



INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, CHILDREN AND CHILD PROTECTION

Friday 13th April 9.30-1pm

Robert Emmet Theatre, Trinity College Dublin

This international seminar invites you to reflect on issues of ongoing challenge and contention in the area of domestic violence. Acknowledging that the experience of the Family Courts can be traumatising and lengthy, Davina James-Hanman explores 'what can be done to help Judges reach better decisions for families post-separation and reduce the stress for children and their mothers'. Staying with the post-separation period, Katie Lamb draws on her doctoral study which produced digital stories with children and young people to send messages to fathers who use domestic violence. Responding to the challenges that child protection workers often face in responding to domestic violence, Cathy Humphreys will present key concepts from the Safe and Together model (Mandel & colleagues), encouraging us to 'tilt' our practice to be more effective in responding to children and families living with domestic violence. Returning to the issue of the Family Courts, Stephanie Holt highlights key messages for practice in 'listening to the voice of the child'.

Certificates of attendance will be provided

Agenda

9.30 Registration (tea and coffee)

10.00 Opening Address, Chair, TBC

10.15 A Seven Point Plan for Promoting Safer Child Contact in the Context of Domestic Abuse

Davina James-Hanman

10.55 Seen and Heard: Children & Young People's Message for Fathers after Domestic Violence

Katie Lamb

11.35 Tilting our practice: tackling domestic violence in the child protection context.

Cathy Humphreys

12.15 Bringing it back to basics: Listening to Children's Views and Experiences

Stephanie Holt

12.30: Panel Questions and Answers, Chair, TBC

13.00 Close

Biographies

Davina has worked on violence against women for over thirty years, as a front line service deliverer, campaigner, strategy developer, policy officer, manager, researcher, trainer and writer. Much of her work over this period has been ground breaking.

Katie has a background in criminology and public policy, as a state-wide planner, programme manager and senior policy advisor in the Victorian State Public Service in domestic violence, child and family welfare offender services. Her PhD, completed at the University of Melbourne in 2017 focused on children's experience of fathering after domestic violence.

Cathy is Professor of Social Work at University of Melbourne and co-Chair of the **Melbourne research Alliance to End Violence Against Women and Their Children (MAEVe)**. Her research in the domestic violence area has recently focused on domestic violence policy reform in Victoria, Australia; and the development of differential pathways along a continuum of pathways from child protection to community based for children living with domestic violence services.

Stephanie is an Associate Professor, Social Work, University of Dublin, Trinity College. Stephanie's research and academic interests include domestic violence, child contact, intimate partner homicide and risk assessment. She has a particular interest in ascertaining and representing the voice of the child in research.