

TRAUMA: The Impact of Violence, Abuse, and Neglect on Children

The Four Seasons Hotel: October 22, 2010



Guest Speaker: Diane Benoit, MD, FRCPC

Diane Benoit is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto, Project Investigator in the Research Institute at the Hospital for Sick Children, and Staff Psychiatrist at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Ontario. Her research, educational and clinical activities focus on:

- Child-caregiver attachment relationship
- Impact of violence / abuse / neglect on children
- Trauma-focused and attachment-focused assessments and interventions
- Caregivers' perceptions and subjective experience of their children and relationship with them

She has published in peer-reviewed, scientific publications and other publications, and given numerous presentations related to these topics across North America.

Who Should Attend? Professionals in: Child protection, health and mental health, women's shelters, early childhood ed., teachers, daycare workers, law enforcement, crown attorneys, judges and any other professional involved with child victims of violence, abuse, and neglect.

Research findings show that starting early during the first year of life, children can be negatively affected, and even traumatized, by what they experience or witness. The purpose of this workshop is to review pertinent aspects of theory and findings from research pertaining to the impact of exposure to violence, abuse, and neglect on children, and to apply the theoretical knowledge and research evidence to everyday practice. A special emphasis is placed on the impact at the emotional, behavioural, and developmental levels, as well as the impact on brain development and functioning.

Caregiving styles associated with difficulty or inability to protect children from violence, abuse, and neglect are discussed. Videotaped vignettes of actual interactions between caregivers and children are used extensively throughout the workshop, together with audio-recorded vignettes, to illustrate the various concepts discussed. The vignettes illustrate the child's experience, including during 911 calls (made by young children), when police officers arrive on scene, and during daily interactions with violent, abusive, or neglectful caregivers. The critical role of police officers – as first responders and often, the first professionals with whom the child has live contact – is discussed, both in terms of the direct interaction with the child and the usefulness of observations made by the officers. Innovative, child-focused programs involving police officers, child protection workers, mental health professionals and other professionals, are discussed, illustrating how each can reduce the negative impact of exposure to violence, abuse, and neglect on children.

By the end of this 1-day workshop, participants should be able to:

- define abuse and neglect
- describe the prevalence of violence, abuse and neglect
- describe the impact of witnessing or being the victim of violence, abuse, and neglect on children of various ages
- describe the effects of trauma on children's brain development and functioning
- describe types of parenting associated with violence, abuse, and neglect
- discuss the critical role of police officers – as first responders on the scene – in potentially reducing harm to the child-victim and documenting observations that can later be used by other professionals to help the child.
- describe collaborative programs with police, child protection, mental health, and other professionals that could reduce the negative impact on children of witnessing or being the victim of violence, abuse, and neglect.
- discuss the challenges in identifying emotional abuse and neglect.



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WHEN AND WHERE

DATE: October 22, 2010
TIME: 9 am-4 pm ~ Sign-In at 8 am
PLACE: **Four Seasons Hotel**
 791 West Georgia St.,
 Vancouver, B.C.
HOTEL PH.: (604) 689-9333

To REGISTER CONTACT: Dorothea Kraas

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PHONE: (604) 434-9101 ext: 100; or 1-800-630-1646
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TUITION: \$125. - [Recession Pricing]
 ~ \$100. for students - *send a copy of Student Card*
 Includes Lunch, plus Coffee and Snacks

C.E.U.'s: Applied for: Canadian Counselling Association

REGISTRATION FORM ~Payment method: VISA MC Cheque ~ by Fax, Phone, E-mail, or Post

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Check here if you would like an email notice of future training opportunities

Please make cheque payable to:

The Children's Foundation

Send to: 2750 East 18th Avenue
 Vancouver B.C. V5M 4W8

■ Payment due upon registration. Choose phone, fax or email with VISA, MC (need card # exp. date & name on card); or cheque by regular mail - include registration form. (we will e-mail confirmation notice) Tuition refund available until Monday, Oct. 11, 2010

DIRECTIONS: (click links)

- [From BC Ferries](#)
- [From Horseshoe Bay](#)
- [Travelling Highway 1 \(from the east\)](#)
- [Travelling I-5 \(from US\) and Hwy 99 North](#)

SCHEDULE:

8:00 am - Arrival, Sign-In at Registration Table

9:00 am – 10:30 am: Introduction / objectives of workshop / statistics
 Impact of violence, abuse, and neglect on children's behaviour

10:30 am – 10:45 am: *Break*

10:45 am – 12:00 pm: Impact of violence, abuse, and neglect on children's brain

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm: *Lunch*

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm: Clinical application and illustration of impact (*violence, neglect, abuse*)

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm: *Break*

2:45 pm – 4:00 pm: Importance of first responders' response to the child
 Training programs for officers / mental health professionals /
 child protection workers / other professionals