



MENTOR
FORENSIC SERVICES

WORKING WITH PARTNERS AND FAMILIES

EXPLORING THE RISK OF SEXUAL HARM TOWARDS
CHILDREN AND ENSURING EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDING



CONTENT

Assessing the partners of suspected or convicted sex offenders' poses specific and significant challenges: managing the complexity of relationships, balancing competing responsibilities and handling associated risks are just some of the issues faced by social workers and other professionals working in the field of child sexual exploitation. This course draws on over 30 years' experience in undertaking partner assessments as well as highlighting current research, providing participants with unique insights and practical tools.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE

- An integrated model for understanding child sexual exploitation
- Is denial inevitable?
- "but he didn't touch anybody, he's not a risk" the Internet and child sexual exploitation
- Tactics used by offenders to manipulate and silence partners and professionals
- How much do partners really know - the continuum of awareness
- Why some parents choose their partner over their children
- Safeguarding Assessments - what should they look for?
- Implications for the all the children
- How professionals can manage the abusive dynamic
- Is family reunification possible?
- Protective partner programmes

THE BENEFITS

This course provides participants with a practical insight into the reasons why parents often struggle to prioritise their children over an abusive partner. The needs of the protective parent at this complex and confusing time will be examined. In addition, it will look at the dynamic between mothers and their children and assist in understanding the complex system of 'victim blaming' and ambivalent maternal support.

“It is important to recognise that denial doesn't end with simply acknowledging that sexual abuse happened”.

BY THE END OF THE COURSE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

- Identify the key factors any safeguarding assessment should consider
- Consider mothers as abusers and fathers as protective parents
- Understand the grooming legacy and consider its level of endurance
- Work more effectively with the partner dynamic
- Employ tools to help shift denial and minimisation
- Evaluate relationship patterns and examine persistent, unhelpful behaviours
- Explore and improve mother/child connections
- Identify criteria necessary for family reunification (where applicable)
- Determine where intervention is necessary and what it should look like
- Maintain change

METHODS USED

- Knowledge delivery and direction from the course leader using analysis of filmed interviews with child sexual abusers and their partners
- Case study review
- Instruction in the use of practical tools
- Detailed hand-outs
- The opportunity to raise questions in respect of your own work



DURATION AND STRUCTURE

This is a two-day course containing a total of 16 hours' learning. Content is supported by handouts and reading materials which enhance the participants' understanding of the topic areas. All participants receive a Mentor Certificate of Completion.

Participants should be aware that the course content includes video. The video material is confidential and some details of case studies have been changed to protect victims. The course is designed for personal professional development only and the video material may not be audio and/or video recorded. The course materials are subject to copyright and may not be distributed.

It is Mentor policy to request proof of identity and professional credentials from all delegates; we reserve the right to refuse individuals on our training courses at our own discretion.

In the event of cancellation, refunds can only be made where Mentor is notified more than ten working days prior to the event. After this time the full cost of the course becomes payable.

Bookings can be made via our website www.mentorforensics.com or by email to training@mentorforensics.com

If you wish to discuss running one of our courses in your area we have special rates for block bookings and are happy to design a training event customised for your agency's specific needs.
