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Practice Links

Issue 51, February 2013



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Continuing Professional Development

Doctor of Social Science (DSocSc)

The Doctor of Social Science (DSocSc) has another intake of participants onto the programme in September 2013. The postgraduate application website (www.pac.ie) is now open for new DSocSc applications.

The DSocSc is a four year doctoral programme which combines taught modules and research. It has proved particularly popular with participants who are in current employment and who want a more structured, group-based approach to completing a doctorate.

There are already a number of university and IT lecturers on the DSocSc, so the programme may be attractive to colleagues in UCC. The DSocSc website (http://drofsocialscienceucc.com/) includes video clips of current participant explaining why they like the pedagogic approach taken in the DSocSc.



Professional Supervision Seminar

A seminar on Professional Supervision which is to be held on 15 March 2013 in the University of Ulster at Jordanstown from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm.

The seminar is intended both for those who are Supervisors of Professional staff and for those who are Supervisees.

It is especially intended for anyone involved in working with children and young people.

The Presenter, Richard Swann, comes highly recommended and we have no doubt that the seminar will be very useful.

BOOKING FORMS ARE AVAILABLE NOW
TO REQUEST A BOOKING FORM PLEASE E MAIL SHARON at sa.lucas@ulster.ac.uk

As places are limited please book your place as soon as possible.

Continuing Professional Development

DISORGANISED ATTACHMENT AND CHILD PROTECTION
New Ways of Assessing Risk and Helping Children and Families

Thursday 21 March 2013, Thistle City Hotel, Birmingham

The morning will include presentations by David Shemmings on different aspects of contemporary theory and research relating to child protection practice. Professor Shemmings will facilitate interactive sessions in the afternoon.

This conference will be particularly relevant to practitioners at all levels including their supervisors and managers in all key agencies and organisations working in the safeguarding children arena.

This Conference was first held in Newport and Bournemouth in 2011 and York in July 2012 and due to the success and excellent reviews from delegates we are now repeating the event in Birmingham. The cost of attending BASPCAN conferences was reduced in 2012 and these prices are held for 2013. Members rate is £130, Non-members rate is £180 and Joining members rate is £195, this gives 2013 membership and a full years subscription to the journal, Child Abuse Review.If you would like to attend any event please visit our website to book on line at http://www.baspcan.org.uk/booking.php

ISPCAN (International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect) Conference to be held in Dublin 15th - 18th September 2013

Fáilte! [welcome] It is our great pleasure to invite you to Dublin for the 13th ISPCAN European Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect. We look forward to welcoming you to Dublin where we can assure you of both a full and exciting scientific programme and a venue that is rich in history, culture and heritage. Delegates will have opportunities to discuss the current state of research and interventions on CAN in Europe and internationally, discuss new challenges and emerging topics and help shape national and international responses.

The organising committee is made up of clinicians, practitioners and academics drawn from across the island of Ireland and Europe. Dublin last hosted an ISPCAN event (the 11th International Congress) in 1996 and we look forward to this return visit.

Our conference theme is **"Protecting Children in a Changing World"** and includes the following sub-themes:

- Prevention of child abuse and neglect through early and sustained involvement
- Interventions and programmes for children and families experiencing adversity
- Addressing children's rights and participation
- Reforms in child protection and welfare policy
- Children in out of home care
- Building the evidence base
- Contemporary issues

Dublin is a vibrant and modern capital city with a unique literary, cultural and historical legacy. The city is compact and easy to explore for visitors and is also close to stunning natural scenery and historic sites in nearby counties. Dublin is well served by direct flights from dozens of European cities. Further details on the call for abstracts and the scientific and social programmes will appear at: http://www.ispcan.org/event/Dublin2013.



Advance Notice: 4th Biennial Child Protection and Welfare Social Work Conference

Friday 25th October, 2013, University College Cork, Ireland.
See http://swconf.ucc.ie for further details and for videos of last years conference.
This conference series is a joint partnership between the Social Work Development Unit UCC, Child Protection and Welfare Teams in the HSE South and the IASW Southern Branch.

Continuing Professional Development

TCD Seminar Series: Registration into Practice

This eight session seminar series will provide participants with an opportunity to consider practice issues relevant to registration. The programme will run for eight consecutive Wednesdays from 6.00-8.00pm in Trinity College Dublin and will be facilitated by expert speakers. Please see attached brochure for more details.

Booking is essential - If interested please contact Laura Cusack, lcusack@tcd.ie, 01 8963593.

THE 3rd EUROPEAN CONFERENCE FOR SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH

Jyväskylä, Finland 20-22 March 2013

The conference, previously held at Oxford and Basel, will bring together researchers and research users across Europe and internationally to exchange research ideas, findings, developments and applications. The main theme of the conference is transforming welfare policies, social work and social care practices with the aim to analyse both ongoing changes in welfare policies and their societal and human consequences on all levels in various parts of Europe and elsewhere.

Please, find further information: http://www.jyu.fi/ecswr2013

Social Care Ireland 2013 Annual Conference: Change, Challenge, Opportunity?

Social Care Ireland 2013 annual conference will take place in The Strand Hotel Limerick on March 20th & 21st 2013. A full and varied programme is being planned with every effort made to improve on what a very successful 2012 conference. Further details from mid January next. See website for further details and booking information: www.socialcareireland.ie

Campbell Colloquium 2013

The annual Campbell Collaboration Colloquium will be back May 21st - 23rd, 2013! Our venue this year is in beautiful, downtown Chicago just one block from the Magnificent Mile at Loyola University Chicago. Come enjoy the sights and sounds of the big city while engaging with reviewers from around the globe!

Visit the Colloquium's website for more details. More information about registration, plenary speakers, and presentations are upcoming. We look forward to seeing you in Chicago!

3rd International Public Health & Palliative Care Conference

Limerick, 25th - 27th April 2013 on the theme of: "Death, Dying, Loss & Care: Social Experiences or Medical Events?"

A public health approach to palliative care places the community at the centre of supporting those affected by death, dying, loss and care. The conference website has further details, flyer and booking details: www.publichealthpalliativecare.org

Continuing Professional Development

Presentation O

Raymond Watson & Gerry Clarke and Lavinia Mclean & Emmett Tuite - Open Training College and ITB
Sharing Practice- A Collaborative E-learning Experience.

Karen Sugrue - LIT
A discussion of the emerging possibilities in supervision offered by new digital media

Presentation P

Vivian Molloy - Social Care Training Ireland
"Teambuilding in Social Care: An Exercise in Leadership" (Workshop)

Carol Landers - Orchard Children's Services
"Managing Performance" (Workshop)

Presentation Q

William Brazil - TCI
Challenging Behaviour (Workshop)

Jim Cantwell - WIT
Change, challenge, opportunity: Imprints on practice approaches

Presentation R

Sandra Ratcliffe - ITB
Placement Supervision: Diversity and Opportunity in a Time of Change

Anne Lalor - 2211q Ireland Support Group
Invisible Disabilities: Can perceptions be changed? What are the challenges? Where are the opportunities?

Tea and Coffee 12 - 12.20pm

Keynote Address: 12.20pm

"Panel Beat My Soul" - Michael Corcoran

Q&A 1.20pm

Close and Lunch 1.30pm

Please Note:
Minister Frances Fitzgerald to confirm if she is available to officially open the conference.
Early Bird Rate expires on Friday 22nd February, 2013.
Special student daily rate available to 1st March, 2013. This rate is available on a first come first served basis to 5 students from each college.
Hotel parking not included in delegate rate.
For excellent corporate sponsorship rates contact David Durney.
david.durney@freshstart.ie
087-9679947

Keynote Speakers

DAVID PITHERS, was educated at Oxford & Cambridge Universities. He has worked in the media and publishing. Apart from a number of academic appointments in fields unrelated to social care, he has worked with children for fifty years where he has held jobs at different levels of responsibility. He has recently retired, reluctantly, from his post in Scotland as residential philosopher. David has a keen interest in the theory and practice of Attachment.

DR. NIALL MULDOON is the Director of Investigations at the Ombudsman for Children's office (OCO). He is a Registered Clinical and Counselling Psychologist and has worked in Child Protection for twenty years. He is a former National Clinical Director of CARI and worked for ten years in the Granada Institute with adults who had sexually offended against children and those who had been abused as children. In the OCO he oversees the handling of complaints by, or on behalf of children and young people about public bodies including the HSE.

MICHAEL CORCORAN is a clinical supervisor for the family intervention programme in the Aislinn Adolescent Addiction Centre, Co Kilkenny. Having worked in the residential child care sector for many years, he has specialised in the development of therapeutic programmes for children and family intervention services. Michael is a member of the International Association of Forensic Psychotherapy.

Social Care Ireland was founded in June 2011 to amalgamate three associations active in the Irish social care field for many years: Social Care Workers (IASCW), Academics (IASCE) and Managers (IASCM). Its president is Denise Lyons (IASCE).

www.socialcareireland.ie

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Ph **085-7584363**

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SCI

SOCIAL CARE IRELAND
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2013

CHANGE
CHALLENGE
OPPORTUNITY?

WEDNESDAY 20TH & THURSDAY 21ST MARCH, 2013
STRAND HOTEL LIMERICK

Please see
www.socialcareireland.ie
for further details and booking information from *Friday, February 1st, 2013*.

The SCI conferences in recent years have brought together practitioners, managers and educators from around the country. This year's conference theme poses a question for many involved in social care, from whichever sector. The mix and variety of keynote addresses and presentations focus on different aspects of that question giving much food for thought and discussion over the two days.

Day 1: Wed. 20th March, 2013

Registration 9.45 - 11am

Official Opening 11.00am

Denise Lyons, President Social Care Ireland 11.45am

Keynote Address by David Pithers: Attachment Theory in Practice 12noon
We Don't Grow Away from Childhood... We Grow with it.

Q&A 1:00pm

Lunch 1.15pm

Presentation A — 2pm -3.15pm

Carmel Gallagher and Michael Brophy - DIT and Clareville Day Centre
Philosophy as a therapeutic tool in social care settings

Aoife O'Malley and Danielle Gaynor - Fresh Start
Occupational Therapy for Children in Care – 'I will be proud when I grow up'

Presentation B

Colletta Dalikeni - DKIT
Child Protection Social Work with Asylum Seeking Families Research Findings from a recently completed Phd

Eithne Ní Longphuirt
Bessborough Centre, Blackrock, Cork.
Thinking about Family Support Practices in a collaborative way for Child Protection Cases

Presentation C

Liam Mc Carthy and Robert O'Driscoll - IASW and IAAAC
Transforming Inter-agency Practice Activity in an Irish Context: Practitioner Research from Addiction Treatment and Social Work Agencies

Lorna Roe - TCD PHD
A comparative review of concepts, practice and outcomes of an integrated care approach to health and social care services.

Presentation D

Nicola O'Sullivan and Claire Rearden - Bessborough Centre, Cork.
Working with Parents and Infants using an infant Mental Health Model

Marguerita Walsh
Mothering Values: An Exploration of Generational Differences in Childrearing Values, Beliefs and Attitudes.

Presentation E

John Digney - Ráth na nÓg
An overview of the TransformAction model of measuring KPIs or 'Outcomes That Matter'

Deering, A. - Nua Healthcare Services
Emotional Coping Strategies as a basis for Care Planning

Tea Break 3:15pm

Keynote Address by Dr. Niall Muldoon 3:40pm

Learning from Complainants
Priorities emerging from Ombudsman for Children's Office

Q+A 4:40pm

AGM or Executive Meetings of IASCW, IASCE and IASCM. 5.15 - 6pm

Wine Reception to Launch IJASS Special Edition 7:45pm

Dinner and Award Ceremony 8:30pm

Day 2: Thurs. 21st March, 2013

Presentation F — 9.30 - 10.40am

Dr. Tom Farrelly & Dr.Colm O'Doherty - IT Tralee
Children's' Services Committees – Challenges and Opportunities for Social Care

Colette Kelly, Aoife Gavin, Michal Molcho & Saoirse Nic Gabhainn
Health Promotion Research Centre, Health Promotion Research Centre, National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland.
Exploring health and well-being of children in care using HBSC Ireland data: challenges and opportunities.

Presentation G

Martin Power - NUI Galway
Professional peering through the looking-glass: Social care and medical students' perspectives on covertly administering medicines.

Dr. Noel Kavanagh - Carlow College
'Against' Ethics in Social Care Theory and Practice

Presentation H

Joe Moran - WIT
Employment precariousness and social care in Ireland

Dr. Treasa Campbell - MIC, Limerick
Reconciling the voice of care with the voice of justice in the professionalisation of social care.

Presentation I

Majella Mulkeen - IT Sligo
Professional Socialization in social care: navigating a winding path

Kerry McDonagh, Louise Loughlin and Mary Leydon - 4th yr students Sligo
Professional Development Through the Eyes of a Social Care Practitioner

Presentation J

Aoife Prendargast - ITB
Person Centred planning: Opportunities and Challenges in Social Care Practice

Aoife Killeen - PhD Candidate, CIT
Our Right to Independent Living-Your Choice or Mine?

Break 10.40 - 10.50am

Presentation K — 10.50 - 12noon

Moira Jenkins -Cork Institute of Technology
The opportunity for a statutory Social Care Advocate for vulnerable adults in the challenge of integrating health and social care and the changes in legal capacity laws.

Ms Marianne Griffiths, Prof. Mary McCarron - TCD
Caring for an Older Family Member with an Intellectual Disability in 2012; Changes, Challenges and Opportunities

Presentation L

Tamsin Cavaliero and Mark Taylor - Sligo
How do young people want to be treated by social professionals? Evidence from Case Studies

Caroline Nolan - EPIC
Change, Challenge and Opportunity in Advocating for Young People in Care in Ireland.

Presentation M

Lillian Lancaster - IT Carlow
Using Threshold Concepts to Change Social Care Outcomes

Carmel Smith, Lecturer - Carlow College, Carlow
Rethinking 'reflexivity' in Social Care theory, practice and research

Presentation N

Bryan Gough, Anna Hourigan, Michelle O Connor and Siobhán O Leary - LIT Social Care Students
"Has Regeneration Worked?"

Steve Whitemore - IT Sligo
An intercultural exploration: Games 'others' might play, can you find the 'space'?

Continuing Professional Development

IRISH ASSOCIATION FOR
INFANT MENTAL HEALTH

Affiliated with

WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR
INFANT MENTAL HEALTH

IAIMH NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2013
DUBLIN, IRELAND
SATURDAY 20th APRIL 2013

TRAUMA IN THE EARLY YEARS

Using an Infant Mental Health Framework to Listen, Respond and Represent the Needs of Babies and Toddlers.

This unique collaboration with international experts, will present from clinical and legal perspectives, the impact of trauma on the lives of babies and toddlers and their caregivers.

Compelling scientific evidence will be presented and therapeutic interventions discussed. This important conference will be of interest to all disciplines, Multidisciplinary Teams, Child Protection Services, Family Law Legal Teams, the Courts and all who work with vulnerability and risk in the early years.

Keynote Speakers:

Patricia Van Horn, PhD, JD
Associate Clinical Professor and Director of the Division of Infant, Child, and Adolescent Psychiatry at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Centre.

Judge Donna J. Hitchens MSW, JD
Recently Retired Judge of the San Francisco Superior Court.

Location: Citywest Hotel, Dublin.

Cost: €100 (non-members) / €90 (members). *Light lunch included.*

Registration: Email to register your interest. Further details will follow

imhireland@gmail.com

Continuing Professional Development

Creating sustainable futures: defeating the politics of austerity

This year's Social Work Action Network (SWAN) Conference is in London for the first time.

Social Work Action Network

FRIDAY 12th & SATURDAY 13th APRIL 2013

London South Bank University. Elephant & Castle



Against the backdrop of increasing cuts and rising inequality social workers, service users, carers, care workers, social work students and educators are coming together to fight back. The Social Work Action Network (SWAN) promotes a model of social work and care practice which is rooted in the value of social justice.

The 8th SWAN National Conference will debate how we can resist cuts to social work and care services and other attacks on the welfare state including the abolition of disability living allowance, increased workfare and the closure of youth services. SWAN is delighted to announce that this year's conference will be held in London, the first time a national conference has been held in the city.

The conference will bring together activists from all parts of the UK and from around the world to discuss the fight against austerity and to develop collective, sustainable alternatives. In particular, it will provide workers, service users and carers with an opportunity to share strategies in the struggle against cuts and marketisation of services, and to challenge the hardship these create.

More conference details will follow soon - sign up to the SWAN newsletter list at www.socialworkfuture.org/resources/newsletter-sign-up or follow our Twitter feed. For more information please contact swanconf2013@gmail.com our specific conference email address.

www.socialworkfuture.org

@swansocialwork

Social Work Action Network (SWAN)

Continuing Professional Development



CORU, the regulatory body for health and social care professionals, is putting in place a framework to regulate the 12 professions who come under the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005. Regulation aims to protect the public through fostering high standards of professional conduct, professional education, training and competence among those registered.

31 May 2013 is the end of the grandparenting period and Social Workers who have not applied for registration by that date will not be able to continue to work using the protected title "Social Worker".

All Social Workers are urged to take steps now to make sure they make a complete application for registration before the 31 May 2013 deadline. For existing practitioners applying to get onto the register now, the initial fee will cover registration until 31 May 2014.

Please note that an incomplete application will delay your registration. Please make sure you provide all of the information requested in the application form. For more information please visit www.coru.ie

Mareeda Tracey, CORU.

CALL FOR PROJECTS

Are you a member of a community group, voluntary organisation, resident's association, NGO?

Do you need a small piece of research done, but don't have enough money or resources to carry it out at this time?

Community - Academic Research Links

What is this about?

Community - Academic Research Links use a science shop approach to research. This service provides independent, participatory research support in response to concerns experienced by civil society. Science shops use the term 'science' in its broadest sense, incorporating social and human sciences, as well as natural, physical, engineering and technical sciences.

The aims of this initiative are to: provide civil society with knowledge and skills through research and education; provide their services on an affordable basis; promote and support public access to and influence on science and technology; create equitable and supportive partnerships with civil society organisations; enhance understanding among policymakers and education and research institutions of the research and education needs of civil society; enhance the transferrable skills and knowledge of students, community representatives and researchers.

How does it work?

As part of their academic course, students undertake a minor dissertation (between 10,000-30,000 words). In past years, students designed their own study and then contacted groups for permission to collect data. These projects serve to develop the research skills of the students; however, the research may not always answer the needs of social practice.

In our model, the students undertake their studies, learn about research methods, data collection, ethics, literature reviews as usual; however, the major difference is that the research projects undertaken are explicitly studies of issues identified by the community. These are studies/research which the community identifies as important and need to be undertaken, but they cannot pay for it and/or do not have themselves the expertise to undertake the study at this time.

How long does this take?

The usual time-scales of such projects would be a) proposals submitted by groups by the 1st March, b) at the end of March a committee of UCC staff and representatives from the community and voluntary sector review the proposals to see which ones are sufficiently developed and feasible for a student to undertake, and c) students begin their work in May (MSW) or October (other courses). Projects must be small enough to be completed (at least the first part) within the academic year, roughly 9-12 months. Groups normally receive their research report in July. As we are a small unit, it is expected that only a small number of projects will be taken on.

We are seeking expressions of interest from groups who have research projects that fit the above description and would be amenable to student research in the Schools of Applied Social Studies and/or Business, Law and Information Technology (IT).

Community groups who have are currently involved or previously completed a project, are welcome to apply again.

This year, we would **also** like to invite applications from community groups on topics related to information systems, social media, websites, Android applications and databases.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Before you make contact ...

1. Is your proposed project small enough to be undertaken as part of a student project?
2. Does your group come under the definition of a Civil Society Organisation? (generally not a government service or business - see website for more information on what we consider a CSO).
3. Do you have a clear idea for a research project that, if undertaken, will have a wider benefit to society?
4. Completed research reports are made available for free to the wider community on the web.
5. Please review all of the information on our website to help you develop your proposal and read some of the completed research reports.
6. Contact Anna to discuss your idea further and to receive a copy of the application form.
7. Closing date is the 10th March 2013.

CONTACT US

Anna Kingston a.kingston@ucc.ie

http://carl.ucc.ie

While this call specifically relates to **March** for projects to start later this year, proposals can be

Community & Academic Research Links

UCC University College Cork, Ireland Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Social Work and Social Media

Some advice for Social Workers and Allied Professions on using Twitter

As we have started a companion Twitter account, we thought we might give you some tips and advice on the use of this social media platform. Give it a try and tell us what you think!

Although social media platforms (or the internet in general) might not be everyone's "cup of tea" places like Facebook and Twitter are increasingly becoming integral to the social work profession - as a place to find peer support, as a place to source solid research and policy and as a place to engage with social workers from around the world on countless practice issues. Social media is also increasingly being used as a way to engage with, and provide support to, service users. As more and more organisations have online persona's social workers have more resources at their fingertips and can signpost service users to these. There is also a growing concept however, of the "digital divide" whereby certain groups, because of their age, race, gender, socio-economic status etc, are prevented from having access benefits of digital technology. As social workers in the 21st century it is important that we are aware of these concepts and engage with them so that we can pursue an egalitarian ideal whereby all service users have meaningful access to all resources that promote their social capital, including digital technology.

1. To start you off on your digital adventure(!) we have compiled some "top tips" for you to get started on Twitter (if you haven't already done so). Practice Links is now on Twitter so you can keep up to date with relevant policy, CPD events and other general information in between the usual online publication we sent out. Our Twitter username is **@Practicelinks**. You can find us by typing this name into the search bar at the top of your twitter page.

2. How to join Twitter: Go to www.twitter.com. Click the **Sign up** button and follow the instructions. Think of a suitable username before signing up. What do you want to use the account for? Is it a personal account? Or is it a professional account? E.g. are you going to tweet about X-Factor or about how there are no appropriate services for young people leaving care in the area you work in (or both!)?

3. A lot of (frontline) social workers who tweet have usernames that are not their real names. This means that a). They can talk more freely about social work issues and b). It protects the confidentiality of service users. Remember that Ireland is a small country, there are only approximately 3,000 social workers here and that confidentiality is a core component of the social worker role. **We recommend that you do not tweet about specific cases, rather the issues/themes arising for professional practice.**

4. You can ensure that where you work is not identified by not adding a specific location when asked on your profile page. Simply put "Ireland" or leave it blank.

5. Another tip is to put the tag line "Tweets are my own opinion/view" so that people know you are not speaking as a social worker from X organisation etc. As social workers we can and should have opinions about social work practices (good or bad) and we can and should put forward critical analyses about how to change social work practice for the better. It is our ethical duty to challenge oppressive practices (these practices might be ones that our organisations want to us to follow). Having an opinion on social work issues is great and more social workers should be engaging in debate on a daily basis. This not only provides fruitful grounds for discussion, it also lends itself to more collective understanding for social workers and a sense that we are in this together as opposed to individuals working in silos.

Social Work and Social Media (Continued)

6. When tweeting use common sense and don't engage in prejudiced or inflammatory behaviour. If you are sending a tweet that you would not be happy to stand over if you were having that conversation in "real" life, then don't send it.

7. Don't personally attack people (even if you feel that the politicians or organisations etc. may deserve it). It's not worth it. You may feel better, but then end up having to apologise online for the whole world to see. Those are the types of tweets that go viral!

8. It may take some time to get used to only having 140 characters in which to get your thoughts/points across. Acronym's are common on Twitter. Check out this link for some of the more common ones to help you save on precious space! http://tinyurl.com/97b6w7. Three that directly pertain to social work are: SW (social work), SW's (social workers) and SU's/SUers (service users).

9. How to "follow" people: When you follow someone you will get their tweets on your home page Twitter stream. Click the **Follow** button when you see it next to a user's profile photo or on a user's profile page. They will then be on your follow list which you can access by clicking the **Following** tab on the top left-hand side of your twitter home page. Followers are people who receive your tweets. If someone follows you they will show up in your followers list. They will see your tweets in their home timeline whenever they log in to Twitter. You can check who is following you by clicking the **Followers** tab on the top left-hand side of your twitter home page. Here is a list of 100 social care tweeters – to get you started! Just click on the link and click the "subscribe" button: http://tinyurl.com/axop7vz.

10. What is a **Hastag** and why you would use it on twitter? The **#** symbol, called a hashtag, is used to mark keywords or topics in a tweet. People use the hashtag symbol # before a relevant keyword or phrase (no spaces) in their tweet to categorize those tweets and help them show more easily in Twitter Search. Clicking on a hashtagged word in any message shows you all other tweets marked with that keyword. Hashtags can occur anywhere in the tweet – at the beginning, middle, or end. Hashtagged words that become very popular are often trending topics.

11. What does **Trending** mean? Trends are determined by an algorithm and are tailored for you based on who you follow and your location. This algorithm identifies topics that are immediately popular, rather than topics that have been popular for a while or on a daily basis, to help you discover the hottest emerging topics of discussion on Twitter that matter most to you.

12. Posting a link on Twitter: When posting a link on Twitter you can simply copy and paste it into the **Compose new tweet** box on the top left-hand side of your twitter homepage. To save space you might want to first convert your link to a shorter URL. You can download a toolbar to your computer which will convert links for you. This is one such service: http://tinyurl.com/19y.

13. When you post a comment or link, you might also want to alert certain people to this. You can do this by typing **@** and the person's username (no space) at the beginning or end of your comment and they will be alerted to what you have posted. This is useful as it can begin a conversation about a certain social work topic, it can alert other people to the issue you want highlighted, it can prompt other people to retweet your comment which leads to more people potentially seeing your comment and engaging in debate with you, or providing you with information if that is what your tweet was about.

14. Finally, the Twitter support centre might be able to answer any questions you have that have not been covered here http://tinyurl.com/8pg7ae and try out different Twitter applications for your computer and/or smart phone to see which one suits you best.

New publications and policy reports

Everyday Insecurity: Life at the end of the Welfare State by the New Economics Foundation (November 2012)

Welfare reform and public sector cuts are adding significant pressure to a system already buckling under the strain of growing demand and underfunding. This is leading to unsustainable human, social and economic costs.

A link to the report can be found here: http://tinyurl.com/bwbc8ro

A video to go with the report can be found here: http://tinyurl.com/dx4u8gm

Blinded by neuroscience: social policy, the family and the infant brain by David Wastell and Sue White (2012)

Current social policy initiatives are promoting early intervention to improve the lives of disadvantaged children. Neuroscientific evidence is prominent in this discourse, creating the lustre of science, but too much has been taken on trust. In particular, the argument that the first three years are critical has created a now-or-never imperative to intervene before irreparable damage is done to the developing infant brain. A critique of current policy in the United Kingdom is provided here, drawing on counter-arguments from the policy discourse in the United States during the 'decade of the brain', updated with more recent research findings. Overall, we show that the infant brain is not readily susceptible to permanent and irreversible damage from psychosocial deprivation. Rather, plasticity and resilience seem to be the general rule. The co-option of neuroscience has medicalised policy discourse, silencing vital moral debate and pushing practice in the direction of standardised, targeted interventions rather than simpler forms of family and community support, which can yield more sustainable results.

A link to the FREE article can be found here: http://t.co/PISlrYd4

Embedding the Equality Dimension in MDGs: Intergenerational Transmission of Inequalities and Implications for Post-2015 UN Development Agenda by Christian Morabito and Prof. Michel Vandenbroeck (October 2012)

This paper aims at reviewing the Millennium Development Goals using an equality of opportunity perspective by recalling the major contributions of contemporary philosophy, notably John Rawls, Amartya Sen, Ronald Dworkin, and John Roemer. In doing so, we look at possible diverging views on equality and justice, by focusing specifically on inter-generational transmission of inequalities between parents (i.e. mothers) and children, and implications for the UN development agenda post-2015 and construction of MDGs.

A link to the report can be found here: http://tinyurl.com/bee4btw

SCIE Research briefing 43: Effective supervision in social work and social care by Professor John Carpenter and Caroline Webb, Bristol University, Dr Lisa Bostock and Caroline Coomber, SCIE (October 2012)

This research briefing provides an overview of the evidence concerning the value of supervision in supporting the practice of social care and social work. It is relevant to both children's and adult social care services and includes a consideration of supervision in integrated, multi-professional teams. While the focus is on social work and social care, some of the research reviewed includes participants from other professions such as nursing and psychology. The briefing covers evidence on the use of different models of supervision and outcomes for workers, employers, service users and carers. It considers evidence on the costs of supervision and concludes with implications for policy-makers, practitioners, organisations, service users, carers and researchers.

A link to the briefing can be found here: http://tinyurl.com/b99ou8o

New publications and policy reports

Benefits Stigma in Britain by Ben Baumberg, Kate Bell and Declan Gaffney, with Rachel Deacon, Clancy Hood and Daniel Sage (November 2012)

This report set out to investigate the stigma attached to claiming benefits in Britain today, using an original MORI survey conducted in May 2012, focus groups with claimants and non-claimants, re-analysis of existing survey data, and an analysis of articles about benefits in national newspapers from 1995 to 2011. The term 'stigma' is used throughout this report as a term to describe the idea that a characteristic – in this case claiming benefits – is seen to be embarrassing or shameful and to lead to a lower social status. It is argued that benefits are primarily stigmatised when they are seen as an undeserved and unreciprocated gift. It would be very useful to have a similar report conducted here in Ireland. A link to the report can be found here: http://tinyurl.com/cv6fwjq

Loneliness in Older People and the Impact of Family Connections by WRVS (October 2012)

Ten million people in the UK are over 65 years old. The latest projections are for 5.5 million more older people by 2030 and the number will have nearly doubled to around 19 million by 2050. Within this total, the number of very old people grows even faster. There are currently 3 million people aged more than 80 years and this is projected to almost double by 2030, and reach 8 million by 2050 (Cracknell, 2010). This report reveals the fragmented nature of families today and the large number of over 75 year olds whose closest children live a substantial distance away from them. For 10 per cent of older people, their nearest child lives more than an hour's drive away (40 miles plus). Declines in job security and labour-market restructuring have increased pressure on the family and reduced location choices, 82 per cent of children who have moved away from their older parents have done so for work reasons. A link to the report can be found here: http://tinyurl.com/aoyn5tn

Attachment-based Practice with Adults. Understanding strategies and promoting positive change A new practice model and interactive resource for assessment, intervention and supervision

ISBN:978-1-908066-17-6. Publisher: Pavilion Publishing 2011. Price: £115. Website:www.pavpub.com

Violence Against Women: Current Theory and Practice in Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence and Exploitation

Violence against women is a pervasive problem in society and responding appropriately to those who experience it and those who perpetrate it is a constant challenge for social work, health and related professions today.



This volume seeks to address issues surrounding violence against women at all levels, from its root causes to the specific needs arising in victims of gendered abuse from a particular social or ethnic group. Drawing on the expertise of a range of 'front line' service providers and practitioners as well as academic researchers, it seeks to provide those working in social work and related professions with up-to-date coverage of the major issues pertaining to violence against women, and suggest ways to tackle the rise in violence against women by translating knowledge into effective training and practice. This important book will be essential reading for practicing social workers and allied professions, as well as academics and students. http://www.jkp.com/catalogue/book/9781849051323?utm_campaign=Lombard_Violence-Against-Women_Jan13_NUC&utm_medium=Email&utm_source=CM_jessica-kingsley-publishers&utm_content=Lombard_Violence-Against-Women_Jan13_NUC

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Practice signposts are new permanent pages that will appear in every edition of *Practice Links*. The aim of this page is to provide sign posts to high quality research-informed databases. Some of the databases at a quick glance may seem too medical/health orientated, but also contain great resources to support social work and social care practice also.

Campbell Collaboration

The Campbell Collaboration (C2) helps people make well-informed decisions by preparing, maintaining and disseminating systematic reviews in education, crime and justice, and social welfare. Access to the database in the Republic of Ireland is free as the government of Ireland has purchased a license. http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/

Cochrane Collaboration

The Cochrane Collaboration, established in 1993, is an international network of more than 28,000 dedicated people from over 100 countries. We work together to help health care providers, policy makers, patients, their advocates and carers, make well-informed decisions about health care, based on the best available research evidence, by preparing, updating and promoting the accessibility of Cochrane Reviews. Our work is internationally recognised as the benchmark for high quality information about the effectiveness of health care.
http://www.cochrane.org/

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) - NHS UK

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) provides guidance, sets quality standards and manages a national database to improve people's health and prevent and treat ill health. http://www.nice.org.uk/ . Videocasts: http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/videocasts/videocasts.jsp. Podcasts: http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/podcasts/index.jsp

Health Intelligence Unit (HSE)

Health Intelligence is part of the Quality and Clinical Care Directorate within the Health Service Executive and is responsible for capturing and utilising knowledge to support decision-making to improve the health of the population. Website has links to HSE research, databases, facts (census etc.), publications and using evidence effectively. http://www.hse.ie/eng/about/Who/Population_Health/Health_Intelligence/

Evidence in Health and Social Care (NHS)

NHS Evidence is a service that enables access to authoritative clinical and non-clinical evidence and best practice through a web-based portal. It helps people from across the NHS, public health and social care sectors to make better decisions as a result. NHS Evidence is managed by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). http://www.evidence.nhs.uk/

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) improves the lives of people who use care services by sharing knowledge about what works. We are an independent charity working with adults, families and children's social care and social work services across the UK. We also work closely with related services such as health care and housing. We gather and analyse knowledge about what works and translate that knowledge into practical resources, learning materials and services. Our work helps to improve the knowledge and skills of those working in care services. This includes managers, frontline staff, commissioners and trainers. People and their families who use these services also use our resources. All of our work is developed in collaboration with experts - including people who use care services and their carers. http://www.scie.org.uk/

Decision Map.ie

DecisionMap.ie, the new online decision-support tool developed by Ordnance Survey Ireland and Twelve Horses. DecisionMap, currently in beta test release, combines digital mapping from Ordnance Survey Ireland, with visualisation and web delivery tools developed by Twelve Horses, and statistical data provided by the Central Statistics Office and others. It aims to provide decision makers in the public and private sectors instant access to easily-consumable, spatially-referenced data about Ireland. http://decisionmap.ie/

Growing Up in Ireland

Growing Up in Ireland is a national study of children. It is the most significant of its kind ever to take place in this country and will help us to improve our understanding of all aspects of children and their development.

The study will take place over seven years and follow the progress of two groups of children; 8500 nine-year-olds and 11,000 nine-month-olds. During this time we will carry out two rounds of research with each group of children.

The main aim of the study is to paint a full picture of children in Ireland and how they are developing in the current social, economic and cultural environment. This information will be used to assist in policy formation and in the provision of services which will ensure all children will have the best possible start in life.

Irish Qualitative Data Archive

The Irish Qualitative Data Archive (IQDA) is a central access point for qualitative social science data and provides online access to all new qualitative data generated within the Irish Social Science Platform, and to selected existing data. http://www.iqda.ie/content/welcome-iqda

North South Child Protection Hub

This hub available for use by child protection professionals (policy makers, practitioners, researchers and educators) in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

The Hub brings together research, policy and practice guidance, inspection reports, serious case reviews, court judgements, news articles and other material relevant to child protection published in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland together with material from Great Britain and other countries. Staff in the Health and Social Care Board and Trusts in Northern Ireland and in the Health Service Executive in the Republic of Ireland, will have access to the Hub but it will also be an important resource for all organisations concerned with child protection. http://www.nscph.com/

Continued on Pg. 3

Research briefs

Psychosocial interventions for reducing antipsychotic medication in care home residents

Tanja Richter, Gabriele Meyer, Ralph Möhler, Sascha Köpke

(Dec 2012)

THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION®

Background: Antipsychotic medication is regularly prescribed in care homes to control 'behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia' despite moderate efficacy, significant adverse effects, and available non-pharmacological alternatives.

Objectives: To evaluate the effectiveness of psychosocial interventions to reduce antipsychotic medication in care home residents.

Search methods: The Cochrane Dementia and Cognitive Improvement Group's Specialized Register, MEDLINE, EMBASE, CINAHL, PsycINFO, LILACS, a number of trial registers and grey literature sources were searched on 19th December 2011.

Selection criteria: Individual or cluster-randomised controlled trials comparing a psychosocial intervention aimed at reducing antipsychotic medication with usual care in care home residents or comparing two different approaches.

Data collection and analysis Two review authors independently assessed the retrieved articles for relevance and methodological quality and extracted data. Critical appraisal of studies addressed risk of bias through selection bias, performance bias, attrition bias, and detection bias, as well as criteria related to cluster design. Authors of relevant studies were contacted for additional information. Owing to clinical heterogeneity of interventions, statistical heterogeneity was not assessed and no meta-analysis performed. Study results are presented in a narrative form.

Main results: Four cluster-randomised controlled studies met the inclusion criteria. All of them investigated complex interventions comprising educational approaches. Three studies offered education and training for nursing staff, one study offered multidisciplinary team meetings as main component of the intervention. There was one high-quality study, but overall the methodological quality of studies was moderate.

The studies revealed consistent results for the primary end point. All studies documented a decrease of the proportion of residents with antipsychotic drug use or a reduction in days with antipsychotic use per 100 days per resident, respectively. In summary, the reviewed evidence on psychosocial interventions targeting professionals is consistent with a reduction of antipsychotic medication prescription in care home residents. However, owing to heterogeneous approaches, summary effect sizes cannot be determined.

Authors' conclusions: There is evidence to support the effectiveness of psychosocial interventions for reducing antipsychotic medication in care home residents. However, the review was based on a small number of heterogeneous studies with important methodological shortcomings. The most recent and methodologically most rigorous study showed the most pronounced effect.

Plain language summary In care homes, antipsychotic medication is commonly prescribed to control so called 'behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia' such as agitation, aggression, or restlessness. However, it is questionable whether antipsychotic medication is effective and safe. Adverse effects, such as sedation, falls, and cardiovascular symptoms, are frequent. Therefore, antipsychotic medication should be avoided if possible. This review investigates whether psychosocial interventions aimed at reducing antipsychotic medication in care homes are effective. By psychosocial interventions, we mean programmes that consist of different non-pharmacological components including talking to the staff, residents, or both. We identified four randomised controlled trials for inclusion in the review. All studies examined, among other components, education targeted at nursing staff in care homes. The methodological quality of three studies was limited, one study showed high quality. In all studies the interventions led to a reduction of antipsychotic medication use, but the overall magnitude of the effect remains unclear.

A link to the article can be found here: http://tinyurl.com/aww9wck

Research briefs

Cognitive-Behavioural Interventions for Children Who Have Been Sexually Abused

Geraldine Macdonald, Julian Higgins, Paul Ramchandani, Jeff Valentine, Latricia P. Bronger, Paul Klein, Roland O'Daniel, Mark Pickering, Ben Rademaker, George Richardson, Matthew Taylor (Sep 2012)

The Campbell Collaboration Library of Systematic Reviews
The Campbell Library

BACKGROUND: Despite differences in how it is defined, there is a general consensus amongst clinicians and researchers that the sexual abuse of children and adolescents ('child sexual abuse') is a substantial social problem worldwide. The effects of sexual abuse manifest in a wide range of symptoms, including fear, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder and various externalising and internalising behaviour problems, such as inappropriate sexual behaviours. Child sexual abuse is associated with increased risk of psychological problems in adulthood. Cognitive-behavioural approaches are used to help children and their non-offending or 'safe' parent to manage the sequelae of childhood sexual abuse. This review updates the first Cochrane review of cognitive-behavioural approaches interventions for children who have been sexually abused, which was first published in 2006.

OBJECTIVES: To assess the efficacy of cognitive-behavioural approaches (CBT) in addressing the immediate and longer-term sequelae of sexual abuse on children and young people up to 18 years of age.

SEARCH METHODS: We searched the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) (2011 Issue 4); MEDLINE (1950 to November Week 3 2011); EMBASE (1980 to Week 47 2011); CINAHL (1937 to 2 December 2011); PsycINFO (1887 to November Week 5 2011); LILACS (1982 to 2 December 2011) and OpenGrey, previously OpenSIGLE (1980 to 2 December 2011). For this update we also searched ClinicalTrials.gov and the International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP).

SELECTION CRITERIA: We included randomised or quasi-randomised controlled trials of CBT used with children and adolescents up to age 18 years who had experienced being sexually abused, compared with treatment as usual, with or without placebo control.

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS: At least two review authors independently assessed the eligibility of titles and abstracts identified in the search. Two review authors independently extracted data from included studies and entered these into Review Manager 5 software. We synthesised and presented data in both written and graphical form (forest plots).

RESULTS: We included 10 trials, involving 847 participants. All studies examined CBT programmes provided to children or children and a non-offending parent. Control groups included wait list controls (n = 1) or treatment as usual (n = 9). Treatment as usual was, for the most part, supportive, unstructured psychotherapy. Generally the reporting of studies was poor. Only four studies were judged 'low risk of bias' with regards to sequence generation and only one study was judged 'low risk of bias' in relation to allocation concealment. All studies were judged 'high risk of bias' in relation to the blinding of outcome assessors or personnel; most studies did not report on these, or other issues of bias. Most studies reported results for study completers rather than for those recruited. Depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety and child behaviour problems were the primary outcomes. Data suggest that CBT may have a positive impact on the sequelae of child sexual abuse, but most results were not statistically significant. Strongest evidence for positive effects of CBT appears to be in reducing PTSD and anxiety symptoms, but even in these areas effects tend to be 'moderate' at best. Meta-analysis of data from five studies suggested an average decrease of 1.9 points on the Child Depression Inventory immediately after intervention (95% confidence interval (CI) decrease of 4.0 to increase of 0.4; I2 = 53%; P value for heterogeneity = 0.08), representing a small to moderate effect size.

Web Links and Electronic Publications

CONT/...

Data from six studies yielded an average decrease of 0.44 standard deviations on a variety of child post-traumatic stress disorder scales (95% CI 0.16 to 0.73; I2 = 46%; P value for heterogeneity = 0.10). Combined data from five studies yielded an average decrease of 0.23 standard deviations on various child anxiety scales (95% CI 0.3 to 0.4; I2 = 0%; P value for heterogeneity = 0.84). No study reported adverse effects.

AUTHORS' CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions of this updated review remain the same as those when it was first published. The review confirms the potential of CBT to address the adverse consequences of child sexual abuse, but highlights the limitations of the evidence base and the need for more carefully conducted and better reported trials. A link to the review can be found here: http://tinyurl.com/avuumea

Disability Ireland Facts and Figures

Inclusion Ireland website will be doing a monthly presentation of facts and figures related to disability during 2013 - http://www.inclusionireland.ie:80/content/media/1021/disability-facts-and-doubts

Cork ARC Cancer Support Blog Launched

Cork ARC Cancer Support House is a voluntary organization that provides support for people with Cancer, their family and friends. We provide practical help, information and emotional support. Our aim is to provide therapies that complement the medical model, so as to make a difference to the lives of those affected by Cancer. The Cork ARC Blog offers online support to people with Cancer and their relatives and friends. The Blog acts like an interactive online support network for you to connect with peers.

Our Blog will provide regular posts of information that we hope will be helpful to you and that you can access at any time. It will also have descriptions of our programmes and events, as well as links to articles and other materials, such as graphics and videos or personal stories. Older posts are then archived and can be accessed at any time. http://corkarccancersupportblog.wordpress.com

FREE ACCESS - Routledge Social Work Article Collection

Routledge Journals is pleased to offer FREE ACCESS to more than 60 key articles in the areas of Social Work & Social Welfare, Social Policy & Social Service, and Social Work Education. Access and download these articles forFREE from now until March 31, 2013. We're sure you'll find current content that is useful to your practice, your research work, or that can be integrated into your classroom. http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/access/SocialWork2012.pdf

Web Links and Electronic Publications

DCYA Research Scholarship Programme 2013

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs is pleased to announce the launch of the 2013 Research Scholarship Programme. The aim of the Programme is to develop research capacity in relation to children and the issues which affect them. The programme specifically support's research projects directly relevant to the outcome areas of the National Strategy for Research and Data on Children's Lives 2011-2016 Projects involving analysis of Growing Up in Ireland data (www.growingup.ie.) are particularly welcome.

Full details of the programme and application documents can be accessed at the link below.
http://www.dcya.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?fn=%2Fdocuments%2FResearch%2FResearchScholarProg.htm&mn=resy&nID=7
Please forward the link to students who may be interested in applying. The closing date for receipt of completed applications and all supplementary material is Tuesday, 16th April 2013 at 4pm
Applications which are late or which are incomplete will not be accepted
All queries about this programme should be emailed to dcyaresearch@dcya.gov.ie
Research Unit
Department of Children and Youth Affairs
43-49 Mespil Road, Dublin 4
Phone: 01 6473000

Joey Pantoliano and Stuart Semple discuss mental health stigma (video)

On 9th January 2013, Ireland's only mental health arts festival, First Fortnight, featured a discussion between Sopranos actor Joe Pantoliano and British artist Stuart Semple who will be bringing their own unique and lively perspective to the issue of mental health stigma and discrimination. Hollywood actor Joey Pantoliano will discuss his own experiences of depression and his campaign to challenge the stigma of mental illness alongside British contemporary artist Stuart Semple in a discussion chaired by Amnesty International Ireland's executive director, Colm O'Gorman, this Wednesday.



The debate will shine a spotlight on the topic of mental health and encouraging people to make as much noise as possible to help challenge the negative impact stigma and discrimination can have on people with experience of mental health problems. First Fortnight 2013 is partnered by Amnesty International Ireland, Mental Health Reform and See Change, the National Mental Health Stigma Reduction Partnership.

ChildLinks (Issue 2, 2012) Infant Mental Health



This issue of ChildLinks on Infant Mental Health includes articles from: Deborah J. Weatherston, Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health; Stuart Shanker, The Milton and Ethel Harris Research Initiative; Ann Stellenberg, Programme Manager youngballymun, and Mary Fanning, Integration Facilitator for Ready, Steady, Grow youngballymun; Christine Hennessy, Barnardos Post Adoption Service; Dr. Angeles Cerezo, Designer of the Parent-Child Psychological Support ProgrammeTM; and Catherine Maguire and Rochelle Matacz, Senior Clinical Psychologists and Infant Mental Health Specialists, HSE North Cork

Podcasts

Audio & Video Podcasts

What is a Podcast ?
A multi-media file made available by the internet which can be viewed or listened to on a computer, tablet, MP3 player or CD player.

How do I listen to a Podcast?
You can listen to a Podcast straightaway on any PC which has speaker or a headphones or you can download it to listen to later. The file can also be saved to an MP3 player or USB memory stick. Some modern CD players can play Podcasts just like a music CD.

Some Podcasts are updated regularly – how do I get the latest version?
You can use iTunes or other services to check regularly to see if the Podcast has been updated. You can also subscribe using an RSS feed which will inform you when the new edition is ready. Some Smartphones can also download and update Podcasts.

For more information go to: http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/help

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Structural Social Work Explained - Bob Mullaly

A witty short video where Bob Mullaly, a well-established and respected social work academic in Canada goes on TV to explain what his theory of structural social work is all about. To read more about structural social work try this book: Mullaly, Bob, 2006, The New Structural Social Work: Ideology, Theory, Practice, New York. http://www.xtranormal.com/search/?q=Bob+Mulally+Explained

Video: Social Workers are important because.....

This is a video montage of "Social Workers are Important because....." photos originally posted on the National Association of Social Workers Website by way of the photos later being posted on the NASW Montana Facebook page – cheesy but worth a look ! Available at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOAAUIM_gJ8

Podcast: Social Media Use and SW Practice: Boundary and Ethical Considerations

From the Living Proof ipodcast series from the University at Buffalo School of Social Work: Dr. Kathryn Chernack discusses the common ethical issues and dilemmas encountered by social workers when using social media. She describes the opportunities and challenges for social workers as the profession responds to the widespread use of social media in our private and professional lives, as well as the increasing presence on social media sites of the organizations for which we work. Available at: http://www.socialwork.buffalo.edu/podcast/episode.asp?ep=110

Video: How long before you act on child neglect?

Sue Woolmore is a qualified as a Social Worker, Trainer and an independent Chair of a Local Safeguarding Children Board in Greater Manchester. She speaks about the dilemma faced in deciding when to act with children experiencing neglect in the home. She introduces ideas about values and makes reference to the relevance of attachment theory. Available at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=shHJgt2xUFw More videos and information at www.safeguardingchildrenea.co.uk

Podcasts

Web Radio Show: Disruptive Social Care

A provocative weekly discussion programme promoting innovation in social care. This edition covers a wide range of topics including: When did it become OK to belittle older people? How social media challenges silo thinking ? A resource to help young people moving from education into work. Available at: http://www.disruptivesocialcare.com/2012/12/21/the-disruptive-social-care-podcast-16-paul-burstow-mp/

Podcast: Health Inequalities

A conversation with Dennis Raphael who is a Professor of Health Policy and Management at York University in Toronto. The most recent of his over 150 scientific publications have focused on the health effects of income inequality and poverty, the quality of life of communities and individuals, and the impact of government decisions on health and well-being. He provides some insight into What are health inequalities? And, How do government policies influence whether we improve a nation's health or make it worse? Available at:http://www.podsocs.com/podcast/health-inequalities/

Audio Podcast: An Exploration of Loneliness

This episode from the Social Work Podcast series looks at the relevance of loneliness to social work practice. The premise being that loneliness might be at the heart of one of the most perplexing contemporary public health paradoxes i.e. That despite men being more likely to experience power and privilege that men are statistically more likely to experience loneliness and to commit suicide e.g. 80% of American suicides are men. There is an exploration around the biological and social factors that contribute to men's loneliness and its effects on health or wellbeing. Available at: http://castroller.com/Podcasts/TheSocialWork/2714530?start=0 There is a link to a wide range of similarly well presented podcasts.

Webinar: The Role of Case Work and Case Management within the Social Service Workforce

In 2012 the Global Social Service Workforce Strengthening Alliance hosted its fifth webinar on the topic of "The Role of Case Work and Case Management within the Social Service Workforce." which explored various definitions of case management and reviewed case management approaches found in different countries. The presenters discussed the extent to which case management can be used as a methodology or tool to coordinate services through established referral systems and integrate services across and within health and social service delivery systems. Available at: http://www.ovcsupport.net/s/index.php?c=169

About Practice Links

Practice Links is a free e-publication for practitioners working in Irish social services, voluntary and non-governmental sectors. *Practice Links* was created to help practitioners in these areas to keep up-to-date with new publications, electronic publications, conferences and continuing professional development opportunities. *Practice Links* is published every other month in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf file). Distribution is by email and on the *Practice Links* website http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/ .

Submissions

Submission for publication should be received two weeks prior to the next publication date. Please forward submissions by email to k.burns@ucc.ie.

SWDU

Practice Links is a publication of the Social Work Development Unit, University College Cork, Ireland. http://swdu.ucc.ie

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The inclusion of an item in *Practice Links* does not represent an endorsement and items may not necessarily reflect the views of the editor and/or the University.

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