WESTMINSTER BRIEFING
CONFRONTING SEXUAL VIOLENCE:
REDUCING OFFENDING AND SUPPORTING VICTIMS

Dr Laura Walton-Williams
Criminal Justice & Forensic Science Department
Staffordshire University
l.m.walton@staffs.ac.uk
EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES TO COMBAT SEXUAL VIOLENCE

• Rape and sexual assault: building evidence, listening to survivors, and repairing the harm

• Update on the national picture of historic sex crimes
RAPE & SEXUAL ASSAULT: BUILDING EVIDENCE

• Evidence Based Practices
  – Combatting Sexual Violence
    • Education – individual, community, society
    • CDC – Safe Dates, Shifting Boundaries, RealConsent
    • Victim or Offender
  – Physical Evidence
    • Persistence, Distribution, Transfer
    • Adherence to SOP
  – Witness Evidence
    • Court Proceedings
RAPE & SEXUAL ASSAULT: LISTENING TO SURVIVORS

• Control
• Confidence
• Guilt
• Label
  – Victim, Survivor, Complainant, Client, Patient
• Knowledge
  – Self-referral
  – Police Priorities
  – Media
RAPE & SEXUAL ASSAULT: REPAIRING THE HARM

- Education - consent
- Organisation & Systematic failings
  - Proactive approach
  - Timely response
- Clear ‘victim’ journey
  - Where to go, What happens next
- Ensuring ‘individual’ approach
  - Reporting
  - Support Requirements
- Resource Support
- Networks
HISTORIC SEX CRIMES

• National Picture:
  – Operation Clover
    • 2014 Jay Report
    • IPCC – Officer Conduct, Failings, Recommendations
    • NCA Enquiry – Operation Stovewood
    • Race, Class, Gender
  – Operation Yew Tree 2012
    • NSPCC and Metropolitan Police Report 2013
  – Operation Hydrant 2014
    • National Policing response, oversight & co-ordination
INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (IICSA)

• July 2014 - Not seeking civil or criminal liability
• Issues:
  – Baronness Elizabeth Butler-Sloss, July 2014
  – Lord Mayor of London Fiona Woolf, Sept 2014
  – Professor Alexis Jay

– Resignation of other counsel members
– Nov 2016 Shirley Oaks Survivors Association
INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (IICSA)

• 13 Investigations:
  – Accountability and Reparations
  – Cambridge House, Knowl View and Rochdale
  – Children in Custodial Institutions
  – Children outside the UK
  – Child Sexual Exploitation by Organised Networks
  – Lambeth Council
  – Lord Janner
  – Nottinghamshire Councils
  – Residential Schools
  – The Anglican Church
  – The Internet
  – The Roman Catholic Church
  – Westminster
INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (IICSA)

• 2016-17 Report:
  – Independent
  – Transparency
  – Lack of clarity on Inquiry’s main focus:
    • Inspectorate-style assessments of current safeguarding
    • Judicial-style investigation into specific cases
    • Both
  – Inappropriate institutional Response
  – The Truth Project
USEFUL RESOURCES


• CDC, 2016. STOP SV: A Technical Package to Prevent Sexual Violence.

• NIHR
  – Commissioning Brief 16/117 – The effectiveness of Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs)
USEFUL RESOURCES

• Burrowes, N., 2014. *The courage to be me.* NB Research Ltd.


USEFUL RESOURCES

• IICSA Website
  – https://www.iicsa.org.uk/
  – Research Seminars

• Home Affairs Committee Reports

• NPCC
  – Operation Hydrant
THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

Dr Laura Walton-Williams
Criminal Justice & Forensic Science Department
Staffordshire University
Email: l.m.walton@staffs.ac.uk
Phone: 01782 295925
Twitter: @LauraWaltonWill
Blog: http://blogs.staffs.ac.uk/drlaurawaltonwilliams/