



Violence Abuse & Mental Health Network: October Newsletter



VAMHN Update

We're hiring! Job opening for a Lived Experience Involvement Officer:

The VAMHN is delighted to announce that we are recruiting for a Lived Experience Involvement Officer. The position will be 30% FTE with a salary of £28,717 to £31,831 per annum (pro-rata) inclusive of London Allowance (pro-rata). The post holder will contribute to the development and delivery of the network's survivor and service user involvement strategy. The deadline for applications is 30th October 2019. For full details and to apply [click here](#).

VAMHN Network Meeting

A huge thank you to everyone who came to our open network meeting on the 7th October at the Institute of Mental Health, University of Nottingham. Thank you to all our amazing speakers and to Dr Julie McGarry for hosting us. The day was filled with fascinating presentations discussions. Thank you also to Vanessa Garrity who was live tweeting the event and has also produced a series of short podcast interviews with the speakers on the day. You can listen to them [here](#).

Inaugural International VAMHN Meeting

The International Violence, Abuse and Mental Health launched with its first meeting on the 8th October, organised and led by VAMHN network member Dr Roxanne Keynejad. The day included a number of presentations from researchers from Zimbabwe, India, Uganda, Somaliland and more. A series of short podcast interviews with some of the speakers were produced by Katherine Saunders and will be released shortly at [Mending the Gap](#).



VAMHN Funding Opportunities

VAMHN Early Career Researcher Bursary Awards:

We are excited to announce that our second round of ECR Bursary Awards are now open! The bursary aims to support junior researchers (including independent researchers and researchers based at third sector organisations) to attend training courses, research placements at institutions other than their own, and conferences. Bursaries can be used towards training course and/or conference fees, or for travel and accommodation to support attendance. We will be running two calls of this scheme per year until 2022. The maximum bursary value is £250, and applications for this round will close on the 15th November 2019 at 5pm. For full details including how to apply [click here](#).

We awarded 5 bursaries in our last round. Three of our bursary winners, [Grace Carter](#), [Michelle Degli Esposti](#) and [Ashley McCarthy](#) have written blog posts discussing how they used their award money. To see what they had to say about their experiences have a look at our [website here](#).



VAMHN Upcoming Events

Resilience to transformation workshop: improving the response to violence against women and its impact on mental health: 4th November 10.30-15.00


As part of the ESRC Social Science Festival, the VAMHN in collaboration with King's College London's Centre for Integrated Research on Risk & Resilience are hosting a cross disciplinary workshop on resilience and transformation on 4th November. The day will include presentations and discussion sessions on both geographical and psychological perspectives of resilience. There are only a few spaces left so don't delay! For full details and to register your attendance [click here](#).



Other Funding Opportunities

- Nuffield Foundation Strategic Fund – (*Applications accepted from 1st October 2019*)
 - 🕒 Deadline 9th December 2019. [Click here for full details.](#)
- The Loneliness and Social Isolation in Mental Health Research Network Funding Call
 - 🕒 Deadline 31st January 2020 at 5pm. [Click here for full details.](#)
- NIHR Health Inequalities Research Initiative: Call 3
 - 🕒 Deadline 14th January 2020 at 1pm. [Click here for full details.](#)

- NIHR Public Mental Health Interventions

 Deadline 17th March 2020 at 1pm. [Click here for full details.](#)



Other Training and Events

The Section of Women's Mental Health will be hosting a talk from Prof. Sylvia Walby OBE, Director of the Violence and Society Centre at City University of London and UNESCO Chair in Gender Research. Prof. Walby will speak on "Violence, Health and Society: Making the changing forms of violence visible" on the 28th November from 4-5pm followed by a reception from 5pm. For full details and to get your ticket, [click here.](#)

The Havens Sexual Assault Referral Centre are hosting their third annual Sexual Violence and Health Research Day on 11th November. The day will consist of presentations and discussion, promoting best practices in health services that deal (knowingly or not) with victims and survivors of sexual violence. For full details and to register your attendance [click here.](#)

The Royal College of Psychiatrists are running a one-day conference on the 6th December on 'Sexual Violence and Mental Health'. The day will include a host of presentations on the role of mental health care professionals in treating patients who have experienced sexual violence. For full details and to register [click here.](#)

University of Sheffield & Focus Games have collaborated to develop a training aid that takes the form of an interactive board game. The game is targeted at health and social care professionals to enhance their training, further their understanding of domestic violence and abuse and help them creatively explore ways to support those in their care. To find out more [click here.](#)

King's College London will host a half-day research symposium on the 5th November on "Understanding Modern Slavery" as part of the ESRC Festival of Social Sciences. The event will showcase the latest findings from research and practice in this area, and connect researchers, practitioners, policymakers and interested members of the public. The symposium is now fully booked but you can follow the live tweets on the day via #UnderstandingModernSlavery. For full details on the event [click here.](#)

Willesden Gallery is hosting an exhibition titled "Traumatised Selves" from the 19th-30th November. The exhibition explores visual articulations of the impact of trauma on mind, brain, and body. They will also be holding a reception event on the 21st November from 6-

8pm. For more details [click here](#). For any queries about the event please contact Laura (laura@laurafischer-trauma.co.uk). You can also view more information on her [website here](#).

Job Opportunities

VAMHN Network Lead Dr Sian Oram is advertising for a post-doctoral Research Associate to investigate the effectiveness of advocacy interventions in improving the mental health and wellbeing of survivors of modern slavery. The deadline for applying is the 3rd of November. [Full details available here](#).

Resources

Mending the Gap Podcast – *Katherine Saunders*

This new podcast series on women's mental health research has just launched out of the Section of Women's Mental Health, King's College London. You can catch the first three episodes on Apple Podcasts, Soundcloud, Spotify, Podbean, Stitcher and Acast! To listen to the first episode, [click here](#).

The London Rape Review: A review of cases from 2016 – *The London Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), 2019*

Earlier this year, MOPAC published a review looking at 501 allegations of rape across London in 2016. They found that while 84% of allegations were classified as a crime by the police, only 3% resulted in a conviction. The review provides a comprehensive report, highlighting the need for action within policy and practice. To read the full report [open access] [click here](#).

'I Am Talking About It Because I Want to Stop It': Child Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Against Women in British South Asian Communities – *Gill et al, 2019*

This article discusses the role of socio-cultural factors in violence against women and girls in British South Asian communities by interviewing 13 survivors. The interviews indicated that British South Asian survivors are reluctant to disclose their experiences of sexual abuse due to factors such as the taboo surrounding sex and cultural norms around shame. To read the full article [open access] published in *The British Journal of Criminology* [click here](#).

Qualitative Research on Interpersonal Violence: Guidance for Early Career Scholars – *Hardesty et al, 2019*

This article is aimed at early career researchers who are looking to conduct qualitative research. The authors offer guidance on safety, ethics and different aspects of methodology.

To read the full article [open access] published in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* [click here](#).

Gender-based violence and engagement in biomedical HIV prevention, care and treatment: a scoping review – Leddy et al, 2019

Gender -based violence has been shown to increase a woman's risk of getting HIV. However little is known about the causal pathways between the two. This scoping review highlights the need for gaps in the literature to be addressed. To read the full article [open access] published in BMC Public Health, [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, or you would like your organisation to be featured in our community spotlight, please contact us at vamhn@kcl.ac.uk