Abstract

The research findings are based on semi-structured interviews with key professionals involved in such cases. It reports on the perceptions of victims of child sexual abuse. Interviews were conducted with key professional staff working in agencies involved in such cases. It reports on the perceptions of the respondents. It is important, not least because mothers' perceptions of abuse differ in terms of their ability to support their children through the experience of the immediate and longer term. The findings report on their perceptions and the nature of support provided by non-abusive parents (Elliott and Carnes 2001, Galloway and Hogg 2008, Hooper and Humphreys 1998, Levenson and Morin 2001, Plummer and Eastin 2007).

Indirect victimisation linked to the sexual abuse of children out-of-home: The parents were similarly affected. They were often worried about how to approach their children. Many of their friends subsequently went through the same, others, however, the sexual abuse of children out-of-home caused parents of children who were not directly involved in the particular event concerned.

With regards to indirect victimisation, parents were interviewed to explore the needs of and support for families of child sexual abuse. The research objective is to explore the people involved in such cases. It reports on the nature of the abuse. Amongst the problems faced by non-abusive parents are issues of guilt, of self-blaming, and nature of the abuse. With respect to indirect victimisation linked to the sexual abuse of children out-of-home, parents and fathers were primary sufferers with men's and women's reactions showing a distinct gender difference.

Recommendations for Further Research

The preliminary findings from research on the needs of and support for families of child sexual abuse are important, not least because mothers' perceptions of abuse differ in terms of their ability to support their children through the experience of the immediate and longer term. The findings report on their perceptions and the nature of support provided by non-abusive parents (Elliott and Carnes 2001, Galloway and Hogg 2008, Hooper and Humphreys 1998, Levenson and Morin 2001, Plummer and Eastin 2007).

Indirect victimisation linked to the sexual abuse of children out-of-home: The parents were similarly affected. They were often worried about how to approach their children. Many of their friends subsequently went through the same, others, however, the sexual abuse of children out-of-home caused parents of children who were not directly involved in the particular event concerned.

Preliminary Findings and Analysis

What services/support is available?

Preliminary Findings - Who and How?

Children who are abused are usually children who are often and all too frequently abused. Men and women often they are aware of abuse and can hear about it. Often they just want their parents but because their parents are in such pieces you had that incredible barrier.

The sexual abuse of children can take place out-of-home and in the family. There is an abundance of evidence suggesting that child sexual abuse has adverse health consequences in adulthood and other lifelong effects on the direct victim/survivor (Wilson 2010; Walsh et al. 2010). Findings from this research are important, not least because mothers' perceptions of abuse differ in terms of their ability to support their children through the experience of the immediate and longer term. Parental, especially mother's perceptions about their own ability to support their child, can be a barrier, with such feelings of guilt, that this can be debilitating to the parents.

Indirect victimisation linked to the sexual abuse of children out-of-home: The parents were similarly affected. They were often worried about how to approach their children. Many of their friends subsequently went through the same, others, however, the sexual abuse of children out-of-home caused parents of children who were not directly involved in the particular event concerned.

The Lucy Faithfull Foundation - a national support service for survivors of physical, sexual and emotional abuse offers a range of support services including: a free national helpline; local support groups; men and boys; women and girls; children and young people's counsellors; personal and group therapy; case worker support; and a wide range of other services.

Preliminary Findings - Needs and Support

With regards to indirect victimisation, parents were interviewed to explore the needs of and support for families of child sexual abuse. The research objective is to explore the people involved in such cases. It reports on the nature of the abuse. Amongst the problems faced by non-abusive parents are issues of guilt, of self-blaming, and nature of the abuse. With respect to indirect victimisation linked to the sexual abuse of children out-of-home, parents and fathers were primary sufferers with men's and women's reactions showing a distinct gender difference.

Preliminary Findings - Sex Offences Referral Centres

Sexual Offences Referral Centres (SORCs) are agencies that work with children who have been sexually abused. They work with children and their families to help them understand what has happened to them, to cope with the consequences of abuse and to support their recovery. The research is funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Children's Commissioner for England.

Mandatory training includes a wider circle of 'victims' and unaffected people. Although the importance of interviewing those affected indirectly by child sexual abuse has been recognized, there are few studies that have looked at this. The research is important because it supports the idea that there are unmet needs in relation to those affected indirectly by child sexual abuse. What are their needs - are they met?

Preliminary Findings - Probation Trusts

Probation Trusts are agencies that work with adults who have committed sexual offences. They work with adults to help them understand what has happened to them, to cope with the consequences of abuse and to support their recovery. The research is funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Children's Commissioner for England.

The research includes a range of agencies that work with adults who have committed sexual offences. They work with adults to help them understand what has happened to them, to cope with the consequences of abuse and to support their recovery. The research is funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Children's Commissioner for England.

Preliminary Findings - Key Agencies Support Services/Charities

Key Agencies Support Services/Charities work with children who have been sexually abused. They work with children and their families to help them understand what has happened to them, to cope with the consequences of abuse and to support their recovery. The research is funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Children's Commissioner for England.

Indirect Victims of Child Sexual Abuse: Preliminary findings from research on the needs of and support for families of child sexual abuse

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Preliminary Conclusions

What services/support is available?

Preliminary Conclusions

What are their needs - are they met?

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