

# Child Internet Abuse and Internet Safety courses and workshops

One-day training course for professionals:  
**Wednesday 16th June 2010, Central London**

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 is used by online sex offenders and how to best identify young victims' vulnerabilities for preventative messages. The course will consist of two separate sessions, with several group workshops and discussions throughout the day.

**Part 1: How Social Networking Sites are Exploited by Child Sex Offenders to Abuse Children - Lessons for Successful Prevention**, led by Jon Taylor MSc. Jon's background is in Law Enforcement. He has worked for 10 years within the field of online and offline child abuse, dealing with victims and offenders. Jon has proactively worked online for the past 5 years, this has assisted his Masters research into how chat facilities, social networking sites, instant messaging and file sharing systems are used by online sex offenders. His part of the course will enable those attending to discover how the internet is used by victims as well as online sex offenders, and will assist in the interview process of both victim and offender. It will also assist in the understanding of how to protect and advise victims, by understanding the virtual online communities. (This course does not include hi-tech techniques.)

**Part 2: Child Internet Abuse - the Victim Perspective - Lessons for Social Care and Safeguarding services**, led by Tink Palmer. Tink has been in social work for the past 25 years, specialising in the issues of child online sexual abuse. Her part of the training will focus on the issues of child internet abuse from the victim's perspective. This will include ways in which children are harmed and abused via the internet and mobile phone technology and implications of different types of abuse for the child victim and the community. Tink will also outline less well known issues of online child-to-child abuse and bullying and influence of the internet on the socialisation process and children's behaviour; comparing children's vulnerability online and offline.

At the end of the course students will have gained:

- an insight into how social networking sites are used by children and young people, including their increased online risk-taking behaviour and vulnerabilities
- knowledge of online environments including chat facilities, social networking sites, and instant messaging systems
- a clear understanding of how online sex offenders use the internet to source, groom and target children
- understanding the link between non-contact offenders and contact offenders and familiarity with the new concept of 'virtual abuse'
- knowledge of file sharing systems, peer to peer networks, and software available to law enforcement agencies
- understanding of the need to focus awareness and prevention programmes and ensure that the right message reaches vulnerable groups, as well as the implications for the police, children's services and counsellors and therapists, for example in what ways do investigation, safeguarding, assessment of need (both the child's and the carers'), and the Intervention programmes need to change to address the impact of these new forms of abuse.

Location: 11 Bedford Square, London, WC1. Duration: 10am-4.30pm.

Fee £180 including lunch and refreshments. Discounted rate of £165 available for block bookings (5 or more) per organisation.

For further details or to book a place on this course visit [www.cats-rp.org.uk/training.htm](http://www.cats-rp.org.uk/training.htm) or email [CATS@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:CATS@rhul.ac.uk)

*Please note that the course is subject to a minimum number of bookings—should that number not be reached we reserve the right to cancel the course, in which case a full refund will be issued. Alternatively you will be offered a transfer of your existing booking onto a future course.*

In addition to generic one-day open-booking courses, CATS also offers courses and workshops that are tailor-made to specific requirements of organisation or agency. All courses and workshops are run by experts with extensive experience in the field of child protection and internet policing.

For more information or to talk to us about arranging in-house training contact [CATS@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:CATS@rhul.ac.uk)

## Centre for Abuse and Trauma Studies *Research, Practice, Training & Knowledge Exchange*

A new centre for research, practice and training, focussed on issues of abuse and trauma, jointly run by Royal Holloway University of London, and Kingston University. The Centre is directed by Prof Bifulco (RHUL – the Lifespan Research Group) and Prof Davidson (KU). The scope of the Centre is to draw on research expertise, teaching and knowledge exchange on both sites to further the understanding, treatment and policy implications of abuse and trauma and its consequences.

CATS provides research, consultancy, media information, practice training, continuing professional development, knowledge transfer and learning in a broad range of abuse and trauma related topics across the lifespan. This includes both the victim and perpetrator perspective, in arenas such as child and family abuse, with children, adolescents, adults and in older age, around bullying and victimisation, offender

profiles and treatment, internet abuse and internet safety. It also involves an inter-disciplinary focus on forensic science and criminology, social and clinical psychology and psychiatry, social work, legal perspectives and government policy. The centre aims to disseminate such knowledge in the scientific, policy, public and community domains.

[www.cats-rp.org.uk](http://www.cats-rp.org.uk)

