

## The Lilith Project Women's Weekly News 345

26 March 2011 – 01 April 2011

### VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN LONDON

#### **Government abolishes FGM post**

The Government has abolished the only post, FGM co-ordinator, devoted to work in prevention Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) of women and girls in the UK.

Around 24,000 girls in Britain are estimated to be at risk of FGM where by part or all of their genitalia is mutilated and/or stitched up without anesthetic. The procedure is done sometimes in the UK and sometimes after a girl has been taken abroad in the summer holidays.

Diana Nammi, director of the Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation, said, "This is a real step backwards. We feel it speaks about a real lack of commitment from the government and a marginalisation of this hugely important issue.

"The new guidelines were an important step forward but efforts are now needed to ensure that they are actually read and acted on, and the government should also be working to change attitudes towards FGM within communities.

"Without a dedicated person in government to drive efforts forward, it's hard to see how this will happen. The coordinator was a link between all the

organisations working in this area and now that's been lost. We were hoping to see another post created to tackle 'honour' killings, so we were shocked to see the one for FGM being taken away instead.

"This is only one person's salary. It's not a lot amount of money for the government but it has a huge effect within the community."

Naana Otoo-Oyortey, the executive director of Forward, an organisation involved in tackling FGM said, "The government has failed to commit in terms of targets, financial resources and a strong strategic direction on FGM. This is made worse by their failure to ensure effective coordination of the only government action on FGM, which is the implementation of the multi-agency guidelines on FGM."

Only a month ago the Government launched guidelines to help frontline workers in health, education and social services identify and prevent FGM, and pledged its commitment to ending the practice.

Launching the guidelines, Lynne Featherstone, the minister for equalities, said, "I have seen first hand the effect this abhorrent crime can have on women and girls. This government is determined to put an end to it."

She added on her blog, "One of the challenges we face in putting an end to this practice is the lack of knowledge about how to recognise the signs and what to do when you do recognise the signs."

A Home Office spokesman said, "The work of the FGM coordinator will not end. Rather, it will continue to be carried forward by individual departments where we believe it will be better integrated".

The work is said to be shared between officials in the Home Office, Department of Health, Foreign Office and Department for Education as part of their other duties.

Source: [Guardian](#) 30 March 2011

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### **New training to help medical staff spot sexual abuse**

A new course has been developed to by the University of Ulster, working with the Royal College of Physicians in London in order to help medical staff spot sexual abuse in their patients.

Nurses, midwives, health visitors, forensic physicians and family doctors are said to benefit from the training. The initiative is funded by the Department of Health.

Anne Milton, the public health minister backed the initiative and said, "For many victims, doctors and nurses are the first or only person they can turn to."

Dr Tara Moore from the Biomedical Sciences Research Institute (BMSRI), said, "If we can help professionals in contact with possible victims identify abuse and facilitate victims to go ahead with a successful prosecution, this can prevent a lifetime of abuse of the child and potentially abuse of many others by the assailant."

Jim Gamble, former chief executive of the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP), also welcomed the initiative. He said, "The number of cases of abuse that are reported to the police is woefully low, and of those that reach court, fewer than 6% result in a conviction."

"The quality of forensic medical care clearly affects decisions to prosecute, and convict. Health professionals owe it to their patients to improve their skills in recognising abuse."

Source: [Press Association](#) 29 March 2011

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## VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE UK

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### **Man jailed over paramedic sex attack**

Kenneth Freeman, a 19-year-old man from Gourock, Inverclyde who sexually assaulted a female paramedic in the back of an ambulance in Glasgow has been jailed for five months.

Glasgow Sheriff Court heard how he carried out the attack while being taken to hospital with a head injury.

The victim recalled how Freeman asked several times if she would like to be his mistress, despite telling him that he was acting inappropriately. He then took his seatbelt off, pinned her down, removed her fleece and ID badge, and attacked her.

She also told the court that she suffered "repeated punches" to her head, and Freeman placed his face against her breasts and tried to bite her.

Freeman's lawyer, Alasdair Hendry, tried to argue that the assault was not sexual in an attempt to stop his client from being placed on the sex offenders register. But Sheriff John Baird said there was not any doubt that the attack was sexual.

The Sheriff told Freeman, "It was a brutal and sustained attack on a female paramedic who was carrying out her duties on a member of the public and who, in her own words, thought she was going to be killed or raped. In these circumstances the only appropriate disposal that I can impose for this offence is custodial."

Freeman was also placed on the sex offenders' register.

Source: [BBC](#) 30 March 2011

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### **MPs join campaign to overhaul harassment laws**

More than 80 cross-party group of MPs backed calls from unions and campaigners for an amendment of harassment laws to make cyber-stalking a criminal offence.

Statistics released by probation union Napo revealed that just 2.2% of all incidences of harassment recorded by police ended in a jail sentence while another 10% of offenders were fined or dealt with in the community.

Surveys show that up to five million people experience stalking or harassment in any given year. However most victims of stalking, 77% do not contact the police until there have been at least 100 incidents. Around 80% of stalkers are male although victims can be of either gender.

A Napo spokesman said, "It is clear that very small proportions actually reach court and even fewer receive a custodial sentence. Stalking is life-changing. It is frequently injurious to victims' psychological, physical and social functioning. The sentencing guidelines need to be reviewed as a matter of urgency. Many victims report that complaints are not investigated thoroughly by the police and prosecutors."

The Protection from Harassment Act 1997 defines harassment but not stalking and the law does not cover the so-called cyber-stalking, stalking via the internet.

Source: [Morning Star](#) 30 March 2011

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## INTERNATIONAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

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### **Libyan women who said she was raped facing lawsuit**

Iman al-Obaidi who went into a Tripoli Hotel to tell journalists that she has been raped by 15 militiamen, is facing slander charges by the men she accused, said Moussa Ibrahim, a government spokesperson.

Al-Obaidi told journalists eating their breakfasts in Rixos Hotel in Tripoli that she had been detained by a gang of militiamen loyal to Moammar Gadhafi earlier in the day and gang-raped.

She has not been seen since she was dragged from the hotel by security guards and government officials and driven away in an unmarked car.

Meanwhile Ibrahim has been giving conflicting accounts about the incident; at first he said that al-Obaidi was drunk and mentally deranged. Then when reporters insisted on speaking with her he announced that the rape allegations were being investigated.

He then declared that she has been returned to her family. However, her family told reporters that al-Obaidi remains locked up. Her mother said the government officials had told her that if her daughter would just change her story, there would be a reward of cash and new accommodations.

Now Ibrahim has come up with another message, claiming that al-Obaidi is a prostitute and the men she accused of raping her are now so offended that they have filed a lawsuit against her.

He said, "A legal case is being brought by the boys who she accused of rape. It is a grave offense to accuse someone of a sexual offense."

One of the alleged rapists is the son of a high-ranking Libyan official.

Source: [Boston.com](#) 30 March 2011  
[CBC News](#) 29 March 2011

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**Egyptian army forced women protesters to take 'virginity tests' says report**

Amnesty International has called on the Egyptian authorities to investigate serious allegations of torture, including forced 'virginity tests', inflicted by the army on women protesters arrested in Tahrir Square beginning of March.

The statement from Amnesty stated that after army officers violently cleared the square of protesters on 9 March, at least 18 women were held in military detention. The women protesters said that they were beaten, given electric shocks, subjected to strip searches while being photographed by male soldiers, and then forced to submit to 'virginity checks' and threatened with prostitution charges.

Salwa Hosseini, 20, said that she was arrested and taken to a military prison in Heikstep where she and other women were made to take off all their clothes to be searched by a female prison guard, in a room with two open doors and a window. During the strip search, she said male soldiers were looking into the room and taking pictures of the naked women.

Rasha Azeb a journalist who was also detained told Amnesty that she was detained at Cairo Museum, handcuffed, beaten and insulted. She said that she could see and hear the other detained women being tortured by being given electric shocks throughout their detention at the museum. She was released several hours later with four other men who were also journalists, but 17 other women were transferred to the military prison in Heikstep

According to the report all 17 women detained in the military prison were brought before a military court on 11 March and released on 13 March. Several received one-year suspended prison sentences.

Testimonies collected by the El Nadeem Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence also revealed accounts of beatings, electrocution and 'virginity tests'.

Amnesty International said, "Forcing women to have 'virginity tests' is utterly unacceptable. Its purpose is to degrade women because they are women. All members of the medical profession must refuse to take part in such so-called 'tests'."

'Virginity tests' are a form of torture when forced or coerced.

Source: [Amnesty International](#) 23 March 2011

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## **Women reaching Women**

**Conference 2011 12th April, 11am-4pm The Commonwealth Club, 25 Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5AP**

The conference will showcase the work the WI, Oxfam and The Everyone Foundation have been doing over the past three years. Speakers will include Ruth Bond, Chair of NFWI, Barbara Stocking, Chief Executive of Oxfam GB, members of the current government and the Honduran women's rights activists from our partner organisation CEM-H. The conference will also be an opportunity to share key lessons from the project on how to engage the wider public on these issues in a way that inspires, informs and empowers. For further information go to: [www.thewi.org.uk/standard.aspx?id=12134](http://www.thewi.org.uk/standard.aspx?id=12134)

**To confirm your attendance at the conference email: [s.mason@nfwl.org.uk](mailto:s.mason@nfwl.org.uk)**

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## **DIRECT ACTIONS, CAMPAIGNS & RESOURCES**

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### **A Point of No Return campaign**

Campaign to stop the deportation of lesbian asylum seekers. Please sign the petition and ask your friends to sign the petition.

[www.change.org/petitions/a-point-of-no-return-campaign-stop-the-deportation-of-lesbian-asylum-seekers](http://www.change.org/petitions/a-point-of-no-return-campaign-stop-the-deportation-of-lesbian-asylum-seekers)

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### **Rights of Women's legal advice lines are changing!**

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 the following new advice lines will be opening at the following new times:

**Family law advice line** for advice on issues including:

- domestic violence and abuse
- divorce and civil partnership dissolution
- relationship breakdown

- issues relating to children, including parental responsibility, child contact and residence

Call **020 7251 6577 (telephone)** or **020 7490 2562 (textphone)** on Mondays between 11am-1pm, Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 2pm-4pm and 7pm-9pm, Thursdays between 7pm-9pm and Fridays between 12noon-2pm

**Criminal law advice line** for advice on issues including:

- sexual offences, including rape and sexual assault
- domestic violence and harassment
- reporting offences to the police and the criminal justice system
- the rights of victims, witnesses and defendants
- criminal injuries compensation

Call **020 7251 8887 (telephone)** or **020 7490 2562 (textphone)** on 020 7251 8887 (telephone) or 020 7490 2562 (textphone) on Tuesdays between 11am-1pm and Thursdays between 2pm-4pm.

**Immigration and asylum law advice line** for advice on issues including:

- the rights of EEA nationals and their family members
- claiming asylum in the UK
- trafficking
- domestic violence and immigration law
- no recourse to public funds

Call **020 7490 7689 (telephone)** or **020 7490 2562 (textphone)** or 020 7490 2562 (textphone) on Mondays between 2pm-4pm and Wednesdays between 11am-1pm.

You can read about our advice lines and other services here [www.rightsofwomen.org.uk](http://www.rightsofwomen.org.uk).

You can request free flyers and posters about our advice line services by emailing [info@row.org.uk](mailto:info@row.org.uk).

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### **Please support - Positive Women**

Positive Women is a charity set up to empower women and children in Africa, starting with Swaziland. Our work focuses on supporting communities to change their own lives and circumstances, to alleviate poverty and make significant social change. To achieve this, they must have their basic needs met, choices in their lives and an understanding of their rights. We help make this happen.

We do what we do because someone has to support the amazing women that are literally changing their worlds. We strive to live in a world of fairness and equality and want to support these women to make this a reality.

The life expectancy of women is 35 years in Swaziland, a country with the highest HIV/Aids prevalence rate, the lowest of any country. We're working directly with Swazi led women's organisations and activists to change gender prejudice and discrimination and provide communities in Swaziland with their basic needs. We provide education for orphans and vulnerable children, work with women's groups to create income generating projects and provide healthcare.

But it is women's rights education that is at the centre of our work. Women will be then change makers in Africa and we want to work with grassroots women's groups to educate and empower women right across the continent, starting with Swaziland.

**You can support us by donating just £5 a month at [www.positivewomen.org/donate](http://www.positivewomen.org/donate)**

**For more information email [info@positivewomen.org](mailto:info@positivewomen.org) or visit [www.positivewomen.org](http://www.positivewomen.org)**

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### **Call to End Violence Against Women and Girls: Action Plan**

On 8 March 2011, Home Secretary Theresa May announced the publication of a set of supporting actions to end violence against women and girls and a full response to Baroness Stern's review into how rape cases are handled in England and Wales.

The framework for the action plan is based on the 'Call to End Violence Against Women and Girls' published on 25 November 2010.

To see the full document [Click here](#)

To see the government's response to Baroness Stern's review into how rape complaints are handled by public authorities in England and Wales [Click here](#)

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### **Rights of Women**

#### **From Rights to Action: Using International rights and mechanisms on violence against women in the UK**

From Rights to Action provides a practical introduction to the international human rights law, policy and mechanisms relevant to combating violence against women and how they relate to law and practice in the United Kingdom (UK).

Too often, international human rights laws and the mechanisms to enforce them are presented in an overly legalistic way. This handbook seeks to demystify the law around human rights and empower organisations working to promote women's rights to apply human rights in their work and influence law, policy and practice on violence against women.

From Rights to Action is a vital resource for non-governmental organisations (NGOs), such as women's organisations, working to support women affected by violence in the UK.

This publication is part of the Rights of Women Toolkit.

**Download your copy of From Rights to Action [here](#)**

**We have a limited number of printed copies available for distribution which will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. To order a printed copy, please send your name, job title and organisation's contact details to [info@row.org.uk](mailto:info@row.org.uk).**

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### **Action on Elder Abuse**

Action on Elder Abuse are glad to announce we will be doing a **Radio 4 Appeal** on Sunday 10 April 2011 at 07.55am and repeated at 21.26pm on the same day. The broadcast will also go out again on Thursday 14 April 2011 at 15.27pm. Please tune in and support us on Radio 4 – 92.4 FM- 94.6FM – LW 198 - Website: [www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/appeal](http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/appeal)

**World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 15 June 2011**, this event will be in its 6th Year and we want to make it an important date in everyone's diaries, please join with us in doing an event on the day and helping raise awareness on Elder Abuse. For more information email [worldelderabuseday@elderabuse.org.uk](mailto:worldelderabuseday@elderabuse.org.uk) or call 0208 835 9280

**Action on Elder Abuse has launched a series of exciting challenge events**, including skydiving, trekking and running. If you've ever wanted to trek the Inca Trail, freefall from 10,000 feet or sledge across Lapland with huskies (to name but a few), visit [www.elderabuse.org.uk](http://www.elderabuse.org.uk) for more information.

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## **CONSULTATIONS**

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## **‘Strengthening Women’s Voices in Government’ – Consultation**

On 7 March 2011, the Government published a consultation: ‘Strengthening Women’s Voices in Government’. This sets out the Government’s proposals for a new approach for engaging and listening to women through:

- Direct engagement between ministers, women and organisations that represent women to ensure government understands the views of a wide range of women in the UK, and providing the opportunity for a genuine two way dialogue on policies that affect women.
- Bringing in expertise from the women’s sector and beyond to support the new model and support independence from government where this is critical, particularly in the international arena.
- Looking Ahead to enable [the Government] to anticipate emerging and future issues, such as the impact of the changing demography of the UK, which will be important for women.
- A new IT platform, making the most of modern communication techniques to get the informed voice of women to Government when they need to be heard.

**The consultation runs until 10 June 2011 and is an opportunity to influence proposals about Government’s new approach for engaging and listening to women in the UK.**

To access the consultation document [Click here](#)

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## **Age discrimination consultation**

On 3 March 2011, the Government published ‘Equality Act 2010: Ending age discrimination in services, public functions and associations – A consultation’.

The consultation sets out those areas where the Government believes that different treatment of people of various ages is justified; and proposes how the legislation will be drafted to take account of these.

**The consultation closes on 25 May 2011.**

To access the consultation [Click here](#)

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## **London Councils**

### **Supplementary consultation launched**

London Councils is launching a supplementary consultation on the future scope of the London Boroughs Grants Scheme.

This consultation is designed as an addition to the original consultation that ran last year, the supplementary consultation is being launched following a High Court ruling that the original decision did not go into enough detail around equalities issues.

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[Read the background document Opens in a new window](#)

[Read the supplementary consultation Q & A](#)

[Visit the Ipsos MORI consultation website to fill out online Opens in a new window](#)

[View the consultation structure spreadsheet, including the list of all commissions Opens in a new window](#)

**The deadline for responses is: Friday 8 April, 5pm**

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## **Law Commission Consultation**

### **Marital Property Agreements**

In this consultation, the Law Commission is asking whether the current legislation provides the right basis for determining the effect of marital property agreements, or whether a new approach is needed. Could reform bring more autonomy and certainty to couples who want to enter into such agreements, while retaining sufficient safeguards to protect vulnerable spouses and children?

The full consultation paper is available at [www.lawcom.gov.uk/marital\\_property.htm](http://www.lawcom.gov.uk/marital_property.htm)

**The consultation closes on 11 April 2011.**

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## **CPS launches public consultation**

### **Retracting rape and domestic violence allegations**

Individuals who retract truthful allegations of rape or domestic violence out of fear are less likely to be prosecuted under proposed new guidance for prosecutors on the offence of perverting the course of justice, the Director of Public Prosecutions, Keir Starmer QC, said launching the 12-week public consultation.

The guidance will apply in cases where a complainant of rape or domestic violence retracts an allegation and where they could face a charge of perverting the course of justice.

The consultation comes as part of a series of improvements, announced by Mr Starmer in December, to instill greater quality and consistency in the way the Crown Prosecution Service handles rape cases.

The interim guidance details both evidential and public interest considerations for prosecutors.

For further information and to respond to the consultation click [here](#)

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## TRAINING

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### **Women's Radio Group Easter School – 18th April 2011**

#### **Women's Radio Group Easter School Are YOU interested in radio production?**

Learn how to present, interview, digitally edit and put together a magazine programme from an experienced BBC and LBC producer.

#### **Cost £300**

The **four day course** will take place in our studios in Acton, West London from **11am to 4pm daily**.

**For more information or to reserve a place** contact Chrissie on 07730 920 480 or Gill at [WRG-training@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:WRG-training@hotmail.co.uk)

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### **Eaves**

#### **WORKSHOPS! - Prostitution, exit strategies and good practice in supporting women**

Eaves is running a series of workshops for borough-level statutory agencies and voluntary service providers who focus on prostitution. The aim is to equip attendees with the knowledge required to assist individuals who want to leave prostitution – including victims of trafficking – through facilitating access to

appropriate services. Workshops will be run over a day and a half and attendees are expected to attend both days.

### **Why should I attend?**

- Would you like to learn more about how to utilise your existing resources in a cost effective way?
- Do you have responsibility for Community Safety and Engagement in your borough?
- Is violence against women and girls part of your remit?
- Want to understand how to develop a strategy for your borough/organisation?
- Do you want to learn more about developing policies to help you respond to prostitution in your borough?
- Would you like to develop exit strategies for women involved in prostitution?

**If you answered yes to any of these, then this course is for you!**

### **Dates:**

**April 13th and 14th 2011**

**May 11th and 12th 2011**

**June 14th and 15th 2011**

For further information, or to book a place, please contact: **Louise Jenkins on 020 7840 7103** or [louise.jenkins@eaveshousing.co.uk](mailto:louise.jenkins@eaveshousing.co.uk)

**Cost: £150 (statutory agencies) or £110 (voluntary agencies)**

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## **Imkaan - Training courses**

### **SAFEGUARDING AGAINST FORCED MARRIAGE AND HONOUR-BASED VIOLENCE Level 2**

#### **5th April 2011 Day 1: Understanding Forced Marriage and 'Honour' Based Violence**

By the end of this session participants will have a better understanding of the definitions of forced marriage and honour-based violence, historical and cultural roots and how this impacts on different communities. You will also have an introductory overview on the legal framework; risk and begin to shape strategies for developing effective service responses in this area.

#### **12th April 2011 Day 2: Risk and Case Management in Violence Against Women**

By the end of the session you will have a more detailed understanding of existing models of risk assessment; specific risk indicators and safety planning. The

session is designed to help you develop best practice around the management of risk, disclosure and safety planning. Who is it for? The accredited training course is aimed at frontline professionals working with or seeking to engage with BAMER women and children. This course will also be beneficial to policy-makers, funders, commissioners, legal advocates, health professionals, the police, Local Authorities and other statutory and voluntary organisations.

**Course cost:** £95 per day.

## **USING PSYCHOLOGICAL EVIDENCE TO HELP TRAUMATISED WOMEN SEEKING ASYLUM**

**20 April 2011**

This training course is designed to develop understanding of the psychological reasons why traumatised women seeking asylum have difficulties when making an asylum claim, and to increase awareness of relevant academic psychological research and findings. The course will also help professionals to support traumatised women seeking asylum, and increase confidence to inform others of psychological research and encourage them to refer to it.

**Course cost:** £45.

To book a place at any of these sessions, please complete and return the [booking form](#) (Word doc, 234kb) to Lia Latchford at [bookings@imkaan.org.uk](mailto:bookings@imkaan.org.uk)

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## **VACANCIES AND VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **Project Officer (Child Trafficking)**

**Full time – This post is funded for 3 years**

ECPAT UK is currently seeking to recruit a Project Officer (Child Trafficking). This newly created post will support ECPAT UK's increasing portfolio of work on child trafficking, including acting as liaison to legal professionals who regularly seek ECPAT UK advice and support on cases involving children who may be trafficked. The Project Officer will have a range of outward facing responsibilities and will represent ECPAT UK in network meetings, including the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group, a group of organisations working together to monitor the UK's compliance with the European Convention Against Trafficking in Human Beings.

For further information including Job Description and Application Pack go to

[www.ecpat.org.uk/content/job-vacancies](http://www.ecpat.org.uk/content/job-vacancies)

**Deadline for applications - 11<sup>th</sup> April 2011**

**Interviews will be held in the week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> April**

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**Tender**

**Youth Leadership Coordinator**

**Salary - £24k**

**Closing date - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2011**

**Interviews - Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2011**

The successful candidate will work closely with the Campaign Manager to plan youth ambassador projects. They will also assist the Education Manager with the administration and development of Tender's work with young people. They will manage all aspects of Tender's touring productions.

The successful candidate will have experience of working with young people, of coordinating drama education projects and have an understanding of how schools and youth service settings operate.

They will have excellent verbal, written and presentational skills and a proven ability to manage a diverse and sometimes hectic work load.

This position is subject to CRB clearance.

**Please see [www.tender.org.uk](http://www.tender.org.uk) for a full job description and details on how to apply.**

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**Womankind**

**Programme Officer (6 month fixed term)**

**Salary - £25,380**

**Closing date - 12.00 pm 11<sup>th</sup> April 2011**

**Interview date - 15<sup>th</sup> April 2011**

WOMANKIND Worldwide are seeking a Programme Officer to support the strategic development of our programme activities in Asia, Africa and Latin America. S/he will support the planning, implementation and monitoring of Womankind's programmes in line with our strategies. The ideal candidate will have demonstrable experience of supporting the development and implementation of international development programmes preferably for the

promotion of women's human rights and gender equality. S/he will also have experience of project budgeting, financial reporting, and producing reports and proposals to funders. S/he will have experience of living and working in the global South and needs to have spoken and written Spanish.

**For an application pack please download at <http://www.womankind.org.uk/about/our-team/working-for-womankind/> or email: [recruitment@womankind.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@womankind.org.uk)**

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## **Rights of Women**

### **Management Committee Members and a Treasurer**

Are you passionate about women's rights? Are you looking for a way to use your skills and experiences to help a women's organisation?

#### **Unpaid – travel expenses reimbursed**

We want to recruit up to five new members, including a treasurer, to join our governing body, the Management Committee. We need women who can help direct Rights of Women towards achieving its mission and ensure the organisation is effectively managed. You will need to be able to make a commitment to Rights of Women and devote the necessary time, including an evening meeting every six weeks (in central London) and availability to make decisions and attend events.

Ideally, new committee members will have skills and experience in one or more of the following areas:

- human resources management
- advice giving and/or legal sector
- fundraising, networking and relationship building skills
- experience of charity / voluntary sector regulation at a national, strategic level
- financial management with experience of the charity / voluntary and community sector (please note this is important for those interested in applying for the role of treasurer).

Download an application pack from our website at [www.rightsofwomen.org.uk](http://www.rightsofwomen.org.uk). For an informal chat about applying to join the management committee please contact our Director, Emma Scott on [emma@row.org.uk](mailto:emma@row.org.uk) or 020 7251 6575.

**The closing date for applications is 6 April 2011. Interviews are expected to take place on the afternoon 15 April 2011.**

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## **Asylum Aid – Volunteer**

Asylum Aid is currently recruiting a Women's Asylum News volunteer for its Women's Project. Asylum Aid expects that the volunteer will commit 1 day per week for a minimum of 6 months based in our office in Highbury and Islington.

**Deadline for application is 15 April 2011.**

To view the role description and background information go to <http://www.asylumaid.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html>.

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## **Her Centre**

### **Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy posts**

Her Centre, a women's advice service in Greenwich, has received 2 years' funding to provide advocacy for women experiencing domestic violence through two posts:

#### **1 Senior Domestic Violence Advocate - £28,807 SO1 inc. OLW**

This post will require two years experience working with women escaping domestic violence, one year's staff management experience, and knowledge and experience of legal options for women including knowledge of court proceedings

#### **1 Domestic Violence Advocate - £26,401 SO1 inc. OLW**

At least one year's experience of working with women escaping domestic violence and knowledge of the legal options for women

**If you wish to apply for either post, please contact Stacy Smith on [Stacy@hercentre.org](mailto:Stacy@hercentre.org) for an application form.**

**Closing date 8th April at 5PM**

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*If you have any information about new events, consultations, reports, campaigns, direct action, training, vacancies or volunteering opportunities, especially those with a London focus, that you would like us to consider for inclusion in Women's Weekly News please email us at:*

*[Weekly\\_News@eaveshousing.co.uk](mailto:Weekly_News@eaveshousing.co.uk)*

