Domestic Violence and Young People: Tackling Teenage Relationship Abuse

A Public Policy Exchange Symposium

Thursday 23rd May 2013
10:15am – 4:30pm
Central London

Public Policy Exchange holds regular interactive seminars which provide an invaluable interface for policy discussion, debate and networking. These special events offer local practitioners, civil servants and other stakeholders not only an insight into current policy thinking, but also the opportunity to feed into future development across all areas of public policy.
Domestic Violence and Young People: Tackling Teenage Relationship Abuse

Overview

In recent years there has been a growing awareness of teenage relationship abuse, with teenage girls now considered to be the group at greatest risk from violent relationships. Studies indicate that at least 1 in 4 teenage girls have experienced abuse by their partners and 3 in 4 have experienced emotional abuse, whilst 6.2% of young men aged 16-19 have experienced some kind of domestic abuse in the last year.

Building on the ‘Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Action Plan’ (November 2010), the Government has done much to better understand and address this hidden issue. The ‘Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan’ (November 2011) and ongoing inquiry into child sexual exploitation in gangs and groups have shed light on the particular vulnerability of young people to physical and sexual violence within their first relationships, irrespective of gender, background, ethnicity or locality. Analysis of the Government’s ‘This is Abuse’ campaign also indicated a normalisation and acceptability of abuse amongst young people and an alarming lack of understanding about sexual consent.

Seeking to underpin its commitment to address teenage relationship abuse, the Government has changed the definition of domestic violence to include 16 and 17 year olds and coercive behaviour, taking effect from March 2013. It is hoped this change will help to raise awareness of teen abuse amongst practitioners and police, and prevent young people from falling through the gap between child protection and domestic abuse services.

Alongside the change to the definition of DV, practitioners will be supported by further training on risk assessments for young people and identifying the right response for the individual to ensure early and effective intervention. IDVAs and ISVAs will be trained in how to work with young people who have been affected by sexual abuse, exploitation, domestic violence and abuse from street gangs. It is also hoped that local areas will be empowered to use their discretion to provide domestic violence services, including MARACs, to younger victims when necessary.

The Government is clear that young people must also be equipped with an understanding of healthy relationships, consent, non-violence and gender equality, and to be able to easily access information, guidance and support when needed.

This special symposium offers an invaluable opportunity for practitioners across the child welfare, education, youth work and domestic violence services and key stakeholders to consider how to identify and tackle physical, sexual and emotional abuse within teenage relationships.

"In order to support the inclusion of 16-17 year olds we will: work with partners to develop an understanding of the different situations in which domestic violence may occur and how it may be experienced by young people. This will enable for signposting frontline professionals, who work with young people affected by domestic violence, to appropriate resources and supporting them to use their judgement to identify the right response for the individual victim, which may encompass a holistic approach involving child protection, safeguarding and domestic violence services."

- Cross-Government Definition of Domestic Violence: A Consultation Summary of Responses, September 2012

Why Attend?

✓ Assess the next steps to tackle teenage relationship abuse and how the latest developments can strengthen front-line responses to domestic and sexual violence
✓ Discuss how to prevent relationship abuse by equipping young people with an understanding of healthy relationships, consent and non-violence
✓ Consider how to strengthen local victim support services to ensure the needs of teenagers are met and their recovery facilitated
✓ Examine how to work in partnership to deal effectively with young perpetrators

Who Should Attend?

- Directors of Children’s Services
- Children’s Services and Families Services Officers
- Education Providers
- Head Teachers and School Governors
- Teachers, PSHE and SRE Teachers
- Local Education Authorities
- Health Promotion Advisers
- Local Safeguarding Children’s Boards
- Children’s Health Service Professionals
- Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinators
- Young Offenders Institutes
- Sexual Health Strategy Co-ordinators
- Sexual Health Treatment/Advisory Services
- Children’s Health and Social Care
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- GUM Clinics
- Children and Youth Organisations
- Local Education Authorities
- Teachers, PSHE and SRE Teachers
- Head Teachers and School Governors
- Education Providers
- Children’s Services and Families Services Officers
- MARACs
- IDVAs and ISVAs
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Practitioners
- Counselling Services
- Child Psychologists
- Social Exclusion and Neighbourhood Renewal Teams
- Youth Workers and Youth Offending Teams
- Community Safety Teams
- Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships
- Community Safety Partnerships
- Police Service
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Student Welfare Advisers
- DfE, DoH, DCMS and other Central Government Departments and Agencies
- Third Sector Practitioners
- Academics and Researchers

Accommodation

Through our partnership with HotelMap, we are able to offer our delegates heavily discounted hotel rates at a wide range of London hotels. To view hotel availability and rates and to book online, visit www.HotelMap.com/MSNUZ/

Alternatively, if you would like to book your accommodation by phone, you can call Daniel Spinner at HotelMap, on 020 7292 2335 quoting Special Reference Code MSNUZ

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Programme

09:30  Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:15  Chair’s Welcome and Introduction
10:30  Panel Session One:
• Tackling Teenage Relationship Abuse – Working Towards a National Framework
• Raising Awareness of Teenage Domestic Violence and Abuse Amongst Practitioners, Parents and Children – Identifying the Risk Factors and Warning Signs
• Strengthening Front-Line Responses to DV – Integrating the New DV Definition into Practitioner Guidance and Training
• Tackling Sexual Exploitation – Building Young People’s Resilience to Control and Exploitation within Relationships, Responding Swiftly to Identify and End Abuse
• Bridging the Service Gap – Meeting the Needs of Young Victims through Coordinated and Robust Support, Providing Access to DV Services Where Necessary
• Stopping Abuse – Working in Partnership to Deal Effectively with Young Perpetrators, Address Underlying Issues and Facilitate Victim Recovery
11:15  Morning Refreshments
11:30  Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel One
12:30  Networking Lunch
13:30  Panel Session Two:
• Domestic Violence and Young People – Improving Education, Early Intervention and Promoting Healthy Relationships
• Equipping Young People with an Understanding of Healthy Relationships, Gender Equality, Sexual Consent, Non-Violence and the Impact of Media and Pornography
• Providing Young People with Easily Accessible Information and Guidance, through School Councillors, Peer Mentors and Community Services
• Improving Teachers’ Awareness of Relationship Abuse and How Best to Respond and Refer Incidences of Abuse In-Line with School and Child Protection Policies
• Safeguarding Young People – Delivering Joint Action Across Children’s Social Care Services, Police, Youth Offending Teams, Health Services and Education
• Sharing Best Practice
14:15  Afternoon Refreshments
14:30  Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel Two
15:30  Chair’s Summary and Closing Comments
15:40  Networking Reception
16:30  Close

**Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice**

Event Details

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Venue:  Central London

Forthcoming Events

The Future of Local Libraries and Cultural Services
16th April 2013
Implementing The New Early Years Foundation Stage Framework
17th April 2013

Drug Policy in Schools: Raising Awareness and Strengthening Early Intervention
18th April 2013
Pandemics and Infection Control: Meeting Tomorrow’s Threats and Challenges Today
23rd April 2013
Clamping Down on Dangerous Dogs: Protecting the Public and Promoting More Responsible Pet Ownership
24th April 2013
Fairness and Transparency: Towards a New Framework for Dealing with Rogue Bailiffs and Debt Collectors
25th April 2013
Preventing Deaths in Police Custody
1st May 2013
The Future of the High Street: The Next Steps Towards Revitalising Our Town Centres
2nd May 2013
Safeguarding Adults from Abuse and Neglect in Hospitals and Care Homes
8th May 2013
Responding to the Needs of Girls and Young Women in the Penal System
8th May 2013
Parking and Local Traffic Management: Beyond the Traffic Signs Policy Review
9th May 2013
Protecting Our Most Precious Resource: Tackling Water Pollution from the Urban Environment
14th May 2013
Recruiting Non-UK Nationals: Understanding and Complying with the Points Based Immigration System
21st May 2013
International Student Recruitment: Understanding and Complying with the Points Based Immigration System
22nd May 2013

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For further information please contact Parvin Madahar on 020 3137 8630 or email parvin.madahar@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk

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