

**Current Awareness Service
April 2011**

reporting on what is new in the field of learning disabilities

Produced by BILD Information

Campion House, Green Street, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY10 1JL

Tel: 01562 723010 Subscription helpline: 01562 723015 E-mail: enquiries@bild.org.uk

www.bild.org.uk

Forced to Marry Easy Read Booklet

Am I being forced to marry?" is an easy-read booklet for people with learning disabilities about forced marriage, produced by the charity Respond. The booklet explains that "People with learning disabilities have the right to get married, but they also have the right NOT to get married." The booklet features high quality design using photos, and has been produced in direct consultation with people with learning disabilities (the Respond Action Group). It contains information on what to do if you think you might be forced to marry or you already have been forced to marry, and lists useful helpline numbers.

Forced Marriage Unit

Email: louise.wallis@respond.org.uk

www.forcedtomarry.com

Lester B R

My Parent has an Autism Spectrum Disorder

Growing up with a parent on the autism spectrum can be difficult, and children and teens may struggle to understand why their parent is different from others. It can be equally difficult for parents with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) to explain their unique set of strengths and challenges to their child in a sensitive and positive manner, and any adult faced with this situation will be in need of a helping hand. This supportive workbook has been designed with precisely this purpose in mind. In child-friendly language, the author describes the common characteristics of ASD, and encourages children to think about how the world might look from their parent's perspective. Topics covered include social and emotional difficulties, communication differences, sensory issues, body language, special interests, and how the child might go about explaining their parent's differences to other children, taking into account that some parents may not wish for their diagnosis to be known beyond the family. Each chapter concludes with a worksheet for the parent and child to complete together, helping them understand each other better and to develop strategies together for dealing with particular areas of difficulty.

Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2011

ISBN: 9781849058353

Tel: 020 78332307

Email: post@jkg.com

<http://www.jkg.com/catalogue/book/9781849058353>

Living your life

Originally updated in 2003, this resource has now been revised again by the sexual health charity Brook, in partnership with Oak Field School and Sports College. It has also been quality assured by NASEN (National Association of Special Educational Needs). It includes the following modules: group-building, the physical self, emotions, relationships, sexual expression, public and private, being healthy and staying safe. It is an extremely detailed resource, with suggestions for activities, photocopyable illustrations, details of resources and templates for documents, such as letters to parents and evaluation forms.

Brook

Tel: 020 72846051

Email: publications@brook.org.uk

McCarthy M and Thompson D

Sexuality and Learning Disabilities

This handbook covers the most common sexual issues concerning people with learning disabilities and serves as a useful guide to those who may be inexperienced in supporting them. It will be useful to informal carers such as family members or staff working in services, and it may also prove helpful to those studying learning disabilities issues.

Pavilion

Tel: 0844 8805061

Email: info@pavpub.com

<http://www.pavpub.com/p-103-sexuality-and-learning-disabilities.aspx>

Additional information from other sources

A You Tube video about sexual health, family planning and relationships made by The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company called "silly girl". The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company is a Theatre Company in the north east of England ran by eight adults with a learning disability who make theatre about issues that are important to them and others with learning disabilities.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLgOOP0aJho>

Publications available from the Family Planning Association

Talking together about contraception

<http://www.fpa.org.uk/professionals/publicationsandresources/peoplewithlearningdisabilities/talkingtogetheraboutcontraception>

Safe sex and contraception leaflet

<http://www.fpa.org.uk/professionals/publicationsandresources/peoplewithlearningdisabilities/safesexandcontraception>

Out of the shadows

<http://www.fpa.org.uk/professionals/publicationsandresources/peoplewithlearningdisabilities/outoftheshadows>

Updated! Sexuality and learning disability: a guide to supporting continuing professional development

<http://www.fpa.org.uk/professionals/publicationsandresources/peoplewithlearningdisabilities/sexualityandlearningdisability>

Updated! Talking together. . . about sex and relationships

<http://www.fpa.org.uk/professionals/publicationsandresources/peoplewithlearningdisabilities/talkingtogetheraboutsexandrelationships>

My pregnancy my choice

<http://www.fpa.org.uk/professionals/publicationsandresources/peoplewithlearningdisabilities/mypregnancymychoice>

Keeping Safe

The Keeping Safe Website in Devon and Cornwall has an Easy Read Booklet on all areas of Keeping Safe from 'Stranger Danger' to Keeping safe on the internet, in the community, safe from fire, knowing your rights etc.

<http://www.keeping-safe.org.uk/index.htm>

**Inequalities sensitive practice initiative maternity pathways:
women with learning disabilities**

<http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/mat.pdf>