



**Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Newsletter**  
**A monthly newsletter brought to you by the**  
**Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Partnership**

**September 2019**

Hei og velkommen to our latest newsletter!

The reason for the welcome in Norwegian is that I was lucky to be able to attend the European Conference on Domestic Violence in Oslo earlier this month. The conference had a distinct Cambridgeshire feel with talks from Vickie Crompton about the Whole Housing Approach, a researcher from Anglia Ruskin University with a poster presentation about her PhD in Adolescent to Parent Violence and a special appearance by former Partnership Manager, Simon Kerss, presenting his work on police as perpetrators of domestic abuse. There was also a presentation about the Ask Me project – which is being run in Cambridgeshire by Cambridge Women's Aid. It was really interesting to hear about the work that is taking place across Europe around domestic abuse and sharing initiatives in this way is really beneficial for both professionals and, ultimately, victims.

Back home, domestic violence seems to be constantly in headline news – the temporary closure of parliament threatens the new Domestic Abuse Bill while the BBC have been reporting on domestic homicide victim numbers reaching an all-time high, and Countryfile have been reporting on domestic abuse in rural communities. Whilst this appears to be all fairly negative news, keeping the subject in the headlines will hopefully result in more awareness amongst both professionals and victims.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and please do share any news from your service with us that we can include in future newsletters.

**Julia Cullum**  
**Partnership Manager**



## October DASV Champions Sessions

Our October sessions will focus on Stalking and Harassment and Economic Abuse. Dates are below. To book, email [dasvchampions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:dasvchampions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

### October 2019 – Stalking & Harassment and Economic Abuse

Cambridge City & South	Fenland	East Cambs	Huntingdon	Peterborough
2 <sup>nd</sup> October 10.00 – 12.00 Arbury Community Centre, Campkin Road, Cambridge, CB4 2LD	3 <sup>rd</sup> October 11.00 – 13.00 March Community Centre, 34 Station Road, March PE15 8LE	8 <sup>th</sup> October 10.00 – 12.00 Centre 33 Offices, Centre E, Ely	7 <sup>th</sup> October 10.00 – 12.00 Stanton House, Stanton Way, Huntingdon PE29 6XL	14 <sup>th</sup> October 10.00 – 12.00 Crosskeys Homes Shrewsbury Avenue, Woodston, Peterborough, PE2 7BZ

## A Home of Her Own?

The Women's Budget Group have released a report highlighting a number of issues around women and housing. The key findings cover women experiencing domestic abuse as well as women with substance misuse issues, mental health challenges and homelessness. In addition, Whole Housing features on page 45 of this national report.

<https://wbg.org.uk/analysis/reports/a-home-of-her-own-housing-and-women/>

## Whole Housing Approach first report

Standing Together have released the first summary of the Whole Housing Approach project in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The report findings, which cover October 2018 to June 2019, show that approximately 866 direct victims were supported and 1,043 indirect victims (Children) in this period. This totals 1,919 victims and far exceeds the target set to date. There are some data consistency issues with some of the datasets so these figures must be prefaced with 'approximate.' For example, one person may have used more than one part of "Whole Housing". The project is also currently working with Cambridge Housing Society to develop a case study based approach to demonstrating potential savings made.

## Dr Jessica Eaton (FRSA) PhD Thesis - FREE ACCESS

You can now download and read Jessica's work on the Psychology of Victim Blaming Women Subjected to Sexual Violence and Abuse.

Within the thesis:

- Literature review of the factors in society that contribute to victim blaming of women
- Jessica's new psychometric measure of victim blaming (BOWSVA)
- Qualitative interview study with women who had been blamed for sexual violence
- Qualitative interview study with professionals working in sexual violence about how they help women with self-blame and victim-blaming
- New theories, frameworks and models to explain victim blaming of women

[Download PhD Thesis](#)

### FGM: Guidance for Schools

The National FGM Centre has published guidance for schools which aims to equip professionals to respond to concerns regarding girls at risk of female genital mutilation (FGM). The guidance covers information on FGM and the law, FGM risk indicators, requirements of the relationships and sex education (RSE) guidance on FGM, and a resource on how to explore concerns and make referrals to children's social care.

<http://nationalfgmcentre.org.uk/>

### PSHE lesson plans: Healthy Relationships & Stalking

The PSHE Association has collaborated with [Alice Ruggles Trust](#) to create two lesson plans and accompanying materials which promote awareness of unhealthy relationship behaviours and stalking — in order to help protect young people from the potential risks in these situations. The lessons are offered free to schools to ensure young people learn essential safeguarding information and skills in an interactive yet safe and age-appropriate way.

The focus throughout the lessons is on raising awareness of steps young people can take to support their own and others' safety and emotional wellbeing, whilst reinforcing that stalking and harassment are socially unacceptable, illegal behaviour

## Applications open for Tampon Tax funding

Cambridgeshire Community Foundation have been given the opportunity again this year to distribute the Government's Tampon Tax Community Fund. The grants offered will be up to £10,000 for a duration of up to 12 months. The Tampon Tax Community Fund aims to support women and girls who are most marginalised to overcome barriers that prevent them from fulfilling their potential. Applicants will need to demonstrate how they meet outcomes such as building skills and confidence, improving health and wellbeing, and/or building social networks.

Applications open on **2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019** and further information about the fund is available [here](#)

## HMISFRS Domestic Abuse Survey

HMICFRS are conducting a domestic abuse survey to understand what practitioners think about the current police response to domestic abuse and how that might have changed.

In order to get the most from the survey it's vital to get as many responses as possible across as many agencies, therefore please do share this with as many people across your organisation who are engaged with victims, police or other relevant parties. Please also share with any other relevant agencies and contacts. <https://www.homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk/s/LE4YI/>



**Female only support sessions. Advice, support, discussion.**

**No appointment necessary - just drop in**

### **Mondays**

East children's centre,  
Durham Road.  
Peterborough  
PE1 5JU  
**10 am onwards**

Wisbech South Children Centre  
Elizabeth Terrace  
Wisbech  
PE13 2AQ  
**1pm - 4pm from Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept**

### **Fridays**

Acorn Children's centre,  
20 Scalford Drive,  
Welland.  
PE1 4TR  
**10 am onwards**

Huntingdon Children Centre  
Ambury Road  
Huntingdon  
PE29 1AD  
**1pm – 4pm from Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Sept**

## Charge and conviction rates for rape fall

The multi-agency Rape Monitoring Group (RMG) has published data today (29th August 2019) showing how cases of rape were dealt with at all stages of the criminal justice system in 2017-18. The data covers every police force in England and Wales.

At a national level the data showed:

- The overall charge rate has decreased compared to the previous year, from 6.8% to 4.2%.
- The overall number of reported rapes has increased compared to the previous year, from 41,186 to 54,045.
- The number of incidents of rape which were not recorded as crimes (the N100 classification) has increased compared to the previous year, from 8,624 to 11,913.
- The number of cases referred to the Crown Prosecution Service for a charging decision has decreased compared to the previous year from 6,606 to 6,012.
- The number of suspects found guilty of rape has decreased compared to the previous year from 1,350 to 1,062.

The group released data taken from the Home Office, Office for National Statistics, Crown Prosecution Service and Ministry of Justice. The data are presented in the form of an online dashboard covering all 43 Home Office police forces in England and Wales, as well as the British Transport Police.

Data previously published for the following year shows that charge and conviction rates have continued to fall since then. Women's groups including The End Violence Against Women Coalition (EVAW) are highlighting the news yesterday that rape conviction rates by the CPS in the UK are the lowest they have been since records began.

Despite a huge rise in reports of rape in recent years the CPS is showing a reduction in the number of convicted rape cases overall. The CPS decisions to prosecute on rape have fallen by over 51% in 5 years. There has been a drop of 37.7% of rape cases charged by the CPS last year (this includes a drop from 2,822 in 2017/8 to 1,758 in 2018/9).

The CPS have blamed falling police referrals but the CPS decisions to not prosecute are almost double the rate of the police referrals to the CPS -51% compared to -27%. As a response to this EVAW has sent a detailed letter threatening legal action against the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) in June this year, indicating the CPS is essentially changing its policy and practice in relation to rape cases and a dramatic fall in rape cases being charged has been the result.

<https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/our-work/article/rape-monitoring-group-digests/>

You can read more about conviction rates [here](#)

## New website for young people

Women's Aid have launched a new website aimed at raising awareness of healthy relationships for young people. The site, created with help from young people with experience of teenage relationship abuse, gives information and advice and young people can also ask questions. The new site can be accessed at <https://loverespect.co.uk/>



## ‘Define the line’

In March 2017, **Refuge and Avon** commenced extensive new research into young people's experiences of non-physical violence in their relationships. Also commemorating **International Women's Day 2017** and ten years of the **Avon Foundation** supporting **Refuge** and other **women's charities** worldwide.

The research, now published, was conducted in the form of focus groups and in-depth interviews between **16-21 year olds** & online surveys which revealed an **alarming** levels of non-physical violence in their relationships, which included controlling behaviour in more than 50% who responded. Other findings are reported in [this infographic](#).

To conclude, this is a powerful and important area of concern, as domestic abuse is about **control**. Therefore, the young generation need to be **fully aware** and **cautious** of unhealthy relationships and that no man has the right to control or abuse his partner. Healthy relationship are based on **equality** and **respect**.

## **New DA survivors newsletter**

Safe Lives are creating a regular newsletter produced by, with and for people affected by domestic abuse. They will be sharing interviews, articles, videos and other things that we think will inspire, inform and bring people together - but would also love to hear from survivors. Get in touch if you have an idea or story you'd like to share and let them know what you think works well, what works less well and anything in between - this is a conversation.

Sign up for the new newsletter at this link <http://www.safelives.org.uk/voices-together>

## **Adolescent to Parent Abuse – opportunity to contribute to research**

Although the UK government's current definition of domestic abuse encompasses "*any incident or pattern of incidents of [...] violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or **family members***", very little research has been done into adult family violence, and in particular violence and abuse perpetrated by adult children against their parents.

My experience as an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA), MARAC Coordinator, and currently Specialist Domestic Abuse Court Officer at Standing Together, has shown me that parents experiencing abuse from their adult children might face additional and unique challenges in seeking help and accessing support. Yet theirs remains the missing voice in current domestic abuse research.

*I am therefore interested in exploring their experience of abuse and their relationships with their adult children over the life course, through life story interviews.*

If your service supports any clients who are experiencing this issue, I would love to hear from them! I have attached the participant flyer for your information.

I can be contacted via email on [thien-trang.nguyen-phan@pgr.anglia.ac.uk](mailto:thien-trang.nguyen-phan@pgr.anglia.ac.uk), or by phone on 07872 608 021 for more detail.

**Thien Trang Nguyen Phan** | Doctoral Researcher

## **SafeLives publishes new report into psychological abuse**

**New research into non-physical domestic abuse finds that 91% of survivors experienced psychological abuse at some point in their relationship.**

### **Key findings:**

#### **Psychological abuse is commonplace and can occur in the absence of physical abuse**

Many survivors will experience some form of psychological abuse in isolation from physical abuse – 42% had never been physically assaulted causing bruising or cuts and 76% had never been physically assaulted causing broken bones or serious injuries.

#### **Psychological abuse follows a pattern of abuse and manipulation, often involving a phase of ‘grooming’**

At the beginning of their relationships, 96% of survivors said their partner was charming and affectionate, 93% said they expressed love for them very quickly and 92% wanted to spend a lot of time together. Abusive behaviour is interspersed with warmth and kindness, slowly desensitising the victim to the behaviour.

Manipulation is maintained following abusive incidents too, with many survivors experiencing tactics to keep them in the relationship – 80% said their partner promised to change and nearly half experienced severe psychological manipulation, with a partner threatening to take their own life if they left the relationship.

#### **Children are hidden victims of psychological abuse, with contact often used as a means to continue control**

Children living with psychological abuse are often used as ‘tools of abuse’. 85% of survivors said the perpetrator used the children to threaten and control them and 72% of survivors said the perpetrator attempted to turn their children against them.

#### **There are no ‘typical’ victims or perpetrators of psychological abuse**

The report dispels common myths around ‘typical’ victims or perpetrators of abuse. Previous research finds that of visible cases, women who earn 65% or more of their household income are more likely to be psychologically abused than those who earn less than 65%. In line with this, the Psychological Violence report finds that almost a third of perpetrators were in professional, senior or middle management at the time of the abuse, with roles including police officer, psychologist and director of children’s services.

[Read the report](#)



## PARENTING TOGETHER (REDUCING PARENTAL CONFLICT) TRAINING

\*THIS TRAINING IS FOR PROFESSIONALS WORKING WITH FAMILIES\*

One day training programme that covers:

Recognising and Supporting Parents in Parental Conflict: Applying knowledge, skills and techniques:

- Recognise relationship distress at an early stage and when it is potentially damaging
- Support couples experiencing parental conflict and be empowered to act, report or refer should domestic abuse be disclosed/identified
- Revisit the stressors that may lead to parental conflict
- Recognise the role of fathers / male carers in a child's life and understand the importance of including co-parents in all forms of co-parenting couples
- Build confidence and skills by using effective listening and questioning techniques to identify and discuss parental conflict triggers
- Understand your role and responsibilities in discussing parental conflict with parents, to help frontline practitioners assist parents to understand the impact of parental conflict on their children

To book your place please follow the links below;

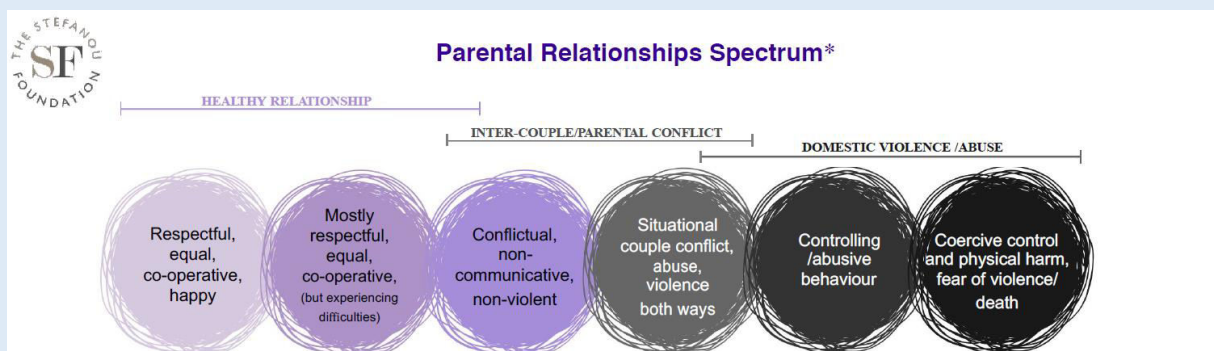
8<sup>th</sup> November 2019 @ Broadleas, St Ives - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parenting-together-reducing-parental-conflict-tickets-70737246007>

28<sup>th</sup> November 2019 @ Queen Mary Centre, Wisbech - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parenting-together-reducing-parental-conflict-tickets-70736535883>

More information about the project is available [here](#)

### Parental Relationships Spectrum

Parental conflict and domestic abuse will have a significant effect on children and young people. Professionals should consider the impact of parental conflict and domestic abuse on every child in the household and a spectrum document has been produced to help practitioners identify when a relationship is domestic abuse rather than parental conflict. The guidance also includes links to local and national support organisations. The spectrum will be circulated with this newsletter.



## **UK charity Refuge launches short film highlighting children witnessing domestic violence**

Refuge the UK domestic violence charity have launched a video highlighting that 90% of domestic abuse happens in the presence of children. They also identify that

- In **41%** of cases of partner abuse there was **at least one child** under the age of 16 living in the household
- Of the 6,500 survivors of abuse that Refuge supports every day, around **3,500** are children

Refuge has partnered with Picturehouse cinemas to show a powerful 60 second short film called 'Hide and Seek', it is being shown in 25 Picturehouse cinemas across the UK.

You can access this short film [here](#).

## **Film screenings from University of Suffolk Domestic Abuse Research Network**

### **Growing Up Married Film Screening 9<sup>th</sup> October :**

This is a documentary which focuses on the stories of child brides, recollecting their memories as adults. It explores what happens after child marriage by focusing on the stories of four women. The forced marriage and child brides film has raised other issues around sexuality, sex education and the concept of honour and coercive control. In terms of the local context the director of the film, Professor Eylem Atakav, has now started to look at a similar piece of work listening to the voices of Norfolk Forced Marriage victims. After the film screening we would like to explore these topics further with a panel focusing on the local context, the links between forced marriage and coercive control. This event is aimed at professionals.

Places are limited and the screening is 18+

[https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/growing-up-married-film-screening-and-panel-discussion-on-coercive-control-tickets-70010586549?utm\\_term=eventurl\\_text](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/growing-up-married-film-screening-and-panel-discussion-on-coercive-control-tickets-70010586549?utm_term=eventurl_text)

### **Safety Nets Re-Imagined 5<sup>th</sup> November:**

In the context of domestic abuse, what does a 'safety net' mean? What role do language and culture play in support and how might we create culturally responsive services to meet the needs of migrant victims?

This event will feature a showcase of different art forms co-produced with migrant women and other local artists. Through this showcase we will examine migrant women's journeys to safety based on accounts from victims/survivors and professionals.

The event will also include a panel discussion to raise awareness of domestic abuse in migrant communities with speakers confirmed from Women for Refugee Women, StepUpMigrantWomen Campaign, Leeway, Phoebe and others.

[https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/safety-nets-re-imagined-domestic-abuse-and-migrant-communities-tickets-70103668961?utm\\_term=eventurl\\_text](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/safety-nets-re-imagined-domestic-abuse-and-migrant-communities-tickets-70103668961?utm_term=eventurl_text)



*For Baby's Sake* is a programme for expectant parents, whether together as a couple or not, who want to bring an end to domestic abuse and create the best possible start in life for their baby.

*For Baby's Sake* helps both parents to make the lasting changes that they want for themselves and their family.



#### ***Why For Baby's Sake?***

- A programme for both parents, whether or not they are together as a couple
- Join during pregnancy; support may last until baby is two
- Unique three-way support: end the abuse; overcome trauma; enable both parents to support the baby's emotional development and secure attachment
- Harnessing the motives of mum and dad during pregnancy

#### ***Who is For Baby's Sake for?***

- Expectant parents, ideally before week 28 of pregnancy
- Dad is primary perpetrator of domestic abuse against mum
- Both parents committed to 'co-parenting' whether or not they stay together as a couple
- Both parents need to join *For Baby's Sake*
- Co-parents may or may not have older children, together or with previous partners
- Both parents will be aged 17 or older when baby is born

#### ***Referral Pathway***

- We cover the following areas: **South Cambridgeshire, City & East Cambridgeshire**
- Contact the *For Baby's Sake* team via email: [forbabyssake@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:forbabyssake@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or call 01223 715 622 and we can talk you through the referral.

*'It's been positive  
over the past couple of years.  
It takes on board - yep - these are the facts but there is no judgment within that...  
learning to look at other people's viewpoints... it does  
help to make some of those changes.'* Anon (previous client)

Have you and your child been affected by domestic abuse?



## **Recovering Together**

### **A 12 week group programme for children and their mothers**

**From Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019, then every Thursday until 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
(excluding 26<sup>th</sup> December and 2<sup>nd</sup> January)**

**9.30-12.30pm**

**Larkfield Community Centre, Ely**

Children's groups (1 child per mother) help children begin the healing process by:

- Allowing children to share their experiences with other children
- Exploring ways of expressing their feelings safely
- Looking at coping strategies for the future

Mothers' groups support women in understanding how to help their children recover by:

- Giving mothers an opportunity to meet other women who have had similar experiences and share their feelings
- Exploring the impact their experiences have had on their children
- Finding ways to heal from the past and look to the future thereby strengthening the bond between mother and child.

Contact us for more details at [recoveringtogether@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:recoveringtogether@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)



# NSPCC



## WHAT'S ON

### Letting the Future In (LTFI)

Sexual abuse can ruin lives. Letting the Future In helps children who have experienced sexual abuse.

We see children and YP aged 4 to 17 in our special therapy rooms, schools and in the community. We offer things like messy play, writing, storytelling and art to help express feelings that they can't put into words.

### Letting the Future In for Learning Disabled Children (LTFI-LD)

Disabled children are over 3 times more likely to be abused than non-disabled children. That's why we're piloting an adapted version of our Letting the Future In service for learning disabled children aged 4-19. We'll be applying learnings from our Letting the Future In evaluation into the development of this service.

## Peterborough Service Centre

### All FREE services except Over 12 Aim Assessments

Referrals accepted from community workers/schools/carers and young people for LTFI and P & R

### Protect & Respect

The NSPCC work with young people, aged 11-19 years on a one to one basis, to try and stop sexual exploitation from happening or to help them deal with it if it has happened. We also provide group work in secondary schools in groups of 6-8 young people to provide awareness raising, to help them recognise harmful attitudes and behaviours that may impact on their wellbeing.

#### CONTACT DETAILS

Unit 12, Flag Business Exchange,  
Vicarage Farm Road, Peterborough  
PE1 5TX

01733 207620

[peterborough@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:peterborough@nspcc.org.uk)

## Turn the Page (HSB)

This service is for children and young people aged 5-18 years who have displayed harmful sexual behaviour. Around one third of sexual abuse is committed by children and young people (Hackett, 2014).

Before starting the programme, the young person will go through an AIM assessment\*. This ensures they are suitable for the programme and indicates what level of supervision a young person needs for the duration of the programme

Turn the Page helps young people change their behaviours by identifying and managing their thoughts, emotions and actions.

\*There is a charge of £2500 for the Aim 2 Assessment (12-18yrs)

Professionals are the main referrers for this service and the only service which would need an allocated social worker.

*HSB is a valuable service that can make a big difference to the lives of children and young people. If it is to continue we need referrals to increase, or regrettably we will need to phase out the HSB service from Peterborough Service Centre*

## EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

