

***Domestic Abuse
And The Impact of Historical Trauma and
Adverse Childhood Experiences***

***Wednesday 7th July 2021
9:30am – 12:30pm***

***Note: Delegates are invited to join the MS
Teams waiting lobby from 9:15 to ensure a
smooth start to the event.***

***Thames Valley Domestic Abuse
Steering Group Event***

Online, via MS Team

*Join on your computer or mobile app
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It's widely acknowledged that events in childhood make up a significant part of who we are; from being the launchpad to future success, to developing healthy or unhealthy coping strategies. While these experiences are often positive, there has been increasing research over the past few years regarding negative events, how significant these are to an adult's future success or struggles and how they may contribute to an individual's health-harming behaviours (both to their themselves and others).

Adverse Childhood Experiences (or ACEs) have been defined as stressful or traumatic incidents that occur during childhood, and can have a significant impact on the child in terms of their health and wellbeing. There is a wide range of ACEs; including having a parent in prison, parental substance misuse, physical abuse/neglect and **domestic abuse** (*being the victim or witnessing this in a home environment*). While half of UK adults have at least 1 ACE, research suggests that adults with 4 or more are three times as likely to smoke, six times as likely to have a teenage pregnancy, seven times more likely to have been involved in recent violence, and eleven times more likely to use Class A drugs, compared to those with no ACEs.

Multiple ACEs also appear to be linked to increased likelihood of becoming a perpetrator of violence. As adults, children who have witnessed violence and abuse may be more likely to become involved in a violent and abusive relationship themselves. However, with the increase in 'trauma informed' approaches being used by statutory agencies, there has been a marked increase in awareness of ACEs, and of the need for preventative, targeted work to address them before their often devastating social and medical consequences take effect.

Growing evidence shows that with appropriate and early interventions some of the lifelong health and social negative impacts of ACEs can be ameliorated. Please join us on the 7th July to learn more.

Aims of the Day:

This is a free event hosted by Thames Valley Partnership on behalf of the multi-agency *Thames Valley Domestic Abuse Steering Group* and is aimed at agencies, statutory bodies, practitioners and organisations who have a role to play in the protection and support of victims and their families. We will share information and good practice around this topic and whilst the Agenda is still being confirmed, we will hear from experts in the field of Trauma Informed Practice including those from Education, Health and Thames Valley Police Violence Reduction Unit.



Background Reading and Viewing:

[What Aces Do You Have?](#)

[The British Psychological Society Briefing Evidence](#)

[Trauma and the Brain \(short video\)](#)

- **Books:** When the Body says No - Gabor Mate
- The Body Keeps The Score - Bessel Van der Kolk

If you would like to learn more about the work of Thames Valley Partnership, including our services to help protect and support those affected by domestic abuse and our CPD certified [Rise for Change](#) trauma-informed domestic abuse training programme, please [visit our website](#).

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