

A One-Day Conference

with speakers **Andrew Turnell** and **Peter Dale**

Working with disputed child abuse

constructive approaches to serious cases

These one-day conferences provide a unique opportunity to hear the authors of two recent books present their internationally recognised work on the assessment and treatment of cases of serious suspected child abuse where there is "denial" about the nature of the abuse that has been alleged, or the person responsible.

Who should attend:

The conference will be of primary interest to:

- Local authority social workers and managers
- Children's guardians
- Independent social workers
- Independent chairs – child protection conferences
- Family law solicitors/barristers
- Family support groups/advocates
- Health professionals involved in child protection
- Voluntary agencies involved in family support
- Social work trainers
- Independent reviewing officers
- Member agencies of Local Safeguarding Children Boards

Child Protection
Assessment Following
Serious Injuries
to Infants
Fine Judgments

Working with
'Denied' Child Abuse
The Resolutions Approach



Andrew Turnell and Susie Essex

green

NSPCC
Ready to address and end the risk of child abuse

FRIDAY 2 MARCH 2007

Newcastle

Chaired by Jane Wonnacott,
Child Care Consultant and Trainer

MONDAY 5 MARCH 2007

London

Chaired by Eileen Munro,
Reader in Social Policy,
London School of Economics



Conference organised by
In-Trac Training & Consultancy,
PO Box 74, Haslemere,
Surrey GU27 2YP

We anticipate significant interest in these conferences
Early booking is recommended

The Speakers

Situations of alleged sexual abuse, serious injuries to infants, or the exposure of children to severe domestic violence almost inevitably generate disputes between parents and professionals regarding the implications of the alleged maltreatment.

These cases are amongst the most perplexing for social work and child protection agencies to manage, and the most challenging for courts to determine the best future placements for the children and young people concerned. Specific questions arise:

- **Under what circumstances is reunification a reasonable risk to take?**
- **How can professionals build a working relationship with these families while maintaining a rigorous focus on the suspected abuse?**
- **What does a meaningful safety plan look like?**
- **What therapeutic services are appropriate when reunification is being recommended and undertaken?**
- **How can the children be involved in the process of building a safe future?**
- **Under what circumstances is reunification unlikely to be considered an acceptably safe option?**

In this conference Andrew Turnell and Dr. Peter Dale will address these questions from the basis of their separate extensive experience of undertaking assessments and therapeutic interventions with families in child protection contexts in the UK, Australia, North America and Europe.

Andrew Turnell is a social worker, family therapist and child protection consultant from Perth, Western Australia. Andrew is the co-creator of the Signs of Safety approach to child protection casework. He teaches regularly around the world and acts as an ongoing consultant to child protection systems in Australasia, Europe, Japan and North America. While the child protection field is over-organised by anxiety and failure, Andrew's work focuses on fostering, amplifying and describing constructive on-the-ground casework and systems practices that create meaningful safety for children in high-risk cases. Andrew has written extensively about safety-organised child protection practice. His most recent book, *Working With 'Denied' Child Abuse: The Resolutions Approach*, is co-authored with Susie Essex from Bristol. For more information visit: www.signsofsafety.net.

Dr. Peter Dale trained originally as a psychiatric social worker and subsequently as a counsellor. He worked in child and family psychiatric services before joining the NSPCC in 1980, where he was a practitioner, services manager and Senior Research Officer until 2002. His PhD research was a qualitative study focused on therapeutic experiences of adults who were abused as children. More recent research has focused on assessment and child protection case management of cases where there are serious injuries to infants with absent or disputed explanations, and family perceptions of the child protection process. An established researcher and author, Peter Dale now acts as an independent social work expert witness – specialising in cases where there are serious suspicious injuries to infants. He is an individual member of the Expert Witness Institute and principal author of the book *Child Protection Assessment Following Serious Injuries to Infants: Fine Judgements* (2005). For further information visit: www.peterdale.co.uk.

Chairpersons

Jane Wonnacott

Freelance Trainer and Consultant

Chairperson for Newcastle conference

Jane Wonnacott is a social worker who has many years' experience in child care training and practice. As an independent trainer and consultant, she has worked with a large number of statutory and voluntary agencies and health professionals. She has undertaken serious case reviews and other independent investigations into practice and, as a result, is particularly interested in how we can learn lessons from tragedies and improve the way we safeguard children.

Jane's other main areas of interest are the protection of disabled children from abuse, and the management and supervision of child care work. In 2004, she received an MPhil for her research, *The Impact of Supervision on Child Protection Practice – a Study of Process and Outcome*.

Dr. Eileen Munro

Lecturer in Social Policy in the Department of Social Policy at the London School of Economics.

Chairperson for London conference

Dr Eileen Munro is a Reader in Social Policy at the London School of Economics, London. Originally she was a social worker who started a teaching and research career at the LSE. Her research interest is in the reasoning skills of social workers, with a particular focus on child protection work. Lately, her focus has turned to the organisational and systemic factors that help or hinder good reasoning by frontline workers. Recent publications and articles include *Effective Child Protection* (Sage Publications) and *What tools do we need to improve identification of child abuse?* (Child Abuse Review 2005).

Programme for Newcastle and London

9.00 Registration & coffee

9.30 Chairperson's introduction

Jane Wonnacott, Newcastle
Eileen Munro, London

9.45 Andrew Turnell (1)

Overview of Resolutions approach –
focusing on engaging all family members
and involving the children

11.00 Coffee

11.30 Peter Dale (1)

Serious suspicious injuries to infants:
child protection assessment challenges

12.45 Lunch

1.45 Andrew Turnell (2)

Building meaningful safety plans in
situations of disputed child abuse

3.00 Tea

3.15 Peter Dale (2)

Serious suspicious injuries to infants:
child protection assessment outcomes

4.30 Plenary

(Q & A with Andrew and Peter)

**To book a place on this
conference, please complete and
return the booking form overleaf**

Working with disputed child abuse – constructive approaches to serious cases

BOOKING FORM

Full Name (caps, please).....

Title Position

Organisation

Address

Postcode.....

Tel Fax

e-mail
(please write clearly in ink)

Any particular requirements (access, loop system, dietary, etc.)

RATES: NEWCASTLE: The conference costs £150.00 + £26.25 VAT
(TOTAL: £176.25) per place

LONDON: The conference costs £200.00 + £35.00 VAT
(TOTAL: £235.00) per place

(to include all refreshments and training materials)

CHOICE OF VENUE (please tick) Newcastle London

Places for these conferences are limited and early booking is advised.

1. I enclose a cheque payable to In-Trac for: £

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Andrew Turnell and Susie Essex

Terms and Conditions of Booking

ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE THE CONFERENCE TAKES PLACE.

Cheques should be made payable to: In-Trac and sent to In-Trac Training and Consultancy, P.O. Box 74, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2YP. If payment is not received prior to the conference date, there will be an additional administrative charge of £50.00 per delegate.

Data Protection: The information you provide on this booking form will be held on a database to process the confirmation of your place and so that we can keep you up to date with relevant conference and training events provided by us. We do not pass your details on to any other external companies for marketing purposes.

Programme Changes: The organisers reserve the right to change the venue, programme and/or speakers.

Please note: We cannot be held liable for delegates being unable to attend due to disruption of transport or strike action.

Cancellation Fees: Refunds of payments will only be made if notification is received ONE CALENDAR MONTH before the conference takes place. We will not be able to refund payments if cancellation is notified after that date. However, participants are welcome to send substitutes provided that they notify us of these changes to allow us to provide for any dietary, access or information needs.

Please indicate how you found out about this event:

Direct Mail Insert in publication

Advert Internet Other

Please complete and return this form to: In-Trac Training and Consultancy, P.O. Box 74, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2YP
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