

CECA Workshops - TRAINERS BIOGRAPHIES

Prof Antonia Bifulco

Is a research psychologist, and director of the Lifespan Research Group. She has worked and published in the field of lifespan psychosocial risks for psychological disorders for over 25 years. Her interests include the relationship of neglect and abuse in childhood to adult attachment style and depression in mothers and inter-generationally. She has a particular interest in psychometrics and has developed interview methods, which can be used both in research and in practice. She has been involved in developing the Attachment Style Interview for adoption and fostering services in the last few years and the Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse (CECA) interview in neglect and abuse assessment. Her book with Patricia Moran (*Wednesday's Child, 1998, Routledge*) describes in detail research with the CECA illustrated with case history examples.

Geraldine Thomas

Geraldine Thomas is a psychologist and play psychotherapist with a particular interest in utilising Filial Therapy to carers in fostering services. Her work in the health service is around assessing neglect/abuse and trauma in children. Geraldine undertook her BA degree in psychology at Vassar College, USA and after an earlier career in art history obtained an MSc in psychoanalytic developmental psychology at UCL, Anna Freud Centre, and followed this with training as a play therapist. She has a specific interest and expertise in Attachment Theory, particularly as it is expressed in young children who have suffered neglect and abuse. Geraldine specialises in the use of play therapy, filial therapy, parent consultation and other interventions with children and families with a wide range of difficulties and a particular interest is facilitating attachment between adopted and foster children and their carers. She is one of the few certified Filial therapy instructors in the UK and has presented widely at international conferences on attachment measures and representations of abuse and neglect.

Sue Skrobanski

Sue is a part-time lecturer and tutor at Royal Holloway, University of London, MSc and BSc social work degrees. She teaches on issues of Child Care and Child Protection, Social Work Theories and Social Work Skills. She is also a freelance trainer in Children and Families Work and Child Protection for agencies such as Children's Safeguarding Boards, CAMHS teams and CAFCASS teams. Sue is also a DoH Trainer for the Assessment Framework Tools. She has twenty years experience as a social worker mainly in child care and child protection. She is involved with the Lifespan Research Group as a practice consultant and trainer on the Attachment Style Interview.

Julia Davidson

Dr Julia Davidson is Principal Lecturer in Criminology and Research Methods and is Director of the Criminology Research Cluster at the University Of Westminster. She has conducted a considerable amount of research in the criminal justice area, her PhD explored the effectiveness of psychiatric treatment programmes for convicted child sexual abusers. Dr Davidson has extensive experience of applied research and has directed and conducted work with young victims, serious violent and sexual offenders,

criminal justice practitioners and sentencers. She has acted as a reviewer for the Department of Health and National Institute for Mental Health Victims of Violence and Abuse Prevention Programme (VVAPP). Her book '*Child Sexual Abuse, Media Representation and Government Reaction*' is the 4th in a social policy series edited by Professor David Downes and Professor Paul Rock (London School of Economics and Political Science) will be published in March 2008 (Routledge). She has experience of regular media contact and provides expert advice on criminal justice issues to the media (she has worked extensively with ITV Evening News, the ITV News Channel, BBC 24 news Channel, BBC Radio Four, BBC 2, Woman's Hour and BBC Five Live Radio).