

## Institute of Applied Social Research Showcase Lecture Series

Camille Warrington

'How We See It': Sexually Exploited Young People's Involvement in Decision-Making About Their Care

Wednesday 5 June 2013 5 - 6pm, Drinks reception from 4pm to 5pm P102, Postgraduate and CPD Centre Park Square, Luton

Camille Warrington is the young people's participation development officer at the Institute of Applied Social Research, University of Bedfordshire. Her current work includes training young people affected by sexual exploitation as health advocates; and managing a participation project exploring links between gang affected communities and sexual violence. Her background is in youth work practice focusing on the wider participation of those traditionally excluded from decision making processes. Prior to her current role she coordinated the 'National Working Group for Sexually Exploited Children and Young People' (www.nwg.org.uk).

In this lecture Camille discusses her research with young people about their experiences of accessing and using sexual exploitation support services. The research considers how young people's perspectives on professional welfare, though rarely recorded or allowed to inform policy and best practice, shed new insight into the relevance, efficacy and limitations of existing child protection practice with adolescents at risk of sexual exploitation. In particular the research focuses on young people's involvement in decision making around their care and explores the challenges of participatory approaches within this context.