



Newsletter



September 2010
Issue 9

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Editorial

Now that summer is over, we look forward to resuming our research activities with renewed energy. The last quarter has been busy, with several final reports written. We are happy to learn that our work with St Christopher's Fellowship on attachment style in adolescents in residential care will continue next year, as well as the development of the CECA further for use in Safeguarding services with Kingston services. Our development of new assessment tools and trainings continue. This year we have offered training in the Parenting Role Interview, as well as an Advanced ASI course and an Adolescent ASI course. Our pilot work developing a child version of the ASI is progressing well with the school sample completed and the Looked After Children sample due to be collected in the autumn. Our training courses for ASI for practitioners run through Child and Family Training continue to thrive, and we have trained some new trainers to deliver the courses.

We are very pleased to announce the development of the International Lifespan Research Group. This consists of researchers and practitioners internationally who use the Lifespan measures (ASI/VASQ and CECA/CECA.Q). We were amazed to realise these tools had been translated into 16 languages and used in 23 countries! We hope that formalising the group will lead to further research collaborations, increased publications

using these measures, and increased training opportunities abroad.

The Centre for Abuse and Trauma Studies continues to grow. As well as a high profile event at the House of Lords on internet grooming, which was a great success, we have begun training days on issues of internet abuse. The European project on internet grooming has reached the end of its first year, and produced reports on the Scoping phase and the Literature review, and is now in its second phase of groomer interviews. A launch of the new website will take place on October 28th.

We have had a number of visiting fellows at Lifespan in the last few months—PhD students from Norway and Spain, postdoctoral fellows from within London University and a pre-doc from Padua about to arrive. We find that having these students visit our group helps to further develop our research culture and also increases opportunities for collaboration and publication. In terms of our staff news we wish Ananay well on her maternity leave, and Catherine with her new freelance status. We look forward to even more growth of Lifespan and CATS in the forthcoming months, with our valued collaborations with Kingston University, with Child and Family Training, St Christopher's Fellowship and our many overseas academic collaborators.

Antonia Bijelic



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The Lifespan Research Group with the Centre for Abuse and Trauma Studies

Lifespan and CATS provides research and consultancy in health, social care and criminal justice services, including:

Service evaluations - training in interview assessments, research consultancy, research capacity building, research dissemination, research collaboration.

Research applied to practice - training in assessment techniques, practitioner research and professional development in social care and health.

Academic research - causal factors in mental health; investigation of lifespan and intergenerational transmission of risk for social exclusion and mental health problems. Measurement design and training for researchers.

Knowledge exchange - from universities to public services (social, health and criminal justice) and voluntary services.

lifespanresearch.org.uk cats-rp.org.uk



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Children's Services

Assessing attachment style in adolescents in residential care for the SHARP programme

Lifespan's work with St. Christopher's Fellowship on the Specialist Homes Action Research Programme (SHARP) project has reached the end of its fourth year and the final report submitted. The successful collaboration has included the undertaking and supervision of enhanced assessments of young people in residential care using the adolescent ASI, reports to staff and feedback documents to the young people, workshops, briefings and dissemination. As part of the dissemination effort Lifespan has submitted an article on the assessment of young people in residential care using the Attachment Style Interview for Adolescents (ASI-D) to the journal *Child & Family Social Work*.



We are delighted that St Christopher's are going to fund us for another year to work on the SHARP programme. We hope to develop more streamlined assessments of the young people as they remain in the care homes, to further work on staff development in understanding attachment principles as applied to the social learning intervention, and to aid with care planning. We would like to thank all of our colleagues at St. Christopher's for a rewarding collaboration and we look forward to continuing this valuable work in the next year.



Contact Yael.Ilan-Clarke@rhul.ac.uk www.stchris.org.uk

Testing the CECA for child Safeguarding at Kingston social services

Lifespan has now come to the end of the first phase of introducing the CECA in Safeguarding services and evaluating its impact on assessments and care planning. Funding from West London Life Long Learning and Kingston Safeguarding services enabled 6 one-day workshops to take place for 8 social workers in Safeguarding and Looked After Services. The workshops provided training in rating CECA experience in neglect, physical, sexual and psychological abuse and related experience. It also showed how CECA could be used to enhance court chronologies and provided training in the parental Role Interview for parents. The training was well-received and the social workers all became adept at using the assessment and classification system. The CECA was then used to inform 10 ongoing cases in Child Protection, Child in Need and Looked After Services. In most instances the CECA enhanced the assessments by providing benchmarked severity ratings and clarity of definitions. This helped the social workers and courts to decide on, or confirm, care planning. A final report has been submitted to service manager Lee Hopkins and we hope to continue to work with the service in rolling out the training further. We believe using the CECA more widely will help social workers in their assessments of children and families at risk.



Primary Care Health Services

Southwark Youth Violence Prevention Programme at St. Thomas'

Work has commenced on the evaluation of the Youth Violence Prevention Programme being undertaken in St. Thomas' A&E department and funded by Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust. This 3 year pilot programme is currently in its final stages of set up and is due to officially launch on the 22nd September 2010. It is being carried out in collaboration with Southwark and Lambeth Public Health and Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnerships.



The programme aims to contribute to the reduction of harm resulting from youth violence. This will be achieved through the placement of a Youth Liaison Worker in the A&E department, who will inform and refer young people attending the department as a result of violent incidents, to community services available to them and work with them to reduce their risk of recurrent involvement in violence.

Rae Atkins, an experienced youth worker who has trained and will be supervised on this project by Oasis UK, a charity organisation which specialises in working with vulnerable young people, has taken up this post. Amongst her other roles, Rae will also be setting up a training programme to build the skills of A&E staff engaging with young victims of violence and she will be contributing to the Lambeth & Southwark youth violence policy, by developing a minimum data set showing young people's risk and referral patterns.

Lifespan will evaluate the Oasis intervention in an action research role, providing consultation to maximise the effectiveness of the programme and ensure that it reaches its goals. We look forward to working closely with our colleagues at St. Thomas' and Oasis and wish them good luck with the launch of the programme.

Contact: Yael.Ilan-Clarke@rhul.ac.uk

Service-collaboration and presentations

Hammersmith Children's Services 28 July

A presentation by Toni Bifulco on the ASI was well-received and opportunities for training staff in the service planned.

Ealing Children's services, 29 September

The safeguarding board have asked for a presentation on use of the CECA in services.

Adoption Matters 16th August

A very fruitful meeting was held at Lifespan with Hazel Field from Adoption Matters, together with Liza Bingley Miller, Catherine Jacobs and Dorothy Porter who train in the ASI. Adoption Matters are highly committed to use of the ASI in their day-to-day practice of assessing potential adopters, and have now used the ASI on 106 clients. The meeting concerned guidelines for governance and best practice using the ASI in children's services.



Lifespan International

International use of Lifespan measures

We are delighted to announce the setting up an international wing to the Lifespan Research Group. Over the years the Lifespan measures of attachment and childhood experience have been used in a number of countries (23) and in a number of languages (16). This has led us to think of the benefits of using this collaboration to further Lifespan research, training and dissemination. We have a steering group of 19 researchers who have worked with us over a number of years from 8 different countries. With their help we will set out a programme of conferences, trainings, joint publications and research applications. We aim to coordinate access to the instruments standardised in different languages and cultures and to promote on-site trainings in the different languages in due course. The table below shows the countries and measures which now utilise either the attachment measures (ASI or VASQ) and the childhood measures (CECA or CECA.Q). Our first step will be to set up a website to identify the aims of the group and a list of contacts in the different countries. In time the trainings to be held in different sites will be advertised.

International use of Lifespan measures					
COUNTRY	ASI/ VASQ	CECA/ CECA.Q	COUNTRY	ASI/ VASQ	CECA/ CECA.Q
France	✓		Turkey		✓
Belgium		✓	Cuba		✓
Italy	✓	✓	Chile		✓
Portugal	✓	✓	Japan	✓	
Germany	✓	✓	Korea	✓	
Sweden	✓		Malaysia	✓	
Norway	✓	✓	Sri Lanka		✓
Denmark		✓	USA	✓	✓
Lithuania		✓	Canada		✓
Hungary		✓	Australia	✓	

Recent Publications using ASI and CECA

Abdul Kadir NB & Bifulco A (in press) Vulnerability, life events and depression among Moslem Malaysian women. (SPPE).

Bifulco, A, Ilan-Clarke, Y, McBriar, M, Hannan L & Jacobs C (submitted) Attachment style of adolescents in residential care: **Carvalho S et al** (submitted) Propriedades psicometricas da Escala de Cuidado dp Questionario de Experiencias de Cuidado e Abuse na Infancia (Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse—CECA.Q).

Conde A, Figueirido B & Bifulco A (in press) Attachment style and psychological adjustment in couples (*Attach & Human Development*)

Fisher HL, Bunn A, Jacobs C, Moran P & Bifulco A (in press) Concordance between mother and offspring reports of childhood adversity. *Childhood Abuse and Neglect*.

Hyashi, M (2010) Attachment in Adolescence, Misuzu Shobo, Tokyo.

Kaess M, Parzer P, Mattern M, et al (submitted) Childhood Experiences of Care and Abuse” (CECA) - Validierung der deutschen Version des Fragebogens sowie des korrespondierenden Interviews zur Erhebung belastender Kindheitserlebnisse im familiären Rahmen.

Oskis, A, Loveday C, Hucklebridge F, Thorn L and Clow A (2010) Anxious attachment style and salivary cortisol dysregulation in healthy female children and adolescents. JCPP

Schimmenti A, Bifulco A (in press). “Le esperienze di maltrattamento vissute dai fratelli: tra ambiente condiviso e non condiviso”. In Schimmenti V, *Oltre la madre: relazioni familiari e sviluppo del bambino*. Milano: Franco Angeli.

Training and conferences abroad

ASI Training in Bochum February 2010

We were very pleased to be able to run an ASI course for psychiatrists and psychologists at the University of Bochum. We were helped in this by our colleague Dr Adina Rusu who undertook her PhD at RHUL and worked as a research assistant at Lifespan. The training was well-received and the trainees were able to benefit from the German translation of the ASI interview undertaken by Dr Corinna Reck and Daniella Noe. The trainees were from a range of universities in Germany and involved in a number of research projects where they intend to use the ASI, including personality disorder, adolescent homelessness and internet dependence as well as in maternity settings. We look forward to seeing the future results of these studies. We would like to thank Adina and colleagues at the at the LWL-Universitätsklinik Bochum for their great organisation and kind welcome!

ASI Training in Florence, November 2010

We look forward to undertaking an ASI training at the Department of Psychology at the University of Florence. We have a long-standing relationship with the university, through our colleague Dr Vania Valoriani, who used the ASI in the Transcultural Post Natal Depression project headed by Prof Channi Kumar in 2000. She and her team have continued to use the ASI, and have invited Toni Bifulco back for seminars and trainings in previous years. There is also an Erasmus agreement between the university in Florence and RHUL. Dr Valoriani has been using the CECA in her work with mothers and fathers expecting a baby, and those undergoing fertility treatment. Dr Valoriani presented some of her team’s many findings at the ASI conference in Padua.

ASI Conference in Padua 11 March 2010

The first conference to entirely feature the ASI was organised by Prof Alessandra Simonelli at the University of Padua. Lifespan has had a collaboration with her team for the last two years, following two of her students coming to London as visiting researchers. The group are undertaking a parallel study of the child ASI to mirror the London and Isle of Man findings. The conference was entitled: Psychosocial findings on attachment using the Attachment Style Interview: research contributions from Italian teams. After Toni Bifulco introduced the session with a presentation on intergenerational transmission of risk through maternal attachment style, others included Lisa Gabbarelli’s description Phd study on attachment style in adolescents followed up from infancy, research on postnatal depression from the University of Palermo from Dr Nicoletta Ragonese, and a range of perinatal studies from Dr Valoriani at the University of Florence. It also included research findings on the VASQ on anxiety and depression from Dr Vittoria Ardino and colleagues from the Catholic University of Milan. The round table discussion was led by Prof Simonelli and her colleagues Dr Erika Petech and Mahesh Casiraghi. We would like to thank our Italian colleagues for a stimulating and rewarding conference and a very warm welcome!

International Conference on Attachment Munich November 2010

At this two-day conference on couples, sexuality and children Toni Bifulco will present on the ASI, parenting and intergenerational transmission of risk.

Attachment Research seminar AEPEA 25-26 September 2010

This is the first European Association of Psychopathology in infants and adolescence, to provide a forum for refining researcher skills around issues of attachment and psychopathology. Toni Bifulco has been invited as a seminar leader by Dr Bernard Golse, Dr. Olivier Bonnot and colleagues.

TRAINING

www.cecainterview.com
www.attachmentstyleinterview.com



Attachment Style interview Training

ASI supplemental courses

In addition to the Attachment Style Interview we are introducing 3 new trainings:

Advanced ASI:

This one-day course is for practitioners already experienced in using the ASI who want to develop further skills. The focus was on difficult reporting styles, as well as rating complex and dual attachment styles. The course was well received and we hope to continue to offer this course next year.

Adolescent ASI – 22 September 2010

This one day training for practitioners and researchers already trained in the adult ASI, will focus on the application of the ASI in adolescents. The adolescent interview pack will be distributed and vignettes used to illustrate particular issues in interviewing and rating high risk adolescents.

Parenting Role Interview (PRI) courses

This one-day course covered an additional parenting section for the ASI. The scales examined child difficulties, quality of interaction with the parent and felt and estimated competence and incompetence. An overall parenting scale is derived. Feedback from our first course has shown the effectiveness of the measure in linking attachment style to parenting, particularly for kinship care and custody issues.



Training for trainers

we are delighted to have new trainers available for our ASI courses and thank Amanda Bunn for finalising their training. We welcome them all to the ASI team!

Child ASI development

The need for a child attachment measure for 8-12 year olds has been highlighted in both research and social care practice. Lifespan has now completed the first phase of the development of the child attachment style measure. This project, funded by St Christopher's Fellowship, has involved developing both a self-report powerpoint presentation where attachment styles are represented by different animal cartoons, as well as a one-to-one interview asking about close relationships, friendships and attitudes towards getting close. With the help of Merton Abbey Primary school, the powerpoint was presented to a class of 9 year olds, with later interviews being undertaken. We now have data on 20 children and can compare their interview and questionnaire responses. We are grateful to head teacher Stella Fry, to Kate Nicolson and Lisa Gabbarelli for helping us to complete this.

The second stage of the project will involve utilising the measures for Looked After Children. This is being undertaken on the Isle of Man with ethics approval currently being sought. We are also pleased to have a clinical psychology student from RHUL, Sophie West to help us to extend the project in the spring.



Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse

CECA courses

Two-day CECA courses are being held bi-yearly by the Lifespan group. These course are mainly attended by psychologists in the clinical and forensic field. The CECA is currently being used in high security prisons and adolescent secure units in assessing background trauma in adults and youth with antisocial personality disorder and sexual offending. The success of the pilot use of the CECA by Safeguarding services in Royal Borough of Kingston, has led to further extension of the one-day workshops within the service. At present this comprised workshops on:

Workshop 1 Neglect and antipathy; Workshop 2 Physical abuse and domestic violence; Workshop 3 Sexual abuse; Workshop 4 Psychological abuse; Workshop 5 CECA for constructing chronologies. These workshops can be delivered on-site for child and family services interested in this assessment procedure.

Note: We still have places on our two-day CECA course 20-21 October 2010.

For further information contact

LifespanTraining@rhul.ac.uk tel. 020 7307 8619

New: Electronic ASI pack

Electronic Attachment Style Interview pack

Due to numerous requests Lifespan are very pleased to now be able to offer a high quality electronic version of the Attachment Style Interview (ASI) pack for social care teams trained in the assessment tool. In response to practitioner demand, Lifespan have developed the pack utilising the latest PDF technology for convenience of use, for data sharing, and to fulfil agency demands for electronic storage of evidence-based assessment records.

The PDF Acrobat format document enables the Electronic ASI to be shared amongst members of an organisation and can be re-used an indefinite number of times throughout its licence period. It is very simple to use, with clear distinction between standard questions and scoring instructions which are fixed, and fill-able fields for notes, rating justifications, verbatim ratings and scores.

The advantages of the new Electronic ASI Interview Pack include:

- Convenient and easy use with time and paper savings
- Clearer presentation of word-processed inform
- Sophisticated presentation to keep formatting intact if printed out
- Simple to save and reuse in its digital format
- Can be used a countless number of times
- Easy to store in compact format for service records
- Easy to share electronically with colleagues and agencies

For further information contact LifespanTraining@rhul.ac.uk

STAFF UPDATES



Staff & student updates

Visiting Research Fellows:

Nina Skjestad Norwegian University



Nina was a visiting PhD researcher from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) who spent 3 months at the Lifespan Research Group at the beginning of the year. Nina is a qualified Social Worker who is currently in the last year of her PhD studying client participation in schemes for the long-term unemployed. We enjoyed having Nina as a member of our team and wish her good luck in completing her PhD successfully and hope that she pays us another visit soon.

Georgina Hosang From Kings College London



We would like to congratulate Georgina on her ESRC/MRC postdoctoral research fellowship, and look forward to her visiting Lifespan to learn more about psychosocial models and measurement. Georgina is finalising her PhD on life events and bipolar disorder at the Institute of Psychiatry. She has extensive experience of the LEDES and will come to learn more about the CECA and ASI.

Ambra Saffioti From University of Padua

We are happy to welcome Ambra for a 3-month stay at Lifespan from the University of Padua. Ambra is a psychologist who undertook her degree in developmental and educational psychology, followed by a 6-month Erasmus placement at the University of Deusto in Bilbao Spain. She plans to extend her experience in London before beginning her PhD studies. Ambra is our third visiting student from University of Padua and plans to work on the child ASI interview and self-report measure.

Ariadna De La Vega from University of Barcelona



We have had the pleasure of Ariadna joining the team as a visiting European Researcher. Ariadna is working on her PhD at the Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona (UAB). Her subject is the emotional maltreatment of children. Ariadna has spent 3 months in the Lifespan group, in which time she has trained on the ASI and CECA and contributed to a number of ongoing projects, utilising her expert computing and statistical knowledge. She will continue to undertake analysis on the MRC data on psychological abuse, with a view to producing a publication. We wish Ariadna good luck in her PhD and we look forward to working with her again in the future.

Staff & student updates—continued

Catherine Jacobs goes freelance



Catherine is a long time member of the Lifespan group. She started as a research assistant in 1995 on the last MRC programme grant looking at intergenerational factors in the transmission of psychosocial risk. She worked on the older age-mid life mother-daughter project. When the programme ended in 2000 she became a researcher at the Social Developmental and Genetic research centre for the famous TEDS twin study. However she returned to the Lifespan group, first on a part-time basis in 2001 and then later full-time. Her daughter Isabella is now two years old, and Catherine has decided to become a freelance researcher. She continues to be a valued trainer on the ASI for Child and Family Training, and will continue to work with Lifespan and CATS as a freelance senior researcher

Laura Brazier becomes a mother

We were delighted to hear that Laura produced a baby girl. Our congratulations to her and her husband Richard and a warm welcome to baby Isabella. Laura is currently on maternity leave, but we hope will rejoin us at Lifespan to give her valuable input into our project on youth violence.



Ananay Aguilar is due to become a mother!

We are pleased to announce that Ananay is soon due to be a mother also. Big congratulations from us all! Ananay will taking maternity leave from September. We wish her well with the many positive changes in her life and for her PhD submission. Ananay has been with Lifespan for over two years. Her contributions to the JISC project on the archiving of the Lifespan Collection have been invaluable, as well as her contribution to other research applications and to the smooth running of the research group. We will certainly miss her while she is away!



Nina and Ananay



Yael and Nina



www.cats-rp.org.uk

WORKSHOP:

Two Sides of Trauma - Victim and Offender Experience

Childhood violent trauma and PTSD in forensic settings: focus on assessment and treatment

ESTSS working with CATS held its first one-day workshop on PTSD in relation to offender populations. The day was hosted by Dr Vittoria Ardino at London Metropolitan University, and Professor Antonia Bifulco (Royal Holloway, University of London) and Professor Julia Davidson (Kingston University) also presented at the workshop. The inter-disciplinary approach reflected the forensic psychology, lifespan psychology and criminology approaches respectively.

The workshop was well attended, with professionals from the prison service, youth offending, and children's services. The morning was devoted to outlining research models to increase understanding of PTSD in offenders and assessment of childhood trauma and the afternoon, following group discussion, focused on treatment issues. Dr Ardino in her presentation 'neurobiology and cognition of trauma and criminal behaviour' outlined the biological underpinnings of PTSD and complex PTSD. Prof Bifulco presented 'Attachment style as a framework for linking trauma and offending', where she outlined attachment theory and adult attachment styles and the research examining attachment styles in offending behaviour, particularly around disorganised attachment. Prof Davidson presented 'Understanding sex offender behaviour: trauma and experience in early lives, denial and blame attribution'. These presentations served to show interactions between biological, cognitive, behavioural and social factors in leading to high rates of PTSD in violent and sex offender populations. The afternoon focused on treatment of PTSD and the treatment of sex offenders.

There was a high level of discussion which focussed on issues around constraints on treatment in the prison service both in terms of time and flexibility of treatment. This is particularly difficult given the co-morbidity of disorders usually presented. Other issues concerned engagement with the treatment process, avoiding superficial engagement which fulfils prisoner requirements but will not lead to meaningful change. Other points raised were around the type of offender behaviour (for example domestic violence) and its possible relationship to PTSD and to treatment programmes. Greater demand for training of professionals in the field in both research models, assessments and treatment were called for. Professionals wanted a voice in trying to change the current restrictions on treatment in prison services. Comments were made about the helpfulness of the models and tools presented in helping in social work with children Looked After. Issues around secondary trauma in practitioners were raised with the need for effective supervision. The research disputes between those investigating PTSD and those investigating complex PTSD were also raised.

The day was deemed a success in terms of the 'knowledge exchange' from research to practitioners. A high degree of varied expertise was shown by the presenters, and the



SWAN SEMINAR SERIES:

Inter-Disciplinary Approaches to Abuse and Trauma in Offenders



The final seminar, in the series of three seminars, took place on Thursday 22nd July at SGUL. This seminar brought the series of 3 planned to the point of planning research projects which focus on abuse and trauma in offenders.

Participants from research and practice settings, and the three universities of RHUL, KU and SGUL, presented their various ideas for research applications. This included young offenders early life abuse experience, self-harm in female offenders, suicide in internet abuse perpetrators, issues in child trafficking.

The group decided it wanted to continue to meet another meetings will be held in the autumn.

The seminar series was judged to be successful in

- Creating an effective network of researchers and practitioners
- Creating an inter-disciplinary forum (psychology; criminology and psychiatry) and between academics and practitioners
- Creating knowledge exchange about research methods and tools and recent study findings
- Planning research applications.

We look forward to further small focused meetings to finalise research applications.

EU project update

The project on internet groomers has now ended its first year—with the Scoping report, Literature Review and annual report all delivered on time. The project is now into its second phase of interviewing internet groomer offenders currently in prison. The aim is to collect a large number in the UK, with smaller groups in Belgium, Norway and Italy. The group have already disseminated early findings at conferences and in publications.

The project is to launch its website on October 28th. Whilst the project is currently being hosted on NATCEN's website, the new one will allow for greater presentation of materials and discussion of the project by the various members.

Continued: WORKSHOP Two Sides of Trauma

audience contributed with questioning of current practice in the field and in understanding the latest research presented.

The workshop was accredited for ESTSS members to the European Certificate in Psychotraumatology.

Contact: Vittoria Ardino v.ardino@londonmet.ac.uk

To view workshop presentations: www.cats-rp.org.uk





www.cats-rp.org.uk

CATS Child Internet Safety Event at the House of Lords – March 2010

Internet Grooming: Understanding offender behaviour and protecting young people 26 March 2010



The Centre for Abuse and Trauma Studies held a successful event at the House of Lords to raise awareness about the threat posed to children by online groomers. This outlined research on how the Internet and other technologies such as mobile phones, are used to select, groom and prepare young people for sexual abuse.

The event was Chaired by John Carr, Secretary of the Children's Charities' Coalition on Internet Safety, and hosted by CATS with the two directors Prof. Julia Davidson (Kingston University) and Prof Antonia Bifulco (Royal Holloway, University of London) introducing the session and describing preliminary findings from the European Online Grooming Project funded by the European Commission Safer Internet Programme and including partners in Italy, Norway and Belgium. A summary of these findings may be found below.

The afternoon included presentations from Mark Williams-Thomas MA (who presented the recent ITN series 'To Catch a Paedophile') who argued that the police should work more pro-actively in undertaking covert work to detect online grooming and that a properly funded, nationally co-ordinated policing response is needed. Dr Elena Martellozzo from Middlesex University presented findings from a PhD study spanning 5 years which included an ethnographic of police practice at the Metropolitan Police High Technology Crime Unit, Dr Martellozzo described policing practice and offender online behaviour. In her presentation she described differences in individual's grooming approach and explored the increased use of webcams and mobile phones in accessing children and young people.

The event was well attended by representative from the police, CEOP, Social and Health Services, NGO's, children charities and social networking sites such as Facebook. A lively discussion followed the presentations and issues including offender behaviour and early experience of abuse; the legal context of online grooming; the nature of the relationship between the perpetrator and the child and young people's understanding of online risk were raised. The seminar emphasised the need for more research and further dissemination of information about the risks of internet abuse to the public, police and social services and to internet providers



To view event presentations by Profs Davidson and Bifulco, Dr Elena Martellozzo and Mark Williams-Thomas MA visit www.cats-rp.org.uk.

CATS Training

CATS centre offers workshops and short training courses around issues of abuse and trauma for practitioners in health, social care or criminal justice services. For more details visit www.cats-rp.org.uk



CATS Continuous Professional Development courses on Child Internet Safety

CATS first Child Internet Abuse and Safety took place at our Central London venue on 16 June 2010. It was a generic one-day course for professionals working within the child protection arena, including children's services, counsellors and therapists, police and the courts, aimed at enabling them to discover how the internet and mobile phone technology are used by online sex offenders and how to best identify young victims' vulnerabilities for preventative messages and actions. The course explored issues around internet and mobile phone abuse from both offenders and victims' perspective and will equip participants with a clear understanding of how new technologies are used by children and young people, including their online risk taking behaviour, and how paedophiles use the internet to source, groom and target children. The course also covered the newly emerging issue of peer-to-peer cyber-bullying.

We are delighted to report that the course was very well received, with excellent feedback from participants.

Legal Accreditation

CATS is currently in the process of developing Legal Accreditation for running CPD courses for law professionals. This will cover internet abuse issues, interviewing children with Achieving Best Evidence guidance. Once accredited, CATS will add briefings on CECA and ASI courses for the benefit of family courts. This is being spearheaded by Nicola Dillon, CATS PhD student.



John Carr OBE

We are delighted to congratulate John Carr on being awarded the OBE for his outstanding work with voluntary agencies on internet abuse. John has been an active and loyal member of CATS steering group since its inception.

Final report on young people's internet use

Research led by Prof Davidson and funded by the National Audit Office and the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre has now been published by the NAO. The research results have received wide media attention. Full report and media articles can be access through Media and News page of our website www.cats-rp.org.uk.

Training dates at Lifespan offices, Bedford Square, London
Attachment Style Interview (ASI) for Research and Clinical Practice
9-11 November 2010, Central London
23-25 March 2011, Central London

New ASI training workshop: Adolescent ASI
Wednesday 22 September 2010, Central London

Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse (CECA) training courses
20 and 21 October 2010, Central London
6 and 7 April 2011, Central London

for further information or to book a place contact: Yael Ilan-Clarke (ASI)
or Natasa Blagojevic-Stokic (CECA) Tel: 020 7307 8619 email: LifespanTraining@rhul.ac.uk
or visit www.attachmentstyleinterview.com & www.cecainterview.com

See pages 5 and 8 for more details on our courses, including new attachment training courses
and tailored CECA courses

The Lifespan Research Group

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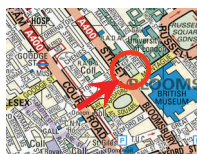
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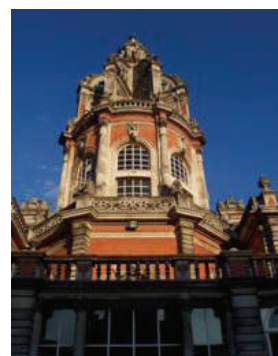


11 Bedford Square is located on the corner of Gower Street and Montague Place and is 15-20 minutes walk from mainline stations (Euston, St Pancras, Kings Cross) and close to Tottenham Court Road and Russell Square tube stations.

Lifespan Research Group
Health & Social Care

Royal Holloway - Bedford Square, University of London

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