



The annual conference of the  
**LONDON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD**

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## **SAFEGUARDING LONDON'S CHILDREN**

**CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFETY IN  
LONDON, WITH A FOCUS ON CHILD SEXUAL  
ABUSE AND WORKING WITH BLACK AND  
MINORITY ETHNIC COMMUNITIES AND  
FAITH GROUPS**

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**THURSDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2007**  
**Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre**  
**Broad Sanctuary, Westminster**  
**London, SW1P 3EE**

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This conference should prove useful for:

Elected members, policy makers, senior officers, managers and practitioners from health, police, probation, children's social care, education and voluntary and community groups, with a particular interest in or responsibilities for child safeguarding work or work with vulnerable children and their families.

**£150 (+ £26.25 vat) including lunch and refreshments**  
**£100 (+ £17.50 vat) for voluntary organisations only**

Deadline for bookings: Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2007

Supported by:

Care Services Improvement Partnership **CSIP**

**Children and Families**  
Programme

## SAFEGUARDING LONDON'S CHILDREN

This is a conference for professionals, elected members and volunteers in all agencies who have specific responsibilities for safeguarding London's children, and supporting them and their families.

The conference aims to support better safeguarding of London's children by showcasing good practice and sharing resources, with a particular focus on child sexual abuse and working with Black and Minority Ethnic communities and faith groups.

**The conference will launch the final report of the London Community Partnership Project, which aimed to build stronger links between local communities / faith groups and statutory services.**

The conference is a forum to exchange ideas and information for improving multi-agency child protection practice. The morning plenaries will explore best practice responses to safeguarding children at risk of sexual abuse and effective means of providing treatment for those who have already suffered such abuse, and the afternoon will focus on working with Black and Minority Ethnic communities and faith groups, with input from both front line workers and community and faith group leaders. In between these plenary sessions, a choice of seminars will encourage delegates to explore specific issues related to both these topics in greater depth.

### Morning

- 8.45 Coffee and registration
- 9.30 **Chair's welcome and introduction**  
*Commander Rod Jarman (Commander, Territorial Policing Command)*
- 9.45 **Meeting the therapeutic and recovery needs of sexually abused children**  
*Tink Palmer (Director, Stop It Now! UK and Ireland)*
- 10.30 **Overcoming barriers to disclosure – a personal perspective**  
*Ferzanna Riley (Director, Roshni)*
- 11.05 **Tea / coffee**
- 11.30 **Seminars - first seminar choice (details overleaf)**
1. *Developing a multi agency response to child sexual exploitation in Croydon - Invest to Save*
  2. *Working with local communities and faith groups (two sessions)*
  3. *Domestic violence in BME communities*
  4. *Cultural barriers to the disclosure of child sexual abuse in Asian communities in Britain: listening to what women say*
  5. *What works? Counselling and direct work with children and young people who have been sexually abused*
  - 6a. *Dissociative disorder and ritual abuse (morning session only)*
  - 6b. *The impact of child sexual abuse - is poly-victimisation a factor? The challenge of developing effective services for sexually victimised children (afternoon session only)*
- 12.30 Lunch

### Afternoon

- 13.30 **Seminars - second seminar choice (details overleaf)**
- 14.30 **Tea / coffee**
- 14.50 **Afternoon Chair's Introduction**  
*James Kempton (Leader, London Borough of Islington, and Executive Member for Children and Young People, London Councils)*
- 15.00 **Safeguarding Children**  
*Jeanette Pugh (Director, Safeguarding Group, DCSF)*
- 15.30 **The Community Partnership Project**  
*Reverend Jean Bosco Kanyemesha (Pastor, London Fire Church International Fellowship and Director, World Action Youth)*
- 15.45 **Children's Drama Presentation**  
*WAC Performing Arts and Media College*
- 16.05 **Domestic violence in BME communities**  
*DCI Gerry Campbell (Metropolitan Police Violent Crime Directorate)*
- 16.25 **Chair's Closing Remarks**

## Seminar sessions

### **1. Developing a multi agency response to child sexual exploitation in Croydon - Invest to Save**

*Libby Fry (Assistant Director, Children's Services, Barnardos), DCI Jonathan Wilson (Metropolitan Police) and Joan Semeonoff (LB Croydon)*

- **The Henry Moore Room (4<sup>th</sup> floor)**

This seminar will describe the work of Croydon ARCH and Miss U2, a project set up by Barnardos, Croydon Borough Police and Croydon Council (with help from local voluntary groups) following a successful Invest To Save bid. The presenters will give examples of children referred to the project and the patterns of exploitation, showing how they may be overlooked. The seminar will conclude with a discussion of what needs to happen to tackle the problem of child sexual exploitation.

### **2a. Working with local communities and faith groups**

*Asha-Kin Duale (Camden Community Partnership Advisor) and Georgette Hala Roro (Youth Outreach Worker, Camden)*

### **2b. Working with local communities and faith groups**

*Rebecca Lythe (Islington Community Partnership Advisor) and Habiba Hirsi (Bi-lingual Community Officer, Islington Ethnic Minority Achievement Service)*

- **The Mountbatten Room (6<sup>th</sup> floor)**

Both seminars will look at effective models of engagement with community and faith groups, using case studies to illustrate 'what works'.

Seminar A will use the example of a project run in Camden to engage with the Sudanese community on conflicting issues such as discipline, culture and values, the law of the land on child protection and the role of police and social services.

Seminar B will outline the partnership work between Islington Safeguarding Children Board and a Somali Community Organisation. Habiba and Rebecca have worked together to offer training to parents about child protection, legislation and safeguarding matters, and have included Female Circumcision / FGM in their work.

### **3. Domestic violence in BME communities**

*Claudette Malcolm (Domestic Violence L/D Consultant, Barnardos LEaSE) and Arvinder Lall (Community Outreach Worker, Ashiana Network)*

- **The Rutherford Room (4<sup>th</sup> floor)**

In this session, delegates will hear from the boroughs piloting the new multi-agency assessment of risk to children which forms part of the London procedure for *Safeguarding Children Abused through Domestic Violence*. The session will set out the origins of concern for children at risk through domestic violence in London. It will consider aspects of domestic violence and risk to children which are relevant to London's Black and Minority Ethnic communities, and there will be an opportunity to discuss whether the London procedure sufficiently incorporates aspects unique to London's Black and ethnic minority communities.

**4. Cultural barriers to the disclosure of child sexual abuse in Asian communities in Britain: listening to what women say**

*Philip Gilligan (Senior lecturer in Social Work, University of Bradford)*

- **The Wesley Room (4<sup>th</sup> floor)**

This seminar will explore the apparent under-reporting of child sexual abuse in Asian communities and the fact that conventional professional approaches to it originate in cultural contexts, which are different to those of most British Asians. The presenter will report on a qualitative study in Bradford which sought to explore responses of women within Asian communities to child sexual abuse. In particular, there will be discussion of the finding that those consulted recognised that difficulties which arise, in part, from the perceived inadequacies of, or fears about, responses from agencies are compounded by the impact of cultural imperatives arising from concepts such as 'Izzat', 'Haya' and 'Sharam', which often determine how individuals will behave.

**5. What works? Counselling and direct work with children and young people who have been sexually abused**

*Debbie Southwood (Children's Service Manager, Barnardos) and Gurjit Mann (Senior Counsellor, Amazon Project)*

- **The Wordsworth Room (4<sup>th</sup> floor)**

This seminar provides participants with the opportunity to explore a range of approaches that have been offered by Amazon Counselling Service when working with children / young people who have been sexually abused, and their families. Amazon is a Barnardos service based in Birmingham, Dudley and Solihull, and has been providing counselling and support services to a diverse population since 1991. The seminar will look at how counselling can be used creatively to meet the needs of the sexually abused child.

**6a. Dissociative disorder and ritual abuse – MORNING ONLY**

*Valerie Sinason (Director, Clinic for Dissociative Studies)*

- **The Abbey Room (4<sup>th</sup> floor)**

This seminar will outline the work of Valerie Sinason, a child psychotherapist and adult psychoanalyst who has been at the forefront of the growing awareness and understanding of ritual abuse and the ways that psychoanalytic psychotherapy can be used to treat its victims. Delegates will have an opportunity to explore some of the difficulties encountered in trying to support children who have experienced ritual abuse, including where the consequences of ill treatment can lead to a further condition, dissociative disorder (DID). Treatment can be complicated by the fact that this type of abuse, and DID, is not well understood or believed. The presenter will use her extensive experience of providing assessment and long term therapy for ritual abuse survivors to consider some of the paths which can be taken and their consequences.

**6b. The impact of child sexual abuse - is poly-victimisation a factor? The challenge of developing effective services for sexually victimised children - AFTERNOON ONLY**

*Tara Weeramanthri (Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust)*

- **The Abbey Room (4<sup>th</sup> floor)**

In this seminar, the presenter will draw on some new exploratory work by David Finkelhor and colleagues on 'poly-victimisation' and its relationship to the development of trauma symptoms. Poly-victimisation refers to multiple experiences of victimisation which may be of different types. The implications of this will be considered in thinking about how to develop effective treatment services for children and young people who have been sexually abused.