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Newsletter design:
Natasa Blagojevic-Stokic

Editorial

The big news for CATS this year is the move of the Lifespan team to Kingston University in January this year. We were delighted that Kingston was able to provide a home for us, to enable the two different halves of CATS to come together on one site. The move itself was very smooth and we are now well settled in our new home on the Penrhyn Road campus. Our work has continued unaffected by the upheaval. We are happy to continue with our projects with St Christopher's Fellowship and Guy's & St Thomas' Trust as well as adding the Royal Borough of Kingston Safeguarding Services as a newly funded continuation project. Also our EC Safer Internet Project on Online grooming is progressing well, headed by NatCen and with partners in Norway, Belgium and Italy and due to end in December 2011. We are hoping to extend this work in an exploration of the link between online and offline child sexual abuse with a US partner. We will know the outcome of our funding bid to the US Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, supported by the US Dept of Justice, this summer. We have also applied for EC Safer Internet funding to develop training packages in this area for social workers and hope to hear the outcome in August. We are still working on our Metropolitan Police study of investigative practices with young victims of sexual abuse to conclude in March 2012. We are working on a project for the United Nations developing an Internet safety toolkit for developing nations, focusing on legal structures and safety practice. The first stage of this project will be completed in summer 2011.

International travel to conferences and collaborative seminars has been busy as always including a seminar presentation from Toni Bifulco at University of Heidelberg on adolescent attachment and disorder. We are glad to report that the validation of the CECA in German is now published by this group. This parallels the Italian validation, also published this year. Toni presented at the ESTSS conference in Vienna on the CECA with contributions from our German and Italian colleagues. Presentations have been given in Canada and Rome in the Internet safety and online offender behaviour area of our work. We have forthcoming presentations in Romania, Vilnius and Warsaw in September and will be providing a key note speech on offender behaviour at the annual Internet Watch Foundation conference in London. Closer to home CATS leaders all presented on issues of narrative approaches to abuse and trauma at the Kingston University Life History and Human Rights Conference. CATS also organised two 'sandpit events' funded by the KU enterprise fund to increase research opportunities between academics and practitioners around Cybercrime and Security and Community Cohesion. These events went well and we hope will lead to further research collaborations.

Our growing collaborations and expertise in online offending behaviour continues to inform international practice. We were recently invited to join an Expert Roundtable with the US Sentencing Commission in Washington to provide advice on US sentencing frameworks for online child pornography offenders. Our training programme is increasing and in addition to our well-established ASI, CECA and PRI courses, we are now able to offer Solicitors Regulatory Authority (SRA)- accredited CPD courses with a legal focus on a range of topics, currently being developed by our Barrister and new Director of Legal Studies Christopher Hamerton, and due to start running this Autumn.

We have welcomed several visiting research fellows this year from Malaysia and Italy, and seek to welcome a Romanian visitor researcher in September. This aids our active collaborations abroad and helps build an active research culture within the Centre. Our publications are also growing with three books published, in press or in preparation around criminology and attachment topics—see page 5 for details.

Another development is the Kingston Institute for Social Sciences (KISS), to be formally launched this autumn and which Toni Bifulco will be directing. Its aim is to develop and highlight social science within the University and outside it and to develop research, postgraduate training and knowledge exchange all focused on the social sciences. We will be arranging events throughout the next academic year and look forward to developing CATS further within this university structure.

We wish everyone a good summer,

Toni Bifulco and Julia Davidson

The United Nations Internet Safety Toolkit development (Julia Davidson)

The Information Technology Unit (ITU) of the UN have asked CATS to develop a global toolkit to enable developing nations to set up child internet safety legislation, regulation and awareness practice. Prof Davidson will be working on the project with a colleague called Karl Hopwood who works for INSAFE (EC funded organisation that runs Internet safety training across the EU). The first draft will be completed by the end of July 2011 and this will be followed by UN workshops with representatives from developing nations where the toolkit will be presented and CATS will work with countries to enable them to consider how they might implement frameworks in their own context. The first high level workshop will include reps from the Arab world and will be hosted by Oman in September 2011. The toolkit will be based upon CATS research on Internet safety with young people and offenders, and other research and upon UN online child protection policy <http://www.itu.int/osg/csd/cybersecurity/gca/cop/>.



UN Internet Safety Toolkit

EU Online grooming project (Julia Davidson, Antonia Bifulco, Julie-Grove-Hills)

The Online Grooming project is now entering its last 6 month phase where the partners have conducted focus groups with school children in order to establish their understanding of risks online. This is prior to the final task of holding dissemination workshops for teachers and parents in each of the partner sites (UK, Norway, Belgium and Italy). The school children focus groups will provide invaluable insights into when, why and how young people go online, particularly their use of social networking sites. The reporting of these practices together with the findings from the groomer offender interviews will provide the basis for the workshops in the Autumn. The aim of these workshops is to identify and discuss the best ways to keep young people safe online.

In February the lead partner NatCen organised a launch of the project at the British Academy. It was attended by policy makers, professionals in police, prison services, psychological services and the computer industry. Findings were presented from the online groomer offender interviews. This showed three different types of offender (distorted attachment offender, adaptable online groomer, and the hyper-sexualised offender) as well as victims (vulnerable, risk-taking) but also those that are resilient to online approaches.

The EC Internet Grooming project will conclude in December 2011. A submission has been made for funding to the Commission for a programme of training social workers and other professionals on aiding children with cyberharm experience (called Cybertrain). This would bring together partners from Italy and Romania as well as our UK partnership with NatCen. Gamelab (LMU) would provide DVDs to aid in creating resilience in vulnerable children against cyber harm such as cyber bullying and online grooming.

The US Sentencing Commission Expert Project

Prof Davidson is working with the US Sentencing Commission to enable development and enhancement of advice provided to sentencers in the US regarding the sentencing of Internet offenders. The first Expert Roundtable will be held in Washington DC in July 2011.

The Metropolitan Police Project Young Victims Study

This project started with a scoping of police practice in interviewing young alleged victims of sexual abuse and in its last phase will involve interviews with other stakeholders including organisations working with child victims. We have Jenny Chan who is a Kingston Masters student as well as Julie Grove-Hills helping with the project.



Evaluation of the Youth Violence Prevention Programme at St. Thomas'

Since the last update, much has progressed on the evaluation of the Youth Violence Prevention Programme at St. Thomas' A&E department, funded by Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust. The programme is now in full swing, having completed over one year of its 3-year duration. The programme aims to contribute to the reduction of harm resulting from youth violence. This is achieved through the placement of a Youth Worker in the A&E department, who meets with young people attending the department as a result of violent incidents, and pending on their need, carries out one-to-one work with them or refers them on to community services. The premise of the project is that by engaging them in positive activities and developing their personal and social abilities, this

EU Online Grooming

Guy's and St Thomas'  will help to reduce their risk of recurrent involvement in violence.
NHS Foundation Trust

In terms of the goals of the evaluation, we have completed quite a number of them, including: a focus group with young people of similar background to those who are receiving the intervention discussing the difficulties faced by youth and how best the intervention can engage them; a questionnaire for A&E staff enquiring about their awareness of the service and interest in further training; and interviews with steering group members to identify the challenges and achievements of the project to date. Other work carried out includes careful selection of questionnaires to measure risk in the young people, and planning the follow up methods. We have also presented a poster on the project at the King's Health Partnership Paediatric Research Showcase that took place on 17th June, as part of the dissemination effort.

The next period of work is undoubtedly going to be an exciting one, as we collect the 3 month follow-up data of young people who have been through the intervention, with the additional aim of interviewing a selection of them. We look forward to continued successful joint working with our colleagues at St. Thomas', Oasis and Lambeth & Southwark PCTs and to gaining a greater understanding of the effect of violence on young people lives.

For more information contact Y.Ilan-Clarke@kingston.ac.uk.

Royal Borough of Kingston Child Services



This summer Lifespan Research Group has started a new project to research the effectiveness of a standardised interview method designed by the team (the Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse or CECA) for social workers working with Children and Families at the Royal Borough of Kingston (RBK) Safeguarding services. The project follows a successful 6-month pilot undertaken in 2010 which involved training 8 social workers in the CECA method and analysed 10 ongoing cases in terms of CECA criteria. These were shown to have improved chronologies for court reports, clearer awareness of thresholds of maltreatment for children in need and more rigorous assessment of neglect and emotional abuse in particular.¹

The training and use of the measure was positively endorsed by the social workers involved, and favourably received by their manager. The new project seeks to build on the original learning and extend this to other team members, including supervisors and managers in order to mainstream the tools as aids to assessment in child and family social work in the borough. Six workshops are currently being set-up for practitioners from child protection, safeguarding and Looked After services. These will include topics on Neglect, Physical Abuse, Psychological Abuse, and Creating Chronologies as well as the Parental Role Interview training.

For more contact LifespanTraining@kingston.ac.uk

¹Final report to The 'Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse Interview' for Child Safeguarding practitioners: An evaluation in Kingston Safeguarding Services. Bifulco & Jacobs, August 2010.

Child ASI Development



Over the last few months continued development of the Child ASI has occurred. The need for a child attachment measure for 8-12 year olds has been highlighted in both research and social care practice and has been requested by many of our trainees in the adult ASI.

The first stage of this development in 2010 (funded by St Christopher's Fellowship) involved developing both a self-report powerpoint presentation where attachment styles are represented by different animal cartoons, as well as a one-to-one interview asking about close relationships, friendships and attitudes towards getting close. With the help of Merton Abbey Primary School (2010), the powerpoint was presented to a class of 9 year olds, with later interviews being undertaken. Data on 20 children was collected.

The second stage of this development in 2011 has involved modifying the questionnaire based on feedback and experience and developing a set of benchmark rating examples to help people rate interviews. We are also utilizing the measure for Looked After Children on the Isle of Man. Here practitioners are using the measure with children in care in order to inform practice and for research development. Further development is currently being undertaken by clinical psychology student from RHUL, Sophie West with the help of the Lifespan team. This will involve up to 161 participants from Hampton Hill Junior School (years 5 and 6) completing the questionnaire and a selection being interviewed (June/July). The results of all of these interviews will be produced in a report and lead to the next step in validating the Child ASI.

ASI in Residential Care—St Christopher's Fellowship

ST CHRISTOPHER'S
CREATING BRIGHTER
FUTURES

Our partnership with St Christopher's Fellowship continues, and on the basis of successful pilot work we are now undertaking action research into the mainstreaming of attachment concepts and assessments for young people in residential care. We have trained 6 care workers in the Adolescent Attachment Style Interview and undertaken workshops in two residential care homes in Camden and Islington. The care staff will now provide the attachment assessments and reports for the team and other professionals once the young person is taken into care and then look at change 3-monthly. The intervention is a Programme for Behavioural Management based on social learning principles.

In addition, together with SCF we are developing the Q packs—questionnaire assessments of vulnerability, life events and disorder which will allow for a quicker assessment of outcomes of care. This includes the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (Goodman et al); the Vulnerable Attachment Style Questionnaire and life events check lists taken from the child and adolescent ASI.

These were outlined in a workshop with professionals and commissioners on the Isle of Man on 7th July. This was well received with a good deal of interest generated in the Q packs potentially for use with other services on the Island.

For more information contact LifespanTraining@kingston.ac.uk

CONFERENCES

CATS presentation at European Conference for Trauma Studies, University of Vienna,



The CATS centre was represented at the European Conference for Trauma Studies in Vienna in June. In a symposium headed by Dr Vittoria Ardino (London Metropolitan University) and Prof Antonia Bifulco (Kingston University). The title was Assessment of complex childhood trauma and disorder outcomes: use of the Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse (CECA) measure, with presentations from Prof Romauld Brunner of Heidelberg University, Germany and Prof Adriano Schimmenti of Kore University, Enna, Sicily. The symposium was very well received with a lot of questions and interest in the CECA methodology for use in different European samples to investigate childhood neglect and abuse. The presentations can be downloaded from [CATS website—Media and News section](#).

Life History and Human Rights Conference: Genres of testimony 11 July Kingston University

All three CATS leaders presented at their symposium to explore narrative in relation to abuse and trauma in assessments or testimony. Toni Bifulco spoke about 'Lifespan experience of abuse and trauma in the community'. Julia Davidson presented: 'Abuse in sex offenders' early lives: exploring early narratives' and Christopher Hamerton presented on 'Abuse trauma and the modern battlefield—studies on service personnel: The symposium was chaired by Prof Paul Brown of South Bank University. The presentations were well received and generated interesting discussion.



The presentations can be accessed on Media and News page of [CATS website](#).

CATS Sandpit Events

CATS has hosted two research events during June, which were funded by the KU Enterprise Fund. The aim of these events was to address central, current policy issues, exploring where key research is needed to enhance understanding and inform policy and practice. Representatives from universities, public and private sector organisations playing a central role were invited on the basis of their knowledge and experience in the area. Each event allowed time for sub-groups to prepare a proposal for a joint project, and a plan of action. The events culminated in the preparation of collaborative outline research projects. The selected themes were *Community Cohesion* and *Cybercrime and Security*.

Sandwell Safeguarding Children Board - one day conference: Neglect as a result of compromised parenting, March 2011



March 2011: This one day conference had Neglect as its main focus, in relation to safeguarding children. Many social workers find neglect one of the hardest experiences to evidence in their chronologies and court reports, despite neglect having pernicious effects on child development and disorder. The conference was therefore aimed at increasing awareness and knowledge of neglect amongst social workers in child safeguarding and protection services in Sandwell.

After a welcome by Nicky Pace, Chair of SSCB Operational Board and interim Director of Children's Social Care, Prof Toni Bifulco was invited to give the first address, and presented on: Understanding neglect in childhood for social care - definitions and impacts. In this she sought to provide operational definitions of neglect as used in research, but highly relevant to practice. Other speakers included Vivienne Evans, OBE, who spoke on Families for Adfam organisation for substance abuse; and Janine Brown and Carole McCauley commissioning managers on Introducing Joint Protocols. Workshops included impact of parental mental health, domestic violence and substance abuse on children and young people, as well as early intervention and child protection planning in relation to neglect. Toni Bifulco is now in discussion with Sandwell Safeguarding to provide a workshop on Neglect to help social worker assessments. The presentation can be downloaded from [CATS website—Media and News section](#).

Forthcoming conferences

Kingston University: Looked After Children—Who cares

8th October 2011. Kingston Hill campus, organised by Institute for Child Centred Practice. Presenters include Prof Antonia Bifulco—*Attachment principles in a social learning intervention in residential care with adolescents*, and Geraldine Thomas.

International Society of Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychology (SAPP)

Berlin, 14-18 September 2011: A Symposium on the adolescent ASI is planned headed by Prof Bifulco, with contributions from Yael Ilan-Clarke, Lisa Gabbarelli and Stefano Ciulla with Prof Caretti.

International Conference of Applied Psychology

Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iasi, Romania. September 22-24. Prof Bifulco is presenting on risks to young people from online grooming for sexual abuse.

Online Grooming - offenders and victims

24-26 November Rome, organised by the Italian Society of Psychiatry

Safer Internet 5th International Conference: Keeping Young People Safe Online

Warsaw, 20-21 September 2011. Prof Davidson—keynote presentation: '*Online offending behaviour and protecting children online*'.

European Society of Criminology Conference

Vilnius 22-24th September 2011. Prof Davidson: '*Vulnerable young people online: Findings from the European Online Grooming Project*'.

Internet Watch Foundation Annual Conference

London 27th September 2011 - Plenary. Prof Davidson: '*Understanding Online Offending Behaviour*'.

Publications

Books:

Davidson J and Hamerton C *International Perspectives on Child Victimisation*. Routledge (forthcoming, 2011) <http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415579575/>

Bifulco A and Thomas G 'Understanding adult attachment in family relationships: Assessment and Intervention' (in preparation, due to be completed in November 2011)

Articles:

Davidson J & Gottschalk P (2011) *Characteristics of the Internet for Criminal Child Sexual Abuse by Online Groomers*. Critical Journal of Crime, Law and Society. Vol 24, 1, 2011. Routledge.

Bifulco A (in press) *Problem partners and parenting: An attachment perspective on intergenerational transmission of risk to adolescents*. Proceeds of conference on Sexuality and Attachment, Munich November 2010.

Conde A, Figueirido B & Bifulco A (2011) *Attachment style and psychological adjustment in couples*. Attachment & Human Development, 13: 271-291

Abdul Kadir NB & Bifulco A (in press) *Vulnerability, life events and depression among Moslem Malaysian women – comparing those married and those divorced or separated*. (Social Psychiatry & Psychiatric Epidemiology)

Abdul Kadir NB & Bifulco A (in press) *Malaysian Moslem Mothers experience of depression and service-use*. (Culture, Medicine & Psychiatry).

Article on grooming study in Kingston Magazine <http://www.e-pages.dk/kingstonreview/4/>

CATS / Lifespan training courses and materials

www.attachmentstyleinterview.com

www.cecainterview.com



Attachment Style Interview for Child Care Services (ASI-AF/CC)



Our courses run by our partners Child and Family Training continue to be popular and utilised by adoption, fostering and increasingly child Safeguarding teams. We have a team of trainers who undertake this work and are currently training trainers to add to our growing team. We receive very good feedback from social workers and others attending the course and are keen to continue to extend the use of this assessment tool in order to provide more reliable and evidence-based approaches to children in care. Please contact [Child and Family Training](#) for details of ongoing courses.

Attachment Style Interview for Psychologists (ASI-RCP)

Lifespan also runs two ASI courses per year for Psychologists—practitioners and researchers in to use of the ASI in clinical practice and children's services as well as forensic services. We advertise this in the British Psychological Society magazine, The Psychologist.



We are keen for the ASI to be used in a range of services. To date it has been used in prenatal services; adult clinical services and in forensic services. Insecure attachment style is confirmed as a risk factor for a range of mental health outcomes and is therefore a very useful tool for psychologists.

Our next course is 2,3,4 November and 1 December 2011, Central London. Cost £550

Parenting Role Interview (PRI)



Given the success of our pilot courses, we are now rolling out the PRI training for social workers and psychologists working with children and families. The measure comprises a 45 minute interview which questions parents about their view of child difficulties, their interaction with their children and their perceived competence or incompetence in the parenting role. From this information it is possible to reliably derive an estimate of parenting competence and incompetence as well as understanding the parents view of their role. It can be used most effectively along with the ASI, but can also be used on its own. The training is two days—the first to establish understanding and reliable scoring of the interview and the second day to finalise a pilot interview and receive feedback.

PRI training for social workers—contact [Child and Family Training](#).

PRI for Psychologists & related professions—**12 October and 9th November—Central London.**
Cost £275

The Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse (CECA)



Training course are now available in two-formats: 2-day courses for the full measure to be used by researchers, clinicians or forensic psychologists who want a full lifetime chronology from adolescents or adults in mental health or prison services. It also exists as one day workshops for social workers on the topics of Neglect, Physical Abuse and Psychological Abuse. These utilise the CECA framework for establishing ongoing severity and timing of abuse in relation to child protection and safeguarding services and aid with constructing chronologies.

CECA 2 day training will take place in September in Central London Cost £275.

Please contact lifespantraining@kingston.ac.uk for details on that course or to arrange tailor-made training for social workers.

Electronic Attachment Style Interview pack

Due to numerous requests Lifespan are very pleased to now be able to offer a high quality electronic version of the Attachment Style Interview (ASI) pack for social care teams trained in the assessment tool. In response to practitioner demand, Lifespan have developed the pack utilising the latest PDF technology for convenience of use, for data sharing, and to fulfil agency demands for electronic storage of evidence-based assessment records.

The PDF Acrobat format document enables the Electronic ASI to be shared amongst members of an organisation and can be re-used an indefinite number of times throughout its licence period. It is very simple to use, with clear distinction between standard questions and scoring instructions which are fixed, and fill-able fields for notes, rating justifications, verbatim ratings and scores.

The advantages of the new Electronic ASI Interview Pack include:

- Convenient and easy use with time and paper savings
- Clearer presentation of word-processed inform
- Sophisticated presentation to keep formatting intact if printed out
- Simple to save and reuse in its digital format
- Can be used a countless number of times
- Easy to store in compact format for service records
- Easy to share electronically with colleagues and agencies

For further information contact LifespanTraining@kingston.ac.uk





Legal Training

CATS Legal studies and CPD training

The development of the Centre for Abuse and Trauma Studies continues apace with the creation of a specialist legal studies and research division. The division is headed up by Christopher Hamerton as Director of Legal Studies; a barrister and senior academic criminologist at Kingston University. Christopher said *"I'm pleased to say that I've been involved with CATS since the outset and have seen the Centre go from strength to strength. Legal training in discrete areas and socio-legal research provide additional strings to our bow, and the aim is to complement our existing specialisms and explore new legal perspectives"*. In terms of professional training the Centre will be offering a wide range of Solicitors Regulation Authority accredited CPD courses aimed at the legal professions and professionals requiring specialised legal training with social awareness. The key practice areas covered includes: charity law, child law, civil liberties & human rights, criminal litigation, data protection & IT law, elderly client practice, evidence (including best evidence and witness handling), family law, fraud & money laundering, mental health law, vulnerable client practice, and welfare law. Similarly, legal research undertaken at CATS will also have a socio-legal focus and seek to explore the interaction between law, legal processes, legal institutions and the social sciences. This research aims to compliment and support the core subject areas of the Centre - Abuse, Trauma and Risk - by considering the effect, impact, and consequences of legitimacy, legislation and legal intervention (social policy) on society. Christopher Hamerton stated *"it's a very exciting place to be. The Centre provides a unique environment for socio-legal study, and prospective students and research partners are able to draw on director, researcher, and advisory group network expertise in incredibly diverse fields. This diversity provides the rare opportunity for socio-legal research in its truest sense"*.

For further information on legal training and research at CATS please contact Christopher Hamerton,

Director of Legal Studies at: c.hamerton@kingston.ac.uk.

Upcoming CATS CPD legal training—Autumn 2011

Course title	On-line Behaviour, Off-line Consequences
Date	Tuesday 11 October 2011
Times	10am-3pm
Trainer	Jonathan Tailor MSc
Level	Intermediate
CPD points	4 CPD points
Location	Central London
Course fee	£290 per person
Fee discounts	£260 per person for group bookings of 5 or more £240 per person for group bookings of 10 or more
Course description	Research has shown that 1:4 children are sexually exploited whilst on the internet. This one-day course will describe how online interaction or grooming can facilitate offline offending, by explaining and exploring offender online behaviour and the context in which abuse occurs. The course is led by an ex undercover police officer who has worked extensively with online sex offenders. It has been designed for legal professional who need to familiarise themselves with current legislation around issues of online predatory behaviour and offending, in order to best inform their work in legal practice.
Course booking	For enquiries or to reserve a place contact CATS@kingston.ac.uk



Legal Training

Course title	Internet Abuse of Children - legal and emotional consequences
<i>Date and location</i>	Tuesday 18 October 2011 (10am-4.30pm). Central London
<i>Trainer</i>	Tink Palmer
<i>Level</i>	Intermediate
<i>CPD points</i>	5 CPD points
<i>Course fee</i>	£290 per person (<i>discounts apply—see previous</i>)

Course title	Pre-trial Therapy for Children—putting guidelines into context
<i>Date and location</i>	Tuesday 1 November 2011 (10am-4.30pm). Central London
<i>Trainer</i>	Tink Palmer
<i>Level</i>	Intermediate
<i>CPD points</i>	5 CPD points
<i>Course fee</i>	£290 per person (<i>discounts apply—see previous</i>)

Course title	An Introduction to Children and the Law
<i>Date and location</i>	<i>tbc</i>
<i>Trainer</i>	Christopher Hamerton
<i>Level</i>	Introductory
<i>CPD points</i>	6 CPD points
	A course aimed at professionals seeking an introduction to Children and the Law in England and Wales. This course covers both the private and public law contexts and includes sections on implications of the Children Act, Parental Responsibility, Section 8 Orders, Applications for Leave, Enforcement, Case Management, Care, Contact, Harm, Protection, Supervision, Emergency Orders, and Public Funding. This course would be suitable for legal executives and trainee solicitors, pupil barristers as well as more experienced lawyers looking to branch out into child law.
<i>Course fee</i>	£290 per person (<i>discounts apply—see previous</i>)

Course title	Mental Health Act 2007
<i>Date and location</i>	<i>tbc</i>
<i>Trainer</i>	Nicola Dillon
<i>Level</i>	Intermediate
<i>CPD points</i>	<i>tbc</i>
<i>Course fee</i>	£290 per person (<i>discounts apply—see previous</i>)

For enquiries or to book a place on our legal courses please contact CATS@kingston.ac.uk



Attachment Style Interview in Sweden

Dr Karn Lunden describes her work with the ASI: 'In Sweden as in other countries there is an ambition to be as evidence based as possible in health and social work. Especially in the field of child abuse and neglect there are few good research-based instruments available. Our knowledge nowadays about the correlation between attachment in parents, adoptive- and foster parents and children's health and development highlight the need for an interview such as Attachment Style Interview. One important aspect of the ASI is that it can be used in both research and practice. The ASI has been translated and adapted to Swedish circumstances by myself at the University of Goteborg together with Kerstin Frygner, licensed psychologist specialized in clinical psychology and education.

The Swedish version of ASI is used in a number of contexts, mainly assessments. The ultimate goal is to ensure a healthy development of children and families. A step in this direction is to use the ASI as core part of assessments. Currently the interview is used in a number of developing projects: as a part of the prospective and current adoption and fostering placements, and in projects directed towards children and families in Child Protection. By now about 160 ASI interviews have been conducted, half of them as part of Child Protection assessments, and substantial experience has been gained throughout. The interest in ASI among practitioners is huge and we are looking forward to start training in a near future. It should also be mentioned that VASQ is translated and adapted into Swedish.'

karinlunden@comhem.se ; Karin.Lunden@socwork.gu.se; Kerstin.Frygner@telia.com

Attachment Style Interview in Japan

The ASI was first translated and validated in Japan by Prof Keiko Yoshida in collaboration with an EC funded perinatal study to harmonise measures used on perinatal psychiatric services. Training courses are now being held in Japan both in Kyushu university by Prof Keiko Yoshida and Dr Junko Kihara for use in perinatal services and by researchers. It is also being used on adolescent clinical groups by Prof Momoko Hayashi in the University of Rikkyo in Tokyo. We were pleased to meet up with Prof Keiko and Dr Kihara on their visit to Kingston in the summer. Prof Keiko was visiting to attend the conference at the Institute of Psychiatry 'Perinatal Psychiatry in the 21st Century: the legacy of Channi Kumar'. It was Prof Kumar who championed the use of the ASI in his EC study of harmonizing of measures in prenatal psychiatry and through whom the measure was extended to colleagues across Europe as well as in Japan. This has led to the ASI being translated in different languages. We have fond memories of Prof Kumar and appreciate his lasting impact on perinatal research and treatment. We are pleased to have such an extensive reach with this measure and Toni Bifulco looks forward to going to Japan next year to open new training courses.

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The CECA in Italy

Researchers at the University of Palermo, and Kore University have validated the CECA in Italian and produced a paper showing its good psychometric properties and reliability and validity in community samples. This has been part of a very productive collaboration with Prof Caretti, Dr Adriano Schimmenti, Prof Giannone and their colleagues. This has led to a number of publications on the CECA and on a variety of research applications. Dr Schimmenti prepared a presentation at the ESTSS conference in Vienna on use of the CECA in Italy.

Contact Vincenzo Caretti vincenzocaretti@tiscali.it and Adriano Schimmenti adriano.schimmenti@libero.it
Gianonne F, Schimmenti A, Caretti V, Chiarenza A, Ferraro A, Guarino S, Guarnaccia C, Lucarrelli L, Mancuso L, Mule A, Petrocchi M, Peuri D, Ragonese N & Bifulco A. (2011) *Validita attendibilita e proprieta psicometriche della versione Italiana dell'intervista CECA* (Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse). *Psichiatria e Psicoterapia*,30: 3-21

Schimmenti A., Bifulco A. (in press). *Le esperienze di maltrattamento vissute dai fratelli: tra ambiente condiviso e non condiviso*. In Schimmenti V., *Oltre la madre: relazioni familiari e sviluppo del bambino*. Milano: Franco Angeli.

The CECA and ASI in University of Heidelberg

Prof Romuald Brunner and Dr Micheal Kaess have translated and validated the CECA in German, on populations of adolescent psychiatric patients, comparing those with and without self-harm. Their paper on this study has now been published. This is proving a productive collaboration, with Toni Bifulco going to Heidelberg this year to present a seminar on both CECA and ASI in our London adolescent studies. We were also pleased to meet Prof Corinna Reck who is using the ASI in a large perinatal study in Heidelberg.

Romuald.Brunner@med.uni-heidelberg.de and Michael.Kaess@med.uni-heidelberg.de

Kaess, M, Parzer, P., Mattern, M, Resch, F., Bifulco, A., Brunner, R (in press) *Childhood Experiences of Care and Abuse" (CECA) – Validierung der deutschen Version des Fragebogens sowie des korrespondierenden Interviews zur Erhebung belastender Kindheitserlebnisse im familiären Rahmen*.



Visiting Research Fellows

CATS and Lifespan have undertaken to host visiting research fellows from our collaborating partners. This has proved an effective way of strengthening collaborations and has led to extending research and publications as well as developing interview measures in Europe and Asia. We are happy to continue this tradition at Kingston University.

Dr Nor Bayah Abdul Kadir, University of Kebangsaan, Selangor

Nor Bayah undertook her PhD under Toni Bifulco's supervision over 2 years ago and is now working as a lecturer and researcher at University of Kebangsaan in Malaysia. She received a research fellowship grant from to come and study with Lifespan at CATS from January to April 2011. During this time she worked on 3 publications related to attachment in single and married mothers who were vulnerable to depression. Nor Bayah enjoyed her trip and returned invigorated to extend her research activities. It was a pleasure to welcome her back.

Lucilla Faglia, University of Padua

Lucilla has just completed her masters in clinical psychology at the University of Padua and joined the Lifespan research group for a 3 months period before her graduation, completed in June. She writes: 'I started my thesis project in Padua where I worked with Prof Simonelli and Dr Petech. The thesis consisted of the analysis of the differences between the psychodynamic and psychosocial perspectives in the measure of the adult attachment style. We started the project to compare self report measures and ASI, followed by a qualitative comparison with the Adult Attachment Interview. I moved to Kingston in late February. I was very lucky and I felt really comfortable during my stay. When I was there I started my internship in Lifespan as Erasmus student and this period gave me the opportunity to study in more depth the ASI and to work on my data with the help of all the staff. Thanks to Toni I now understand much better the psychosocial approach and the importance of multi-method measures of attachment style. My work at Lifespan was really productive. At the end, our findings show the importance of integrating different approaches and I look forward to continue my studies in the interesting field of Adult Attachment. Thanks also to Yael and her support with my statistical analysis and friendship. During my internship I attended the CECA training and I found it very interesting and useful. My project was finished at the end of May and I presented the results in Padua in June which completed my degree.'

PhD updates

CATS now has a number of PhD's supervised with new students due to come in the next academic year.

Sue Lawrence (with RHUL) (PTSD and cycling intervention with high risk Israeli youth) is due to submit her thesis this summer – we commend all her hard work and we wish her luck with her viva later in the year.

Lisa Gabbarelli (With SGUL) (Attachment style in young people) is progressing well with her follow-up study, having managed to track a number of the young people originally seen 7 years ago. Lisa is to present on her work at the ISAPP conference in Berlin in September.

Jeffrey de Marco (with RHUL) (Developing a practitioner tool for measuring trust in young offenders) is working towards his upgrade in the new term and having received his ethical permission is now data collecting in South London.

Lun Chi Chang (with RHUL) (Depression and attachment in Taiwanese women) is making good progress in her last write-up year in preparing her thesis, and has started her qualitative analysis of ASI interviews with the Taiwanese women.

Nicola Dillon (cyberstalking on social networking and online dating sites) is making good progress with her studies, now collecting online information about cyberstalking.

New students:

Rainea Fakhey - to study domestic violence in Saudi Arabia.

Cyberfraud Studentship: CATS hope to be awarded a new PhD Studentship, funded by the new Kingston University Investment fund, to study cyberfraud. We have had several very good candidates apply and decisions will be made in the next few weeks.

Prospective Research Visitors

Irina Popovici (Alexandra Ioan Cuza University, Iasi, Romania) will be coming for a 3-month research visit in September to research and study Online Grooming.

Roberta Massina (University of Padua Italy) will come to visit in January of 2012 to look at attachment style and family abuse.

Dr Georgina Hosang is due to visit on an ESRC/MRC fellowship early in 2012 from the Institute of Psychiatry and Kings College London. She will further examine the role of life events and childhood adversity in Bipolar psychiatric conditions, and will look for comparison data in our MRC studies of women with major depression.

CATS and Lifespan training courses—Autumn 2011

On-line Behaviour, Off-line Consequences

11 October 2011, Central London

Internet Abuse of Children - legal and emotional consequences

18 October 2011, Central London

Pre-trial Therapy for Children—putting guidelines into context

1 November 2011, Central London

An Introduction to Children and the Law and Mental Health Act 2007

Autumn 2011, dates to be confirmed

Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse (CECA) training course

6 and 7 September 2011, Central London

Attachment Style Interview (ASI) for Research and Clinical Practice

2, 3 and 4 November and 1 December 2011, Central London

Adolescent Attachment Style Interview (ASI)

6 October 2011, Central London

Parenting Role Interview Training

12 October and 9 November 2011, Central London

for further information or to book a place email: LifespanTraining@kingston.ac.uk

See pages 6-9 for more details on our courses, including new attachment training courses and tailored CECA courses

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