



NEW ZEALAND Family Violence Clearinghouse

Newsletter

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New Project: A National Model for Interagency Responses to Family Violence

A collaborative response to family violence reporting is being developed in a national project - *The Family Violence Interagency Response System*. The project, lead by the NZ Police, Child, Youth and Family and the National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges, emerged from the need to address the sharp increase in notifications made by Police to Child, Youth and Family. Last year Police recorded around 63,000 attendances at family violence situations - double the number of cases reported 10 years ago. Police say that in 85% of reported family violence offences women are the victims, yet children are also often involved - it is estimated that children are witnesses to the violence in 70% of all family violence situations attended by Police.

The central focus for the interagency response is on repeat victimisation and situations where there is a high risk of serious violence or death. The interagency response being promoted in this project utilises the opportunities afforded by family violence related calls to Police to put in place supports and safety plans for families affected by violence so that more serious harm, injury and deaths can be prevented. As the Project Team puts it, the initiative will ideally "interrupt the cycle of violence and create an environment for sustainable change towards safe and violence-free families."

An intervention model has been developed by the Project Team from the best elements of successful interagency family violence responses in New Zealand. The Project Team are promoting consistent, good practice across the country, encouraging communities to establish or improve their own processes for responding to family violence, identifying risk, and improving safety and accountability. The intervention takes the approach that if there is immediate response after a serious violent incident, the best decisions for children and families can be made. It is also recognised that the best safety decisions need to be informed by quality information and have input from several agencies, each bringing to the table one piece of the true picture of violence, and different areas of expertise. The agencies involved in this project also acknowledge that for the majority of families where there is violence, victims are more likely to be kept safe if they engage with, and receive support from, community services and that statutory responses are provided only when the level of risk warrants such an approach.

When the collaborative model is in operation, it will mean that Police, Child, Youth and Family, Refuge and other emergency response agencies will meet regularly to discuss family violence identified through Police call outs. Each agency will bring what they know about the family involved, and together they will decide on necessary actions. The designated agency will offer services and support to the family - with the goal of stopping the violence and keeping the victims, including children, safe.

Key agencies from the wider family violence network may be involved in high-risk cases as necessary. For example, Probation Services staff working with an offender may attend the meeting to contribute information, and will then be able to ensure the offender receives a programme that caters to their particular family violence related issues. Family violence that does not involve children will still be part of this intervention, but would not require Child, Youth and Family participation.

While this model sets out the immediate short-term response, it is intended that the interagency groups will work closely with local family violence networks and Family Safety Teams where they exist, to provide a truly collaborative response to family violence that will meet the needs of each community.

FVIARS Project Team - Back (L-R): Sandra Dickson, Women's Refuge; Ged Byers, NZ Police; Jo Linton, NZ Police. Front (L - R): Rana Grey, Women's Refuge; Jan Spanhake, Child, Youth and Family; Paula Attrill, Child Youth and Family. Absent: Tracey Swanberg, Women's Refuge.





Project Manager's View

Welcome to Volume three, Issue two of the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse (NZFVC) Newsletter.

I would like to start this edition of the Project Manager's View by informing you of a number of staff changes that have taken place at the Clearinghouse since our last issue. Here in Christchurch, our Database Development Officer, Kylie Douglass, has taken a leave of absence from the Clearinghouse in order to start a family. Our congratulations go out to Kylie and her husband Steve on the birth of their son Hayden.

In Kylie's absence Verina Hassett has taken up a role with us as Research/Database Administrator. Verina has moved to the mainland from Auckland, has a Masters degree in social anthropology, and a background in social science research. We are very pleased to welcome her to our team.

We are also very pleased to announce that we have been able to extend the contract of our research assistant Jude Hamer. Jude has been a part of our team for nearly two years now and it gives me great pleasure to further announce that her contribution to the Clearinghouse has been recognised in the new position description of Research Associate.

And in Wellington the Ministry of Social Development has appointed our dedicated library staff member, Peggy McConnell, to a permanent role managing the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse Information Collection. Peggy has done a sterling job over the past nine months providing our lending services.

Congratulations to you all. I am very pleased to report that this period of transition for the Clearinghouse has progressed without noticeable disruption.

As always, I wish you all an enjoyable and informative read and hope that this, our sixth issue of our Newsletter, makes an appreciable contribution toward your ability to progress the elimination of family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Thank you – Kia ora

Nick Fahey, Project Manager and Chief Researcher

NZFVC User Survey

The NZFVC is currently conducting its annual **User Survey** to establish what users think about Clearinghouse resources and to inform us of other informational needs. This knowledge will help us to improve and further develop our services.

The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete and is available both on-line on our website and in printed form. If you complete the personal details at the end of the survey, you will be eligible for one of two prize draws of a \$50 book voucher.

All surveys need to be returned to the Clearinghouse by **31 July 2007**.

Update of the Campaign for Action on Family Violence

This campaign, previously known as Changing Attitudes and Behaviour to Prevent Family Violence, involves several strands of community and media-focused projects.

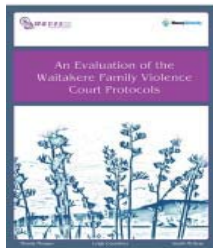
- The *Community Action Fund* has provided funding for 33 community projects. Another call for applications will be held in the future.
- A *mass media campaign* including TV ads will begin screening in the next few months. The ads address all forms of family violence, and focus on promoting the message that family violence is never ok. The campaign's key messages have been tested with a variety of men, victims of family violence and children, and were positively received.
- A *national 0800 number, website and resources* will also be launched to support the mass media advertising.
- The *Community Action Toolkit* has been reprinted, and you can order hard copies from violencefree@familyservices.govt.nz or download it from www.nzfvc.org.nz/communityaction

More information about the campaign will be posted on the NZFVC website as it is available.



Review: An Evaluation of the Waitakere Family Violence Court Protocols

The Waitakere Family Violence Court (WFVC) has established a system to speedily deal with family violence-related criminal cases in a holistic way, consistent with the principles of therapeutic jurisprudence. An evaluation of WFVC's protocols was recently completed by researchers at Massey University.



Cover: Vicky Vectorise

Each Wednesday is 'Family Violence Day' in Waitakere where the court deals with pleas, sentencing indications and sentencing of family violence offences. Police and court staff identify which cases are family violence matters. Defendants are discouraged from entering 'not guilty' pleas as a way of obtaining more time, and cases are progressed through the court quickly (the second appearance is ideally no more than two weeks after the first, and a defended hearing no more than ten weeks after the first appearance). Guilty pleas are encouraged as a way for the family to heal and move on. Sentencing can occur on the same day as a guilty plea. In sentencing, the court makes use of community services such as stopping violence, alcohol and drug programmes and relationship counselling. In some cases where defendants volunteer to attend anti-violence programmes, sentencing is deferred, the court monitors the defendant, and a discharge without conviction may be given if "the Judge regards the offence as 'truly minor' and the offender has made adequate progress within an appropriate programme" (p 31).

Reducing the time of the court hearings is one way of encouraging victims to engage with the court, minimising the opportunities for the defendant to coerce, manipulate or frighten the victim into withdrawing their cooperation. WFVC seeks to enhance victim's safety also through the services of Community Victim Service (CVS) advocates. Information on the case is provided in advance to the CVS advocates who work with victims to find out their needs and views, supporting them through the court process and beyond. The advocates work with the court and Police around safety issues (for example, with regard to bail conditions) and, in a key feature of the WFVC, advocates have speaking rights in the court. Underpinning the Court's approach is the understanding that after the court process, victims and offenders of family violence often continue to have a relationship, whether victims choose to stay with their partners, or whether their relationship is limited to shared parenting.

The WFVC was established as a joint initiative between the Court, other government and community agencies. Six aims of the WFVC are outlined in its protocol: "to overcome systemic delays in the Court process; to minimise damage to families by delay; to concentrate specialist family violence services within the Court process; to protect the victims of family violence consistent with the rights of defendants; to promote a holistic approach in the Court response to family

violence; and to hold offenders accountable for their actions" (p 31-2).

The researchers, Mandy Morgan, Leigh Coombes and Sarah McGray, sought to evaluate the effectiveness of WFVC protocols, from the perspective of those who work within the Court. Information was gathered in interviews with 26 people including court staff, Police, lawyers, Judges, refuge advocates and stopping violence services. The report looks at the social context and history of the WFVC, considering how the development was affected by new legislation, justice-sector policies and the changing shape of the Waitakere Anti-Violence Essential Services (WAVES) Network.

Overall the researchers found that the adaptive, flexible and collaborative nature of the WFVC has been successful over the 15 years of its operation. They identified some of the key strengths of the Court as being a shared understanding of family violence across participants; a strong message that family violence is a serious problem; Judiciary who specialised in family violence; and the information sharing protocols which are essential for determining risk of harm to families. Coercing offenders into seeking help, and giving them the impetus and incentives to make a change was seen as positive.

The researchers point out that specialist victim advocacy is one of the successes. The CVS advocates play a central role in ensuring victims' on-going safety. The advocates feed vital information into the court process: "The value and legitimacy of the role played by the Community Victims Services in providing information to the WFVC is affirmed by current Government policy and international best practice models and the Judiciary are clear that they regard the information as trustworthy" (p66).

From issues raised by participants, the researchers point to areas for future work. One challenge is posed by personnel in the court who do not share the philosophy of the WFVC, or the understanding of family violence. Some defence counsel, showed an unwillingness to participate in the Court protocols. While individual people's commitment to developing specialised family violence knowledge has been a factor for success, this also "leaves the Court's collaborative response to family violence vulnerable to changes in individual personnel" (p67). The importance of on-going systematic family violence training for all those involved in the Court was highlighted by the researchers, who referred to the good practice model of the Specialist Domestic Violence Court in West London (the first of its kind in the UK).

Participants and researchers alike were concerned they still do not know the effectiveness of the Court from the perspective of victims and offenders: Is the WFVC actually providing safety for victims, and reducing violent offending? Ongoing evaluation and monitoring are pivotal aspects of other successful specialist family violence courts. The researchers are currently seeking funding to complete further research in this area.



Media Access to the Family Court

In 2005, limited access to the Family Court for news media was made possible when the Care of Children Act 2004 came into force. A group of researchers with legal and media expertise has tracked ways that Judges and the media have subsequently responded to the new openness of the Family Court. Their findings are presented in a recently released report - *The Family Court, Families and the Public Gaze*.

The researchers found the media have been slow to make use of the new freedom around reporting care of children cases. Content analyses of media reports from July 2005 to June 2006 and interviews with Judges showed that there was no increase in coverage of the Family Court after the law changes. Less than 20 reporters attended Family Court hearings in New Zealand during that period.

Editorial executives interviewed said that Family Court cases were not often reported due to time and staff constraints, lack of newsworthy or high-profile cases, restrictions on reporting, and discomfort about reporting the matters being dealt with by the court. Judges interviewed all supported the new openness and were generally positive about media attendance in their courts. There was however no clear consensus from Judges on whether other cases in the Family Court (for example, those under the Domestic Violence Act) should be accessible to the media.

Also included in the report are an examination of the new legal provisions within the context of relevant case law, and an outline of the general regulatory regimes that are applicable to the media.

References

Cheer, U., Caldwell, J., & Tully, J. (2007). *The Family Court, families and the public gaze*. Wellington, New Zealand: Families Commission. Retrieved April 30, 2007, from <http://www.nzfamilies.org.nz/>



Jim Tully and Associate Professor
Ursula Cheer
Photo: University of Canterbury

Relocation after parental separation: The welfare and best interests of children

A University of Otago research team, comprising of Dr Nicola Taylor, Ms Megan Gollop and Professor Mark Henaghan, has been funded by the New Zealand Law Foundation to undertake a three-year study on relocation matters after parental separation.

With the support of the Family Law Section of the NZ Law Society, all family lawyers were informed about the study in March 2007 and asked to draw it to the attention of clients who may be interested in participating in interviews. It is hoped to recruit 100 families where a parent has relocated with the children, and that move has had a significant impact on contact arrangements with the other parent. Each parent (and their children aged 7 years or more) will be interviewed twice. There will be a 12-month gap between interviews so that family relationships and contact arrangements can be tracked over time. Twenty families have been recruited to date and their interviews will commence shortly.

Anyone interested in obtaining a brochure, taking part, or learning more about the study is welcome to contact the researchers via their toll-free phone number 0800 080 088 or the following email addresses: nicola.taylor@otago.ac.nz; megan.gollop@otago.ac.nz.

Useful Website

The Coalition of Community Law Centres Aotearoa

www.communitylaw.org.nz

The website of The Coalition of Community Law Centres Aotearoa provides information about the location and work of 25 Community Law Centres around the country - including specialist Youth Law and Maori Law centres.

Two of the very useful resources that can be downloaded free from this site are comprehensive guides on Protection Orders. The guides, on applying for and responding to Protection Orders, describe how Protection Orders work, and follow a step-by-step process for either making an application to the Family Court, or defending and responding to an application.

Other guides available include information on how to obtain a trespass notice, restraining order and information on enduring powers of attorney.



The trials of Police Officers for rape and the findings of the Commission of Inquiry into Police Conduct have raised several issues of interest to those working in the areas of family violence and sexual abuse. Most notably, they have again opened up debates about how often women actually do make false allegations of abuse, and how it might be possible to determine the dividing line between consensual sex and rape. Two books by New Zealand authors, released within the last few years, help provide some insights into the issues.

The first is a book by Jan Jordan, Senior Lecturer in Criminology at Victoria University of Wellington. *The word of a woman? : Police, rape and belief*¹ deals with the justice response to allegations of rape, and specifically how police officers' beliefs affect their responses to women who report rape.

Jordan's book investigates the 'credibility conundrum' - the paradox that when a woman makes accusations of rape or abuse she is doubted, yet when she retracts her statement she is believed. The book also looks at the logic behind why some victims are more readily believed than others. Jordan claims that issues of belief and credibility are more central to rape cases than other criminal cases.

Historical, legal and cultural definitions of rape are outlined by Jordan, who claims that since the 1990s, two defining debates - the age-old myth that women lie, and the issue of 'false memory' - have worked to discredit women and undermine the second-wave feminist analysis of rape. While there is current moral panic around false rape complaints, Jordan maintains that this is not a new issue. The belief that women fabricate violence actually comes from ideas about women being deceitful and untrustworthy that have been around at least since the biblical story of Eve. While false rape complaints are a reality, according to Jordan, there is no evidence to support the idea that false complaints are increasing. However, she says the 'levels of suspicion and mistrust regarding the veracity of sexual assault allegations' do appear to be increasing.²

According to Jordan, 'true lies' can be told by victims of rape. Victims may conceal aspects of the abuse, or try to make themselves seem more credible, due to the trauma of the assault; the shame they feel; the fear of being exposed and judged in relation to intensely personal information; and their anxiety about not being believed. The focus on false rape cases serves to shift the attention away from women who are victims of rape, and on to the allegedly innocent men who are falsely accused, Jordan says.

The author draws on the findings from several of her research projects, including interviews with rape victims and police detectives, and an analysis of 164 police investigation files. Jordan's interviews with women who were raped by Auckland serial rapist, Malcolm Rewa, provide findings of a different sort - evidence of good practice in the policing of rape cases. Rewa's crimes were seen as 'real rapes' because they were stranger rapes (which are more readily believed than rape

by partners) and because Rewa fitted the cultural stereotype of a 'rapist'. Jordan believes that the justice process for Rewa's victims was less influenced by the personal biases of police and courts staff. She argues that all rape victims should be given the same support and information these women received.

The second book that can assist with an analysis of the issues around rape reporting is by Dr Nicola Gavey, Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Auckland. Gavey's book *Just sex? The cultural scaffolding of rape*³ looks at identifying and disrupting the line between what is 'just ordinary sex' and what is rape.

Gavey explores a cultural history of rape: 'Rape is no longer rare. It is almost ordinary', she argues.⁴ Gavey claims that once feminists exposed the high prevalence of rape, especially rape by partners and boyfriends, the line between coercive and consensual sex became quite uncertain. Many women and men, both conservatives and liberals, find it difficult to know what rape is, and what rape is not.

Wanting to expose the attitudes and practices that support rape, Gavey shows how the dynamics of usual heterosexual sex actually provide the 'preconditions for rape'.⁵ She says that we still have a strong 'coital imperative' in our society, where the only 'real' sex is thought to be penetrative sex, an idea promulgated by ads to correct erectile dysfunction. Passive female sexuality is still common too, despite pop culture images of women's active sexual pleasures. Women who were interviewed by Gavey said they often felt unable to refuse sex. She maintains that 'within the dominant constructions of heterosex a woman may sometimes end up having unwanted sex with a man because it either does not occur to her to question it, or it does not seem within the realm of possibility that it is truly a negotiable point'.⁶

The view that men have an uncontrollable and insatiable sexual drive also provides a 'precondition for rape' as it normalises the idea that pressuring women for sex is ok, and even justifies men's use of violence to get their own way when persuasion isn't enough.

Gavey's purpose in writing the book is to look for ways to 'revamp' the thinking on rape. She argues that in rape prevention education and theorising, it's important to avoid falling into the trap of constructing women as always the victims and men as always the aggressors. Her book shows that in order to address rape and sexual abuse, we need to address the imbalance of power that exists in everyday sexual relationships between men and women.

1. Jordan, J. (2004a). *The word of a woman? Police, rape and belief*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

2. Jordan, J. (2004b). 'Trouble lurks behind 'false' rape complaints'. *The Dominion Post* Jan 15.

3. Gavey, N. (2005). *Just sex? The cultural scaffolding of rape*. London and New York: Routledge.

4. *Ibid.* p1.

5. *Ibid.* p3.

6. *Ibid.* p142.



Repeal of Section 59 of the Crimes Act

The part of the Crimes Act that allowed parents to use reasonable force to discipline their child was removed by an act of Parliament on 16 May 2007. The Crimes (Substituted Section 59) Amendment Act came into force on 22 June 2007.

The Act makes parents use of force to correct children illegal. This means that there will no longer be a defence for parents or caregivers charged with assaulting their children who claim that they were using reasonable force to correct their children's behaviour.

Parents are however, legally allowed to use reasonable force to control their child in order to protect the child or other people from harm; to prevent the child committing a crime or engaging in offensive or disruptive behaviour; and to perform the normal daily tasks of good care and parenting.

The wording of the Act, which says the purpose is to provide for "children to live in a safe and secure environment free from violence by abolishing the use of parental force for the purpose of correction", can be seen as a guide for the courts in their interpretation of the Act. Supporters of the new Act say that there is a clear difference between 'correction' and 'control'. Others have raised concern that the new wording will still allow parents who assault their children to use 'parental control' as a justification. However, the actual interpretation of the wording will have to be tested in court.

The Act also provides guidance to the Police, giving them the discretion not to prosecute complaints against a parent or caregiver involving the use of force against a child, "where the offence is considered to be so inconsequential that there is no public interest in proceeding with a prosecution."

The Education Act has also been amended so that schools can no longer ask parents to administer physical discipline on their behalf.

The repeal of Section 59 now gives children who are assaulted the same legal rights as adults and removes a piece of legislation that conflicted with other legislation covering family violence (Domestic Violence Act 1995, Children and Young Persons, and Their Families Act 1989, and Care of Children Act 2004).

Children, Young Persons and their Families Act 1989

The Ministry of Social Development (MSD) is currently considering whether changes or additions need to be made to update and strengthen the Children, Young Persons, and their Families Act. Public feedback closed in June, and a report to Ministers is due later this year. The discussion document can be downloaded from the MSD website at: <http://www.msd.govt.nz/work-areas/children-and-young-people/cypf-act-update/index.html>.

Domestic Violence Act 1995

A discussion paper on changes to the Domestic Violence Act 1995 is due to be released by the Ministry of Justice sometime this year. The Ministry has collated information about recommended revisions from a range of sources including Judges, the Law Commission, Police and lobby groups. Watch the NZFVC website for more information about the paper, and calls for submissions.

Evidence Act 2006

The Evidence Act, passed last year, covers all the elements relating to evidence. There are several changes that will come into effect on 1 August 2007:

- New definitions of hearsay allow witnesses' previous statements to be admissible in court which means, for example, that Police prosecutors can use any evidence and statements provided by victims of domestic violence who subsequently recant or refuse to cooperate.
- The removal of spousal immunity means witnesses can be compelled to give evidence against their married partner.
- Witnesses who are young, known to the accused, have a disability or are fearful of the accused, can be allowed to give evidence using video-tape or a screen.
- Judges have also been given the power to disallow questions to witnesses that are improper, unfair, misleading, needlessly repetitive, or too complicated for the witness.
- Complainants now have the right to have a support person sitting with them while giving evidence.
- Accused people who are representing themselves have to seek the Judge's permission to personally cross-examine the complainant in the case of sexual crimes, or where the witness is under the age of 18, and a Judge can order that a self-represented person not be allowed to cross-examine a witness (when, for example the witness has a relationship with the accused).

Criminal Justice Reform Bill

This Bill proposes revisions to the criminal justice system that aim to decrease the prison population and develop more effective interventions for crime in New Zealand. Changes are proposed that will affect sentencing, bail, parole, and other aspects of the criminal justice system.

Public submissions have closed and a report from the Select Committee was released in June. For more information on the 'Effective Interventions' work in the Ministry of Justice, including a range of Cabinet papers on crime prevention, restorative justice, community-based sentencing, and preventing re-offending (among others). See www.justice.govt.nz/effective_interventions/

All Select Committee information and reports, including the Bills being discussed, can be downloaded from www.parliament.nz/en-NZ/SC/Details/, while all legislation (Acts) can be accessed from www.legislation.govt.nz/



Publications Recently Added to the Clearinghouse Library

Below is a selection of items recently added to our online library. For more information about an item and its availability, go to www.nzfvc.org.nz/PublicationArea.aspx?area=The+Library, or phone 03 364 2296. Also, don't forget to check out the **What's New** page of the NZFVC website, where new publications are listed on a weekly basis.

Cross, J. (2006). *Policing family violence in Christchurch*. Unpublished master's thesis, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand.

This thesis focused on a study which examined the New Zealand Police's pro-arrest family violence policy and its implementation at the local level. The author draws on a symbolic interactionist approach to examine how the pro-arrest policy operates at the street-level, with a 'legitimate' or 'illegitimate' exercise of discretion. This study found evidence of significant practical problems with the implementation of the pro-arrest policy, which are similar to those reported overseas.

Dunlop, N. (2006). Breaking new ground: Observations on the family mediation pilot. *New Zealand Family Law Journal*, 5(5), 113-117.

This article presents the findings of an evaluation of the first seven months of the non Judge-led Family Court mediation pilot project. The author incorporates a comparison between Judge-led mediation and the process used in the pilot, and discusses the differences between counselling and mediation, and whether lawyers and children should attend mediations.

Giles, J. (2005). *A guide to supporting women who experience abuse by male partners*. Printsprint, Auckland University of Technology.

This brief guide summarises the different phases of the process of being in, and leaving, a relationship with an abusive partner, and the help-seeking stages many women go through. The author sets out how professionals and community workers can work with women who are at different stages, in particular, how to support women who choose to stay with a violent partner.

Koziol-McLain, J., Adams, J., Davies, E., Balzer, R., Harvey, S., & Coben, J.H. (2006). *Hospital responsiveness to family violence: 12 month follow-up evaluation*. (Report No. 4). Auckland: Interdisciplinary Trauma Research Unit, Auckland University of Technology.

This report presents a 12 month follow-up of audit findings and compares these to the baseline findings of the first report published in 2004. The findings indicate that while significant progress has been made in programme development for responding to partner and child abuse, and neglect in acute care hospitals, most hospitals are in the early stages of programme implementation. Many hospitals are still

to appoint child abuse or family violence coordinators, or to guarantee their sustainability. It was concluded that continued programme resourcing is necessary if appropriate intervention is to be followed by appropriate service delivery and better outcomes.

Somerville, A. E. (2006). Whanaungatanga in the Family Court. *New Zealand Family Law Journal*, 5(6), 140-146.

This paper examines the concept of whanaungatanga in the Family Court, looking specifically at the impact of Family Court decisions upon the care of children. The author posits that, until recently, cultural considerations were not seen as paramount by the legislature when determining matters of custody and guardianship. The author discusses how 'cultural reports' in the Family Court (provided for under the Care of Children Act (2004)) are working, considering their use as a tool for accommodating whanaungatanga in care and contact decision making.

Tolmie, J. (2006). Police negligence in domestic violence cases and the Canadian case of Mooney: What should have happened, and could it happen in New Zealand? *New Zealand Law Review*, (2), 243-290.

This article discusses the issue of police negligence in responding to reports of domestic violence, or a breach of a protection order and looks at international cases where women are holding the police accountable by suing them for negligence. In the case cited by the author, it was held that the police owed the abused woman a duty of care, and that they were in negligent breach of that duty. Considering the issues of 'duty of care' in several jurisdictions, the author examines the possibilities for such a case in New Zealand.

Waldegrave, C. (2006). Contrasting national jurisdictional and welfare responses to violence to children [Electronic version]. *Social Policy Journal of New Zealand*, (27), 57-76.

This paper describes different models for addressing the maltreatment of children, and draws comparisons between the Anglo-American child protection model and the continental Western European model of emphasising family support or services. The author suggests that the Anglo-American child protection approach contains some serious flaws and if New Zealand wanted to adopt a more holistic family services approach to child protection, there would need to be a substantial shift from seeking to punish 'unsafe' families, to ensuring parents are assisted to meet their obligations regarding the wellbeing and safety of their children.



Upcoming Events

The New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse provides information about current and future events relating to family violence prevention and intervention. This includes conferences (national and international), hui, forums, seminars, workshops and news about international visitors to New Zealand who have a particular interest or area of expertise in the field or have made a contribution to the understanding of family violence. If you would like to contribute to this page or post a notice about an upcoming event in your area, please contact us.

Psychology in Aotearoa: Partnership, Protection, Participation

23-26 August 2007. University of Waikato, Hamilton
This annual conference includes a focus on family violence, with key note speakers, workshops and a whole day symposium on domestic violence.
www.psychology.org.nz/conference/index.html

17th Annual Conference National Organisation for the Treatment of Abusers

Challenging Sexual Abuse – Challenging Assumptions: Towards Best Practice, Research and Theory
12-14 September 2007. Edinburgh, Scotland
www.nota.co.nz/conference.index.html

International Conference on the Relationship between Animal Abuse and Human Violence

18 September 2007. Oxford, UK
www.oxfordanimaethics.com/index.php?p=news&item=7

7th North American Conference on Shaken Baby Syndrome (Traumatic Brain Injury)

5-8 October 2007. Vancouver, BC
www.dontshake.org/Subject.aspx?CategoryID=32

15th International Nursing Conference of the Nursing Network on Violence Against Women International Complexities and Diversities: Creating Change in a Global Context

18-20 October 2007. London, Ontario, Canada
www.nnvawi.org/conference.htm

11th Australasian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect Voices Calling for Action

30 October 2007 - 2 November 2007. Gold Coast, Australia
www.ccm.com.au/accan

The Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) 26th Annual Conference

Partners, Policies and Practices: Making Society Safer
31 October - 3 November 2007. San Diego, California, USA
www.atsa.com/conf.html

Victorian Offender Treatment Association National Conference

28-30 November 2007. Melbourne, Australia
www.vota.org.au/conference/conference.html

Updated Training Kit on Domestic Violence and Harassment Law

The Domestic Violence Act and Harassment Training Kit, produced by the Legal Services Agency, has just been updated and is available to those who are providing training on Protection and/or Restraining Orders. Developed by Women's Refuge and the Wellington Community Law Centre, the resource comes as a folder and DVD with a PowerPoint presentation. The step-by-step guide outlines out to plan and run a legal training session with detailed information, activities, suggested resources, and even the answers to 'tricky questions' that could be posed by the audience.

The Kit is available from the Women's Refuge National Office at a cost of \$65, or \$40 for not-for-profit community agencies. Phone 04 802 5078 or email info@refuge.org.nz



NEW ZEALAND Family Violence Clearinghouse

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If you wish to subscribe to the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse Newsletter, please contact us at the address above.

The views expressed in NZFVC newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse.