



Supporting Professionals to
Prevent Sexual Abuse

NOTA CONFERENCE 2017

Keynote Speakers



Professor Friedrich Lösel - Emeritus Professor, Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge

Evaluation of sexual offender treatment: From sweeping controversies towards a differentiated perspective

The effectiveness of treatment of sexual offenders is a highly controversial issue in many countries. Skepticism about its effectiveness has recently been supported by negative results of an evaluation of the SOTP in England and Wales (Mews et al., 2017) that got much attention in the mass media. Controversies about the effects of sex offender treatment are due to many factors such as deep-rooted opinions, difficulties in practical treatment, a scarcity of high-quality evaluations, heterogeneous and often not much differentiated findings. However, there is also progress in research practice that should replace too sweeping controversies about the effects of sex offender treatment. This lecture will briefly review the current state of knowledge. Following the basic scientific principle that evidence comes by replication the lecture will particularly base on own and others' systematic reviews and meta-analyses. It will contain findings on general effects as well as on various factors that are associated with more or less positive outcomes. The findings suggest a differentiated perspective that should lead to questions about what works with whom, in what contexts, under what conditions, with regard to what outcomes, and also why.

Biography

Friedrich Lösel is an emeritus professor and past director at the Institute of Criminology, Cambridge University (UK), and at the Institute of Psychology, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg (Germany). Formerly, he was senior lecturer at Bamberg University, professor at Bielefeld University, director of the Social Sciences Research Center at Nuremberg, and principal investigator at two Advanced Research Centers of the German Research Foundation. He has carried out research on juvenile delinquency, offender treatment, developmental prevention, football hooliganism, school bullying, psychopathy, resilience, close relationships, program evaluation, and other topics. Currently he is leading the Erlangen-Nuremberg Development and Prevention Study; that investigates about 600 children and their families from preschool to youth age. He is also PI or Co-PI of projects on protective factors against extremism, prisoners and their families, and sexual offender treatment. FL is author or editor of 37 books, research monographs and special journal issues and has published more than 400 articles in journals and books. He had many national and international functions and served, inter alia, as president of the European Association of Psychology and Law, president of the Criminological Society of the German-speaking countries, panel-chair of the Violence Commission of the German Government, and member of the expert panel on policy strategies of the German Federal Chancellor. Currently he is a member of the Correctional Services Accreditation and Advice Panel of England & Wales, member of the coordinating group of the Campbell Crime and Justice Collaboration, chair of the steering committee of the German National Center of Crime Prevention, and chair of the Division of Developmental and Life Course Criminology of the American Society of Criminology (ASC). He also serves on various national and international advisory panels and editorial boards. In recognition of his work he received the Sellin-Glueck Award of the American Society of Criminology, the Lifetime Achievement Award of the European Association of Psychology and Law, an honorary doctorate from Glasgow Caledonian University, two honorary professorships from Chinese universities, the Jerry Lee Award of the ASC Division of Experimental Criminology, the Lifetime Achievement Award of the ASC Division of Developmental and Life Course Criminology, the Joan McCord Award of the Academy of Experimental Criminology, the German Psychology Prize, and the Stockholm Prize in Criminology.



Supporting Professionals to
Prevent Sexual Abuse

NOTA CONFERENCE 2017

Keynote Speakers



**Dr Mark Farmer, National Specialist Lead – Sexual Offending Programmes,
HM Prison and Probation Service**

Incorporating innovation and evidence informed practice into a new generation of programmes for men who have been convicted of sexual offences – The HM Prisons and Probation Service approach

This presentation will outline the changes being made by HM Prisons and Probation Service (HMPPS) to its programmes for men who have been convicted of sexual offences. HMPPS delivers multi-site, multi-component and multi-disciplinary programmes in custody and community settings. The presentation will focus on how HMPPS has used recent research and evidence to support and develop the risk/need/responsivity approach in designing a new suite of programmes for men who have been convicted of sexual offences. This will include discussion on the relevance of considering emerging neurobiological evidence, to help engagement with participants. A relatively new strand of evidence looking at why and how men desist from sexual offending will also be considered, and ways in which desistance research can be used within programmes will be discussed. Some techniques which do not seem to be effective in reducing reoffending will also be discussed. The presentation will conclude with a description of two new programmes, Horizon and Kaizen, based on the bio-psycho-social theories mentioned above, that are currently being introduced in HMPPS. The presentation will be of interest to those involved in the development or delivery of interventions for men who have been convicted of sexual offences or those who work with people who have completed such programmes. offences or those who work with people who have completed such programmes. Communication” of the German Research Council.

Biography

Mark Farmer is one of the HMPPS National Specialist Leads responsible for sexual offending programmes. He was previously the Head of the West Midlands Regional Sexual Offending Unit. There he was responsible for the provision of sexual offending programmes to the probation trusts of Staffordshire and West Midlands, West Mercia, Warwickshire, Northamptonshire and Derbyshire.

Previously, he headed the Sex Offender Team in the Public Protection Unit of the National Offender Management Service. As such he worked on the development of NOMS’ national policy and strategy with regard to the management of those convicted of sexual offences. Mark was also part of a research team at the Department of Law, Queen’s University, Belfast, engaged in the ESRC funded ‘Understanding Desistance from Sexual Offending’ research project.



Supporting Professionals to
Prevent Sexual Abuse

NOTA CONFERENCE 2017

Keynote Speakers



Sharron Wareham, Children's Services Manager, Barnardo's Cymru

Using a multi-faceted lens to refocus practice for children and young people with sexualised histories

Better Futures Cymru provides assessment and longer term therapeutic intervention services for children and young people with sexualised histories across Wales, including young people who have been victims of sexual abuse; young people who display problematic or Harmful Sexual Behaviour; and young people who are at risk of or are abused through Child Sexual Exploitation. 'Better Futures' is the new package of support provided by Barnardo's Cymru that combines our existing Taith (HSB) and Seraf (CSE) services and further support in relation to child sexual abuse to children aged between 5 and 21 years old. Recognising the impacts of adverse childhood experiences and trauma on children and young people, our experience of delivery across both services has led towards the development of a package of support that flexibly utilise a wide range of interventions and support which can be tailored to the individuals assessed needs. The keynote will consider the barriers, practise implications and benefits of merging child sexual exploitation, child sexual abuse and sexual harm services for children, young people and their families.

Biography

Sharron Wareham is a qualified social worker with experience of working with children and their families within the statutory and voluntary sector. Sharron has over 14 years' experience of direct work with children and young people in the harmful sexual behaviour field and has presented widely on this topic. Following her role of Service Practitioner at the Taith Service Sharron was employed as the Research Practitioner at the service in 2012, where she was involved in the development of a series of assessment measures and intervention resources to be used with females displaying harmful sexual behaviour. This was a first in the field and represents a major advancement in the assessment of adolescent females who display harmful sexual behaviour. Sharron currently works for Barnardo's Cymru Better Futures Service as the Children's Services Manager for Taith (HSB), Seraf (CSE) and South Wales Police and Barnardo's Missing Children's Service. She is chair of NOTA Wales and is actively involved in advancing research and best practise with children and young people affected by child sexual abuse.



Dr Sophie Hallett, Lecturer in Social Policy, CASCADE/School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University

Child sexual exploitation in Wales: hearing and learning from young people.

This presentation provides an overview of key messages from research into child sexual exploitation in Wales, paying particular attention to the learning from research with young people, and how this has directed both practice and the direction of current research.

Biography

I am a lecturer in the School of Social Sciences at Cardiff University, and I am on the senior management team for CASCADE (Children's Social Care Research and Development Centre for Wales). My research interests revolve around aspects related to childhood and youth studies, care, and participative creative research methods. My specific field of expertise is child sexual exploitation, and I am involved in a number of projects aimed at enhancing responses for children and young people. I am committed to research and theory that seeks to influence public service policy and professional practice. Other research projects have involved young people who sexually harm, and children and young people who are Looked After. Prior to beginning my academic career, I worked in the third and public sectors as a consultant on a number of research and policy related projects. Previous to this, I worked for the Big Lottery Fund and Barnardo's Cymru.



Supporting Professionals to
Prevent Sexual Abuse

NOTA CONFERENCE 2017

Keynote Speakers



Emily F. Rothman, Associate Professor, Boston University School of Public Health

Preventing Sexual Abuse Perpetration: A Public Health Approach

Treating sex abusers after a perpetration incident is critically important for public safety and public health, as is providing services to survivors. However, there is also a whole other approach to stopping sexual abuse: preventing it from occurring in the first place. In this session, the speaker will describe the public health perspective on prevention; defining primary, secondary and tertiary prevention, explaining the utility of the social-ecological model for understanding modifiable determinants of sexual abuse perpetration, and the nine most important lessons learned from the implementation of prevention strategies designed to address a wide range of topics. Suggestions for developing effective sexual abuse perpetration prevention plans locally-- for towns, counties, or nations—will be provided. Examples of state-level prevention plans from the U.S., school-based prevention programs that have demonstrated effectiveness, and college/university prevention strategies will be shared.

Biography

Emily F. Rothman is an Associate Professor at the Boston University School of Public Health and a visiting scientist at the Harvard Injury Control and Research Center. She has secondary appointments at Boston University in the Departments of Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine. She earned her doctorate from the Harvard School of Public Health in 2004. One focus of Dr. Rothman's research is the development and rigorous testing of strategies design to prevention sexual abuse, partner violence, and human trafficking. She has developed prevention-oriented interventions for hospital, college, school, and criminal justice settings and received funding from the U.S. National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Justice and multiple private foundations to evaluate prevention strategies. From 2005-2014 she served as the evaluator on the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's development of a state-wide plan for the primary prevention of sexual violence, an initiative funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In 2001, Dr. Rothman authored a World Health Organization report on interventions with partner abuse offenders from around the world. She was the director of batterer intervention program services for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health from 1998-2000, and previously worked directly with domestic violence offenders in a community batterer intervention program. She has also worked with survivors as director of shelter services at a domestic violence program and rape crisis hotline listener. She is presently on the board of directors of the international organization HEAL Trafficking, and is the Chair of Violence and Trauma Special Interest Group for the international Society for Behavioral Medicine.



Supporting Professionals to
Prevent Sexual Abuse

NOTA CONFERENCE 2017

Keynote Speakers



Sarah Brown, Professor of Forensic Psychology, Coventry University
Phil Ashford, CSE Response Unit Operational Lead, NWG Network

Developments in the assessment of risk of child sexual exploitation: Evidence from research and practice

This keynote will outline recent evidence reviews and research examining screening and risk assessment for child sexual exploitation (CSE). We will begin by providing an overview of the findings of a rapid evidence assessment conducted for the Early Intervention Foundation and funded by the Home Office that examined the research evidence for indicators that increase or reduce the risk of victimisation of CSE. These findings were then used to assess the suitability of screening and risk tools and checklists used in England and Wales to identify future potential victims CSA/CSE. Next, we will discuss feedback from the NWG's consultation with practitioners focussing on what those on the frontline found to be useful tools and processes for assessing the CSE risk posed to children. The findings of research commissions by the new Centre of Expertise in Child Sexual Abuse commissioned exploring professionals' perceptions and experiences of screening and risk tools and checklists. We will conclude by providing an overview of the NWG's recently developed and piloted assessment tool and making recommendations for research, practice and policy makers.



Biographies

Professor Sarah Brown has been conducting research related to sexual aggression for over 20 years. She has been working at Coventry University since 1999 and is currently the Acting Executive Director of the Centre for Research in Psychology, Behaviour and Achievement. Sarah is the Vice-Chair of NOTA, the National Organisation for the Treatment of Abusers. She is an Associate Editor of Child Abuse and Neglect and a member of the Editorial Board of Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment and the Journal of Sexual Aggression having been the Editor of the latter journal from 2008 to 2014. Sarah is a member of the Advisory Board of the new Centre for Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse that is funded by the UK Home Office and was launched in 2017. She is currently leading two research projects commissioned by the Centre examining the characteristics of individuals who have sexually exploited children and professionals' experiences and views of child sexual exploitation risk assessment tools.

Phil Ashford is the Operational Lead for the CSE Response Unit – a Department for Education funded programme responsible for providing operational and strategic support for professionals and agencies tackling child sexual exploitation. Phil previously managed a multi-agency CSE service in Sheffield for 3 years, overseeing the integration of a range of agencies and professionals into the co-located service. During his time in this role Phil won two awards for his work with licensed trades in respect of CSE. Phil's background is community safety where he spent seven years working for a local authority while based in police stations developing and implementing multiagency responses to crime and anti-social behaviour issues affecting communities. Phil gained significant experience working with offenders presenting with substance misuse and mental health issues and implemented solutions aimed at long-term reductions in crime. Phil is currently studying for a masters degree at the University of Bedfordshire in Childhood & Youth: Applied Perspectives. Health Organization report on interventions with partner abuse offenders from around the world. She was the director of batterer intervention program services for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health from 1998-2000, and previously worked directly with domestic violence offenders in a community batterer intervention program. She has also worked with survivors as director of shelter services at a domestic violence program and rape crisis hotline listener. She is presently on the board of directors of the international organization HEAL Trafficking, and is the Chair of Violence and Trauma Special Interest Group for the international Society for Behavioral Medicine.



Supporting Professionals to
Prevent Sexual Abuse

NOTA CONFERENCE 2017

Keynote Speakers



Dr. Mike Hartill, Reader in the Sociology of Sport, Edge Hill University

Dr. Melanie Lang, Senior Lecturer Child Protection in Sport, Edge Hill University

Child Sexual Exploitation in Sport: Discovery, Understanding and Prevention

The recent interest in child sexual abuse in sport by the British media is unprecedented. However, the first public comment on this issue occurred over 30 years ago, when the British feminist academic Celia Brackenridge addressed the UK national conference of sports coaches in 1986. Nevertheless, it was not until the late-1990s that the first child protection policies began to emerge within organised sport, largely prompted by the 17-year prison sentence handed to an Olympic swimming coach in 1995 for the rape and sexual assault of young athletes under his care.

In 2001, an alliance between the NSPCC and Sport England resulted in the creation national safeguarding in sport standards that government-funded sport bodies are obliged to implement. Training of the sports workforce has been integral to national strategy and 'safeguarding and child protection' courses are now well embedded in British sport. Meanwhile, empirical research has advanced our knowledge of the scale, form and nature of the sexual exploitation and abuse of children and young people in sport. Yet significant gaps in our knowledge remain, not least a lack of robust evaluation of the efficacy of approaches to safeguarding and child protection in sport.

Three aspects particularly concern us here: 1) the lack of engagement with children and young people in prevention initiatives in sport; 2) the lack of evaluation of policy initiatives and training programmes; and 3) the absence of substantive engagement by sports agencies with victims or 'survivors' of sexual violence in sport.

By way of addressing these aspects, we draw upon our research in this field over the past 15 years. In particular, this presentation will: a) provide an overview of the emergence of child protection in sport with a summary of the current knowledge base; b) discuss an EU-funded 'youth empowerment' project aimed at the prevention of sexual violence in sport; c) introduce an ongoing European project that focuses on the individual life-stories of 'survivors' of sexual abuse in sport; and d) offer reflections on the future of research, evaluation and policy development in the field.

Biographies

Mike Hartill is a Reader in the Sociology of Sport at Edge Hill University. He has conducted research into child sexual exploitation in sport for the past fifteen years, working on a number of national and international projects aimed at preventing abuse of children in sport. He has delivered undergraduate programmes on child welfare in sport since 2002. In 2016 he authored a research monograph *Sexual abuse in youth sport: a sociocultural analysis* (Routledge, 2016) and his current research (VOICE) is a collaboration between eight European countries focused on the experiences of victims of sexual abuse in sport and funded by the EU Erasmus+ programme. He is also providing expertise on child protection in sport for the Football Association's independent review into allegations of child sexual abuse in football.

Melanie Lang: Melanie's research and teaching centres on the policy and practice of safeguarding and child protection in sport and on children's rights in sport. Melanie works closely with national sports organisations including the Rugby Football Union, sports coach UK and the Rugby Football League, and has delivered presentations and training workshops on safeguarding, child protection and safe practice in youth sport to sport policymakers, coaches, athletes and charitable organisations from the UK, China, Japan and Ghana. Melanie is a member of the NSPCC/Sport England Child Protection in Sport Unit Research Evidence and Advisory Group, and has worked on the European Commission-funded project 'Gender-Based Violence in Sport', and the UK arm of the European Commission-funded project 'Sport Respects Your Rights'. She is also co-editor of the books 'Safeguarding, Child Protection and Abuse in Sport: International Perspectives in Research, Policy and Practice' (Routledge), and 'Bullying and the Abuse of Power' (Inter-Disciplinary Press), and is on the editorial board of the Irish Journal of Sociology.

