

ANZATSA Conference 2017

Abstracts: General Programme

Thursday 30 November

1:00pm-2:30pm

Session 1

Reductions in risk based on time offense free in the community: Once a sexual offender, not always a sexual offender

L. Maaiké Helmus (Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand)

Background. Whereas there is a common assumption that most individuals with a criminal record can be eventually reintegrated into the community, the public has different expectations for sexual offenders. In many countries, individuals with a history of sexual offences are subject to a wide range of long-term restrictions on housing and employment, as well as public notification measures intended to prevent them from merging unnoticed into the population of law-abiding citizens.

Aims. This paper examines the testable assumption that individuals with a history of sexual crime present an enduring risk for sexual recidivism. *Methods.* We modelled the long-term (25 year) risk of sexual recidivism in a large, combined sample ($N > 7,000$). *Results.* We found that the likelihood of new sexual offenses declined the longer individuals with a history of sexual offending remain sexual offense free in the community. This effect was found for all age groups and all initial risk levels. Nonsexual offending during the follow-up period increased the risk of subsequent sexual recidivism independent of the time free effect. After 10 to 15 years, most individuals with a history of sexual offenses were no more likely to commit a new sexual offense than individuals with a criminal history that did not include sexual offenses. *Conclusions.* Consequently, policies designed to manage the risk of sexual recidivism need to include mechanisms to adjust initial risk classifications and determine time periods where individuals with a history of sexual crime should be released from the conditions and restrictions associated with the "sexual offender" label.

The application of complexity science to child sexual offending

Gerard Webster (Australian Catholic University, Australia)

Complexity science is commonly referred to as the 'new science' that has resulted from discoveries in physics, chemistry, biology, and ecology. The principles of complex, nonlinear, dynamic systems are being applied increasingly in the social sciences. Complexity theory challenges the linear, reductionist thinking of forensic psychology and criminology. While this paradigm shift takes us out of the comfort zone of current understandings about sexual offending, complexity science promises to open the way to more effectively consider the unique modus operandi of each sexual offender, thereby assisting in the identification of targets for treatment. This paper presents some of the author's conclusions from his PhD dissertation: *Psychoanalytic Complexity Theory: A process-relational approach to the treatment of child sex offenders*. The aims of this presentation are to introduce participants to the key concepts of complexity science, for participants to recognise the

applicability of complexity science to theories of sexual offending, and its utility in identifying treatment targets.

INVITED PRESENTATION: The Group Dynamics of Harmful Sexual Behaviours

Carlene Firmin (University of Bedfordshire, United Kingdom)

Over recent years research in the UK has indicated that between 30% and 50% of child sexual exploitation cases are peer-on-peer and that much of this involves groups of young people sexually harming others. As a consequence questions have been raised regarding the motivations and nature of group-based harmful sexual behaviours amongst young people and the implications for assessment and intervention. Using data from four studies into the nature of, and responses to, group-based harmful sexual behaviour that she has led over the past three years, Dr Carlene Firmin will examine the relationships between young people's friendships, the online, school and public spaces in which these relationships form, and their involvement in group-based abusive behaviours. These studies have used case review, practitioner observation and action research methods to identify points of contextual and situational escalation towards group-based incidents and the challenges faced by the agencies who attempt to respond with approaches that have generally been designed to work with individual young people and their families. By recognising the social rules at play in a range of extra-familial contexts, Dr Firmin will illustrate the importance of thinking beyond individual and familial characteristics often associated with young people who display harmful sexual behaviours and call for more contextual and environmental approaches to address this manifestation of abuse. In order to address the group dynamics of harmful sexual behaviours it is critical to assess and intervene with the social conditions of abuse, as well as those affected by it.

Session 2

Reports of a "pseudo-abuser" by two groups of South African female survivors of childhood sexual abuse

Hayley Walker-Williams (North-West University, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa)

Ansie Fouché (North-West University, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa)

Childhood sexual abuse (CSA) is acknowledged as a devastating traumatic ordeal due to the nature and unique trauma context. The inherent presence of trauma causing factors like the power difference between the child and perpetrator; the fact that most abusers are known to the child and are to protect instead of betray; the secrecy or disbelief and lack of protection surrounding the ordeal, makes CSA a unique and complex trauma. This study reports on a led to a serendipitous finding during the implementation of the Survivor to Thriver (S2T) collaborative strengths-based group intervention programme for female survivors of CSA. This employed a quasi-experimental pre-test post-test one group only design, with two groups of women (N=18), ages between 18 to 50 years. We found that in cases where children were not be believed or protected after disclosure the development of a secondary trauma resembling a "pseudo-abuser" were reported. Using interpretative phenomenological analysis it emerged that the primary CSA abuse was resembled by a "Pseudo-abuser" as a result of empathic failure and attachment injury manifestations. The existence of such a "pseudo-abuser" could prolong the CSA trauma experience and can be seen as an important secondary trauma which needs to be included in abuse specific treatment interventions.

Disparities in court outcomes for male versus female sexual offenders in New Zealand

Tess Patterson (University of Otago, New Zealand)

Linda Hobbs (University of Otago, New Zealand)

Kelley Burton (University of Sunshine Coast, Australia)

Nadine McKillop (University of Sunshine Coast, Australia)

Reported prevalence rates indicate that females are responsible for between 4% - 5% of all sexual offences committed. Despite this growing recognition that females engage in harmful sexual behaviour that is similar in severity and type to males, existing research suggests that there may be a bias towards leniency in judicial systems for female sexual offenders. The current study investigates whether or not there are disparities in the way in which female sexual offenders are treated in judicial systems as compared to male sexual offenders. Specifically, we examine two separate sets of data. First, we examine a 12-month period of New Zealand Police statistics regarding the number of female sexual offenders (compared to male sexual offenders) who were charged with a sexual offence and whether they are proceeded to court action or not. Second, we examine New Zealand Police Crime Harm Index (CHI) data (a derived measure of sentencing length) to compare the severity of sentence imposed by the New Zealand court system on female (compared to male) sexual offenders. Results of the study suggest that female sexual offenders may be treated differentially. Police statistics demonstrate that a smaller percentage of females as compared to males proceed to 'court action', with a larger percentage of females 'not proceeding' or proceeding to 'non-court action'. The severity of sentence (as measured by the CHI) for charges that specified a male offender was greater for charges than that specified for a female offender. These findings are discussed in terms of gender differences in sex crimes committed, how these crimes are 'viewed' or processed by Police and judicial systems, as well as limitations of the present study.

The offending, conviction and sentencing of female sex offenders who abuse children when working in institutional contexts

Andrea Darling (University of Durham, United Kingdom)

Background. Although institutional child sexual abuse (CSA) has received significant attention in recent years through numerous national inquiries, and media reporting of this type of abuse being perpetrated by women appears to be increasing there has been very little empirical research into this particular phenomenon to date. This paper presents findings from part of a larger study exploring female-perpetrated CSA occurring in institutional contexts such as schools, residential homes and sports organisations. Aims. The research aimed to inform future prevention efforts by understanding: perpetrator and victim characteristics; modus operandi and criminal justice system responses to this particular type of CSA. Methods. The study examined 71 cases considered by the criminal justice system in England, Scotland and Wales between 2000 and 2016. The research involved secondary data analysis of court reports, professional regulatory body decisions, media reports and publicly accessible UK databases. Mixed methods were employed including quantitative statistical description and qualitative content analysis. Findings were compared with existing studies into wider female sexual offender samples. Results. The findings indicate that most women offended alone and had no previous criminal or employment misconduct records. Victims were typically male, aged 15-16 years and almost half of the victims had a particular recognised vulnerability. The majority of abusive contact occurred outside of the institutional context and sexual communications via electronic methods were typical. Over half of the cases involved sexual intercourse or oral sexual abuse. Where abuse was reported to the police, most resulted in charges and the majority considered by the courts resulted in custodial sentences, typically of 2-3 years in length. Conclusions. The women in this sample who sexually abused children while working in institutional contexts differ

in a number of ways from those typically found in other female sex offender samples. Their victims are generally older, they offend alone and their behaviour may be particularly influenced by the situational and environmental contexts of the institutions in which they work.

Session 3

Pretreatment factors associated with treatment dropout in adolescent males with harmful sexual behaviours

Jonathan Tolcher (SAFE, New Zealand)

Ian Lambie (University of Auckland, New Zealand)

Research into treatment dropout among adolescents attending intervention for harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) is limited, however, this group is more likely to reengage in HSB than treatment completers. Early detection of treatment dropout risk through attention to pre-treatment variables associated with treatment dropout may help to avert premature treatment attrition. The present study reviewed literature on treatment dropout to identify pre-treatment variables associated with attrition from adolescent harmful sexual behaviour (AHSB) treatment. The analysis compared a sample of 50 male adolescent treatment dropouts and 50 male treatment completers, matched by age and ethnic group, attending a community based treatment service for AHSB. Logistic regression was used to test the association of treatment dropout with pre-treatment variables identified in the literature review. Fourteen variables were identified as significantly associated with treatment dropout. The results are discussed in light of previous research findings and with a view to identifying means of reducing treatment dropout risk. A checklist to help identify youth 'at risk' of treatment dropout is proposed as well as potential engagement strategies to help reduce the likelihood of treatment attrition among such 'at risk' youth.

Partnerships across stages of intervention – A long-term multi-system approach to the management of youth with complex needs who engage in sexually abusive behaviour.

Danielle Shumack (Griffith Youth Forensic Service, Australia)

Benjamin Evans (Griffith Youth Forensic Service, Australia)

Sharon Kelly (Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Australia)

The Griffith Youth Forensic Service (GYFS) was established in 2001, funded by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General Youth Justice Service, Queensland, with in-kind support from the Griffith University. Young people found guilty of sexually abusive behaviours are supervised on their youth justice orders by Youth Justice staff who engage GYFS to provide specialist assessment and treatment services on a state-wide basis. The culturally diverse and geographically dispersed Queensland context requires a coordinated approach to ensuring successful offence specific intervention and outcomes for young people who engage in sexually abusive behaviour. Multi-system teams build a network of treatment, supervision and support around a young person, to effect more lasting change on a young person's behaviour and influence positive outcomes for young people and their systems. This presentation will explore the use of multi-systems teams, bringing together government and non-government services to enable coordinated therapeutic responses to working with young people who have sexually offended and present with significant risks of reoffending. Theoretical and practical frameworks and helpful strategies are presented in managing complex clients and systems. With specific reference to youth who engage in contact offences as well as non-contact offences (those who have engaged in online child sexual exploitation offending).

Evaluating the effectiveness of adolescent treatment for harmful sexual behaviour - commercialisation, marketing and expediency in selling the product.

Dale Tolliday (Sydney Children's Hospitals Network, Australia)

In Australia, The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse identified many areas of concern in relation to the safety of children. One substantial area identified was the children's safety from other children. The Royal Commission commissioned an evidence review, "Rapid evidence assessment: Current best evidence in the therapeutic treatment of children with problem or harmful sexual behaviours, and children who have sexually offended" (May 2017) for which the presenter is one of the authors. The criterion required by the Royal Commission was to restrict eligible studies to randomised controlled trials (RCTs) and quasi-experimental design (QED). Alternate approaches were not permitted as the "gold standard" was applied. The systematic review yielded only a small number of eligible studies internationally. There was not scope to fully discuss deficiencies in the few studies demonstrating treatment effect. Nor was there scope to acknowledge alternate strategies to evaluate treatment effectiveness, the limited focus of most treatment effectiveness studies or that at the same time the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (UK) was engaged in a similar process but used a different methodology. Interestingly both studies reached similar conclusions about the elements of effective treatment. The Royal Commission study also included observations about treatment approaches in Australia, some identified in the research paper and others which may be noted by the Royal Commission itself by the time of the conference. Where does this leave the field locally in terms of demonstrating effectiveness and cost-benefit? This is a critical issue as Government funding is moving to shorter term cycles using narrow and blunt measures of effectiveness, most commonly recidivism alone. Where Government and NGO providers cannot deliver according to funder requirements, off-the-shelf licenced products are attractive solutions. This presentation proposes local service providers need to become more research literate and engage with ongoing research.

Session 4

"Seen and not heard:" Understanding the service user voice in sex offending treatment

Danielle Harris (Griffith Criminology Institute, Griffith University, Australia)

Kieran McCartan (University of the West of England, United Kingdom)

David S. Prescott (Becket Family of Services, United States)

In the provision of social services, emphasis is increasingly placed on user experience and client satisfaction. One domain of treatment and the helping professions that has expanded exponentially over the last twenty years is the provision of services to individuals convicted of sexual offenses. This growing population is interviewed, interrogated, investigated, assessed, managed, treated, supervised, and surveilled but their service user perspective is almost entirely absent from research. To that end, this paper introduces the 'service user voice' within the context of our criminal, civil, social, and psychological responses to sexual offending. We examine qualitative data from in depth interviews with a range of stakeholders in this space including men convicted of sexual offenses (UK, $n=19$; US, $n=74$), their clinical treatment providers, and policy makers. We explore the men's identities, as well as their perspectives about themselves, their offenses, their treatment, and their re-entry into the community. The men's voices are compared and contrasted with that of an international convenience sample of the public, practitioners, and policy makers. Areas of overlap and knowledge gaps are identified and we discuss how these disconnects can be resolved in policy and practice.

The Development of a Culturally-Informed Risk Assessment and Management Platform for use with intellectually disabled sexual offenders of Maori descent: Ethical issues

Vijetha Jamisetty (SAFE Hamilton, New Zealand)
Armon Tamatea (University of Waikato, New Zealand)
Doug P. Boer (University of Canberra, Australia)

The design of a risk assessment measure generally follow one of two tracks: derivation of an actuarial tool based on statistical analyses of potential variables (e.g., Static-99) or derivation of a structured professional judgement tool based on a comprehensive literature review of potential relevant variables. The end result is usually a test or instrument with some level of predictive validity that may or may not be attuned to cultural differences. As noted by some authors, some tests have been cross-validated with unique cultural groups, but this is the same as being developed in a culturally-informed manner.

Approximately 15 years ago, Boer and colleagues developed a risk management tool for aboriginal offenders in Canada based on extensive consultation with native Elders, however, due to a lack of empirical validation was not widely implemented by correctional psychologists. The present paper describes the proposed development of a risk assessment and management platform which is culturally informed and community sensitive, using the knowledge of relevant Maori stakeholders. The purpose of the proposed platform includes risk assessment, protective factor enhancement, risk management, and reintegration planning in a culturally-informed manner utilizing localized knowledge.

'It's Our Business' – training bar staff to prevent sexual assault

Fiona McNamara (Sexual Abuse Prevention Network, New Zealand)

In New Zealand, alcohol is a factor in at least 50% of sexual abuse cases and alcohol is the most commonly used drug to facilitate sexual abuse. Warning signs of sexual assaults are often visible in public spaces by large numbers of witnesses, including professionals, such as bar and security staff. While most people believe they would take action if they saw a serious attack taking place, warning signs for sexual abuse can often be subtle and hidden - and stepping in at the early stages is complex. Sexual Abuse Prevention Network has been running a programme with people working in bars for the past eight years. Drawing on the ethical bystander model, 'It's Our Business' is a workshop that focuses on building skills to identify potential sexual assaults and intervene before they escalate. Fiona McNamara will present on what the workshop covers, the challenges in programme uptake and Sexual Abuse Prevention Network's work to make sexual violence prevention training compulsory for all professionals serving alcohol.

Session 5

New Zealand's Child Sex Offender Register: From Detention to Prevention

Mark Hutton (CSO Registry, New Zealand Police)
Margaret-Anne Laws (Criminal Profiling Unit, New Zealand Police)
Alexia Darby (CSO Registry, New Zealand Police)
Adrian Ross (CSO Registry, New Zealand Police)

The Child Protection (Child Sex Offender Government Agency Registration) Act 2016 was enacted on the 14 September 2016, and commenced operation on the 14 October 2016. The law required the

Commissioner of Police to establish a Child Sex Offender Register with the purpose of reducing sexual reoffending against child victims and the risk posed by serious child sex offenders. The enactment of this law resulted in a significant shift from traditional policing, and has required Police and the Department of Corrections to work together in a collaborative manner, on a scale never seen before. The Register sits under the Prevention arm of Police, and Government agencies share information in order to monitor offenders, and work closely with offenders to manage their ongoing risk. This symposium will: (1) discuss the implementation of the register to date, and the challenges faced by Police, with a focus on the cultural shift from apprehension and prosecution, and police policy and practice in long-term management of registered offenders in the community; (2) outline information sharing across government agencies and with overseas agencies, together with a limited disclosure scheme to improve the ongoing monitoring of child sex offenders and reduce the opportunities for them to re-offend; (3) discuss the process of training Police Officers in sex offender risk assessment and management, what risk assessment tools are used by Police, and police policy and practice in managing the risks associated with registered offenders; and, (4) conclude with a discussion of a 'where to from here' form, with a focus on opportunities to work more collaboratively with partner/non-government agencies to maximise the opportunities of long term sex offender case management under a prevention focus.

Session 6

The Capacity & Ability to Protect Screening Tool (CAP Screen) – An actuarial tool to inform decision making regarding a proposed carer's capacity and ability to protect a child from sexual abuse.

Gareth McGibbon

The majority of adults who pose a sexual risk to children are not in the criminal justice system. This includes persons who: (1) have historical convictions, (2) have never been convicted of sexual offences against children but have a 'finding of fact' from a family court against them, or (3) are alleged to be perpetrators of sexual abuse but have not been prosecuted due to insufficient evidence. Additionally, not every adult who commits a sexual offence poses a risk to every child in every context. Many of these individuals, convicted or not, come to the attention of the Ministry of Vulnerable Children because of their relationship with a child. Requests for family unification places social workers under significant scrutiny to justify their decision making. There are currently no empirically informed assessment tools that can rate the capacity and ability of the Proposed Approved Carer (PAC) to protect a child at risk from sexual abuse. However, research and clinical observations suggest there are a number of emerging factors that are useful in formulating a position on an individual's capacity and ability to protect children in their care. This paper draws on this research and clinical experience to propose an actuarial screening tool to notionally categorise individual risk and protective factors to defensibly inform child protection decision making.

This screening tool provides significant benefits in the following areas:

- A categorised assessment of risk and need to assist in social workers decision making regarding the PAC's capacity and ability to protect the child from a risk of sexual harm.
- The provision of a defensible evidence based assessment to inform the Ministry of Vulnerable Children's recommendations and interventions.
- An informed and approved approach in addressing the needs of children and families at risk of sexual violence.
- Ensure the child is at the centre of all decision making and the child's voice is heard.
- Improved outcomes for children subject to child protection concerns.
- A reduction in the number of children who continue to be exposed to sexual abuse.

3:00pm-4:30pm

Session 7

Capacity and Ability to Protect: Assessing the risk – Protecting the child

Elizabeth Scott (STOP Adult Services, New Zealand)

Marcella Leonard (Independent social work consultant)

Deidre Mahon (Independent social work consultant)

STOP Adult Services provide community based assessment and intervention programmes for adults who have engaged in harmful sexual behaviour. The programme incorporates a holistic approach which places critical focus on the importance of working with the individual in the context of their whanau and wider system. This joint international workshop will highlight key considerations of the role of the non-abusing carer in the family system where harmful sexual behaviour has occurred. Often carers respond with ambivalence to disclosures of sexual abuse yet they are frequently required to adopt roles requiring them to provide adequate protection and supervision. It is not uncommon for individuals who have a history of harmful sexual behaviour to remain in, or return to, families where little or no work has been undertaken. Enhancing partners' emotional and intellectual appreciation of risk and empowering individuals to respond effectively within the family system are key aspects to ensuring effective protection. The workshop will take practitioners through the process from initial assessment of capacity and ability to protect, to creating interventions tailored for the individual and specifically designed to enhance ability to identify and respond to risk. Case material will be used to explore the work in response to examples of the dynamics of online and contact sexual abuse within the family system and the safeguarding decision making within the context of Signs of Safety framework. This workshop will explore the importance of understanding risk/danger within a case of sexual abuse, also looking on strengths and safety and applying that knowledge to develop a safety plan using the signs of safety framework. The workshop will explore a questioning approach to practice and the importance of developing positive relationships with service users. STOP maintains long term links with providers of work in this field in the UK and therefore approaches taken in New Zealand and Northern Ireland will be presented with comparisons and contrasts highlighted.

Session 8

#KEEPITFRESH “When you can't change the direction of the wind, adjust your sail.” A Pasifika approach to working with Harmful Sexual Behaviour.

Rokeni Tofaeono (SAFE Adult Services, New Zealand)

The Pacific people's ethnic group is the 4th largest major ethnic group in NZ. In the 2013 Census 7.4% of the NZ population identified with one or more Pacific groups. 62.3% of people who identified with at least one Pacific ethnicity were born in New Zealand. Pacific peoples born in Aotearoa New Zealand and those born in their island of origin bring a wide range of distinctive differences. Respectively, they convey their own specific beliefs, values, language and customs. Pasifika people experience varying levels of living between two worlds and are often challenged by the pressures and expectations of their own culture in a diverse New Zealand society. The Pasifika staff from Safe Network (New Zealand's largest community based clinical service for the treatment of sexually harmful behaviour), will present their experiences on how they have managed to navigate within these two worlds to deliver clinical intervention to clients and their families that is culturally responsive and honouring of identity. Current models in the literature are based on a

Western academic framework and are not normed for Pasifika clients. Over the years these have not necessarily provided the best way to engage with Pasifika clients and their families. In this interactive workshop participants can expect to experience what is like for Pacific clients when attending safe network and also be informed on the current Pasifika approach to therapy and social work and how this sits within the constant ebb and flow of current research that informs our clinical practice in working with this client population. How do we do it? #KEEPITFRESH and adjust your sail!

Session 9

Mission Possible - a dynamic skills development group for children and parents

Emma Watkins (STOP Children's Service, New Zealand)
Betty Gallagher (STOP Children's Service, New Zealand)

Your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to attend a presentation by the STOP Children's Service. Mission Possible is an engaging new group format for working with children and their parents/ caregivers over an eight week period. Agents and their Squadron Leaders were invited to complete six top secret and highly complex missions without self-destructing. Our Special Agents' mission was to arm participants with new skills in social engagement tactics, emotional regulation and interpersonal relationships within an attachment informed context. All Agents were aged between six to ten years and are currently attending intervention for concerning sexualised behaviours. Everyone who is brave enough to attend this presentation will experience some of the strategies used to help our Agents to achieve their mission. You will also be provided with secret weapons, which can be used anywhere, anytime (except in swimming pools). Now that you know what this presentation is about, read it out loud again, but in a raspy deep voice. Be warned: you may need to play and do some silly things if you attend this presentation. All in the name of successful engagement with children.

Session 10

The complexities of 'apologising' within the context of treatment and a restorative process

Shona Cavanagh (SECASA, Australia)
Melissah Stubbs (SECASA, Australia)
Jackie Bateman (SECASA, Australia)

The South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault SECASA, AWARE Program has been providing assessment and treatment of problem sexual and sexually abusive behaviours for children and young people in Victoria for the past 14 years (2001). The AWARE program treatment includes individual, group and family therapy. The notion of 'apologising' for one's behaviour and the context for why and how this is facilitated is an important consideration with our work with families. This workshop raises the complexities of this in practice when engaging in a restorative process.

Session 11

The logistics of an anger management group work program for young males who have abused others - developing skills using relaxation, mindfulness, debriefing, and meditation techniques.

Peter J. Watt (Australia)

This workshop will take participants through the logistics and some activities designed to help young

men who have difficulties with self-control and/ or impulse control concerning anger and aggression towards others. The workshop will outline the key ingredients that have been successful for several groups who have successfully completed the program at my practice over the past two years. The group process will be demonstrated by inviting workshop participants to join in various activities that were deemed “impressive” by group members in their evaluations. The outcomes for the young men’s group program include:

- Accept and follow a set of group rules,
- Gain skills in self-control by demonstration and practice,
- Find alternative strategies to manage anger rather than fight or flight mode,
- Practice relaxation and mindfulness techniques to improve well-being,
- Use defusing and neutralizing strategies to address negative thoughts,
- Understand diversity in feelings expression,
- Develop a mindful attitude to predict vulnerable situations,
- Demonstrate focus and control in purposeful activities.

Session 12

UK Sex Offender Management – Lessons learnt for Law Enforcement

Duncan Sheppard (Independent, United Kingdom)

Since the introduction in England and Wales of the Sex Offenders Act 2003 the number of Registered Sex Offenders (RSO) have increased and is now over 50,000 in the community. The sheer volume has forced the Police to reevaluate its priorities and make national strategic and operational decisions that affect which RSO’s should be actively managed.

This workshop is aimed at strategic and operational staff from the Police and other professionals who work within this field to gain an insight into the lessons the UK has learnt. In particular, the workshop will examine: (1) the background to the UK’s response to sex offender management in the community; (2) the academic research around recidivism rates amongst sex offenders; (3) the development and introduction of a dynamic risk assessment tool in England and Wales, known as ARMS; (4) the academic research around whether a sex offender is no longer a risk; (5) the strategic and operational lessons learnt; and, (6) the recent decisions taken by Police for managing sex offenders in the community in the UK.

The sex offender legislation in the UK introduced Law Enforcement to a new form of Policing by actively managing offenders within a legislative framework. For many years, this had predominately been the preserve of the National Probation Service but with the introduction of the Sex Offender legislation it brought about opportunities and created challenges to manage offenders, some for life, in the community. Some of the long-term consequences on policing were not considered: in a time of limited resources, the rise in sex offender numbers has meant difficult decisions have had to be made about what sex offender management means, for the operational Police Officer. The National Police Chief Counsel in England and Wales have examined the academic evidence which supports a modified system for operational Policing to manage RSO’s in the community. This workshop will provide the participants with an insight into the many different aspects of sex offender management in the UK, the lessons that have been learnt and the reasons for the decisions which have taken place over the last few years.

Friday 1 December

9:00am-12:30pm

Session 13

Improving Practice in CAM Image Investigation through identification of offender characteristics

Chris Lennings (Charles Sturt University & LSC Psychology, Australia)

Natalie Davis (Australian Federal Police)

Tracey Green (Charles Sturt University, Australia)

This study compared the characteristics of 136 (average age 46 years, range 21–79) online child sexual abuse offenders in Australia based on theories of characteristics of child sexual abuse contact offenders. Using data gleaned from Australian Federal Police investigations, characteristics that may influence offenders with a preference for increasingly graphic and violent child sex abuse images (based on the Combating Paedophile Information Networks in Europe Project (COPINE) typology of image preferences) were analysed. Important findings were the lack of significant effect of some variables expected on the basis of theoretical approaches to understanding sex offending and including variables such as intimacy deficits; the tendency for escalation in image preference to be associated with callousness in offenders; and a preference for images, video and written stories being associated with a preference for COPINE Levels 8, 9 and 10. Post hoc analysis investigating victim age, gender, format of material and level of deviance (as shown by the highest COPINE ratings) revealed that offenders that preferred all age groups also preferred all genders and formats of material.

Do child sex offenders cross-over from known victims to an unknown victim: A retrospective study

Mei Wah Williams (Massey University, New Zealand)

Kirsty Blackwood (Dept of Corrections, New Zealand)

Jim van Rensburg (Regional Forensic Psychiatry Service, New Zealand)

There is a lot of fear about released child sex offenders, particularly about the risk they pose to the community. Even more so, is the fear that the offender will reoffend against a child unknown to them, even though there has been no history of such offending. This study is a retrospective study investigating the cross-over patterns of sexual reoffending of child sex offenders released into the community between 1996 and 2003, and followed up in 2009. The aim of the study was firstly to investigate the level of reoffending of child sex offenders and secondly, of those who reoffended, whether they crossed-over to offend against an unknown child with no prior history of committing such offences. The risk factors associated with reoffending were examined, showing that sexual reoffending was low. While crossover was relatively common for those who reoffended, cross-over to unknown victims was less so. Although more empirical study needs to be conducted on the group that are at risk of targeting unknown victims, the study provides some initial data of potential risk factors. It also provides some clarity in the categorisation of relationships between the offender and victim.

A Comprehensive Theory of Dynamic Risk and Protective Factors

Roxanne Heffernan (Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand)

Tony Ward (Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand)

The current conceptualization of “dynamic risk factors” (DRF) for criminal offending is problematic. It is generally accepted that there are significant conceptual issues in this domain, however, until recently addressing these have not been prioritized. Instead the majority of research and literature has focused on the success of DRF in predicting reoffending, and the effectiveness of treatment programmes that target DRF. Similar conceptual issues apply to “protective factors” (PF), which are frequently defined as the opposite of DRF; factors that reduce rather than increase risk of reoffending. In addition to the vagueness of these broad definitions, problems arise when researchers attempt to explain the theoretical and practical relationship between the two. Two important and challenging questions arise: (1) what exactly are these risk-related features? And (2) how do they relate to each other and criminal behaviour? In this paper we argue that by building a comprehensive model of predictive agency we may be able to understand the causes of crime and desistance, and that this is crucial in improving outcomes for both offenders and the societies they are released into.

Session 14

Trauma Informed Practice with those who have experienced sexual violence- START style.

Catherine Gallagher (START, New Zealand)

Maggy Tai Rakena (START, New Zealand)

START is an NGO service that is based in Christchurch. We opened our doors 30 years ago to fill a gap supporting children, youth and adults who had experienced sexual violence, and continue to do this essential work today. Knowledge about trauma and its impact is central to any work relating to sexual violence. As an agency that supports people of all ages through the journey of healing we aim to be trauma informed in our practice. Sources of information around what it means to be ‘trauma informed’ have increased exponentially in the last few decades and in fact some might even say that this term has become the new ‘buzz word’ for clinical work in all areas. The developments in brain science have helped, as now we know a lot more about what we were only able to imagine or make sense of through the words and behaviours of our clients. Keeping well informed about current ‘trauma informed’ practice requires us to make use of the clinical literature and trainings that are available. The challenge for us all is then to create the time to take this learning back to our work places and to consolidate what we do well, introduce new ideas, and act to mitigate the forces (that might be out of our control) that make working in such a way difficult. This presentation will be START’s attempt to illustrate their day to day ‘trauma informed’ practice and in particular with children and young people. In preparing for this talk, we have reviewed our practice and our environment to explore the things that we see working with our clients in creating a safer and more effective platform for their trauma work to occur within.

Considerations for the implementation of the Survivor to Thriver collaborative strengths-based group intervention for males who have experienced childhood sexual abuse

Ansie Fouché (North-West University, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa)

Hayley Walker-Williams (North-West University, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa)

A collaborative strengths-based intervention entitled “S2T” (denoting from survivor to thriver) is based on previous empirical findings and advocates a balanced approach incorporating traditional pathogenic and emerging salutogenic models on sexual abuse treatment as well as an integrated trauma model. The main aim of this group intervention programme is to facilitate posttraumatic growth in women who experienced childhood sexual abuse (CSA) focusing on adaptive post-trauma outcomes. An evaluation of the benefits of the S2T group intervention programme over a period of three years with two separate groups of women portrayed enabling processes of posttraumatic growth suggesting a shift from a survivor to thriver identity. This study is now going to be adapted for implementation with male survivors of CSA. Considerations such as gender specific treatment outcomes and manifestations such as externalising behaviour, unique trauma context, and diverse losses will be discussed. Practice implications for amending and implementing the current S2T programme with male survivors will be discussed.

Female-perpetrated child sexual abuse occurring in institutional contexts

Andrea Darling (University of Durham, UK)

Background. Despite an increasing interest in female sex offenders and institutional child sexual abuse (CSA) over the last two decades there is virtually no empirical research examining female perpetrated CSA occurring in institutions such as schools, residential homes and sports organisations. My PhD addresses this current gap in knowledge. *Aims.* The research aims to assist future prevention efforts and support for victims through better understanding of: perpetrator and victim characteristics; modus operandi; criminal justice system responses; victim impacts and situational and contextual factors relevant to this particular type of CSA. *Methods.* The study examines 136 cases of female-perpetrated CSA arising in the UK, Canada and the USA between 2000 and 2016. The research involves secondary data analysis of court reports, professional regulatory body decisions, media reports and publicly accessible UK databases. Mixed methods are employed, including quantitative statistical description and qualitative content analysis. Findings are compared with existing studies into wider female sexual offender samples. *Results.* Findings to date show that women in this sample differ in a number of ways from those typically found in other female sex offender samples. Their victims are generally male, older (typically 15-16 year old) and over half have particular vulnerabilities. Almost all of the women offend alone, the majority of abusive contact occurs outside of the institutional context and sexual communications via electronic methods are typical. Over half of the cases involve sexual intercourse or oral sexual abuse. It appears that these women are not pre-disposed to sexually abuse but that their behaviour may be particularly influenced by the situational and environmental contexts of the institutions in which they work. *Conclusions.* Through increased understanding of the characteristics of those vulnerable to abuse and to being abused, as well as common modus operandi of female perpetrators in institutional contexts this study further enhances knowledge in order to assist future prevention efforts in relation to this type of CSA.

Session 15

Too hard basket - adolescents who sexually abuse others

Holly Mason-White (Sexual Assault Support Service, Australia)

A high proportion of sexual assaults against children are committed by other children and adolescents, with some estimates indicating that children constitute the 'offender' in 40% to 90% of sexual assaults against other young people. Despite this, little attention has been paid to the issue within public policy, resulting in inconsistent and fragmented responses by statutory bodies, police and child welfare organisations. This presentation will discuss the process undertaken by the Tasmanian Sexual Assault Support Service (SASS) to establish and implement a statewide program for adolescents who display problem sexual behaviour and/or sexually abusive behaviour. The SASS program is the first of its kind in Tasmania, and in October 2017, will have been running for one year. The presentation will share program results drawn from the first annual program evaluation, and a discussion of several case studies. The presentation will also incorporate SASS reflections on implementing the program, including a discussion around the challenges of gaining governmental support for this cohort of highly vulnerable youth. It will look at how the challenge in securing support is reflected in the way society views them – are they young offenders, or are they actually vulnerable young people who are themselves in need of protection and behavioural change interventions? SASS hopes that sharing our own learnings and reflections on the program will prompt transparent and open discussion on this critical issue.

What's New with Static-99R and STABLE-2007? Risk levels, manuals, and new combination rules

L. Maaiké Helmus (Victoria University of Wellington)

Background. Static-99R and STABLE-2007 are among the most widely used risk scales for sexual offenders. *Aims.* The purpose of this presentation is to provide an overview of updates to both scales over the last year. The intended audience for this presentation includes people already trained in scoring either Static-99R or STABLE-2007, or who are interested in research advancements on improving the communication of risk assessment information, including combining static and dynamic scales. *Main Contributions.* In 2016, a new Static-99R coding manual was released. This presentation will highlight some of the key changes to the manual and new user guidance (note that this overview is not sufficient training to score the scale with the new manual). Additionally, a new collaborative initiative from the U.S. Justice Center to develop a common language for risk levels (applicable to all risk scales) will be discussed, and the presentation will provide an overview of how this common language was applied to Static-99R and to the combination of Static and STABLE. The new STABLE-2007 evaluator workbook will be discussed, with the new combination rules and new/updated normative data (including percentiles, risk ratios, and absolute recidivism estimates). *Conclusions:* This presentation will summarize our updated recommendations for the applied use of Static-99R and STABLE-2007.

Practice-based evidence of the sociological impact of pornography

Deanna Hollis (WellStop, New Zealand)

In the time I have been practising in the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Sector, I have noticed a marked increase in the presentation of young people who identified pornography as the precipitating factor to their own behaviours. This has led to an interest in the impact of pornography in a New Zealand context, not just in terms of what is considered 'mainsession' pornography, but also in terms of the

influence of the increase in sexualised content contained in other media, including television programmes, music and advertising, which has resulted in a desensitisation of our society as a whole. It has become apparent that what was once considered 'soft porn' is now prime time viewing, and that what is now considered 'mainsession pornography' has become increasingly violent, and the content frequently challenges all the other positive social messages that are being promoted with regard to equality of women, consent, 'violence is not ok', 'are you the one?' along with other campaigns designed to challenge violence against women, including sexual violence. The aim of this presentation is to generate conversations within our speciality field to how we can work better and smarter. This is an issue that impacts on everyone as a society, with a significant number of serious long-term impacts. Presentations of Arousal Addiction are on the rise, along with an increase in referrals (both mandated and non-mandated) for adults whose addiction has led them down the path of accessing objectionable material (child abuse images). Along with this is the disturbing impact that pornography can have on the developing adolescent brain.

Session 16

Meeting pain based behaviour with further pain: Case study of how the system of care has responded to one child's problematic sexual behaviour. Can the goal of preventing sexual abuse be served when there is a disconnect between what we know the child needs and what the child gets?

Jenny Howell (Howell Forensic Psychology, Australia)

Diana Boswell (Therapeutic Welfare Interventions, Australia)

Background. The authors have observed that children and young people who show problematic sexual behaviour are often excluded from home/school/community experiences that are developmentally crucial for resuming a normal life adjustment trajectory. Coming from backgrounds where they have experienced multiple Adverse Life Events, the response from the system is often to impose further experiences of alienation, exclusion and social/emotional abuse and neglect. This response pattern goes against all we know about how to develop protective factors that work against repeated offending and more generally our responsibility to act in the best interest of the child. *Aims.* Reflecting on the case study will provide an opportunity for practitioners to explore issues around the skill base for assessment of complex cases, developing a congruent understanding of what is in the best interest of the child across the system of care, and strategies and barriers for implementation of an intervention plan. *Main contributions.* The authors bring a broad theoretical and practice perspective of trauma theory, developmental and educational psychology, forensic and implementation science as it applies to programs for children and families. *Conclusions.* Practice must be driven by a comprehensive understanding and commitment to meeting the treatment needs of an individual child within their life context. Any intervention must take into account the general principles of therapeutic care of children: an ecological perspective, developmental-focused, relationship-based, competency-centred, family-engaged, and trauma-informed as well as the specific treatment needs of a child with problematic sexual behaviours.

Characteristics of children with sexual behaviour problems who present for treatment at an agency in Wellington, New Zealand

Fernanda de Lacerda Mottin (WellStop, New Zealand)

Background. Field of child sexual behaviour problems encompasses a wide range of population with varying degrees of severity of behaviour and diverse risk factors. This heterogeneity poses challenges to understanding when a behaviour is of concern and a referral should be made to a

specialist service. *Aims.* This presentation will focus on describing the characteristics of children (aged 4-12 years old) referred to an agency for treatment of sexual behaviour problems in an attempt to better understand the presenting issues from this age group and the associated contributing factors as identified through assessment reports. It will then compare this population with the current knowledge in the literature to identify patterns or gaps in the referrals received. *Main Contributions.* Better understanding of the types of sexual behaviour children under 12 years old present with at an agency that provides assessment and treatment of children with sexual behaviour problems. Better understanding of the contributing factors associated with sexual behaviour problems in this population. Combining the research evidence with practice at an established treatment provider agency in Wellington NZ. *Conclusions.* It is hoped that the referrals match the diversity of this population. If gaps are identified, then attempts at understanding it and improving outcomes will be discussed.

A life lived in fear is a life half lived: balancing community fears with the hypervigilance of our clients

Danielle Arlanda Harris (Griffith University, Australia)

Since the turn of the century, multiple western jurisdictions (especially those in the United States) have witnessed a proliferation of Draconian and increasingly restrictive laws aimed specifically at those individuals convicted of sexual offenses (especially against stranger children). As the net gets wider, and the mesh gets finer, we have witnessed many unintended consequences that now impact anyone who has committed any offense of a remotely sexual nature, not to mention their families, friends, colleagues, employers, and communities, more broadly. As we fast approach one million people on U.S. sex offender registries, we argue that these laws have gone too far. A substantial body of literature on the collateral consequences of sex offender registration and notification (SORN) exists, but it focuses largely on location and access (e.g. limited access to mandatory treatment, affordable housing, and stable employment), with some scholars positing a potential link to subsequent recidivism. Very little research has focused on the emotional toll that accompanies the “sex offender” label. In interviews with over 80 men convicted of a sexual offense and released from custody, the strongest emergent themes were crippling fear and paranoia, paralyzing but ultimately futile hypervigilance, and a strange reliance on the insurance of surveillance. If we aspire to facilitate the pursuit of offense-free lives, good lives, or good enough lives, a life lived in fear is a life half lived. Implications of our findings are discussed.

Session 17

The assessment of protective factors: comparing and contrasting an empirically derived approach and a theoretically derived approach.

Sophie Dickson (The University of Auckland, New Zealand)

Gwenda Willis (The University of Auckland, New Zealand)

Recidivism risk assessment tools focus overwhelmingly on risk factors for reoffending such as criminal history variables and individual difficulties and deficits. Yet current tools have high rates of false positives. For example, up to 50% of individuals assessed in the high risk category for sexual reoffending do not go on to reoffend. How might high risk non-recidivists differ from high risk recidivists? The answer may partially reside in the structured assessment of protective factors, which can be conceptualized as those factors that predict non-recidivism either on their own or through mitigating the impact of risk factors. In this presentation we will describe a current longitudinal study examining two different approaches to the assessment of protective factors: The popular

empirically driven bottom-up approach and a theoretically driven top-down approach. These include the Structured Assessment of Protective Factors for violence risk – Sexual offending version (SAPROF-SO), and a Good Lives Model derived assessment. We will discuss the relative merits of both approaches and illustrate their application using case examples from the longitudinal study.

Application of the SHARP Dynamic sexual risk protocol

Karla Lopez (Victoria Police, Australia)

Eliza Kirby (Victoria Police, Australia)

Victoria Police is responsible for the administration of the Sex Offender Registration Act 2004 which aims to prevent further sexual violence by known sex offenders. The process of sex offender risk assessment is relied upon by such preventative schemes to identify offenders who pose the highest risk of further offending to coordinate resources accordingly. However, it has long been established that actuarial tools alone are not enough to guide intervention efforts due to their reliance on static variables. Alternatively, whilst existing dynamic risk assessments are useful in identifying criminogenic needs to be targeted for intervention, they tend to be lengthy and require clinical training and experience to code. This presents particular challenges in a police environment where even highly trained law enforcement professionals lack the expertise and the time to code these tools reliably. The SHARP (sexual deviance, history of supervision violation, anti-social orientation, risky environment and protective factors) was established as an empirically grounded dynamic risk assessment tool better suited for police use. It is not only a brief measure but it also relies on offender data which is readily available to police. The presentation will outline key features of the SHARP including benefits and limitations. The innovative components of this approach, especially within a law enforcement agency will be highlighted as will the crucial strategies being employed by Victoria Police to support a successful implementation including preliminary validation outcomes and the establishment of inter-jurisdictional research. In a workshop context, participants will leave with an understanding of SHARP applications and coding principles.

Balancing our approach: Providing trauma therapy to men who have done harmful sexual behaviour

Natasha Micheletti (WellStop, New Zealand)

Background. For years there has been a hypothesis that men who sexually abuse others have a history of being sexually abused themselves. Various studies have been dedicated to exploring any possible links between those who sexually abuse and their own sexual abuse history. These studies have found that a significant number of men who sexually offend have experienced some form of trauma themselves. Despite these findings there is limited information and research about approaching the treatment of these men from a trauma-informed model. There is limited research which focuses on the effectiveness of providing opportunities for sex offenders to access trauma focused therapy for their own experiences of sexual abuse. A quandary arises in the treatment of sexual offenders who have experienced their own childhood sexual abuse: should we treat the harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) first, or should we assist these men to address their own trauma as a matter of priority? Alternatively should we provide treatment for both at the same time? *Aims.* The purpose of this presentation is to explore, share and discuss the leanings I have gathered while providing sexual abuse trauma therapy to these men. I will attempt to shed light on the approach to therapy and the importance of holding a balance between holding these men accountable for their HSB, and attending to their need to be validated and empowered as survivors of child sexual abuse. The hope is to generate ideas and possible solutions to this quandary. *Main contributions.* The following workshop/presentation will highlight the challenges, strengths and the critical need to

utilise a balanced approach when working with men who have both experienced sexual harm themselves and have sexually harmed others. In addition, this workshop/presentation will stress the importance of not treating the trauma and HSB in isolation from each other, and the urgent need for further research into what will be the most effective and empowering approach. *Conclusions.* Concluding, the quandary of how and when to provide therapy to men who have done HSB and experienced childhood sexual abuse needs to be addressed. This workshop/presentation will assist practitioners to discuss the quandary and start to develop answers.

1:30pm-3:00pm

Session 18

After looking at that I knew exactly what to do”: The impact of Sexually explicit material (SEM: pornography) consumption on children & adolescents who sexually harm.

Russell Pratt (Prime Forensic Psychology, Australia)
Cyra Fernandes (Australian Childhood Foundation)

Research indicates that SEM consumption by youth has reached saturation point. Smart technology used by youth means SEM can be accessed at anytime, anywhere. Research also suggests that secondary school aged youth utilise technology for accessing sexual material at a greater rate than ever previously reported. What is the impact of SEM on youth who sexually harm others? In their 2014 presentation and subsequent paper (Pratt & Fernandes, 2015) the presenters commented regarding the potentially changing relationship between duration of behaviours and severity of abuse. One of the more accepted 'givens' of this work has been that the more serious the act or acts committed against victims by abusers, the more entrenched the behaviours are likely to be, and that the sexually abusive youth has progressed to more serious acts as they become both desensitised to the harm caused and the need to engage in more severe offences to gain the original level of arousal. These learnings underpin the notion that sexual assault behaviour is entrenched and difficult to shift.

In this presentation, analysis of data collected worldwide from therapists working with sexually abusive youth is presented which explores relationships between the use of SEM and sexually abusive behaviour. Questions discussed include: are we seeing relationships developing between SEM use and sexually abusive behaviour; are there links or correlations regarding the duration of SEM exposure, the severity and type of SEM viewed, and the type and severity of the sexually assaultive acts committed, and how does SEM use relate to both the risk of recidivism and the potential for rehabilitation, if at all? The presenters draw on current research and treatment/practice knowledge to explore issues. They welcome questions, comments and interactions from the audience.

Learning goals and objectives for the audience are:

1. To gain understanding of how young people use technology and SEM, and how SEM has changed over the past three decades,
2. To consider how SEM may impact upon sexual practices in general, and how youth's sexual practices in particular are shaped by SEM usage,
3. To explore how risk assessment of sexually abusive youth might be impacted upon by SEM, and to consider how to integrate information about SEM into risk assessment and management planning.

Session 19

Becoming Trauma Informed - The Journey of the STOP Children and Adolescent Services

Suzanne Alliston (STOP Children and Adolescent Service, New Zealand)

Tania Daly (STOP Children and Adolescent Service, New Zealand)

How a Children and Adolescent Service has navigated (and continues to navigate) the path toward working in a trauma informed way with children, young people, their families and their caregivers. The STOP Children and Adolescent Service is a Christchurch based provider for Children and Young People who have engaged in concerning or harmful sexual behaviour. Several years ago STOP began to think about how to integrate trauma knowledge into our practice. In this engaging and story filled, workshop we will reflect on the ongoing journey our service is on to become trauma informed and trauma responsive. Our hope is that in sharing our learning we might support others as they work to integrate this knowledge into their own practice/organization.

The workshop will cover:

- The models we draw on
- The interventions we offer – a reflection of the multi systemic approach taken to have the trauma needs of our children and young people recognized across the multiple dimensions of their lives
- Introduction to The “Care Project” - a primarily Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy (DDP) informed intervention with parents and caregivers of children with complex trauma
- The high and lows, successes and failures
- Our efforts at staff and stakeholder development
- How we align (or not) trauma informed practice with stakeholder expectations around concerning/harmful sexual behaviour interventions
- Other random things we’ve discovered along the way
- Offerings from the floor

The workshop would suit professionals working with or interested in working with children and young people who have engaged in concerning/harmful sexual behaviour and/or who have an interest in trauma informed practice.

Session 20

Assessing and supporting young people who sexually harm in groups

Carlene Firmin (University of Bedfordshire, United Kingdom)

During this interactive workshop attendees will be supported to consider contextual dynamics of risk assessing young people who have sexually harmed in groups and identify the implications for the design and delivery of interventions. Working through a contextual assessment framework, using a real life case example, the workshop will pay particular attention to the social rules at play within peer groups, schools and neighbourhoods and identify ways to record and weight these when assessing the strength, risk, vulnerability and resilience of young people who display harmful sexual behaviour. Drawing upon examples from practice in the UK, opportunities to disrupt these contextual dynamics will be explored, and attendees will learn about the ways in which interventions which target the social conditions of abuse can simultaneously support, and change the behaviour of, individual young people. Workshop attendees will be given access to an online tutorial for use of the framework, in order to disseminate learning to colleagues, in addition to an editable version of the assessment tool.

Session 21

Working with the (non-offending) partners of online child sex offenders

Natalie Walker (PartnerSPEAK, Australia)

Background. PartnerSPEAK is the only organisation in Australia to specifically support individuals who learn that their partner is involved in online child sex offending. Often non-offending partners are first made aware of these offences when detectives arrive at the family home to seize computers or to arrest the offender. Other partners report child abuse images to police after stumbling across irrefutable evidence. The discovery that a partner has accessed or distributed this distressing material is harrowing and yet there is an almost absolute silence on the topic. PartnerSPEAK hosts a national online peer support forum and is developing a pilot face-to-face Intentional Peer Support group in 2017 for individuals affected by a family member's involvement in online child abuse material. This paper provides information about the use of this unique program to assist the recovery of partners of online child sex offenders.

Aims.

- Impact on affected Partners
 - o To establish the experience of having a partner offend in relation to online child abuse material as a traumatic event which can cause PTSD,
 - o To share information from the research about interactions with professionals that retraumatised affected partners.

- Intentional Peer Support
 - o To determine the value of a 'lived experience' peer support to redress trauma and shame,
 - o To establish the role of Intentional Peer Support as an effective, trauma-informed response for partners of online child sex offenders.

Main contributions.

- Findings from Australian pilot research about the impact on partners of online child sex offenders commissioned by PartnerSPEAK in 2015,
- PartnerSPEAK's unique learnings based on data and case studies within our online peer support forum that peer support is transformative in redressing shame and facilitating recovery for partners of online child sex offenders,
- The Intentional Peer Support model (US) and,
- aviva Family Violence Services (New Zealand) evaluation of Intentional Peer Support model for victim-survivors of family violence (2016).

Conclusions.

- The impact of trauma and shame on partners of online child sex offenders,
- The evidence for Intentional Peer Support as a model to redress trauma and shame experienced by partners of online child sex offenders,
- The value of a model based on mutual lived experience for affected partners and for agencies and,
- How Intentional Peer Support and clinical responses can best work together.

Session 22

The Good Way Model: Introduction and Evidence base

Lesley Ayland (WellStop, New Zealand)

The Good Way Model was developed for clients with a concrete thinking style, who present with serious behaviour concerns, including harmful sexual behaviour. The Good Way model is trauma informed and strengths based. The Good Way model has been shown to be effective with older children and adolescents, both with and without an intellectual disability. It has been adapted for adults with an intellectual disability, including those assessed as being in the moderate disability range. The Good Way model draws on the language and conceptual frameworks of these client groups and provides a way for therapists to communicate with the clients on their terms, rather than using adapted mainstream models. The model can be used in a individual or group therapy setting and also provides a useful framework to assist parents/caregivers and/or care staff to understand and support the client in their journey towards their "good life". In the Good Way model this is understood as desistance from harmful or abusive behaviour, resolution of issues of trauma and loss, and the creation or affirmation of their own guiding values and ethics. The Good Way model uses creative approaches, including stories that contain the client's own narrative, that are tailored to each client and family's understanding of the world and their unique circumstances, culture, beliefs and values. The aim of the workshop is introduce the Good Way model, to provide participants with some experience of using it, and to provide a brief overview of the evidence base for the model.

Session 23

Cross agency work in sibling sexual abuse: NSW context

Michelle Scheidel (New Street Sydney, Australia)

New Street Sydney recognises the challenges of meeting the needs of all children in a family when sibling sexual abuse has occurred. We currently work alongside sexual assault services to promote the wellbeing and safety needs of everyone in the family as well as appropriately addressing harm caused. The importance of effective interagency relationship and communication is essential in highlighting needs, case conceptualisation and working on joint therapeutic goals. This workshop will explore the strengths and challenges in joint interagency collaboration through the use of a case studies. It will also explore ideas for highlighting strengths and addressing these challenges.

Posters

Conversations with men who sexually offend in an Asian context: What have we learnt?

Priyathanaa Sundram (Singapore Prison Service)

Joylynn Quek (Singapore Prison Service)

Ng Kend Tuck (Singapore Prison Service)

Extant research has examined both general and specific dynamic risk factors targeted through appropriate treatment programmes to reduce sexual recidivism. The more prominent factors include: 1) sexual self-regulation, 2) distorted attitudes, 3) intimacy deficits and 4) general self-regulation. However, the presence and relevance of these factors to other cultures is less understood, with the implications being that intervention programmes may not be targeting the appropriate needs of these offenders, hence reducing their effectiveness. As such, a qualitative research was undertaken in Singapore Prison Service to examine the generalizability of these factors to the local population. Researchers conducted semi-structured interviews with 20 incarcerated high-risk sexual offenders. The data was analyzed using thematic analysis. Results revealed that similar criminogenic needs such as intimacy deficits, poor sexual and general self-regulation, and attitudes supportive of sexual offending were present in the Singapore population. The study also highlighted the presence of other treatment needs, such as substance use, impulsivity, and sensation-seeking attitudes that were potential areas for intervention. These results were used to enhance the local psychological intervention programme for high-risk sexual offenders to address the additional needs identified through the study.

Counselling Service Modalities and the Needs of Australians affected by Sexual, Domestic and Family Violence

Awaiting Authors and affiliations

Sexual Assault, Domestic and Family Violence (SA/DFV) are widespread, pervasive social problems that result in significant trauma and psychological consequences (Herman, 1992). In Australia approximately one in five women experience sexual violence and one in three women experience domestic and/or family violence in their lifetime (ABS, 2012). Counselling services which support people to overcome the adverse effects of such trauma are delivered across multiple modalities, including; telephone, online, face to face, group, and voice over internet protocol (VoIP). However there is limited research evidence regarding the effectiveness of counselling service modalities for these individuals. Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia conducted a study in order to explore the strengths and limitations of the different counselling services modalities in meeting the needs of Australians affected by SA/DFV. The study also examined the current state of knowledge within SA/DFV services about how the effectiveness of various counselling service modalities can be meaningfully evaluated. A mixed method design was used for this study in order to provide a robust picture of the lived experience of participants. Results demonstrated that people affected by SA/DFV have a variety of complex and intertwined needs, and preference for counselling modality is impacted by variables such as demographics and stage of trauma recovery. Service provider experience suggests that cultural and demographic factors play a role in the effectiveness of modalities. Although face to face is seen as the 'gold standard', this project concludes that different counselling service modalities may address the needs of people affected by SA/DFV in different but equally important ways. The findings from this research offer a unique insight into the effectiveness of face to face, telephone, online, group and VoIP counselling services modalities currently applied in

community practice, and therefore play an important role in informing the future of counselling service provision for people affected by SA/DFV.

A multi-collaborative approach to end sexual and domestic violence in American Samoa: A case study A vave taunu'u le Malaga pe a tatou alo va'a fa'atasi – Our destiny is within sight when we paddle our canoe together

Jennifer Tofaeono (American Samoa Alliance against Domestic and Sexual Violence)

Jueta McCutchan (Department of Human & Social Services)

Samoan survivors of violence are forced to accept domestic violence (Cribb, 2016) Estimates indicate that 68% of Samoan women have been abused by their husbands, families, or other women. Shame-based fear related to how reports of violence may reflect on the family has been identified as one contributing factor that results in minimizing or covering up the violence that may be experienced by an individual (Fulu, Warner, Miedema, Jewkes, Roselli, & Lang, 2013). The American Samoa Alliance against Sexual and Domestic Violence (i.e., the Alliance), has been working in the community since 2010 to engage individual survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking to enhance the safety for survivors and accountability for those who may abuse (Howard, 2017). Local systems to assist survivors are fragmented with limited member services to support survivors, requiring a multi-collaborative cultural approach to assist survivors. The traditional Samoan culture continues to be a vibrant part of daily life in American Samoa, with the aiga (i.e., family), Matai (i.e., head of the family, and Church as basic units of Samoan cultural practices, requiring a cultural approach for any intervention (Shoultz, J, Phillion, Noone, & Tanner, 2002). The Alliance and their partners use strategies to integrate the Samoan language, fostering a sense of belongingness amongst survivors and the various partner agencies, incorporation of Pacific Island peers in recovery, and honouring their voice while engaging with survivors. The team ensured culture specific values, norms, attitudes, expectations and customs, which were integrated into individual and group practice in order to navigate the survivors to sustained successful resolutions. Partners in this effort were surveyed through Appreciative Inquiry, where one responded, “thank you for this evaluation, it reminds me of the good we did as partners” (Loma, 2017). The purpose of this case study is to demonstrate the value of multi-collaborative, culturally-appropriate approaches in working with individuals experiencing violence of any form. Lessons learned¹) Developing Alliance as a bridge, or navigator in the community to encourage multi-collaborators to paddle together. (2) Developing cultural approaches or interventions to fit the need of Samoan's. (3) Increase the dialogue regarding violence in the community

The lived experiences of women who are mothering children displaying harmful sexual behaviours towards a sibling: a research project

Amelia Boyers (School of Education and Social Work, University of Sydney, Australia)

Children displaying harmful sexualised behaviours towards their sibling is believed to be the most common form of sexual harm towards children (Caffaro, 2014). However, the area remains under-researched. Responding to families where children have disclosed harmful sexualised behaviours by their sibling is often challenging for practitioners. But, it is known that effective statutory and non-statutory responses are critical for ensuring better outcomes for children.

During my time in the field as a counsellor the complexity of supporting families effectively became apparent. After turning to the academic literature, it became clear that the voices and perspectives of women who are mothering in this context are underrepresented. This is a problem because, while it is generally accepted that interventions with a family-focus are most successful, the lived experiences of women who are mothering in this context remain absent in the literature. This

poster will present my proposed doctoral research project. Soon, I will be conducting semi-structured, in-depth interviews with around 20 women who are mothering children who have displayed harmful sexualised behaviours towards their sibling(s). The project utilises feminist and critical, anti-oppressive social work frameworks. The purpose of this study is to describe and amplify the experiences of women mothering in this context, a group which faces societal stigma, marginalization, isolation, and silence.