Speaker biographies

Dr Caroline Miles – Lecturer in Criminology, University of Manchester

Caroline Miles is a Lecturer in Criminology in the School of Law, University of Manchester. Caroline teaches in the areas of criminal justice, youth justice, offender management in the community, and research methods. Prior to this role, Caroline was a Research Officer in the Centre for Criminology, at the University of Oxford, working with Dr Rachel Condry on an ESRC-funded project ‘Investigating Adolescent Violence towards Parents’. She was previously a Lecturer in Criminology and Programme leader for the MA Crime and Justice at the University of Chester, having completed her ESRC-funded PhD at the University of Manchester in 2008. Caroline’s thesis examined substance-related homicide in England and Wales; drawing upon data from the Homicide Index, police files for solved homicide cases and interviews with convicted homicide offenders.

Prior to her PhD Caroline worked as a Research Assistant for the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness and as a Resettlement Officer for Nacro. She obtained her LLB Honours (first class) degree in Law and Criminology and ESRC-funded MA in Criminology and Research Methods (distinction) from Keele University.

Research Interests:
Homicide; adolescent to parent violence; domestic violence; gender and violence; the relationship between alcohol/drugs and violence/homicide.

Simon Retford – Detective Superintendent GMP – on-going Doctorate in Criminal Justine Studies

Simon has been a police officer for over 23 years, most of this time as a Detective. He has been a Senior Investigating Officer for over ten years dealing with serious and organised crime, homicide, public protection, local crime investigation and more recently, professional standards and misconduct.

For the past 8 years Simon has studied with the University of Portsmouth, gaining degrees in Investigation & Evidence, Criminology, and Criminal Psychology. In 2012 he attained a
Master’s degree, having researched ‘professional responses to child-against-parent violence, in Greater Manchester’. Simon has started his third year of a Professional Doctorate degree in Criminal Justice. He is continuing his research into parent abuse, examining the effects of austerity; and how the new drive to collaborate can assist with responding to such abuse. His research has been published and he has spoken at several regional and national Parent Abuse events.

Davina James-Hanman OBE - Director of AVA (Against Violence and Abuse)

Davina James-Hanman is the Director of AVA (Against Violence & Abuse) which she took up following five years at L.B. Islington as the first local authority Domestic Violence Co-ordinator in the UK (1992). From 2000-08, she had responsibility for developing and implementing the first London Domestic Violence Strategy for the Mayor of London.

She has worked in the field of violence against women for almost three decades in a variety of capacities including advocate, campaigner, conference organiser, crisis counsellor, policy officer, project manager, refuge worker, researcher, trainer, and writer. She has published innumerable articles and two book chapters and formerly acted as the Dept. of Health policy lead on domestic violence as well as being an Associate Tutor at the national police college and as a Lay Inspector for HMCPSI. Davina has also authored a wide variety of original resources for survivors.

She acted as the Specialist Adviser to the Home Affairs Select Committee Inquiry into domestic violence (2007/08) and Chairs the Accreditation Panel for Respect. From 2008-09 she was seconded to the Home Office to assist with the development of the first national Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy. Recent / current projects include improving commissioning, implementation of the NICE guidance, developing community engagement projects on VAWG and Chairing Domestic Homicide Reviews. Davina is also a Trustee of Women in Prison.

Jane Evans – Trauma Parenting Specialist, Freelance Trainer and Author

As a Parenting Specialist, Trainer, Speaker, Writer and Blogger (also Mum, Step-Mum, Step-Nana!) I have been fortunate enough to learn from those I have worked with and nurtured.

I have linked this experience with the latest neuroscience and attachment research to develop an approach to raising and caring for children which improves relationships and outcomes for children and their families, especially those affected by domestic abuse, adolescent to parent abuse, mental illness, substance dependency and other difficulties.
I regularly appear on BBC Radio Bristol and Wiltshire to comment on and discuss matters relating to children and parenting, I am frequently asked to be a guest blogger and to write articles relating to children and parenting impacted by trauma.

My work with young children and parents affected by living with domestic violence has been the foundation for my acclaimed storybook – ‘How are you feeling today Baby Bear?’

Neil Blacklock – Development Director, Respect

Neil was the founder of the influential Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP) in 1989. DVIP developed a model of integrated working between services working with the perpetrators of abuse and those working with those at risk from abuse.

In 2006 Neil moved to Respect where he developed the Respect Service Standard for organisations working with men using intimate partner violence. Since 2009 he has been Respect’s Development Director and leads on accreditation and new services including:

- An individual work programme for perpetrators of domestic violence
- Risk assessment, domestic violence and child contact
- Improving workplace responses to domestic violence
- The Jenkins Centre
- Respect Young People’s Work

Neil is the current chair of the European network for work with perpetrators of domestic violence (WWP-EN) and has chaired and authored Domestic Homicide Reviews.

Sally Fawcett – Domestic Abuse Coordinator, Wakefield Council

Sally is the Domestic Abuse Coordinator for Wakefield Council. With a 1st Class Honours Degree in Youth Justice and 13 years’ experience as a Youth Justice Practitioner, she has worked closely with young offenders and their parents who present with high levels of risk, vulnerability and complexity. With front line specialist practice in the area of Child to Parent Abuse (CPA) she has effectively engaged families in breaking the cycle of abusive behavior. In 2009 Sally co-developed a multi-agency (teen /parent) group work programme ‘Do It Different’. Over the last 5 years she has further developed ‘Do It Different’ and co-delivers this program, which is now embedded in practice across Wakefield. In 2010 Sally undertook an independent study entitled, ‘An investigation into the causes of teenage violence to parents’. She has also delivered professional training, awareness raising and practice development with the subject of ‘CPA’ locally and nationally. Sally is passionate about supporting the development of new practice for working more effectively with troubled teens and their families, particularly reducing
the risk of domestic abuse within families. Over the past 2 years, she has incorporated and expanded the awareness of this practice whilst working within the Troubled Families Programme.

**Jenny Bright – Operations Manager, Leeds Youth Offending Service**

Jenny Bright is an Operational manager in Leeds Youth Offending Service where she takes the strategic lead for domestic violence. Jenny was previously a Probation Officer and delivered the Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP) to men and was a national trainer for the programme.

Jenny takes a lead in Leeds for child to parent violence and has written the PACT (parents and children together) programme which is a multi-agency group work programme for boys and their mums. She has also developed training for those involved in facilitating the programme and for front line workers in Leeds.

**Simon Roe – Violence Prevention Officer, Safe At Home**

Simon has over 10 years front line experience working with perpetrators of domestic abuse. Since 2007 he has been the Violence Prevention Officer for the Safe at Home domestic abuse service in Wakefield. In 2009 he co-authored & piloted the ‘Do It Different’ programme for teen to parent violence, working in partnership with Sally Fawcett & the Wakefield Youth Offending Team. Simon continues to develop & co-facilitate the programme with Sarah Henry from Wakefield YOT.

Simon is also a freelance trainer & supervisor for various domestic violence agencies in the north of England & is currently working as a practice manager & trainer for Respect on their Young People’s Programme (RYPP).

**Karen Kemp – Acorn Children’s Centre Manager**

Karen a Senior Social Worker, currently Children’s Centre Manager at Acorn Children’s Centre which is a Phase 1 centre within the Castleford reach area.

Prior to my post at Acorn I was a Senior Social Worker based within children’s front line social work, covering Airedale, Castleford and Hemsworth.
I have extensive experience of working with Domestic Abuse and children who have witnessed and experienced this. I have piloted ‘How are you feeling today Baby Bear?’ by Jane Evans with children under 5 and then therefore bring frontline experience.

After Well Women facilitating the Freedom Programme with our Centre and observing immediate positive results in parent’s understanding and actions to prevent further incidents. I was compelled to undertake the Freedom Facilitation Training Programme myself.

**Sarah Henry – Lead Practitioner Supporting Families Wakefield Youth Offending Team**

Sarah Henry has worked over the last 14 years primarily in the criminal justice arena with adult offenders, young people and their families. Sarah currently works for the Youth Offending Team in Wakefield and is the Lead Practitioner for Supporting Families. Since 2013, Sarah has coordinated the ‘Do It Different’ programme in partnership with Simon Roe from Safe At Home, Rosalie Ryrie, and Think Family and has continued to develop the programme making links with locality partners which is now delivered at Wakefield Wildcats Rugby Club.

Sarah worked for West Yorkshire Probation as a Probation Service Officer (2003 – 2012) delivering Cognitive Behavioural Accredited programmes for 5 years and later managing a challenging and complex caseload of adult offenders many of whom were domestic violence perpetrators and victims. Sarah is committed to her work both in enabling the victims of domestic violence to have a voice and be supported; and enabling the young people with whom she works on ‘Do It Different’ to make sustaining life changes to their behaviour at home.

**Sue Pearson – Lead Practitioner PACT Programme**

Sue works for Leeds Youth Offending Services and is the lead practitioner for both the PACT parents’ and boys’ groups. Sue developed the workbooks for the PACT programme and is due to jointly undertake the coordinator role for a programme during September. Sue has years of experience working with young people and parents.