

Supporting refugee and asylum-seeking women who have experienced sexual violence

A free two-day course for
professionals.

Learn about the context in which
sexual violence can occur, identify
the signs and understand how to
respond.

2-3 October 2017

Bristol Commonwealth Society



University of
BRISTOL



Sexual violence against refugee and asylum-seeking women is a well-known phenomenon, but one that often goes unnoticed or unaddressed.

About the course

As part of an EU-funded project, the University of Bristol is offering free training for practitioners working with refugee or asylum-seeking (RAS) women who have experienced sexual gender-based violence.

We'll combine expert teaching with practical case studies and interactive exercises to give you the knowledge, tools and confidence to understand, identify and offer appropriate support to refugee and asylum-seeking women who have experienced sexual violence.

At the end of the course, you'll receive a Certificate of Attendance from the University of Bristol. Refreshments and lunch are provided each day.

The course takes place over two days between 2-3 October 2017. There are also plans to run the course again in early December (dates to be confirmed).

Who is it for?

Any practitioners who work with refugee and asylum-seeking women as part of their day-to-day role, including:

- Sexual and/or domestic violence professionals – e.g. ISVAs, SARC workers, IDVAs, refuge workers, outreach or support workers
- Practitioners or volunteers in refugee and asylum-seeking services
- Counsellors or therapists
- Other professionals, such as social workers, health professionals and police officers

About the course leaders

The course is developed and run by experts from the University of Bristol's Centre for Gender and Violence Research (Dr Geetanjali Gangoli and Dr Lis Bates), together with external experts in sexual violence, trauma, therapy, and working with refugee and asylum-seeking women (Fawzia Bheekhun of the Refugee Council, and Saadye Ali of Refugee Women of Bristol).

What does the course cover?

Day 1

Module 1: Legal and institutional issues

- Migration and asylum routes: international and UK law and rights
- The journey to asylum: procedures for applying for refugee/asylum status in the UK
- Services for RAS women in the UK
- Different forms of gender-based and sexual violence
- Legal rights and tools on violence against women
- (Women's) human rights – law and practice

Module 2: Social, cultural and anthropological issues

- Countries and cultures of origins
- Women's routes and journeys, and different experiences of violence
- Implications of different cultural backgrounds on women's needs/services and status
- Roles and rights of women in countries of origin
- Social/cultural construction of gender and of sexual violence
- Transcultural communication

Day 2

Module 3: Managing individual conversations with RAS women

- Spotting signs of sexual and gender-based violence, trauma and abuse
- Understanding women's needs and how they affect disclosure
- Building confidence and trusting relationships
- Managing individual conversations: active listening, avoiding stereotypes, sociocultural awareness and communication, and using therapeutic approaches
- Understanding and avoiding re-traumatisation and triggering
- Self-care and professional support – vicarious trauma, supervision, and preventing stress

Module 4: Signposting victims to services and building local referral pathways

- Building local case-management pathways for RAS women – mapping services and resources
- Culturally-specific and culturally-sensitive services
- Understanding eligibility/barriers (e.g. women with no recourse to public funds)
- Writing and managing referrals
- Agreeing shared protocols and guidelines for referral or signposting
- Information sharing/management between agencies

How to register

Please register online at:
<https://raswomentraining.eventbrite.co.uk>

There are 20 places available which will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. If we are unable to offer you a place, you will be placed on the reserve list for the course when it runs again in December.



Addressing Sexual Violence Against Refugee Women

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