

Reconstruct news

January 2010

We aim to use this occasional newsletter to keep you informed about developments and to let you know the ways in which we can help you. You can find further information about us at www.reconstruct.co.uk

If you are having problems reading this newsletter, don't miss out. Go to www.reconstruct.co.uk and scroll down to latest news.

Sexual abuse – what's going on?

Keynote speaker: Dr David Finkelhor
'The most prominent sociologist in the field
of child sexual abuse'
1 July 2010, University of Westminster, London

Child sexual abuse remains a subject of great controversy and debate in England, Wales and Scotland. This conference will examine current debates about sexual abuse and examine the need to scrutinise what is happening in practice.

We are delighted to have **Dr David Finkelhor**, described as probably the '**most prominent sociologist at work in the field of child sexual abuse**' as a keynote speaker. He will open the conference by talking about his work on nursery crimes, his research and experiences of working with sexual abuse and future challenges.

Sherry Ashfield from the child protection charity the Lucy Faithfull Foundation will speak on women who sexually abuse and **Mark Williams-Thomas**, an independent child protection expert who oversaw major paedophile investigations during his time as a police officer.

Jim Wilde will discuss the reduction of referrals concerning sexual abuse and introduce new Reconstruct training focusing on developing interview skills when working with sexual abuse cases. Workshops will give a practical demonstration of this training.

Cost: £175.

To register today email
cathy.bostock@reconstruct.co.uk

Difficult, dangerous and evasive FREE workshop

11 February 2010, London

Inquiry reports, including those into the deaths of Victoria Climbié and Ainelee Labonte found that workers described adults in the children's families as being difficult, dangerous and evasive. They felt concerned about their own safety while attempting to work with these adults.

Reconstruct has developed training that highlights these concerns and fills a gap in what is one of the most neglected areas of training: the critical dynamic between worker and service user, particularly when concerns about child protection need to be raised.

This training can be run as a one, two or three day course providing a range of options for commissioners to decide which programme best suits the needs of staff. The training promotes the need for effective and erudite intervention through practice and rehearsal of challenging examples using actors.

It covers a range of practice issues which include:

- The historical context of child abuse
- Individual and collective values
- Reflective practice and critical thinking
- Evidence based practice
- Personal process (how own past experiences impact on work)
- Interview scenarios (using interviews with actors)
- A model of dealing with challenge
- Definitions of difficult and dangerous users
- Conflict and evasiveness
- Exit strategies
- Working in pairs – roles, functions and pre-planning

Serious case reviews

If you need to conduct a serious case review you will want it to be independent, fair, effective and timely. We have investigated a range of high profile serious case reviews. We recently reviewed 11 of the 38 'inadequate' serious case reviews that Ofsted identified and all were passed. So we know what works and what doesn't.

To find out more and to have a chat about how we can help you, call Barry Raynes on 01225 780145 or email barry.raynes@reconstruct.co.uk

- Scrutiny of practice
- Self-care and utilising support systems

A **free workshop** for staff development officers gives you the opportunity to experience this training for yourself.

Venue: London Voluntary Resource Centre, Holloway Rd, London.

To book your place please contact Cathy Bostock on 01895 204861 or email cathy.bostock@reconstruct.co.uk

To view a brief demonstration of this training visit the Reconstruct website www.reconstruct.co.uk

New Working Together guidance

The new Working Together guidance will be an ideal opportunity to update your child protection procedures.

Within two weeks of publication, Reconstruct can supply you with a report detailing the differences between the old and the new Working Together. **Within 6 weeks of publication** you can have a new set of web-based procedures (in line with the new Working Together) either based on your existing procedures or on our standard set, tailored for you.

If you are already a subscriber to our service we will supply this update to you as part of your normal fee.

Our procedures are:

- easy to navigate – no specialist knowledge needed
- written in plain English
- linked to your integrated children's system
- simple to keep updated
- written and designed by a team of child protection professionals who understand your needs
- supported by research and examples of good practice readily accessible from within the web-based system.

See for yourself at:

www.reconstruct.co.uk/proc_protect.html for child protection

www.reconstruct.co.uk/proc_care.html for child care

To find out more, call Barry Raynes on 01225 780145 or email barry.raynes@reconstruct.co.uk.



Helping kids get a good start

Reconstruct supports a non-profit-making organisation, KiD (Kindergarten in Diani) in Kenya, paying the salary of a teacher to help youngsters get the schooling they need.



Some of our staff also sponsor individual children.

To find out more about this project see http://www.kid-kenia.de/E_index.htm

Our film

Do you want to see how we work with young people, hearing directly from the people who count?

Our Film is a short (10 minute) DVD showcasing independent visiting, advocacy and participation work through the opinions of the young people we work with.

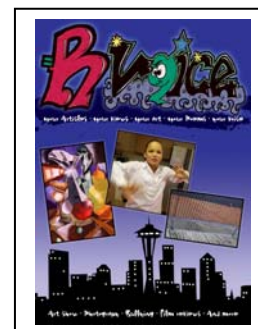


For your free copy email sadie.carr@reconstruct.co.uk

RVoice

Part of our participation Work with Bristol is the production of *RVoice*, a magazine by and for children and young people in care in Bristol.

This is just one of the innovative ways in which we work.



Our independent children's services currently has contracts with 11 local authorities. We focus on delivering services for children in care and multi-agency child protection work and also provide specific pieces of work for individual children who are the responsibility of other authorities. If you would like to talk to someone about the work we do please call Jenny Raynes or Jason Williams on 01225 780145.

Keep up-to-date with the latest research in childcare

'Having used this service before I am looking forward to being on the list once more, it has been invaluable in my work.' *Reconstruct research service subscriber.*

Our service monitors the latest research and reports and summarises them into manageable papers containing the essential information. We keep them short and clear to make them quick and easy to read so you can grasp the key points in minutes.

Simply sign up to be emailed up to 24 summaries a year on issues of direct relevance to childcare practice. Recent examples include:

- parents and mental health problems
- grief and asylum seekers
- childhood abuse and young offending
- forced marriages
- serious case reviews.

A variety of subscriptions are available to suit different requirements: £15 a year for individuals; £250 for team of up to 20 people; £900 for an entire authority. Email research@reconstruct.co.uk

And finally...you say the nicest things. Thank you for your feedback.

'The most relevant, important, essential and critical training event I have attended in recent years. This should be mandatory for all staff who work on the frontline'

Difficult, dangerous or evasive training

'I am really happy with the service and anything I say about her will be all praises'

Young person about their advocate

Most user-friendly website package I have ever come across...it is easy, helpful, well thought through and user-friendly. A real treat to use, and helpful for us

'I have learnt a lot today, and it has helped me so much. Very knowledgeable trainer'

Training session attendee

'The Children's Head of Service and the Senior Partnership Manager were very pleased with the quality of training delivered'

Managing challenging behavior training

'I can see that your [research] service is going to be invaluable to my studies and future work. Thank you, and thank goodness...easy breakdowns all in one place'

oldies, thank you!

Procedures website user

Community support officer

'Thanks for the training. I have been able to look at some of my cases in a different light today'

CSA training

'... my sincere thanks to you for the fantastic keynote speech you did at our conference'

Local authority conference organiser

Reconstruct has three core activities
Training & development
Independent children's services
Consultancy & project management
www.reconstruct.co.uk

Reconstruct aims to bring you information about services that are useful to you. We hope you find our newsletters informative. However, if you no longer wish to receive information from us, you can unsubscribe by emailing neil@reconstruct.co.uk putting 'unsubscribe' in the subject field.