

Responding to Child to Parent Violence

European Perspectives Conference 28th & 29th January 2015

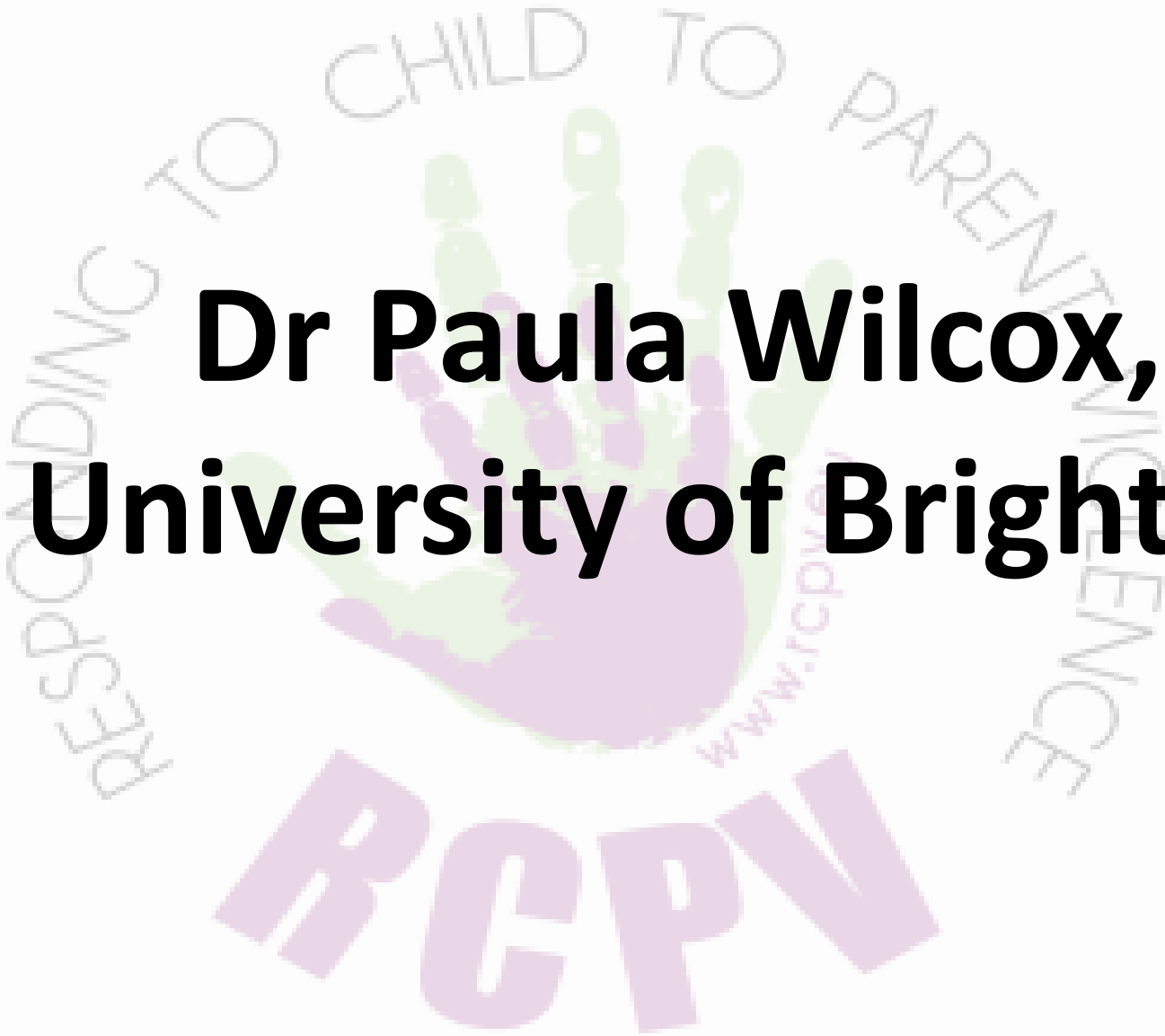


OÉ Gaillimh

With financial support from the Daphne programme of the European Union

Film Introduction

**Dr Paula Wilcox,
University of Brighton**



Why does CPV matter?

- A serious form of violence in the family with implications for the VAWG agenda
- Research indicates 1 in 10 families are affected by CPV
- If CPV continues to be hidden, the human and financial costs to society are high
- In Spain the no. of complaints filed by parents against their children has increased from:
 - 1,627 in 2006
 - 5,377 in 2011
- 230% increase (Ministerio de Justicia 2012 cited Calvete et al 2013)
- Children who learn to use violence as a strategy may be more likely to use violence in future
- Evidence - links between CPV and other violence (Parentline Plus 2008, 2010)
- Project partners' consultations with local agencies reveal large unmet need in relation to working on CPV

Financial Costs & Savings

Estimated savings on four B4C programmes over a 6 month period using 'Troubled Families' Calculations

	Euros
Savings to Criminal Justice System	79,305
Savings to Health Services	15,245
Savings to Children and Families Services Children in Care, Foster Care, Social Work, School	97,691
Savings to Housing and Homeless Services	3,121
Total Saving	195,362

Cost per family (8) per programme	Euros	2,297
Projected saving per programme	Euros	48,840
Projected saving per annum	c. Euros	100,000

Findings: Policy and Practice

- Specialised CPV intervention programmes are scarce
- Practitioners in mainstream services reveal varying levels of confidence and competence around CPV
- Although children's services, schools and CAHMS services are critical to safeguarding the research shows us that in many cases CPV is not part of their practice as you can see from this quote which is typical:
“And that's when friends and people really started to notice and I kept saying it was because of what had happened [domestic violence], and we had input from CAMHS which was awful. No, it was terrible” (Carol, mother, England).
- Having implemented training, studied 2 intervention models and developed an evaluation framework the study shows:
- Of those trained there is a statistically significant increased confidence in knowledge and skills on CPV
- Break4Change showed statistically significant behaviour change in 15 families studied
- There is an absence of clear policy and guidance at local and national levels

Findings: Parents

“Parents I work with are pretty aware of the fact that it’s not just the physical violence that they are actually controlled by the blaming things kids say by threats, threats of self-harm by ... threats to run away, to kill yourself to, the threat of not eating good food yea, not eating healthily or doing unhealthy things to your body, the threat of have dangerous sex, all these things”
(Mark, Consultant Clinical Psychologist).

The impact of CPV on parents can be very isolating:

“It was the social aspect of it because it’s also incredibly isolating, not only because you don’t want to talk about it, but because like for me I never go out, I don’t have a social life, my whole life is focused on maintaining my daughter ...Beth, mother, England).

Findings: Children

“He does not go to school. He decides over his life himself. He never meets friends any more. He has isolated himself. Before this he had a lot of friends”

(Elsa, adoptive mother, Sweden).

“My son had been absolutely fine at school, really coping well. We first had difficulties with him refusing to go to school, he was in Year 6 so probably 2 years there have been difficulties and at that point showing distress and unhappiness through physical complaints and not wanting to go to school”

(Amy, mother, England).

Findings: Family & Gender

- **Mothering Blaming**
- **Power relations within families**
- **Domestic Violence in all its forms**
- **Mysogyny/Sexism and racism**
- **Undermining of the maternal role**
- **Impact appears greatest on women**

“I am very tired. I have a work that I really like. It feels good when I go to work. Sometimes I feel that I am near a breakdown. I feel stressed and sometimes I have stomach ache. It has affected my mood, my husband sometimes ask me, “ why are you so grumpy”, but I am just very tired. And I feel powerless of the situation. It has affected me and my husband’s relationship in a negative way” (Maya, mother, Sweden).

“There is a strong gendered element to CPV, so for boys in particular where there has been domestic violence” (Mark, Consultant Clinical Psychologist, England).

“I worry such a lot about his development and kind of identity and how he feels about girls and women, you know, some of his behaviour towards his peers and women and girls horrifies me to be honest, really horrifies me” (Amy, mother, England).

“I do think a lot of the undermining of the respect for me has come from there and I would have to say that’s an ongoing issue, it’s still, it’s still a work in progress, it’s getting a bit better but I think that the respect for me was, you know, has sort of been undermined long-term and that... When in fact actually when, actually when this actually happened, oh I can understand why he did that and I was thinking, well that’ll be the message that you’re giving him at the moment” (Elaine, mother, England).

Project Publications

- *RCPV Executive Summary* report in delegate packs
- *Individual Country Reports: Spain, Bulgaria, England, Republic of Ireland and Sweden* will be available on www.rcpv.eu website next week
- *RCPV Final Project Report* will be available on the website at the end of April 2015
- Wilcox, P. and Pooley, M. (2014) 'Children who are violent to their parents need protection too', in N. Stanley and C. Humphreys (eds) *Domestic Violence and Protecting Children: New Thinking and Approaches*, Jessica Kingsley.

Project Resources

USB cards for delegates and website www.rcpv.eu

For access to project outputs

- RCPV policy film
- Practitioner role play film clips
- Practitioner toolkits
- Research reports (WS)

In English, Spanish, Swedish and Bulgarian



RESPONDING TO CHILD TO PARENT VIOLENCE
A PAN EUROPEAN PROJECT

THE PROJECT RESEARCH RESOURCES CONFERENCES AND TRAINING GET INVOLVED CONTACT

RESEARCH



Innovative research into ways of dealing with child to parent violence and abuse

CONFERENCES AND TRAINING



Conferences and training sessions organised by the project, and other events relevant to our work

GET INVOLVED



There are a number of ways you can get involved with the project

Responding to Child to Parent Violence

Responding to Child to Parent Violence is a multi-agency research project led by the University of Brighton. The project team consists of organisations in the UK, Bulgaria, Ireland, Spain and Sweden, brought together to study the emerging problem of abuse perpetrated by children on their parents and carers.

Child to parent violence: "...any harmful act by a teenage child intended to gain power and control over a parent. The abuse can be physical, psychological, or financial." Cotterell (2003)

The work is part funded by the European Union's Daphne III programme, which supports Europe-wide projects that address issues of violence against children, young people and women and aims to attain a high level of health protection, well-being and social cohesion.



HAVE A QUESTION? THEN GET IN CONTACT

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Key learning from partner countries: Spain, Ireland, Bulgaria, Sweden, England

- Anna Assenova, National Association XXI Century Rhodopa Mountain Initiative, Bulgaria.
- Michelle Pooley, Brighton & Hove City Council, England.
- Declan Coogan/Eileen Lauster, National University of Ireland Galway, Republic of Ireland.
- Ulla Mortensen/Inger Christoffersson, Åmåls kommun, Sweden.
- Maite Ferrando, Instituto de Polibienestar, Universitat de València, Spain.

Contact Us

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