

MANDATORY REPORTING IN AUSTRALIA

IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTITIONERS

This one-day seminar/webinar is aimed at psychologists and other professionals who want to understand the implications of mandatory reporting of child sexual abuse.

Statutory Frameworks • Criminal Reporting Obligations • What is Child Sexual Abuse Ethics of Reporting • Breaching the Therapeutic Contract • The Best Interests of the Child

8.30am - 5pm - Friday 2 August 2024 - University Club of WA

STATUTORY FRAMEWORKS - Cathcart Weatherly

Cathcart's presentation will provide a summary of the mandatory reporting laws across Australia including: definitions of who is a child, threshold test for reporting abuse, who must report and other relevant laws.

WHAT IS CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE? DEFINITIONS, DEVELOPMENTAL ASPECTS OF CHILDHOOD SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR - Christabel Chamarette

Christabel's presentation covers definitions of child sexual abuse, an overview of normal childhood sexual development and the importance of a public health approach which upholds the safety and best interests of the child.

STATUTORY DUTIES, PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES & ETHICAL DILEMMAS - Chris Williams

Chris' presentation will consider primary professional duties to report under State and Commonwealth legislation and the interface between professionals engaged in a therapeutic role with individuals and families and other professions dealing with child abuse. The context of both legislative requirements, policing powers and methods and the rights of victims and accused persons are considered. Discussion will be invited on the underlying, and sometimes competing, values that inform the various professions and courts and other organisations involved in child protection, with a view to helping practitioners clarify their own responsibilities.

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE - PROCESSES AFTER REPORTING - Toni McAllen

Toni's presentation will outline the legal process, both the process if someone in the family is charged with a criminal offence and the child protection process. She will discuss the questions of protective bail conditions, safety planning, risk assessment and other legal issues families need to understand when they are involved in these processes and the support they are likely to need as a result of being involved in legal processes.

WA POLICE PERSPECTIVE - Dom Licastro

Detective Sergeant Dom Licastro is the intake supervisor of the- Child Assessment and Interview Team (CAIT) in the Western Australia Police Force. Dom will outline the work of the CAIT, how it works collaboratively with Department of Communities to prioritise CSA reports. He will discuss the importance of good information and submitting reports and the earliest to minimise or eliminate the imminent risk to a child.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GETTING CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE REPORTING RIGHT - Rosemary Cant

Mandatory reporting has significantly increased the number of substantiated child sexual abuse cases in Western Australia but that increase has come at both financial and human costs. Rosemary's presentation explores the nature of those costs using Australian and international research. Consideration is given to ways in which the costs might be lessened and the benefit of increased substantiation enhanced.

BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD, CONCERNS & OPPORTUNITIES - Christabel Chamarette

Christabel's presentation will focus on the Primacy of the Best Interests of the Child and adopting a public health approach to working with families where child sexual abuse is an issue. The presentation will include: how do we measure what is in the best interest of the child, protecting them from abuse, healing of trauma, restoration of healthy relationships, meaningful consultation with children and families, being child focussed in our approach and offering treatment and support to families?

FOUR CASE STUDIES - IMPLICATIONS OF MANDATORY REPORTING FOR FAMILIES - Monica Macoun

Monica will outline four case studies of families where child sexual abuse may have occurred and explore the mandatory reporting implications in each case.



Help for those who have harmed, those who may harm, those who were harmed and those who care for them.

Seminar Timetable

8.00am

AUDITORIUM REGISTRATIONS OPEN

8.30am

Welcome

Presenter

Jonathan Kester

8.45am

Statutory Frameworks Across Australia

Presenter

Cathcart Weatherly

9.15am

**What is Child Sexual Abuse? Definitions,
Developmental Aspect of Childhood Sexual
Behaviour**

Presenter

Christabel Chamarette

10.00am

MORNING TEA

10.30am

Statutory Duties, Professional Responsibilities & Ethical Dilemmas

Presenter

Chris Williams

11.15am

Child Sexual Abuse – Processes After Reporting

Presenter

Toni McAllen

12.00pm

LUNCH

12.45pm

Understanding WA Police Role in Mandatory Reporting

Presenter

Dom Licastro

1.15pm

The Importance of Getting Child Sexual Abuse Reporting Right

Presenter

Rosemary Cant

2.00pm

Best Interests of the Child, Concerns & Opportunities

Presenter

Christabel Chamarette

2.30pm

**Four Case Studies
-Implication of Mandatory Reporting for Families**

Presenter

Monica Macoun

3.15pm

Questions & Answers

Presenter

Jonathan Kester

4.00pm

Group Check-Out

4.30pm

AFTERNOON TEA & CLOSE

LATEST RESEARCH
TREATMENT PROGRAMMES
CURRENT MATERIALS

“ Paedophilia —
Shedding Light on
the Dark Field

Understanding sexual
attraction to children is
essential if they are to be
kept safe.”

The Economist, 13 Aug 2016

7th Perth Symposium

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION

“Support For The Whole Family”

6 & 7 November 2024

WHEN

Wed 6th & Thur 7th
November 2024

WHERE

Banquet Hall
University Club of
Western Australia
University of W.A.
1 Hackett Drive
Crawley 6009

TIMES

Wed 8.30am – 5.00pm
Thur 9.00am – 5.00pm
Lunch, Morning
& Afternoon Teas
Provided

Symposium Dinner
at the University Club of
Western Australia
Thursday 7th November
5.30pm Drinks
6.00pm Dinner

CPD POINTS

13.5 hours

You are invited to join

Dr Katrina Stratton MLA
Member for Nedlands

Together with Keynote Speakers

June Oscar AO
Former Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner

Emeritus Professor Jim Ogloff AM

Steve Biddulph AM

Dr. Bruce Robinson AM
The Fathering Project

Alisa Hall
National Centre for Action on Child Sexual Abuse.

Daniel Principe
Youth Advocate and Educator

Darrell Henry
Founder and Long Time Director
Yorgum Healing Services

Megan Graham
from the National Office for Child Safety,

Dr. Mindi Sotiri
Executive Director, Justice Reform Initiative

Together with local presenters

Holly-ann Martin OAM
Monica Macoun