

## The Lilith Project Women's Weekly News 270

22 – 28 August 2009

### Violence against women in London

#### **Stamford Hill: rapist sentenced**

A man convicted of physically assaulting and raping a woman has been given a life sentence for the attack.

Owen Ali-Balogun, 28, was convicted of attacking the 43-year-old woman in December last year. Ali-Balogun took the woman, who was working in prostitution, into a small park just off Seven Sisters Road where he began to touch her. When she tried to stop him, he knocked her unconscious and then raped her.

Ali-Balogun was given a life sentence last Thursday, and told he will not be considered for release for at least eight years.

Source: [Hackney Gazette](#) 26 August 2009

#### **Buckinghamshire PCT: quality of life based on your appearance**

Bosses at Buckinghamshire's NHS Primary Care Trust have elected to change their funding policy, moving cosmetic surgery further up the priority list, while announcing they would be "unlikely" to fund new drugs not already approved by national bodies.

The announcement, made this week, is likely to increase the controversy around the Trust's decision not to fund potentially life-saving drugs such as Herceptin for breast cancer sufferers or offer 'top-ups' to enable NHS patients to access the drugs through part-private treatment.

However, breast enlargement operations have had their "low priority" status removed, with the Trust deciding that such operations "[are] the most appropriate mechanism to achieve improvement of the patient's health status." The Trust also announced that nose jobs, liposuction and buttock lifts could also be funded "in exceptional circumstances" under the new policy. To date, the funding policy considered breast enlargement and reduction operations "low priority due to limited evidence of clinical need and/or clinical benefit." Dr Paul Robin, chief executive of the Berks, Bucks & Oxon Local Medical Committee, which represents GPs in the area, said: "Some GPs feel the NHS is about

improving quality of life rather than length of life and your appearance is your quality of life.”

Matthew Elliot, chief executive of the Taxpayers’ Alliance, which campaigns for better public spending, said: “With the NHS strapped for cash, it is essential that they have the right priorities. A lot of people will be deeply concerned that plastic surgery is being made available to people at a time when cancer sufferers are being told there isn’t enough money for potentially life-saving drugs.”

Evidently, NHS doctors in Buckinghamshire are not among them.

Source: [This is Local London](#) 28 August 2009

## Violence against women in the UK

### **Lancashire:**

A former mayor has been charged with stealing women’s underwear.

Ian Stafford, 58, was mayor of the Lancashire town of Preesall at the time the incidents took place. He has been charged with three counts of burglary after breaking into houses in Preesall, Poulton-le-Fylde and Stalmine between January and June and stealing women’s lingerie.

Stafford, who resigned from his position following his arrest in June, is due to appear before Wyre Magistrate’s Court on 14 September.

Source: [BBC News](#) 25 August 2009

### **Devon: Police officer admits harassing woman**

A policeman who became “infatuated” with a woman placed in his care has admitted “recklessly obtaining information” about her from police files and will now face an internal disciplinary hearing.

At Plymouth Magistrates Court this week, PC Paul Meseg, 50, admitted obtaining information from Devon and Cornwall Police files about the woman 96 times in less than a year, as well as checking her phone records to see who she had been in contact with and calling her from a phone he thought could not be traced,. He was fined £550 and will now go before a police disciplinary board.

Meseg met his victim in 2005 when he was working as an addiction and harm reduction officer and the woman was arrested for possessing heroin and driving under the influence of drugs. A harassment complaint was made against him at the time, at which point he admitted “being obsessed” with the woman and was transferred to a new job. However he continued trying to contact and find out information about the woman until his arrest in July last year.

The result of the disciplinary hearing will determine the future of his police career.

Source: [BBC News](#) 24 August 2009

### **Edinburgh: “folly” of man who abused position of trust to have sex with girls in his care**

A 27-year-old man who abused his position of trust at a boarding school in Edinburgh has been placed on probation for three years in lieu of a custodial sentence after he admitted having sex with a 16-year-old girl in his care and grooming and sexually abusing a 15-year-old.

Ryan Deneven-Lewis, from Leeds, met the two girls when working as a deputy house parent at St Mary’s Music School in Edinburgh between September 2005 and July 2006, where he was responsible for the general supervision and pastoral care of the pupils. Edinburgh Sheriff Court heard how he would text and play pool with the girls in the evening, progressing from “playfulness” to sexual behaviour with the 15-year-old. He began to kiss and sexually touch the girl before persuading her to perform sex acts on him.

After three months Deneven-Lewis began to “distance himself” from the girl, and began texting a 16-year-old girl, with whom he then began a sexual relationship. The abuse emerged after it was reported on social networking sites.

Deneven-Lewis pleaded guilty to using lewd, libidinous and indecent practices and behaviour towards a 15-year-old and to having sexual intercourse with a 16-year-old while in a position of trust. Despite the severity of the charges, Sheriff Deirdre MacNeill chose not to impose a custodial sentence, deciding: “I am not considering prison as he has lost a considerable amount as a result of this folly. He has lost his job and his credibility and there is no bigger sentence.”

Source: [BBC News](#) 25 August 2009, [The Sun](#) 26 August 2009

## **International violence against women**

### **US: missing girl found after 18 years**

Jaycee Dugard, who was kidnapped from a school bus stop in 1991, has been found in California.

Ms Dugard, who was 11 at the time of her abduction, was seen by her stepfather being dragged kicking and screaming into a grey car by a man and a woman. Despite every effort to recover her, she could not be found.

The events which led to her discovery began on Tuesday, when her male kidnapper, Phillip Garrido, a convicted sex offender, was seen on the campus of the University of California, Berkley, with two children, trying to hand out religious flyers. Suspicions were raised because a condition of Mr Garrido’s lifetime probation is that he must not associate with children.

At the subsequent interview with his probation officer, Mr Garrido was accompanied by his wife, Nancy Garrido, two children aged 11 and 15 and a woman he called Allissa. As the interview progressed it became clear that this woman was in fact Jaycee Dugard.

Police allege that Mr and Mrs Garrido kidnapped Ms Dugard from her hometown in California and then hid her away in a concealed backyard at their home, where she has lived, in tents, ever since. It is believed that Mr Garrido also fathered the two children with Ms Dugard, the first of whom she gave birth to at the age of 14.

Both Mr and Mrs Garrido are in custody and face various kidnapping and sex offence charges in relation to Ms Dugard's disappearance.

Mr Garrido, who neighbours say had become religiously fanatical in recent years, gave a bizarre and at times incoherent phone interview to KCRA-TV from El Dorado County jail where he is being detained. During the course of the interview Mr Garrido did not admit to kidnap, but rather stated "Wait until you hear the story of what took place at this house...You are going to be completely impressed." While he stated that what took place in the beginning was "disgusting," he went on to say that he had turned his life around and concluded "You're going to find the most powerful heart-warming story."

Ms Dugard, who has undergone DNA testing to confirm her identity, has been reunited with her family. While neither she nor her children have ever been to school or the doctor, Ms Dugard is said to be remarkably healthy considering her living conditions and the trauma she has been through.

Source: Telegraph 28 August 2009

### **US: Singer Brown sentenced for attack on Rihanna**

US singer Chris Brown was sentenced this week for assaulting pop star Rihanna.

Brown, 20, who eventually pleaded guilty in June, attacked his then girlfriend Rihanna before the Grammy awards in Los Angeles in February. The pair got into a fight after Rihanna found a text message from another woman on Brown's phone. He then dragged the singer out of the Lamborghini they had rented, pushed her head up against the passenger window and repeatedly punched her in the face.

Brown has been sentenced to a term of physical labour, a 52-week domestic violence counselling course, a \$2,500 fine (approximately £1,500) and must stay 100 yards away from his ex-girlfriend for the next five years. The labour will include clearing rubbish, washing cars and grounds clearing.

The singer has issued a video apology on his website where he stated that his conduct was "inexcusable." He has also allegedly repeatedly apologised to Rihanna.

Source: BBC News 25 August 2009

## Events, Campaigns and Direct Action

**URGENT: Motion P73 by Equity seeks to undermine the campaign to stop lap dancing clubs being licensed like cafes. Oppose Motion P73 at TUC Congress.**

Motion P73 requires TUC Congress to go against the OBJECT ([www.object.org.uk](http://www.object.org.uk)) and Fawcett ([www.fawcettsociety.org.uk](http://www.fawcettsociety.org.uk)) campaign to stop lap dancing clubs being licensed like cafes.

It is crucial that motion P73 is opposed and that TUC affiliated unions support measures to close the loophole in the 2003 Licensing Act, which has led to the number of lap dancing clubs doubling over the last 4 years.

Lap dancing clubs are part of the sex industry, not the leisure industry and this needs to be reflected in how they are licensed.

Lap dancing clubs normalise the sexual objectification of women, create 'no go' areas for women and are a form of commercial sexual exploitation – Read testimonies of women who have worked in the industry [here](#).

The Equity motion is concerned that the new licensing regime will require clubs to pay a licensing fee of up to £30 000. This is an issue for club owners and should not be placed above the need for better regulation of the industry.

Contrary to Equity's claims, a new licensing regime is necessary to ensure that issues relating to gender equality and the rights of women both inside and outside of the clubs can be taken into consideration in the licensing process.

This will allow for better organisation of the industry and will give people a better say in the licensing of lap dancing clubs.

This campaign has mobilized women from the industry, trade unions, students, women's organizations and members of the public - with **10,000 signatures** handed in to Number 10 Downing Street calling for the government to introduce tougher licensing laws for lap dancing clubs.

Don't let motion P73 align the TUC with the interests of the industry over the struggle against the mainstreaming of commercial sexual exploitation.

**Please forward this information to all delegates to the TUC Congress and ensure that motion P73 is opposed.**

Email [anna@object.org.uk](mailto:anna@object.org.uk) if you have any further questions.

**NB For further information about the OBJECT and Fawcett campaign, visit <http://www.object.org.uk/index.php/campaigns/about-the-campaign>**

**Book release: *Violence Against Women in South Asian Communities: Issues for Policy and Practice***

Edited by Ravi K Thiara and Aisha K Gill

Foreword by Professor Liz Kelly CBE

This book draws on the expertise of leading practitioners and researchers, and the extensive knowledge of the editors, to delve into the theoretical and practical issues behind violence against women in South Asian communities.

The book provides a vital contribution to the debates on policy, research and service provision, looking beyond forced marriage and 'honour-based' violence into the complex interaction of religion and culture that create intersecting forms of violence against women. It ends by proposing ways of improving services for survivors from different racial and cultural backgrounds

*Violence Against Women in South Asian Communities* will be of far-reaching use to professional academics, researchers, students, policy makers, practitioners and anyone concerned with gendered violence within South Asian communities.

Available from October from [Jessica Kingsley Publishers](#) £25.00

**Prostitution is Exploitation – Stop the Demand!  
Support the Eaves and OBJECT *Demand Change!* Campaign.**

On 24 June Eaves and OBJECT launched their joint campaign *Demand Change!* during a high profile event at the House of Commons. *Demand Change!* calls on the Government to fulfil its multiple international and domestic obligations to tackle the demand for prostitution.

The key aims of the *Demand Change!* Campaign are:

- to promote an increased understanding of the myths and realities surrounding prostitution
- to call for prostitution to be seen and widely understood as a form of violence against women
- to lobby for adoption of the 'Nordic model' of tackling demand and decriminalising women in prostitution.

**Get involved:**

- Sign this [online petition](#) to tackle demand for prostitution and circulate the link widely;
- Send this template **lobbying letter** to your MP ([word doc](#));
- Download this [petition](#) to use in your community / workplace etc;
- Download **campaign posters** to spread the word [here](#) (green version) and [here](#) (black version).

To find out more please visit the campaign [website](#).

**East London Pilot  
RSL Domestic Violence Reciprocal Agreement**

RSLs in the east London sub region have joined together to assist their tenants who need to flee from their home. The purpose of the pilot RSL DV Reciprocal

Agreement is to establish a mutually supportive framework through which the partner RSLs can work together to rehouse tenants who are experiencing domestic violence and need to move home.

The RSL DV Reciprocal pilot is intended to assist tenants of the participating RSLs subjected to domestic violence, regardless of gender, where there are safety issues and/or child protection concerns and where there are threats of violence, where a person has been subjected to violence (as defined by the Second London Domestic Violence Strategy, GLA, 2005) and there is a likelihood of further violence and the survivors address is known to the perpetrator.

The RSL DV Reciprocal Agreement is intended to increase safe options, offer choice and an alternative to the homelessness route and potentially long spells in temporary accommodation. The agreement is subject to the constraints of availability, to locate suitable alternative accommodation within a mutually agreed location and is subject to the policies and procedures of the participating RSLs.

Where an RSL tenant approaches with a request to move from their accommodation because of the threat and fear of domestic violence the RSL will conduct a risk assessment with the survivor and will attempt to transfer the household from within their own stock.

Where this is not possible a request for alternative accommodation will be sent to partner RSLs with stock in the area/s where the tenant has indicated that they will be safe. Where ever possible the area/s requested should be as wide as possible to maximise the chances of successful outcome.

All referrals will be subject to the policies and procedures of the RSLs. Where it is not possible to provide alternative accommodation the RSL will work with the survivor to discuss housing options, with safety being the primary concern.

The RSL DV Reciprocal Agreement is open to the tenants of the participating RSLs which are at the time of writing Community Based Housing Association, East Thames, London and Quadrant, Metropolitan Housing Trust, One Housing Group, Peabody, Southern Housing Group and Swan.

Applicants might, for safety at the time of application, be staying with family or friends, in temporary accommodation or in a womens refuge, however their existing tenancy must be with one of the participating RSLs and in the east London sub region. The east London sub region comprises the boroughs **Barking and Dagenham, City of London, Hackney, Havering, Newham, Tower Hamlets, Redbridge and Waltham Forest.**

To discuss an RSL DV Reciprocal contact the named person in the tenants RSL. Details of the named contacts for each of the RSLs are on the Homelessness Project Area of the East London Housing Partnership (ELHP) web site at [www.elhp.org.uk](http://www.elhp.org.uk).

For further information contact the ELHP Homelessness Coordinator Margaret Williams [Margaret.Williams@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:Margaret.Williams@lbbd.gov.uk) or telephone 07772221482

### **Give the women of Europe the right to free abortion!**

Do you want to put pressure on the European power holders? Join thousands of others in collecting one million signatures for the right to free abortion. Sign the **Make Noise for Free Choice** petition.

### **Justice now! Ratify to protect all human rights**

On December 10th, 2008, the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the UN General Assembly adopted the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP or Optional Protocol). By adopting this long awaited instrument, the General Assembly has corrected historic imbalances, strongly reaffirmed the universality, indivisibility and inter-dependence of all human rights, but most importantly, has created the possibility for millions who suffer from social and economic rights' violations to find redress at the international level.

Once the Optional Protocol (OP) enters into force, it will allow women, children, migrants, Indigenous peoples and anyone whose economic, social and cultural rights have been violated to present a complaint before the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the United Nations independent body of experts responsible for supervising State compliance with all the rights protected in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The NGO Coalition has drafted a petition asking governments to support the OP and sign it on September 24, with ratification following as soon as possible. Show your support and urge governments to join the OP by **signing the petition** and asking others to do the same!

### **The Week of Peace Awards 2009**

The Peace Alliance and the Week of Peace are excited to announce this years Peace Awards nominations. The awards are a celebration and recognition of individuals and organisations who through various initiatives and projects have positively contributed to the peace and safety of London. We are presently encouraging you and all our partners and their networks to identify and nominate peace champions in their communities.

Please find below a link for this years categories and the nomination form:

<http://weekofpeace.org.uk/resources/AwardsFormFinal.pdf>

### **The Peace Awards Fundraising Dinner**

This year the London week of Peace Awards and Fundraising Dinner will be held on **Wednesday 23rd September 2009** at the **Renaissance Chancery Court Hotel**, Holborn. The **Attorney General Baroness Patricia Scotland QC** will be the guest of Honour along with other distinguished guests.

This black tie event will feature a drinks reception, a three course dinner, exciting auction prizes, live entertainment and an opportunity to network with like-minded people who are making a difference in the Capital.

### **Purchasing Tickets**

Tickets are now available for purchase at £100 per person or £1000 for a table of ten with monies raised going towards the Peace Fund. The Peace Fund was instrumental in funding numerous initiatives across London some of which are cited in the 2008 Report. (Please see the 2008 Report [The Week of Peace website](#) for further information).

Please send in your nominations and confirm attendance for the dinner as seats are limited.

For more information about this year's Week of Peace please visit the [website](#).

**Women's Resource Centre** are conducting a very brief survey on the needs of Voluntary and Community Organisations that are either currently supporting girls/women affected by gang and serious youth violence or are in gangs themselves, OR want to do so in the future.

The survey closes 31 August 2009 and ROTA will use the findings in their scheduled meetings with public bodies in September through to November.

Please follow this link to complete the survey:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=sK9Z2W0FsrtuFmzITgKapw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=sK9Z2W0FsrtuFmzITgKapw_3d_3d)

### **NSPCC: Teenage partner violence in intimate relationships: Findings from new research in the UK and implications for practice**

**Date and time:** Wednesday 2 September 2009, 9.30am – 5pm

**Venue:** Huxley Suite, ZSL London Zoo, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY

This is the first major research study in the UK on the important topic of violence to young people by their partners – what is sometimes called 'teenage dating violence'. Rates of physical, sexual and emotional violence to girls by, particularly older, boyfriends were discovered to be worryingly high. The findings have important implications for child welfare and wider policy. The event will include practice-focused workshops for professionals and an opportunity to share knowledge about how to make use of the research findings to better support young people.

Further information, including a detailed programme about the conference can be found on [Inform](#).

To book a place or for further information please contact Charlotte Moss by email at [eventsorganiser@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:eventsorganiser@nspcc.org.uk)

**NSPCC: Working together to safeguard children living with domestic violence**

**Date and time:** Wednesday 23 September 2009, 9.30am - 5pm.

**Venue:** Huxley Suite, ZSL London Zoo, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY

This one-day conference will launch a landmark research report – Children and families experiencing domestic violence: police and children's services' responses. The research, conducted by Nicky Stanley and colleagues at the University of Central Lancashire, is the first in-depth UK study of police notifications of domestic violence incidents involving children to children's social work services.

Find out more about Working together to safeguard children living with domestic violence on [Inform](#).

Please forward this invitation, as appropriate, to members of your team and/or professional contacts who you think would be interested in attending.

To book a place or for further information please contact Charlotte Moss by email at [eventsorganiser@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:eventsorganiser@nspcc.org.uk)

**NSPCC: Promoting safe sexual cultures in education settings – Preventing sexual bullying**

**A national one day conference for all staff working in education settings to explore approaches to prevent sexual bullying among children and young people.**

**Date and time:** Friday 2 October 2009, 9am – 4.30pm.

**Venue:** Inmarsat Conference Centre, 99 City Road, London EC1Y 1AX.

With the rising problem of sexual bullying in education, this conference is essential for all those working in education settings.

Delegates will hear of the impact of sexual bullying on the lives of children and young people and professionals working in the education sector and how positive steps can be taken to address this issue.

Presentations from key national and local projects will illustrate how best to support children and young people in developing safe, respectful sexual relationships and create a culture where sexual bullying and coercive sexual relationships will not be accepted.

You will be able to:

- identify activities that promote safe sexual cultures in education settings
- recognise, respond to and manage sexual bullying in education settings
- contribute to the establishment of a national agenda for future action against sexual bullying.

Speakers include:

- **Julie Bentley** (chief executive, Family Planning Association) - Chair
- **Baroness Morgan of Drefelin** (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children, Young People and Families) - tbc

- **Max Hyde** (National Union of Teachers [NUT] executive member and vice chair, Education, Equalities and Professional Development Committee)
- **Dr Elly Farmer** (chartered clinical psychologist, NSPCC)
- **Hannah White** (UK programme and policy manager, WOMANKIND Worldwide).

**Registration fees:** Delegate fee £150. Vegetarian food will be provided. If you have any specific dietary or access requirements please let us know five weeks before the event.

**[Download a flyer and booking form for this event \(PDF, 264KB\)](#)**

For further information about this event, please contact Radha Singh (NSPCC events officer) on 020 7825 2760 or email [eventsorganiser@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:eventsorganiser@nspcc.org.uk)

**Bright Ideas Conference: *Creative ways of implementing the Improving Safety and Reducing Harm - Children, Young People and Domestic Violence toolkit.***

The Greater London Domestic Violence Project is holding a unique event comprising a selection of practical, active and fun sessions for frontline workers to experiment new ways of working with children and young people who are affected by violence. Each session is based on an aspect of the new Department of Health and GLDVP toolkit: Improving Safety and Reducing Harm - Children, Young People and Domestic Violence.

**This will not be a typical conference! Participants will learn and develop skills in an innovative, unique and enjoyable way!**

**Who should attend?**

This event is aimed primarily at frontline practitioners across all sectors that work directly with children and young people where domestic violence is an issue in their lives, whether at home or in their own relationships.

**Participants will have the opportunity to:**

- Learn and develop new skills such as art therapy
- Hear from young people directly about their experiences
- Explore different ways of working with young people
- Network with each other in dynamic and creative ways
- Benefit from 'caring for carers' and therapeutic interventions.

**Where?**

Shoreditch Town Hall  
380 Old Street, London EC1V 9LT

Map and detailed travel information will be sent to participants upon booking.

**Each participant will receive** a free copy of the new Improving Safety and Reducing Harm - Children, Young People and Domestic Violence Toolkit.

**When?**

Tuesday 15th September 2009, 9am until 4.30pm

**Conference costs:**

The early bird catches the worm...

£119/£129 vol/stat if your booking form is received before the end of July.

£139/£159 vol/stat price thereafter.

How to get your booking form: email [cypconference@gldvp.org.uk](mailto:cypconference@gldvp.org.uk) or download from the Greater London Domestic Violence Project [www.gldvp.org.uk](http://www.gldvp.org.uk)

**Irish Travelling Women and Domestic Violence – Meeting Needs and Challenging Prejudices**

Solace Women's Aid has been working with Irish Travelling women affected by domestic violence for 15 years and is hosting a conference on October 22nd in London to raise awareness of domestic violence within this vulnerable community and identify best practice.

This group of women and children are amongst the most marginalised in the country and severe prejudices exist in many agencies creating life threatening barriers to support.

*"I came to the Irish refuge 2 months ago with my 5 boys. We had to get away. My boys had never even been to a cinema before. We just never went. He'd never let me go out on my own with the children"*

**Solace Women's Aid Service User**

In a MORI poll over a third of all adults admitted to being prejudiced against Irish Travellers and Gypsies – this is a higher level of prejudice than against any other ethnic group. There are over 300,000 Irish Travellers and Gypsies living in the UK and a small research study conducted in 2007 showed that 81% of women in an Irish Traveller community had experienced domestic violence.

*"It's alright here; it's the best refuge I've been in so far. I felt left out in other refuges. The workers have been supportive. I think it's important to have a refuge where Travellers are welcome. It's the longest I've ever stayed away. Why should I go back to be tortured?"*

**Solace Women's Aid Service User**

**Conference Speakers:**

- **Professor Judith Okely**, Author and Anthropologist – Hull and Oxford Universities
- **Davina James-Hanman**, Director, Greater London Domestic Violence Project
- **Mary Mason and Bernie O'Roarke** – Solace Women's Aid
- **Michelle Morgan**, Central and Cecil Incorporating Cara Irish Housing
- **Father Joe Brown**, Irish Traveller Movement
- **Sarah Mann**, Friends, Families and Travellers
- **Irish Traveller Survivors of Domestic Violence** – Telling Their Stories.

Through workshops, discussion and presentations the conference aims to raise awareness of the needs of Irish Traveller women and identify best practice and opportunities for change.

**Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009, 09:45 am – 4:30pm**

**Venue: London Irish Centre, 52, Camden Square, London NW1 9XB.**

Suggested delegates: Health, social work and criminal justice practitioners, police, domestic violence support workers, policy makers and local authorities.

**For info contact: Maureen Giles 0207 428 7656.**

**Delegate Fee: Only £60. Lunch provided.**

**CIS'ters Annual Conference: Alcohol and drug misuse as a coping strategy for victims/survivors of sexual violence and/or sexual abuse (including co-dependency and dual diagnosis)**

This event is suitable for all those who provide support to, or work with, children/teenagers/adults who have been or are at risk of sexual violence and/or sexual abuse.

Fee: £100 per delegate (early bird rate of £80 – if booked prior to 1 September 2009)

Saturday 7 November 2009 – 9.30 registration, starts 10am, finishes 4.30pm

For more information, and to request a booking form, contact Gillian Finch on 023 80 338080 or email [admin@cisters.org.uk](mailto:admin@cisters.org.uk)

## Training

**Free! – DIY workshops for unemployed women**

Women and Manual Trades (WAMT) are working in partnership with Tower Hamlets Homes to run two FREE one-day DIY workshops on 28th or 29<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

These workshops are open to women who are unemployed and living in the 5 Olympic Host Boroughs (Hackney, Waltham Forest, Newham, Tower Hamlets, and Greenwich).

Women interested in joining us can register online at our website – [www.wamt.org/events](http://www.wamt.org/events) or contact us at WAMT on **020 7251 9192**

**CIS'ters Training Seminar: How to listen so children will talk**

Children and young people try to talk or to communicate in different ways, many of them not including speech. Adults need to be able to be with a child in away that enables the child or young person to feel comfortable and be heard on many levels. It should not be the child or young person's fault if the adult fails in this and the child or young person is not able to tell or be heard.

This seminar will include information about how children and young people tell, what stops children and young people telling, neurobiology, blame, shame

'telling' behaviours and attachment. This will include how to listen when a child or young person has no speech.

**Who should attend?**

This seminar will benefit anyone who works with or cares for children and young people, whether a parent or professional. It will be particularly useful for: social workers, teachers, police, staff working within CAMHs or Connexions or SureStart or Youth Advisory Services, child protection leads/agencies, psychotherapists, psychologists, psychiatrists and counsellors working within the statutory and non-statutory sector.

**About the trainer**

Norma Howes is a social worker, child forensic psychologist and sensorimotor psychotherapist. Norma is involved in training police, social workers, health and education staff on all aspects of childhood trauma and abuse. She has a private practice working with adults and children, most of whom have experienced severe childhood trauma. She has worked in the field of trauma, mental health and dissociation for more than twenty years and has researched the impact of dissociation on memory and the implications this has for both civil and criminal court proceedings. Norma was also a member of a child trauma team one day a week for twelve years where she was involved in both assessment and therapeutic services for children who had experienced Type 1 and Type 2 trauma. She has a special interest in the impact of trauma, abuse and dissociation on attachment and consequent behaviours following child abuse and domestic violence.

**Cost:** £75 per person

**Cancellation:**

Cancellations received in writing before 18 December 2009 will be entitled to a 75% refund. We regret that we cannot provide refunds after this date as we will be committed financially.

**Programme alteration:**

We will endeavour to notify all delegates in advance should there be any unexpected change to the programme.

**When?**

Wednesday 27 January 2010, registration 9.30, starts at 10am, finishes at 4.30pm

**Where?**

Eastpoint Centre, Burgoyne Road, Southampton SO19 6PB

For more information, and to request a booking form, telephone 023 80 338080 or email [admin@cisters.org.uk](mailto:admin@cisters.org.uk) or [gfinch@cisters.org.uk](mailto:gfinch@cisters.org.uk)

**C.I.S. Training Course: 3 linked workshops (9.30am-4pm)**

**Session 1** – Thursday 11 March 2010

What is sexual abuse?

Prevalence

Myths and stereotypes  
Abuser theories  
Prevention and detention

**Session 2** – Thursday 25 March 2010

Survival skills (including self-harm)  
Counting the losses  
Crime and memory

**Session 3** – Thursday 22 April 2010

Managing disclosures (adult survivors)  
Retraumatism/revictimisation  
Unresolved issues  
The reality of letting go

**Target audience:**

All sectors. Individuals working with/supporting child victims or adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

The workshops are linked, providing delegates with an opportunity to discuss/explore core issues.

*The training team will include survivors*

Fee: £150. Lunch is *not* provided.

Venue: Eastleigh, Hampshire

For more information or to request a booking form, telephone 023 80 338080 or email [admin@cisters.org.uk](mailto:admin@cisters.org.uk)

## Vacancies

### **Mosac Volunteer Opportunities**

Mosac supports non abusing parents and carers of sexually abused children. We provide a range of free services to enable parents/carers to rebuild confidence, alleviate isolation and to assist both parents/carers and their children to achieve an improved quality of life.

An integral element all the services are our volunteers, who provide us with their valuable time to deliver our aims and objectives. We at Mosac recognise and value the wide and diverse range of skills and experiences that volunteers can bring to support our services.

We are now developing a *new* London wide Outreach Advocacy Service and Outreach Befriending Service at Mosac for non abusing parents/carers of sexually abused children. It's an exciting time for us as we are growing and need more volunteers to support and develop our work. We are taking on volunteers for different roles:

- Advocate Volunteer
- Befriending Volunteer

- Counselling Volunteer
- Helpline Volunteer
- Play Therapy Volunteer.

To become a Mosac volunteer every volunteer has to successfully complete a short training specific to their role, which covers signs and symptoms of sexual abuse, manipulation and the grooming process, understanding CSA within the family, introduction to safeguarding children, and other areas specific to the role.

If you are interested in supporting non abusing parents and carers of sexually abused children and volunteering with us in any of the roles listed above, then please have a look at the application pack on the Mosac website at: [http://www.mosac.org.uk/mosac/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=42&Itemid=72](http://www.mosac.org.uk/mosac/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=42&Itemid=72) , which includes the list of the training dates, role description and application form.

Please complete and return the application form no later than **9<sup>th</sup> September 2009**. Or telephone 020 8293 8582 for more information.

We also aim to recruit, but not exclusively, up to ten volunteers that can speak any of the following languages: Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi, Somali and Urdu.

Whilst membership of Mosac is open to all supporters of its aims and objectives, volunteering at Mosac is open to female volunteers only (in line with the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 (Part 2 (2) (E))).

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

The WNC is seeking up to five new Commissioners to join its Board. All candidates should have a strong understanding of gender and equality issues. They will need to demonstrate knowledgeable perspectives and the ability to provide impartial, balanced views and advice on a range of sensitive and complex issues central to women's experiences in the 21st century. This experience may have been gained in the public, private or voluntary sector on a local, national or international stage.

In particular, the WNC is looking to appoint new Commissioners who have an excellent understanding of, and links into networks supporting, women's issues in Northern Ireland and Wales. It is important that the WNC, as a representative four-nations body, has Commissioners who can reflect and champion the views of partners in these nations.

In addition, we will also be looking to recruit Commissioners who have experience of violence against women and human trafficking and who have an understanding of the European women's agenda. We would also particularly welcome applicants who can represent the interests of Black and African-Caribbean and Asian and ethnic minority women partners. Principal responsibilities will include contributing to the overall strategic direction of the WNC; providing specialist and impartial advice and external perspectives on gender issues to government, key stakeholders and the general public; taking

responsibility for specific work strands and chairing working groups; and being the public face of the WNC.

Commissioners will receive a remuneration fee of up to £3000 per year based on approximately 1.5 days work per month plus expenses.

The Women's National Commission is sponsored by the Government Equalities Office.

For further details and an information pack please visit the Appointments Commission website at [www.appointments.org.uk](http://www.appointments.org.uk) or email [info@appointments.org.uk](mailto:info@appointments.org.uk) or call **0870 240 3802** during office hours quoting reference GEO9089.

**Closing date for applications is 1st September 2009.**

### **Amnesty International: Secretary General**

Secretary General is Amnesty International's most senior role and its most public. The post holder carries a primary responsibility for bringing together the whole of the Amnesty International movement behind coherent human rights and organisational and financial strategies, for building internal credibility and commitment to a global vision for external coherence and for ensuring that the movement's operations are convergent with its goals.

Reporting to the International Executive Committee as a whole, the Secretary General has a specific reporting relationship to the Chair of the IEC on issues delegated by the IEC to that role. The Secretary General is the line manager for the International Secretariat's senior leadership team and other consultants or staff as need requires. The role has a wide set of key relationships.

Applications should consist of a full curriculum vitae and a covering letter of application that addresses the role description and job specification. Covering letters should be addressed to Peter Pack, Chair of the IEC.

Completed applications should be uploaded at [www.perrettlaver.com/candidates](http://www.perrettlaver.com/candidates) by quoting reference number 0494. Applicants are asked to provide full daytime and evening contact details.

**The closing date for applications is Tuesday 8th September 2009.**

### **Eaves: Volunteer Exiting Prostitution Research Assistant: The PE:ER Project, Lilith Research & Development**

Eaves' Lilith Research & Development team is a centre of excellence for research, education, campaigning and training on violence against women. Eaves and London South Bank University have been funded by the Big Lottery Fund to undertake a joint two-year research project, The PE:ER Project (Prostitution Exiting: Engaging through Research), to assess the effectiveness of different interventions designed to support women who want to leave prostitution, including those working on-street, off-street and those trafficked into prostitution.

The Volunteer Exiting Prostitution Research Assistant will:

- Provide research and administrative support to The PE:ER Project.
- Interview research participants.
- Transcribe research participant interviews.
- Enter research data into the project database.
- Provide additional support to the Lilith Research & Development team as required.

We are recruiting two volunteer Research Assistants, to work 2 days per week each, for at least 6 months.

The positions are based in Eaves' office in Oval, London.

**Closing date:** 12 noon, Friday 4 September 2009

**Interview date:** Thursday, 10 September 2009

This post is exempt under Section 7 (2) (d) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975. Therefore we will only be considering female applicants.

Successful applicants will be required to have a satisfactory disclosure through the Criminal Records Bureau.

Eaves is committed to equality of opportunity and encourages applications from all sectors of the community.

**Salary Type:**

Voluntary

**Salary Amount:**

Reasonable lunch and travel expenses

**Vacancy Location:**

London – Oval

To apply, telephone 0207 840 7124 an application pack or download one from <http://www.eaves4women.co.uk/Vacancies/VolunteerResearchAssistant.php>