

Cycles of Abuse: Domestic Violence and Mental Health

A two-day conference will take place on Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 November 1998 at the Strand Palace Hotel in London. The aim is to draw in all psychiatrists and mental health practitioners to explore the mental health perspectives of domestic violence. A subject that impacts on the work of psychiatrists from every Faculty and specialist group and from whatever treatment approach.

Speakers and workshop leaders will be drawn from psychiatry, psychology, nursing, the law, voluntary sector, general medicine practitioners and policy makers. Following the format of previous 'Cycles of Abuse' conferences, inter-Faculty and multi-agency participation will lead to informed debate and increased knowledge. The conference will close with contributions from Chairs of Faculties.

Speakers include

- **Professor Terrie Moffitt** from the Institute of Psychiatry on 'Findings on mental health and domestic violence from the Dunedin Study'
- **Dr L. Stevens** from St Helier Hospital on 'The role of the accident and emergency department in detecting domestic violence'
- **Dr D. Campbell** from the Portman Clinic on 'Individual psychotherapy with the perpetrators of violence'
- **Dr F. Subotsky** from Kings College Hospital in London on 'Domestic violence: its effects on children'
- **Professor J. Gunn** from the Institute of Psychiatry on the forensic aspect of domestic violence
- **Dr J. Piachaud** from St Charles Hospital in London on 'Victims, perpetrators and learning disabilities'
- **Dr E. Welldon** from the Portman Clinic on 'Mothers as perpetrators of violence'
- **Professor C. Cordess** from Rampton Hospital on 'Aspects of Munchausen by proxy disorder'
- **Dr K. Asen** from the Maudsley Hospital on 'Management of violence within family therapy'

There will be a choice of six workshops on each day covering assessment and treatment approaches to victims and perpetrators of whatever age.

Topics include

- Attachment theory and battering men
- Children violent to adults
- Domestic violence and deliberate self-harm
- Substance misuse in domestic violence
- Abuse of the elderly
- Vulnerable parents with special needs
- Working with young people coping with domestic violence
- Jealousy as a couple problem
- Patients as mothers: the risks to their children

Further details and a booking form can be obtained from Joanna Carroll, CPD Unit, The Royal College of Psychiatrists (Tel: 0171 235 2351, extension 108; fax: 0171 259 6507; e-mail: jcarroll@rcpsych.ac.uk).

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