Social Dimensions of Health Institute

SEMINAR

Radical change in mental health: Implications of the trauma paradigm

Thursday 24th November 2016 at 3pm

Room 1G05, Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee

Presented by Dr Sarah Nelson as the second seminar in a two-part series on health issues experienced by adult survivors of sexual abuse

Psychiatric and secure hospitals are filled with the victims of sexual crime. That constitutes within healthcare a major obscuring of crime, for despite all the research evidence for the trauma paradigm, medical models of mental illness remain dominant. This increases distressing experiences of services for many survivors of childhood sexual trauma. While it will be important to implement their own expressed needs for high-quality mental health care, Sarah Nelson contends that the primary prevention implications of the trauma paradigm must also, finally, be followed through. It is remarkable that they have not been, given the emphasis on preventive strategies in other areas of health, from HIV to smoking and exercise. She outlines ways in which mental health systems and services can actively contribute to multidisciplinary efforts to prevent child sexual abuse, and to detect perpetrators. These include preventive work in sexual health services, in communities and schools, and facilities for reporting crime and receiving advice from police and legal staff in every psychiatric and special hospital

Sarah has just published (June 2016) Tackling Child Sexual Abuse: Radical Approaches to Prevention, Protection and Support (Policy Press). was an adviser to the Scottish Government's Survivor Scotland team from 2006 to



2011, and adviser to the Scottish Parliament's Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Scotland (Scottish Parliament, 2014)

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To book your place at this FREE seminar please contact Rosanne Bell r.c.bell@dundee.ac.uk







