

# Respond Learning Disability Seminar



## Exploring Forensic Learning Disabilities

Wednesday 28th March 2012

**Institute of Family Therapy  
24-32 Stephenson Way  
London NW1 2HD  
1.30pm – 4.30pm**

“The Bruders” by Ian Tullett

**Respond is the country's leading independent provider of psychotherapy for people with learning disabilities. This year we celebrate twenty years of working and leading in this field.**

**RESPOND**   
from hurting to healing

Generally offending behaviour is uncommon in people with learning disabilities but the incidence of sexual offending by men with learning disabilities has been found to be as high as four times that of non-learning disabled people. Sexual offending is mainly a young, male phenomenon, as it is in the general population and offenders tend to be solitary and functioning in the mild/borderline range of learning disabilities. In common with offenders without learning disabilities there is often a high incidence of adjustment problems at school, conduct disorder issues, mental health needs, organic brain damage and a family history of psychiatric disorder. It is notable that victims are more likely to have learning disabilities themselves and offenders are less likely to be gender specific in their victim choice. Early interventions are crucial in order to stop sexually harmful behaviours (SHB) being a stepping stone towards other offending behaviours.

As part of its pioneering work Respond's forensic services have been developed in order to understand offending behaviours in people with learning disabilities, to reduce risk and to help people to live their lives as independently and safely as possible. This seminar will consider some of the key issues in working with children, adolescents and adults who have sexually harmful behaviours and those that sexually offend.

This seminar will focus on forensic learning disabilities and Respond's pioneering work in the following areas:

- Risk assessment
- Children and Families: Assessment, Treatment and Safeguarding
- Forensic Psychotherapy
- Paraphilias and Paraphilia Related Disorders

Learning Outcomes:

- Seeing challenging sexual behaviours as symptoms of other trauma
- Understanding the role of community-based services in reducing risk
- Understanding how important early interventions are in addressing SHB

Speakers include:

- Noelle Blackman, Chief Executive of Respond
- Richard Curen, Consultant Forensic Psychotherapist
- Tamsin Cottis, Clinical Lead Sexually Harmful Behaviours Service

Booking form for Forensic Learning Disabilities Seminar:

Name: .....

Address: .....

Phone: ..... Email: .....

■ £50 full cost      Cheques payable to 'Respond'

Or

■ £40 if booked before 1st March 2012

Please return with payment to: Helen Rose, Respond, 24-32 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2HD  
Phone: 020 7874 5481 Email: admin@respond.org.uk  
CPD certificates will be available after the seminar