 9RL

The training will cover:

- Understanding domestic abuse
- Engaging perpetrators of domestic violence
- Working with denial and minimisation
- Children, parenting and domestic violence

The 2 day training is designed for frontline professionals; it will enable practitioners to improve the safety of women and children, to support recovery and with a particular emphasis on parenting and children's needs.

To book a place email gjori@dvip.org

Just Whistle

Engaging vulnerable young people: what works?

Manchester: Holiday Inn Manchester Central Park - Tuesday 19th July (Morning and Afternoon sessions)

London: Holiday Inn Brent Cross – Wednesday 20th July (Morning and Afternoon sessions)

This course will enable delegates to:

- Understand why vulnerable young people are often difficult to engage
- Confront some of the stereotyping that creates barriers to effective communication
- Explore why some young people are especially difficult to engage
- Be aware of good practice, and other helpful links and resources
- Identify ways to engage with hard to reach young people
- Plan how to transfer their learning into practice

The **price per delegate is £99+VAT including refreshments** on arrival and break time.

To book your place, please click on this link:

<http://www.justwhistle.org.uk/events.php>

DASH

Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Honour Based Violence (DASH 2009) Risk Masterclass and 'Train the Trainer' Events

September 15th Masterclass and September 22nd Train the Trainer 2011

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

If you register for both the DASH Masterclass and DASH Train the Trainer sessions you will receive a 10% discount and group bookings of 3 or more people will also receive a 10% discount.

New stand alone training on Stalking and Honour Based Violence (HBV) is also available. Laura can provide bespoke in-house training, which will enable you to understand:

- the nature of offending - using examples of actual cases
- the profile of the victim
- the profile of the perpetrator
- how to respond effectively
- how to identify risk and manage it
- lessons learned from homicide reviews.

Multiple case studies will be used throughout these interactive sessions and free support and resource material will be supplied. Either a half day or full day can be booked. **For information with regards to Stalking or HBV training contact Laura directly: laura@laurarichards.co.uk.**

To register for DASH training please contact the Events Co-ordinator Alison Bird: alison.bird@tiscali.co.uk. To view DASH in more detail please go to www.dashriskchecklist.co.uk. Please find attached an outline of the DASH training.

Rights of Women

FREE UPDATED COURSE! No recourse? EEA national? The permanent solution

Women only course

Manchester 19 October 2011

Meeting the needs of women from outside of the UK who are experiencing domestic violence is incredibly challenging, you have to be up-to-date in one of the most frequently changing areas of law, understand the duties of local authorities and the rights that the woman herself has to pursue justice in the criminal, family or immigration systems.

This updated, one-day course will give you the skills and knowledge you need to confidently support a woman who has 'no recourse to public funds' or who is the national of the European Economic Area country with remaining in the UK and accessing financial support. Each participant will receive course materials and a copy of our new legal guide **Domestic violence, immigration law and “no recourse to public funds”**

Lunch and refreshments provided

For more info contact the training officer: 0207 251 6575

training@row.org.uk

To download a booking form click on the following

<http://www.rightsofwomen.org.uk/training.php>

Refugee Council Training new dates

We are pleased to announce new dates for the following courses being delivered at our headquarters in Brixton. If you are looking for training for up to 20 delegates we can also deliver these courses at a venue of your choice.

Scheduled dates are:

- Monday 18th July – [Working with interpreters](#)
- Tuesday 19th July – [Emotional wellbeing of refugee children and young people](#)
- Wednesday 20th July – [Supporting women affected by sexual violence](#)

Refugee Council trainers are practitioners first and foremost; our training reflects the expertise gained through our own front-line service provision, ensuring our training is relevant, up to date and practical.

Looking for customised training? We can build courses to suit your requirements [contact us](#) to find out more. To book a place on one of these courses please complete and return a [booking form](#)

VACANCIES AND VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Solace Women's Aid

Irish Refuge worker: (maternity cover for nine months) 37.5 hours pw: (Salary £25,515 - £27,009)

You will provide advice and support to women who have experienced domestic violence. You will carry out risk and needs assessments, develop support plans and carry out key work with women survivors. You should have a minimum of one year's experience of working with this or a similar client group. An in depth understanding of the needs of Irish women and children is essential.

Family Support Worker – Refuge based: (maternity cover for ten months) 37.5 hours pw: (Salary £25,515 - £27,009)

We are looking for an experienced and flexible Family and Support worker to provide individual and group support including organised play sessions to children (0-16) living in our refuges. All the families in our refuges have experienced trauma and loss due to domestic violence and have been forced to leave their homes. You will have a good understanding of the impact of trauma and loss on children of different ages and experience of working with children and their mother's/carer's in a multi racial setting. NVQ Level 3 or equivalent is essential to this post.

Trainee Refuge Worker – South Asian 37.5 hours pw: Fixed Term Contract for One Year (Salary £18,342)

You will work with women who have fled domestic violence and are living in our refuges. You will provide individual support to women through our key working system and will also work with groups of women in the refuge. You will also work within the team to ensure the smooth running of the refuge.

We do not expect you to have experience of Supported Housing or specialist Domestic Violence services but an understanding of the client group is preferred. You will receive training to develop the skills necessary to deliver full support to clients.

Refuge Worker: 37.5 hours pw: (Salary £25,515 - £27,009)

We are looking for a dedicated Refuge Worker with a minimum of one year's relevant experience. You will join a committed team working to ensure the smooth running of the refuge.

You will provide individual support to women through our key working system and also work with groups of women in the refuge.

Section 5(2)d of the Race Relations Act 1976 and Section 7(2)e of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 apply.

The post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and subject to an enhanced CRB disclosure check.

For further information and application pack (we do not accept CVs) please email recruitment@solacewomensaid.org or call Maureen Giles on 020 7619 1350.

Closing Date: Thursday 14th July 2011 5.00 pm

Women Center

Women Together Therapeutic Project Worker

16 hours/week - Must be available to work Fridays

£ 24,646 pro rata

Women Centre is looking for a woman with experience of working with women seeking asylum as well as experience of holistic therapeutic approaches and project development to play key role in the delivery and development of the Women Together Project.

The Project is funded by Comic Relief and this post is funded until March 2013

To obtain a recruitment pack email rachel.cooling@womenscentre.org.uk

Closing date: Monday 11th July

Interviews: 20th or 21st July

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

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