Abstract

Child sexual abuse is a complex and highly emotive subject. This research focuses on ‘brothers’ and ‘sisters’ of child sexual abuse. The research questions revolve around the perceptions and experiences of both brothers and sisters of child sexual abuse.

The experience of these two groups of people, given their largely hidden status, has rarely been the subject of research. Yet the number of studies of families subjected to sexual abuse point to the profound impacts such abuse has been, particularly on siblings. Recent research has suggested that there is some preliminary findings from my ongoing research on the minds of family and friends of such victims of child sexual abuse. Finding differences between family contexts and current and structural interventions with key professional and services involving people involved in such cases.

Aims and Objectives/Methodology

The aims of this project are to explore the needs and support for families of child sexual abuse. The research provides the perceptions of the ‘ripple effect’ stemming from child sexual abuse and the impact such effects have on those close to the perpetrator or victims.

The project is a focus for how to conduct research involving families groupings: each subgroup, family members and siblings and the minds of the children.

The emphasis in this project is to be involved in the case - staff perceptions of the abused and effect of the abuse on primary and secondary volumes. The following questions are explored:

1. Who is affected by child abuse? (close or at risk the perpetrator?)
2. Can you have people affected? Who is the impact?
3. What are their needs? - are they met?
4. What services happen to find out?

The project further to consider the extent and adequacy of child support services.

Background Context

Criminal victimisation within families, homes and other supposedly ‘safe havens’, warrants much deeper academic attention. In the last decade, academic victimisation and sexual violence for crime has been present and fragmented. In the recent studies involving the experiences of families of victims of sex abuse and sexual violence, the perceptions and experiences of child sexual abuse being affected as a group and the minds of the children are being affected as a group, have been neglected in the study of victimisation and sexual violence. Observations in these studies have been largely elided in academic discourse (Alderman 2011). This at a time when multi-agency responses to such crime remain settled and established in practice, the feelings and emotions of those affected by such crime remains a neglected area. This is particularly evident with the multi-agency response to cases involving child abuse.

In respect of the sexual abuse of children in out-of-home or out-of-family care venues including nurseries, parents are affected. Fathers and mothers are affected, as are the non-abused siblings of those who have been abused.

There is a wealth of academic literature on the subject of child sexual abuse, mostly outside of the area of criminology and criminology, and a growing body of research on transactional abuse. While this literature is an abundance of evidence suggests that children sexual abuse does affect familial responses to abuse and their children (R敷 협 2010; Walsh 2001). Within this literature there is an abundance of evidence suggests that child sexual abuse can have adverse health consequences in adulthood. In addition, sexual abuse which has severe adverse health consequences on the direct victim/survivor (Wilson 2010; Walsh 2001). Sexual abuse can take place in a number of settings including out of home care facilities such as nurseries, day care providers, and in family members being adversely affected. As an example, linked to the work of Barnardos, 15-20 years ago in the North East of England, survivors of physical, emotional and sexual abuse in the North East of England.

The emphasis in this project is to be involved in the case - staff perceptions of who is affected and what the impact. There have been and are, projects and programs to support families, for the past there have been providing social networking with support group developing derived from feminist inspired coping. Currently the social and adequacy of known support structures has diminished.

4. What services/support is available?

It is remarkable that the research explores the complexity of determining who is affected by child sexual abuse and who non-abusers are affected. Emerging findings suggest there is some need to relate to those affected indirectly by child sexual abuse. There have been and are, projects and programs to support families, for the past there have been providing social networking with support group developing derived from feminist inspired coping. Currently the social and adequacy of known support structures has diminished.

Preliminary Findings and Analysis

There is a wealth of academic literature on the subject of child sexual abuse, mostly outside of the area of criminology and criminology, and a growing body of research on transactional abuse. While this literature is an abundance of evidence suggests that children sexual abuse does affect familial responses to abuse and their children (R敷 협 2010; Walsh 2001). Within this literature there is an abundance of evidence suggests that child sexual abuse can have adverse health consequences in adulthood. In addition, sexual abuse which has severe adverse health consequences on the direct victim/survivor (Wilson 2010; Walsh 2001). Sexual abuse can take place in a number of settings including out of home care facilities such as nurseries, day care providers, and in family members being adversely affected. As an example, linked to the work of Barnardos, 15-20 years ago in the North East of England, survivors of physical, emotional and sexual abuse in the North East of England.

The emphasis in this project is to be involved in the case - staff perceptions of who is affected and what the impact. There have been and are, projects and programs to support families, for the past there have been providing social networking with support group developing derived from feminist inspired coping. Currently the social and adequacy of known support structures has diminished.

Preliminary Conclusions

There is a wealth of academic literature on the subject of child sexual abuse, mostly outside of the area of criminology and criminology, and a growing body of research on transactional abuse. While this literature is an abundance of evidence suggests that children sexual abuse does affect familial responses to abuse and their children (R敷 협 2010; Walsh 2001). Within this literature there is an abundance of evidence suggests that child sexual abuse can have adverse health consequences in adulthood. In addition, sexual abuse which has severe adverse health consequences on the direct victim/survivor (Wilson 2010; Walsh 2001). Sexual abuse can take place in a number of settings including out of home care facilities such as nurseries, day care providers, and in family members being adversely affected. As an example, linked to the work of Barnardos, 15-20 years ago in the North East of England, survivors of physical, emotional and sexual abuse in the North East of England.

The emphasis in this project is to be involved in the case - staff perceptions of who is affected and what the impact. There have been and are, projects and programs to support families, for the past there have been providing social networking with support group developing derived from feminist inspired coping. Currently the social and adequacy of known support structures has diminished.

Select Bibliography

Barnardos 2001: Family support to survivors of sexual exploitation

Child Sexual Exploitation team members

Children and Young People’s Counsellors

Inspectors, Managers


Dr Pamela Davies

Teaching Fellow, and Programme Director for Criminology, Department of Language and Social Sciences

Author Contact Details

I would like to acknowledge the Research Board for support for this project as permitted by the British Academy. 952 2010-2011 111295

B. Pamela Davies

Pamela Davies, Dr

Teaching Fellow, and Programme Director for Criminology, Department of Language and Social Sciences

www.PosterPresentations.com