

## The Lilith Project Women's Weekly News 370

24 September – 30 September 2011

### VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN LONDON

#### **Calls to Rape Crisis increased by 800% after soap episode**

A rape storyline aired on the soap film Coronation Street, has led to an unprecedented 800% rise in calls to a Rape Crisis charity. The charity had to take on extra volunteers to deal with the increased number of calls.

The episode, watched by 10 million viewers, showed a plot Carla Connor (played by Alison King) being attacked moments after calling her wedding off. The scene is said to have highlighted that women are most likely to be raped by someone they know.

Rosa Knight, Helpline Coordinator at Rape Crisis South London, said: "Though other programmes have run similar storylines, the response for the Coronation Street storyline has been like nothing we've experienced before.

"It is so important for mainstream shows to tackle these important issues in a well-researched way and it appears the programme makers worked hard to do just that."

She added: "That we have had such a huge increase in calls demonstrates that

women who have survived rape do need care and support - but they are not always aware of how to get it.

"We urge women who cannot get through not to give up. We will work our hardest to ensure your call for support is answered."

Source: [Click Manchester](#) 27 September 2011

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## **Website launched to support female students who experience violence**

A website called Hidden Marks has been launched by the National Union of Students (NUS) is a response to the Union's research report which revealed one in seven female students experience a serious physical or sexual assault during her time as a student.

The website is set up to support female students who have experienced any form of violence - rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, physical violence, stalking and/or sexual harassment.

It's intended to be a 'one-stop shop' for information on different support services that are available. It also provides free legal advice on different offences and states the pros and cons of reporting an incident to the police and what happens after reporting.

Hidden Marks also have a section on how to support a friend who has experienced violence as well as a campaign section where one could take actions to help end violence against female students.

Click [here](#) to view the website.

Click [here](#) to access the research report – *Hidden Mark - A study of women students' experiences of harassment, stalking, violence and sexual assault*

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## **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE UK**

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### **Women missing from the 2012 Olympics campaign**

Women are missing in the new "Great Britain" campaign which is thought to promote the national brand ahead of the 2012 Olympics.

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The £0.5million poster campaign, launched by David Cameron, aims to showcase the country's strong points, such as its heritage in sport, art, innovation and music. It is also hoped it may dispel the negative image created of the country following the riots in August.

However, out of the 10 posters of the campaign there are no female faces – just a mention of Adele on one poster and an image of a stiletto shoe on a poster which says “Shopping is Great Britain”.

Though, the spokesperson of the Department for Culture Media and Sport said: "The campaign is not about individuals it's about areas of British excellence and these are just a few of the very many examples in Britain, demonstrated by both men and women", the images are heavily one-sided.

The posters show an image of Sir Richard Branson to showcase entrepreneurs, image of male footballers to showcase sport and image of Henry VIII to showcase Britain's heritage.

Source: [Guardian](#) 22 September 2011  
[Marketing Week](#) 22 September 2011

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### **Man jailed for rape at knifepoint**

Gareth Hutchinson, 31, from Salford Manchester has been jailed for 10 years for raping and threatening to kill a woman he had spent the previous night with.

Liverpool Crown Court heard that Hutchinson and the woman had spent the night before the attack together at a friend's house before he left to go to a pub. When he returned he accused the victim of sleeping with one of the lodgers and attacked her.

The court heard that he tried to strangle her and put a pillow over her face and then put a knife inside her mouth. He threatened her that he would stab someone if she tells anyone about the attack.

Detective Constable Rob Kitchen said: "Hutchinson subjected his victim to an awful physical and sexual assault and while the physical injuries have cleared, the emotional scars will be with her for the rest of her life.

"Hutchinson has rightfully been put behind bars for a long time for what he has done to her. We take all reports of rape seriously and investigate thoroughly and without prejudice."

Hutchinson was found guilty of rape, attempted rape, two sexual assaults, making threats to kill and causing actual bodily harm.

The court also ordered that he sign the sex offenders register indefinitely.

Source: [BBC](#) 29 September 2011

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## INTERNATIONAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

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### **France: Group campaigning to abolish “anachronistic” title**

Campaign groups Osez le Féminisme and Chiennes de Garde are calling to abolish the use of the “anachronistic” title mademoiselle from all official documents and use madame as it is monsieur for a man.

The group say men are not asked to tick the box marked “Young, unmarried man” (damoiseau) so women should not be asked to tick a box marked “Young, unmarried woman”.

In a law dating from 1938 women have the right to be known as madame regardless of age or marital status but it is still a common practice to make a distinction.

Julie Muret from Osez le Féminisme said men were never asked if they were married if they wanted to get a credit card or a mobile phone; but women always are - with the question mademoiselle or madame on all forms. “It’s only women who are obliged to reveal this aspect of their private lives.”

The campaign groups have launched a website [www.madameoumadame.fr](http://www.madameoumadame.fr) and are urging women to download letters from the website to be sent to shops, companies and official departments to get details changed.

Source: [Connexion](#) 28 September 2011

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### **Mexico: Journalist woman decapitated body found**

Police found the decapitated body of Maria Elizabeth Macias Castro, 39, an editor of a Mexican newspaper, Primera Hora.

The attorney general's office in the northern Tamaulipas state said there was a note found next to the her body "attributed to a criminal group". The note allegedly states that she had been killed for writing on social media websites.

Earlier this month, attackers left threatening message about two websites on note left beside two mutilated bodies in northern Mexico.

One of the victims was a woman, left topless - hogtied and disemboweled. She was dangling by her feet and hands from a bridge in the border city of Nuevo Laredo. A man next to her was found hanging by his hand.

The notes left near their bodies declared that they were killed for posting denouncements of drug cartel activities.

The attorney general's office said: "The state government expresses its deepest condolences to the relatives and loved ones affected by these lamentable acts" and added that they are investigating the attacks.

Carlos Lauría, from the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) said: "We condemn the brutal killing of Maria Elizabeth Macías Castro and call on the federal government to conduct a thorough investigation to bring all those responsible to justice.

"This wave of unprecedented violence is endangering the constitutional rights of all Mexicans to freedom of expression and access to information."

Source: [CNN](#) 25 September 2011  
[CPJ](#) 26 September 2011

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## EVENTS

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### **Women's Health & Equality Consortium**

#### **FREE national conference**

**Date: 25 October 2011**

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

This **women-only conference** aims to engage with rationale concerning the wider debate of health for the women's sector, which will be useful for

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professionals working at all levels. The event will include a diverse group of speakers, and interactive workshops will focus on specific issues that may directly impact on your services and provide future growth and sustainability, to produce a day that is creative, exciting and influential!

Delegates will each receive a Lobbying Toolkit to aid promotion of services to government and commissioners, build on sustainable practices and increase confidence in engaging with the health agenda at a local and national level.

To book your free place at the conference, email [bookings@imkaan.org.uk](mailto:bookings@imkaan.org.uk).

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## DIRECT ACTIONS, CAMPAIGNS & RESOURCES

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### **Demand Facebook Remove Pages That Promote Sexual Violence**

The following are actual pages on Facebook: "Raping your mates girlfriend to see if she can put up a fight", "Kicking Sluts in the Vagina," "I know a silly little bitch that needs a good slap," and "Riding your Girlfriend softly, Cause you dont want to wake her up." These clearly are in violation of Facebook's own policies and need to be removed.

Facebook's own Terms of Service prohibit content that is "hateful, threatening," or contains "graphic or gratuitous violence" Moreover, users are specifically barred from posting content that aims to "bully, intimidate, or harass" any user.

Sign the petition [here](#).

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### **Ideas for new Health APP**

#### **Reducing Post Traumatic Stress Disorder after sexual assault**

Sexual violence affects hundreds of people EACH WEEK and 40% tell no one about it. This app would provide self help in the aftermath including access to services.

Patients can use the app in private and regain some control of their lives. The app could be used by women, men and young people and their loved ones. It would be structured in 3 parts - emergencies & getting help fast, PTSD symptoms & self help, and directory of support services.

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By recognising symptoms early and accessing support the longer term health impact of rape will be reduced. Healthcare professionals using the app will increase their understanding of the impact of rape and how to help manage the consequences.

**To Vote for this app submitted to the Department of Health by Marion Winterholler, Manager of Haven Paddington click [here](#).**

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## CONSULTATIONS

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### **Poppy Project**

#### **Trafficking Awareness and Training survey**

The Poppy Project is conducting a survey into the awareness levels and training needs of agencies and organisations that may be coming into contact with potential victims of trafficking. We would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete the survey.

**Complete the survey here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YJCYF7P>**

Organisations/ agencies that complete the questionnaire will be eligible for 25% discount on our London-based Trafficking Awareness workshops (usual cost £75 voluntary agencies/ £100 statutory agencies per individual) in November and December.

**For more details please email: [sally.montier@eaveshousing.co.uk](mailto:sally.montier@eaveshousing.co.uk)**

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### **Call for Evidence - Opportunity to contribute to London Sexual Violence Needs Assessment**

NHS London and the Metropolitan Police Service have commissioned MBARC and the Havens Research Fellow at King's College Hospital to complete a sexual violence needs assessment and we are writing to request your involvement in this important process.

We are writing to invite you to share any relevant evidence your organisation may have and the enclosed information sheet tells you more about:

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- the background to this work
- the type of evidence that may be useful to us
- how to contact us if you have any questions.

**We hope that you will be able to help us and would welcome your contribution by Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October.**

**Please do get in touch with Alasdair Stuart by e-mail at [alsadair.stuart@mbarc.co.uk](mailto:alsadair.stuart@mbarc.co.uk) or by phone on 020 7469-5730.**

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## TRAINING

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### Refugee Council

#### **Supporting women affected by sexual violence Wednesday 12th October, London**

This course is informed by the stories related to us by women 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 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.

The aim of this course is:

- To develop an understanding of the asylum system and its impact from the point of disclosure to later stages in the process
- To examine the effects of gender based violence from the individual, family and community perspectives
- To explore practical ways of overcoming barriers to accessing health and other services

**[Book this training course](#)**

**[Ask about the next available scheduled course](#)**

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**CWASU – London Metropolitan University**

## **Violence Against Women: Issues, research and policy - Starts 6th October 2011**

Our courses are aimed at professionals currently working in the statutory or voluntary sector who wish to:

- Conduct internal evaluation, monitoring and small scale research projects;
- Develop and extend specialist services dealing with child and/or woman abuse;
- Undertake policy development at a local, regional or national level where they have responsibility for delivering support and advocacy services, co-ordinating multi-agency for and/or improving the response of the criminal justice and/or health sectors
- Deliver government and/or agency policy commitments with respect to Safeguarding Children, addressing domestic violence, rape, FGM, forced marriage, sexual exploitation and other forms of violence against women.

**The course is delivered over 6 days;** the first two days will focus on a critical engagement with theories, definitions and research methods, including a historical overview of feminist theory in relation to violence against women. Subsequent sessions will explore specific forms of violence against women.

**Please contact Marcy O'Reilly for further details on costing and how to apply - [marcy.oreilly@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:marcy.oreilly@londonmet.ac.uk)**

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### **Rights of Women**

#### **Getting the basics: an introduction to family law**

**19 October 2011**

**1 day course, women only**

**London**

With the government's proposal to limit access to legal aid and to remove public funding for divorce and private law children matters, this one day course, which provides the basics of family law, is vital in order to give you the knowledge to help women to understand their rights and to assist them to access these through the law.

The morning session aims to clarify the law on divorce and financial relief including the legal process, the range of orders the court can make and the legal principals applied when deciding how property and money is to be divided. As well as explaining the legal position for women who are not married or in a civil partnership, further to relationship breakdown, including their rights to property.

The afternoon session will look at financial provision for children, followed by an overview of the Children Act 1989 and the law on child contact and residence.

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Finally, the course will examine how women experiencing domestic violence can get protection through the law including non-molestation, occupation orders, forced marriage protection orders and restraining orders.

### **Protecting children from domestic violence: children and the law**

**26 October 2011**

**1 day course, women only**

**London**

This one day course will enable you to support survivors of domestic violence by helping you to understand and clarify the complex public and private law that relates to children.

The morning session will investigate the key concept of parental responsibility and then focus on local authority involvement with children in domestic violence cases, explaining care and supervision proceedings, adoption and special guardianship. In the afternoon we will focus on the law on contact and residence, with a focus on the court's approach to domestic violence and child contact. We will then examine the practice and procedure of contact proceedings and clarify the new enforcement procedures brought about by the Children and Adoption Act 2006.

#### **Costs:**

Small voluntary sector organisation (income less than £250k) - £75

Voluntary sector organisation (income between £250 and £500k) - £100

All other organisations - £125

**For further details: [www.rightsofwomen.org.uk/training.php](http://www.rightsofwomen.org.uk/training.php) or contact the Training Officer: [training@row.org.uk](mailto:training@row.org.uk) 0207 251 6575**

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## **Eaves**

### **Workshops! Prostitution, exit strategies and good practice in supporting women**

We are running a series of workshops for borough-level statutory agencies and voluntary service providers who focus on prostitution. The aim is to equip attendees with the knowledge required to assist individuals who want to leave prostitution – including victims of trafficking – through facilitating access to appropriate services. Workshops will be run over a day and a half and attendees are expected to attend both days.

**The training costs £150 (statutory agencies) or £110 (voluntary agencies).**

#### **Workshop content**

Day 1– awareness-raising

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[www.twitter.com/EavesCharity](http://www.twitter.com/EavesCharity)

Prostitution: facts and figures • UK and global context • services and prevention  
Day 2 – best practice  
Local context • legislation • case studies with guest speakers (details below) •  
taking action on exiting – how to improve your borough's response

### **Dates**

**18-19 October 2011**

**23-24 November 2011**

**30 November – 01 December**

Lunch and refreshments included.

### **Who should attend?**

Anyone in the statutory, voluntary or community sectors in contact with women in

- prostitution but not (currently) offering a specialised support service
- service managers and commissioners from all sectors who are seeking to improve/strengthen their service responses to women in prostitution.

**For further information, to find out if you're eligible to attend or to book a place, please contact Lisa Reynolds on 020 7840 7103 or [lisa.reynolds@eaveshousing.co.uk](mailto:lisa.reynolds@eaveshousing.co.uk)**

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### **Tender's Training update**

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

**Dates: Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:dorota@tender.org.uk); 0207 431 7227**

**VACANCIES AND VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES**

## **Standing Together**

### **Office and data administrator**

**Salary: £22,920 (includes ILW) Local Govt Scale 5 Point 22**

**Closing Date: 24<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

This full time role will focus on administrative tasks within our office and includes the role of data collection and collation. This role requires: experience of administrative functions, administration skills and an understanding of data inputting and collation

Within this role will be an expectation that the individual can multi- task, be inter-personally effective (telephone and email) and be able to use MS Office. The post will also be expected to support other team members in their work, for example the arrangement of events, managing meetings etc

**Interview date: 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2011**

**Application packs are available on [www.standingtogether.org.uk](http://www.standingtogether.org.uk)**

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## **Camden HealthWatch**

### **Community Development Officer - 12 month contract**

**Salary range: £35,055 to £37,851 pa**

**Closing Date: Noon Friday 7 October 2011**

As the HealthWatch Community Development Officer you will engage with the local community in Camden to gather views and inform the development of a local HealthWatch. You will support Camden LINK's transition to a local HealthWatch by supporting volunteers to develop the necessary skills and capacity required of HealthWatch. You will also support Camden LINK in its role to provide a voice for patients and users of social care in influencing how services are commissioned and provided.

**To apply and for more information contact Fung-Yee Lee on [fung-ye.lee@camden.gov.uk](mailto:fung-ye.lee@camden.gov.uk)**

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## **Her Centre**

### **Independent Sexual Violence Advisor post**

**£26,401 SO1 inc. OLW pro rata, for 14 hours a week (£10,560 per annum)**

**Closing date: 7<sup>th</sup> October at 5PM**

You will provide a pro-active service to women victims of sexual violence within and outside of the criminal justice system, which will involve carrying out risk assessments, helping clients access their rights, along with health & other services they require, monitoring and keeping clients informed of case progress and providing support through the criminal justice system.

With experience of working with vulnerable women, you will have strong crisis management skills and an understanding of the needs of victims of sexual violence. Excellent communication skills and knowledge of criminal justice issues are essential.

Based in Woolwich SE18 but will require travel across Greenwich borough.

**If you wish to apply for this post, please contact Stacy Smith on [Stacy@hercentre.org](mailto:Stacy@hercentre.org) for an application form.**

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## **Solace Women's Aid**

### **Senior Refuge Manager**

**Closing Date: 03 October 2011**

**Salary: £38,733 - £41,340 pa including 3% pension contribution and other benefits**

We currently run a range of refuge services with linked projects across London and are seeking a senior manager to lead these services. You will also take the lead in our work in one of our Boroughs of operation. We are currently undergoing a transformation involving a restructuring of our staff team and we are seeking a Senior Refuge Manager with expertise in domestic and sexual violence services and a sophisticated approach to working with multiple stakeholders.

As Senior Refuge Manager you will lead a multi disciplinary staff team of 30 staff and 20 volunteers. The Senior Refuge Manager is a significant new role, which will draw together all our accommodation based services under single leadership and direction. This will include a range of development and support work, quality assurance functions, service development, and project management. We are seeking a high calibre individual who can lead the refuge team and has a very strong track record of high quality service delivery with service user and stakeholder involvement.

You will provide leadership to a geographically dispersed team and will need to demonstrate excellent influencing and networking skills in a multi-stakeholder environment. Solace Women's Aid values diversity, promotes equality and

challenges discrimination. We encourage and welcome applications from people of all backgrounds.

**For information & application pack (we do not accept CVs) email [recruitment@solacewomensaid.org](mailto:recruitment@solacewomensaid.org) or ring Maureen Giles or Pat Shillong on 0207 619 1350.**

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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*



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