



Violence Abuse & Mental Health Network: February Newsletter



VAMHN Opportunities

[The Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology Journal](#) has invited the VAMHN to contribute a series of invited reviews, original papers and commentaries on the theme of violence, abuse and women's mental health.

If you would be interested in contributing to the series, please email vamhn@kcl.ac.uk by **Monday 16th March** with a) confirmation of whether you will submit an original paper or a review b) a brief abstract.

We expect an emphasis on domestic/sexual violence, but other forms of violence do remain in scope. Please be advised that depending on the number of requests/submissions we receive we may have to make a thematic selection so cannot guarantee that your submission will be included in the final publication.



VAMHN Upcoming Events

VAMHN Network Meeting

We are excited to announce that we now have more spaces at our upcoming Violence, Abuse and Mental Health Network Meeting on the 24th March! The day will include roundtable discussions and presentations from the following speakers:

- Akiko Hart, National Survivor User Network (NSUN)
- Prof. Andrea Danese, King's College London
- Laura Fischer, Researcher, Mental Health Activist and Artist
- Bridget Steele, University of Oxford

To get your free ticket [click here](#).

Please be advised that the meeting will take place at the Royal College of Psychiatrists, 21 Prescot Street, Whitechapel, London, E1 8BB (was previously Franklin Wilkins Building).



VAMHN Funding Opportunities

VAMHN Early Career Researcher Bursary Awards:

If you are an early career researcher who has attended or plans to attend a training course or conference relevant to domestic/sexual violence and mental health, you may be eligible for a VAMHN Bursary of up to £250. Bursaries can be used towards training course and/or conference fees, or for travel and accommodation to support attendance.


To find out if you are eligible and to apply [click here](#).

Applications close on the 3rd April 2020. We kindly encourage PhD supervisors and NGOs to share this opportunity with their students and early career researchers.



Other Funding Opportunities

- Journey to Scale: Funding for Scaling Humanitarian Innovation
 - 🕒 Deadline 14th February. [Click here for full details](#)
- SAGE Concept Grants
 - 🕒 Deadline 23rd February. [Click here for full details](#)
- NIHR Public Mental Health Interventions
 - 🕒 Deadline 17th March 2020 at 1pm. [Click here for full details](#).
- Nuffield Foundation Strategic Fund
 - 🕒 Next deadline 20th April 2020. [Click here for guidance](#) and [here to apply](#). Applicants may also want to apply for seed corn funding in the first instance – [click here](#)
- ESRC Research Methods Development Grants 2020
 - Grant applications could potentially investigate technological abuse within relationships and the high prevalence of intimate partner abuse among young people.*
 - 🕒 Deadline for intention to submit 19th March 2020. Full proposal submission deadline 14th May. [Click here for full details](#)
- MARCH Network Plus Funding Call
 - 🕒 Deadline 24th May 2020. [Click here for full details](#).
- MQ Fellows Award
 - Focus on young people's mental health. Targeted at early career researchers.*

 Deadline 24th May 2020. [Click here for full details.](#)



Other Training, Events and Opportunities

Mental Elf blogging opportunities

The Mental Elf are looking for bloggers to cover the latest research on violence and abuse, trauma, and mental health. If you have mental health knowledge, critical appraisal skills and a knack for writing, they want to hear from you. If you are interested please contact katherine.saunders@nationalelfservice.net.

Lived Experience Matters are running a range of training sessions in London and Manchester. The next upcoming training day is on 'Using your lived experience' which aims to enable people to explore their lived experience of mental health issues and how to best use these insights to inform and influence the development and delivery of support services. The course will run on the 10th March in London and 7th April in Manchester. The sign up and to find out more about their other training sessions, [click here](#).

The Havens, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is offering COURAGE training on the 5th-7th March. COURAGE is a collective narrative therapy methodology developed in 2014 by Ncazelo Ncube-Mlilo in partnership with six women to privilege the second or alternative stories of women who are struggling with the effects of violence, abuse, and trauma in their lives. It seeks to honour the knowledges and skills that women show and use in the face of pain, grief and other hardships. The course costs between £300-£385. For full details and to register please contact maria.koumi-elia@nhs.net.

GinCigaz & ADIRA are holding a Survivors Ball black tie event on 4th July at the Crown Plaza Royal in Sheffield. For queries contact annemyrie@gmail.com and to get your ticket [click here](#).

The Journal of Gender Based Violence have issued a call for papers for "The European Conference on Domestic Violence 2019 Special Edition: Digital Technologies and Gender Based Violence: Mechanisms for oppression, activism and recovery". They are looking for abstracts of no more than 500 words to be submitted to Dr Christine Barter (Cabarter@uclan.ac.uk) by 1st April. For full details see the attached PDF.

The Violence and Society Centre are welcoming Prof. Sandra Walklate to speak on 'Slow Femicide: Towards theorising femicide for measurement and prevention' on 25th March at 4pm in AG21, College Building, City University of London with a reception to follow. For queries contact violenceandsociety@city.ac.uk.

Imperial College London are hosting the 4th BME Early Career Researcher conference on 24th April. Speakers include Dame Professor Elizabeth Anionwu – Winner of Pride of Britain Award, Prof Iyiola Solanke Founder of Black Female Professors Forum and Danielle Tran –

Associate Professor & Associate Dean of Academic Enhancement at University of the Arts London. To get your ticket [click here](#).

The University of New Hampshire are hosting the 2020 International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference from 12th-14th July. They are currently calling for abstract submissions on all aspects of family and youth violence including intimate partner violence, trafficking and sexual victimisation. The deadline for submissions is 13th March. For full details [click here](#).

The VAWG Research Network are hosting a network meeting on the 28th April from 10am-4pm at Middlesex University. To register your attendance [click here](#).

The University of Leeds will welcome Prof. Gail Gilchrist to speak on Addressing Partner Abuse Perpetration by Men in Substance Use Treatment on 27th February from 1-2pm. To register your attendance, [click here](#).

The University of Cumbria are hosting the Abuse, Violence and Trauma Conference on the 21st May from 9.30am-4.30pm at their Institute of Health. They are currently calling for papers, workshop ideas or poster presentations. To submit please email Dr Julie Taylor (Julie.Taylor3@cumbria.ac.uk) or Dr Elizabeth Bates (Elizabeth.Bates@cumbria.ac.uk) by March 1st. To register your attendance [click here](#).

The Anti-Trafficking Review are issuing a call for papers for a special issue themed "Trafficking in Minors". They invite a range of submissions including full-length conceptual, research-based, or case study focused thematic papers or shorter, blog-style pieces connected to the theme that focuses on practical issues arising from service provision and advocacy. The deadline for submissions is 1st June. Full details [available here](#).

The Journal for Business and Ethics are issuing a call for papers on Intimate partner violence and business: Exploring the boundaries of ethical enquiry. For full details of the call please see the attached word document.

NIHR CRN, McPin and MQ are sponsoring an award on 'Transforming Mental Health Research Service User and Carer Involvement in Mental Health Research'. The award celebrates research studies with excellent service user and carer involvement. The awards will recognise the achievements of study teams who actively seek to involve carers and service users at each stage of the research process. It will also commend service users and carers who are making a difference to mental health research. Two awards will be available each receiving a £200 voucher and a service user and carer involvement plaque. To apply for the award and for full details [click here](#).



Collaboration Opportunities

Andreena Leeanne is a Motivational Speaker, Poet and Compère who speaks about her personal experience with abandonment, homelessness and childhood sexual abuse. You can

read one of her poems on The Survivors Trust website [here](#). Andreena is looking to connect with secondary schools, colleges, universities, prisons, charities, community groups and conferences in the UK. If you would like to get in touch with her please email here at Andreena1@hotmail.com.



Ongoing Research

- The Public Mental Health Programme have released an online survey asking people to rank public mental health determinants based on their importance to improving mental health and promoting well-being. The PMH programme is a NIHR-funded School of Public Health Research programme on better understanding the factors that influence mental health across the life course and how they can be addressed. For further information about the programme, please visit the [SPHR website](#). They invite you to participate in the survey, which should take 5-10 minutes. All responses to the survey will be confidential and anonymised. [Click here to take the survey](#).
 - Dr Julie Taylor (University of Cumbria), Dr Elizabeth Bates (University of Cumbria) and Professor Jane Callaghan (University of Stirling) are hoping to explore the experiences of people who have at some point in their childhood or adolescence lived in a home where there has been domestic violence and abuse. For full details and to take the survey [click here](#).
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Job and Education Opportunities

Coventry University are recruiting a clinician with an interest in sexual violence research to join the [MESEARCH project's](#) Data Monitoring and Ethics Committee. The safety, rights and well-being of the study participants are paramount and the role of the three-member DMEC is to monitor study data and make recommendations to the study advisory on whether there are any ethical or safety reasons why the MESSARCH studies should not continue. They are welcoming clinicians from any area/discipline to join the meetings which are held annually, can be attended remotely and are arranged/facilitated by the research team at Coventry University. If you would like to discuss this opportunity, please get in touch with Lorna O'Doherty: lorna.odoherty@coventry.ac.uk

The University of Edinburgh are offering a fully-funded PhD studentship starting in September to work on the follow-up of Young Carers (3-wave longitudinal study in South Africa) and investigate the impact of government-level interventions on the link between adverse childhood experiences and adult mental health. This is an advanced quantitative methods scholarship so candidates must be wanting to engage with advanced quantitative methods. This scholarship is available as a 1+3 or +3 and open to EU and UK candidates. Candidates will be supervised by Franziska Meinck and Aja Murray in the Department of Psychology. [Full details available here](#).



Resources

A Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Strategy for England and Wales – Drive Partnership

The Drive Project UK has released their Perpetrator Strategy for England and Wales. The Project brought together a number of organisations to highlight the need for effective investment in perpetrator interventions. To read the strategy [click here](#).

Female Genital Mutilation Cost Calculator Tool – World Health Organisation

The WHO has launched an interactive data tool that reveals for the first time the current and future financial cost of health care for women living with conditions caused by female genital mutilation. The calculator highlights the urgent need to scale up interventions that prevent FGM and reduce health complications. To find out more [click here](#).

Using a Developmental-Relational Approach to Understand the Impact of Interpersonal Violence in Women Who Struggle with Substance Use – Andrews et al, 2019

This review article examines how early exposure to violence in relationships can impact neurological development, specifically through interference with physiological mechanisms, brain structure and function and the neuropsychological development across the lifespan. They identify the lifelong disruption intimate partner violence can have on women's neurological development. To read the full article published in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* [click here](#).

Secondary Trauma: Emotional Safety in Sensitive Research – Williamson et al, 2020

This article explores the impact of research on the lives of gender-based violence researchers and the ways in which they guard against secondary trauma. The authors interviewed 10 researchers to discuss the impact of their research on their wellbeing as well as a discussion on their coping strategies which included meditation, exercise, comfort eating and therapy. To read the full article published in the *Journal of Academic Ethics* [click here](#).

The Domestic Abuse Report 2020 – Women's Aid

Women's Aid have published their 2020 Domestic Abuse Report which highlights the incredible work their services have provided over the last year, as well offering cross sector policy recommendations for the government. To read the full report [click here](#).

For more useful resources and links, take a look at [our website here](#)

Useful Links



VAMHN website: <https://www.vamhn.co.uk/>



VAMHN twitter: [@VAMHN](#)

We are one of eight UKRI funded mental health networks. To find out more about the other seven, [click here](#)



If you have any collaboration or funding opportunities, events or resources for our newsletter please contact us at vamhn@kcl.ac.uk