

**Violence Abuse & Mental Health Network: January Newsletter**

**VAMHN Opportunities**

**VAMH Network Meeting – save the date!**

Our next VAMH Network Meeting will be held on 1st March 2021 – save the date! We’ll be sending out more details soon.

**Early Career Researcher (ECR) Lunchtime Series**

We’re so excited to be announcing our VAMHN ECR Lunchtime Series programme! This seminar series will run throughout 2021 and is targeted at early career researchers (including PhD students), with topics including how to engage with policy, advice on publishing and on applying for grants. Click here to view the full programme on our website.

Tickets are now available for our first event “how to engage with the media”: 27th January from 12-1.30pm. We’ve got some incredible speakers lined up including:

* Stephen Khan - Executive Editor of The Conversation
* Mark Brown - Development Director Social Spider CIC
* Freya Robb - Press Officer Science Media Centre
* Kirsty Walker - Director of UCL Media Relations
* Shiroma Silva - Senior Shooting Director and Senior Producer at BBC

To get your ticket click here. If you can’t make the session, check out our website afterwards for the recording.

**Small Grant Competition**

Our second grant call on the theme of *understanding violence, abuse and mental health* has now closed! We were glad to receive 44 applications and look forward to notifying our members of the outcome shortly. We will be launching our next grant call on the theme of *interventions* on 1st March – watch this space!

**Mental Elf blogging opportunities**

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

**Early Career Researcher Bursary Award Scheme**

We’re delighted to congratulate the five winners of our latest ECR Bursary Award Round:

* **Bethan Pell** @BethanPell

Bethan is a Research Associate at Cardiff University and will use her bursary to attend an online training course on Creative Methods in Qualitative Research

* **Nicole Renehan** [@nikitarenee37](https://twitter.com/nikitarenee37)

Nicole is a PhD candidate at the University of Manchester and will use her bursary to attend the Autism and Mental Health Conference.

* **Clariza Saint George**

Clariza is a PhD student at King’s College London and used her bursary to attend training on Coding, Configuring and Conveying in Realist Analysis. To read about her experience at this training click here: [http://vamhn.co.uk/blog](https://t.co/Bj01rOpJjX?amp=1)

* **Emma Facer Irwin** [@Emma\_FacerIrwin](https://twitter.com/Emma_FacerIrwin)

Emma is a Trainee Clinical Psychologist at the University of Essex & Tavistock/Portman Trust and a visiting research associate at the IoPPN. She will use her bursary to attend an in-depth training course on qualitative data analysis.

* **Guy Skinner** [@GuySkinner27](https://twitter.com/GuySkinner27)

Guy is a PhD student at the University of Cambridge and will use his bursary to attend The International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect’s Congress.

Our next round of Early Career Researcher Bursary Awards closes soon! The bursary aims to support junior researchers to attend training courses, research placements at institutions other than their own, and conferences. Bursaries can be used towards training course and/or conference fees, or for travel and accommodation to support attendance. This includes registration fees for virtual webinars and conferences.

These awards are open to early career researchers from **both UK universities and third sector organisations**. The deadline is 6th April 2021. To find out more and to apply [click here.](https://www.vamhn.co.uk/ecr-bursaries.html) To read what our previous ECR bursary winners have done with their awards click [here](http://www.vamhn.co.uk/blog/category/vamhn-bursary-award-blogs).

**Other Training, Events and Opportunities**

**The Havens Sexual Assault Referral Centre** are hosting their 7th International Conference on the Survivors of Rape online on Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th June 2021 with a pre-conference on Tuesday 8th June. Registration and abstract submissions are now open. For more information click here.

**The Fourth European Conference on Domestic Violence** takes places in Slovenia from 13th-15th September 2021. The deadline for abstract submission has been extended to the 28th February 2021. For more information click [here](http://www.ecdv-ljubljana.org/).

**The Violence and Society Centre** have a number of past webinar recordings available on their website about domestic and sexual violence, human trafficking and gender. To watch them click [here](https://researchcentres.city.ac.uk/violence-and-society/past-events).

**Bristol University Press** have extended a special print subscription discount to all member of the Violence, Abuse and Mental Health Network to the journal the [*Journal of Gender Based Violence*](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpolicy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk%2Fjournals%2Fjournal-of-gender-based-violence&data=04%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7C550aef0ad4b649f6247908d8be2cfc7b%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C637468447729253322%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=3BdfRgcu5zFFU8Dr1bXjxGpYAlJprho9C2iEYketk%2BU%3D&reserved=0). The special discount prices are £43/€54 (UK & Europe) or £54/US$83 (Rest of World). To set up the subscription please contact custserv@turpin-distribution.com quoting the journal (*JGBV*), the association of which you are a member, and your membership number (if you have one). More information can be found [here](https://bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/subscribe/association-discounts). They also have the following free content available:

* Sample issue: [Volume 3, Number 3, October 2019](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ingentaconnect.com%2Fcontent%2Ftpp%2Fjgbv%2F2019%2F00000003%2F00000003&data=04%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7C550aef0ad4b649f6247908d8be2cfc7b%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C637468447729263315%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=wLcqglADhb2ImcsJH1crcZmcgZxMd0DbTYMxtimq%2FLc%3D&reserved=0) (free to access until 31 December 2021)
* [Editors' Choice Collection](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbristoluniversitypress.co.uk%2Fjournals%2Fjournal-of-gender-based-violence%2Feditors-choice&data=04%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7C550aef0ad4b649f6247908d8be2cfc7b%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C637468447729263315%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=58SOevNigdmk4ji7c8k64C3nuE4n6W%2Fr2wZIsv9vuZU%3D&reserved=0) (free to access until 31 January 2021)

Additionally, their October 2020 issue was on the theme of ‘Space, place and GBV’ To find out more click [here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ingentaconnect.com%2Fcontent%2Ftpp%2Fjgbv%2F2020%2F00000004%2F00000003&data=04%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7C550aef0ad4b649f6247908d8be2cfc7b%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C637468447729283305%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=oE0wcHEG421zPl2kZGE%2Fo%2BAn9%2Bx392ksu19cDt93BUU%3D&reserved=0).

**RASASC** have released their 2021 Activism and Awareness Calendar detailing key dates with relevance to Gender Based Violence. To have a look click [here](https://www.rasasc.org.uk/the-activism-awareness-calendar-2021/).

**Job and Education Opportunities**

**UCL** are currently advertising a PhD Studentship on “Technology-Facilitated Abuse in the Context of Intimate Partner Violence”. The deadline for application is 29th January 2021. To find out more click here.

**Coventry University** is inviting applications from suitably-qualified graduates for a fully-funded PhD studentship to undertake a doctoral study that will develop and test a digital intervention for informal networks of survivors of sexual violence and abuse to improve their resilience and coping skills whilst safely supporting victims. The deadline is the 22nd of March 2021. For full details click [here](https://www.findaphd.com/phds/project/an-innovative-digital-intervention-to-promote-resilience-within-informal-networks-of-survivors-of-sexual-violence-a-feasibility-study/?p126899).

**RASASC is currently looking to for someone to join their team of voluntary trustees to help provide financial oversight as a Treasurer. For more information click** [here](https://www.rasasc.org.uk/workwithus/) **and if you are interested please get in touch with them at** admin@rasasc.org.uk

**Ongoing Research**

**The Early Intervention Foundation** has published a call for evidence to learn more about what programmes are out there to support children who are victims of domestic abuse, and to learn more about what the evidence tells us and what the gaps in the evidence may be. They would like to know what programmes are out there, particularly those available in the UK, and what evaluation (if any) has been conducted to investigate their effectiveness. They are asking providers, local authorities and academics to tell them about the work they’re doing, or work you’re aware of. To read more click [here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.surveymonkey.co.uk%2Fr%2F7MC2V68&data=04%7C01%7Canjuli.1.kaul%40kcl.ac.uk%7Cef619357cab94b61733c08d8b250bd42%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C637455407125984611%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=eAuDAqVc9UpzfJodbkhtxLtNxzeOKem%2FaoGEClK%2FTow%3D&reserved=0).

**Siofra Peeren from King's College London** is looking to speak to women who have experienced the following:

1. experienced any form of sexual violence and/or abuse since age 16
2. had a pregnancy since and
3. received maternity care for this pregnancy in the UK

The study involved taking part in an online interview lasting approximately 60 - 90 minutes. Travel and childcare expenses will be reimbursed and participants receive a £15 One4All voucher (which can be used online) as a thank you for their time. For additional information please see the flyer [here](https://create.piktochart.com/output/42913568-interview-study-flyer-v1-1) and for further information please contact Siofra at siofra.peeren@kcl.ac.uk.

**Resources**

# Disclosure of non-recent (historic) childhood sexual abuse: What should researchers do? – *Silverio et al, 2020*

In this article, the authors discuss their response to one research ethics committee, which had suggested that for a qualitative study (investigating experiences of pregnancy and childbirth having previously survived childhood sexual abuse), any disclosure of non-recent (historic) childhood sexual abuse which had not been previously reported would result in the researcher being obliged to report it to relevant authorities. The authors assess this to be inconsistent with both law and professional guidance in the United Kingdom; and provide information and recommendations for researchers and research ethics committees to consider. To read the full article in the *Journal of Medical Ethics* click [here](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33172909/).

**Fear at Home Report** – *Fully Focused & Dr Helen Fisher*

This report explores young people’s experiences of feeling ‘unsafe’ at home during the pandemic and what they thought were the best ways to support other young people to survivor and thrive during these more socially restricted time. To read the report click [here](http://www.vamhn.co.uk/uploads/1/2/2/7/122741688/fear_at_home_report_final.pdf).

**Categories and health impacts of intimate partner violence in the World Health Organisation multi-country study on women’s health and domestic violence** – *Potter et al, 2020*

This study explores the associations of different categories of intimate partner violence on women’s mental and physical health using data from the World Health Organization (WHO) Multi-Country Study on Women’s Health and Domestic Violence. To read the full article in the *International Journal of Epidemiology* click [here](https://www.bristol.ac.uk/media-library/sites/primaryhealthcare/documents/Categories%20and%20health%20impacts%20of%20intimate%20partner%20violence%20-%20full%20paper.pdf).

**Resources** *- The ManKind Initiative, 2020*

The ManKind Initiative and Hestia charities have created a set of standards to support services, practitioners and commissioners to better support male victims/survivors of domestic abuse. For background and a link, click [here](https://www.mankind.org.uk/for-professionals/national-quality-service-standards/).

Additionally, The Men and Boys Coalition, a charity with over [100 members](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.menandboyscoalition.org.uk%2Fmembers%2F%23nav-mobile&data=04%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7C9fe6fb576a3845fdcaa208d8a33a80db%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C637438818958870322%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=wUzpOZO%2FurT2ycLoByZ%2B3SCb6%2Be2NS%2FFGSSpNqbyAng%3D&reserved=0) including a number of academics in the field of sexual violence, domestic abuse and mental health have put together a [briefing paper](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.menandboyscoalition.org.uk%2Fivamb-strategy%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7C9fe6fb576a3845fdcaa208d8a33a80db%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C637438818958870322%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=QgXvHl1mPQ4pMb8ur0Lh4iRMrxieFRMA%2BeoCMC8pXVo%3D&reserved=0) calling for a specific parallel strategy to the Government’s Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy. To read it click here.

*For more useful resources and links, take a look at* *our website here*

**VAMHN Data Directory**

The VAMHN Data Directory has now launched! This new resource indexes UK datasets, data repositories, and aggregate/published statistics about violence, abuse, and mental health, providing you with information about these resources and how to access them. Do check it out here.

We’ll be continually adding to the data directory, so if you know of a resource that we haven’t yet indexed, please tell us about it by completing the template at the bottom of the Directory webpage here, and emailing to Dr Jude Towers at j.s.towers@ljmu.ac.uk. Please note that the resource should be either publicly available or available upon application.

**Basecamp**

Basecamp is a forum which you can use to connect with other members of the network. If you’re looking for collaborators, sharing a survey or looking to connect with across different disciplines, feel free to post a message on the project page.

We currently have two pages – one for all members and one for early career researchers. We define an early career researcher as “an individual who is within eight years of the award of their PhD or equivalent professional training, or an individual who is within six years of their first academic appointment”. This includes independent and charity researchers. ​Please let us know if you are an early career researcher and would like to be added to this page as well as the main page.

**Please note** that by requesting an invitation to join our Basecamp page, your email address will automatically be shared with all other members of the Basecamp group. Additionally, Basecamp often daily update emails which some may find excessive – however you can easily adjust this in your account settings once you sign up. If you would like to join the VAMHN Basecamp page, please email vamhn@kcl.ac.uk to request an invitation

**Useful Links**

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

VAMHN twitter: @VAMHN

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

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