

2024

[NEVR's Website](#)

GENDERS AND GENERATIONS

 **KPU** | KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

NETWORK TO ELIMINATE VIOLENCE IN
RELATIONSHIPS' 14TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE (ONLINE)



[Register Here!](#)

8:30am-12:30pm (PT)

MAY 23, MAY 30, JUNE 6, AND JUNE 13, 2024

About Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships (NEVR)

NEVR's Statement

- The Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships (NEVR) campaign's purpose is to work towards the elimination and eradication of relationship violence within our community.
- Community priorities are shaped by robust evidence-based research, including data from family violence courts detailing domestic violence incidents, insights from the Ministry of Child and Family Development, and other research-driven initiatives.
- Please see resources on our website for people experiencing abuse.



NEVR's Mission

- To lead initiatives to intervene, reduce and ultimately eliminate the incidence of violence in relationships and shift societal norms that condone its prevalence
- To bring together academia, government and community organizations
- To create awareness of and preventing relationship violence through education and leadership
- Having a community where public/private violence in all forms is not tolerated nor accepted
- Having a system that provides coordinated support to victims/ offenders in a timely manner to mitigate the impacts of violence





NEVR's Purpose

The purpose of NEVR is to work toward reducing and eliminating violence in relationships through coordinated, open and seamless service delivery, collaboration, sharing of resources among service providers, community leaders, educators and government bodies.

NEVR's Scope

This organization focuses on relationship violence (physical, sexual, emotional, spiritual and financial) and its effects on individuals, families, organizations and communities as well as the cost to society.



NETWORK TO
ELIMINATE
VIOLENCE IN
RELATIONSHIPS

Keynote Speakers Schedule

GENDERS AND GENERATIONS

NEVR's 14 Annual Conference

23
MAY

The Global Spread of Clare's Law

Charlotte Barlow
Katerina Hadjimatheou
Jennifer Koshan
Amanda McCormick

30
MAY

Stigma-informed Support for Victims of Violence

Yvon Dandurand

06
JUNE

Men's unwanted sexual experiences: assemblages of care and violence

Carl Bonner-Thompson

13
JUNE

A) Documentary Storytelling as a Strategy for Challenging the Family Policing System

Alana Prochuck, Alysha Collie,
Patricia Dawn, and Blue
Thunderbird Woman/Heather
Spence

B) Gender Apartheid and Afghan Women and Girls

Laurn Oates

C) In-person closing keynote (Trauma Yoga) 6 PM-9 PM

Jasmine Bhambra

Conference Schedule

Please Note: Sessions are Concurrent

8:30-9:00	Welcome				
9:00-9:50	<p>The Global Spread of Clare’s Law: Why Domestic Violence Disclosure Schemes Appeal to the Public, and Whether We Should be Concerned</p> <p>Keynotes: Dr. Charlotte Barlow, Dr. Katerina Hadjimatheou, Jennifer Koshan, and Dr. Amanda McCormick</p>				
9:50-10:00	Break				
10:00-11:00	Concurrent Sessions # 1				
	<p>Intimate Partner Violence Brain Injury Recognition Training for Police Dr. Stephanie Ashton & Dr. Amanda McCormick</p>	<p>Effective Evidence-based gender-based violence prevention in high schools and communities Yasmin Vejs Simsek & Oreofeoluwa Adeyonu</p>	<p>Applying a holistic, collective lens to working with South Asian communities in Metro Vancouver Dr. Daljit Gill-Badesha, Gary Thandi & Anita Lal</p>		
11:00-11:10	Break				
11:15-12:15	Concurrent Sessions # 2				
	<p>Gray Divorce-Supporting South Asian Women Divorce Meena Dhilon & Jasmine Gill</p>	<p>GBV Prevention and Practice: Supporting mothers and engaging men and boys Yusra Qadir, Kaitlin Shannahan & Kate Bojin</p>	<p>Measuring gendered violence in your workplace Dr. Cherylynn Basani</p>	<p>Canadian Women Abused by Intimate Partners: Practice Implications from a Collection of Results from the Healing Journey Study Dr. Leslie Maureen Tutty</p>	<p>Criminal Law and Beyond: The Law Responds to Coercive Control in Intimate Partner and Family Relationship Context Dr. Margaret Hall</p>
12:15-12:30	Closing				

8:30-9:00	Welcome		
9:00-9:50	Stigma-informed Support for Victims of Violence Keynote: Dr. Yvon Dandurand		
9:50-10:00	Break		
10:00-11:00	Concurrent Sessions # 3		
	Domestic Abuse Service Providers and their Stories Dr. Rebecca Shaw	Preventing and Addressing Violence among Children Dr. Balbir Gurm & Hanieh Ghaderi	Mobilizing the Narratives of LGBTQ Survivors Dr. Claire Robson
11:00-11:10	Break		
11:15-12:15	Concurrent Sessions # 4		
	Caregiver Styles and Trauma: exploring the role of the caregiver and intergenerational effects on attachment Lisa Kaldenbach	LGBT+ and Heterosexual Elder Abuse Prevalence, Types, and Perpetrators: Findings from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging Dr. Gloria M. Gutman, Dr. Heather Stewart & Dr. Mojgan Karbakhsh	Dixon Transition Society's Equity in Education Project Simar Saini & Monika Verma
12:15-12:30	Closing		

<p>8:30-9:00</p>	<p>Welcome</p>			
<p>9:00-9:50</p>	<p>Men's unwanted sexual experiences: assemblages of care and violence Keynote: Dr. Carl Bonner-Thompson</p>			
<p>9:50-10:00</p>	<p>Break</p>			
<p>10:00-11:00</p>	<p>Concurrent Sessions # 5</p>			
	<p>Older Adults and Domestic Violence case study Kelly Ann Taylor & Allie Blackburn</p>	<p>Listening, Supporting and Believing Survivors of Sexualized Violence Shivani Jeet</p>	<p>Failures of the Sociological Imagination: Canadian News Media Representations of Intimate Partner Femicide Lucy Liu</p>	<p>Anti-SOGI Campaigns Dr. Travers</p>
<p>11:00-11:10</p>	<p>Break</p>			
<p>11:15-12:15</p>	<p>Concurrent Sessions # 6</p>			
	<p>The Entanglement of Violence in Relationships & Violence Towards Animals Sue O'Neill & Kerri Thompson</p>	<p>Gender Based Violence: EW-M2Y / ADAGE Nosheen Mathew & Amandeep Gondara</p>	<p>Adverse Childhood Experiences(ACEs) Policy & Beyond Tanya Dawar & Dr. Balbir Gurm</p>	
<p>12:15-12:30</p>	<p>Closing</p>			

<p>8:30-9:00</p>	<p>Welcome</p>
<p>9:00-9:50</p>	<p>Documentary Storytelling as a Strategy for Challenging the Family Policing System Keynotes: Alana Prochuck, Alysha Collie, Patricia Dawn, and Blue Thunderbird Woman/Heather Spence</p>
<p>9:50-10:00</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>10:00-10:50</p>	<p>Gender Apartheid and Afghan Women and Girls Keynote: Dr. Lauryn Oates</p>
<p>10:50-11:00</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>11:00-12:15</p>	<p>Policy Discussion</p>
<p>12:15-12:30</p>	<p>Conference Reflection Amarjit Sahota, NEVR, Board Chair</p>
<p>6:00 PM- 9:00 PM</p>	<p>Trauma Yoga Closing keynote in person- Please register on Evenbrite for the closing keynote. It will be \$10 and refreshments provided. Closing Keynote: Jasmine Bhambra</p>

Keynote Speakers

- Jennifer Koshan
- Dr. Amanda McCormick
- Dr. Charlotte Barlow
- Dr. Katerina Hadjimatheou
- Dr. Yvon Dandurand
- Dr. Carl Bonner-Thompson
- Alana Prochuck
- Alysha Collie
- Patricia Dawn
- Blue Thunderbird Woman/Heather Spence
- Dr. Lauryn Oates
- Jasmine Bhambra



Presenters

- Margaret Hall
- Shivani Jeet
- Meena Dhillon & Jasmine Gill
- Lucy Liu
- Kell-Ann Taylor & Allie Blackburn
- Stephanie Ashton & Amanda McCormick
- Sue O'Neill & Kerri Thomson
- Claire Robson
- Tanya Dawar & Dr. Balbir Gurm
- Lisa Kaldenbach
- Cherylynn Bassani
- Leslie Maureen Tutty
- Hanieh Ghaderi & Balbir Gurm
- Rebecca Shaw
- Yasmin Vejs Simsek & Oreofeoluwa Adeyonu
- Amandeep Gondara & Nosheen Mathew
- Simar Saini & Monika Verma
- Daljit Gill-Badesha & Gary Thandi & Anita Lal
- Yusra Qadir & Kaitlin Shannahan & Kate Bojin
- Gloria M. Gutman & Heather Stewart & Mojgan Karbakhsh

Keynote Speakers



May 23

The Global Spread of Clare’s Law: Why Domestic Violence Disclosure Schemes Appeal to the Public, and Whether We Should be Concerned

Charlotte Barlow, Ph.D., Katerina Hadjimatheou, Ph.D., Jennifer Koshan, LL.M., Amanda McCormick, Ph.D.

In 2014, England and Wales introduced the first Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) following the murder of Clare Wood by her estranged boyfriend who had a police-documented history of intimate partner abuse (IPA). Described as the “Right to Ask, Right to Know”, Clare’s Law enables the public to apply to police for a disclosure of their partner’s criminal history (Right to Ask) or for the police to proactively notify them of the risk their partner poses (Right to Know). DVDS have now spread internationally, operating in Scotland, Northern Ireland, New Zealand, several Australian states, and several Canadian provinces. DVDS arguably empower vulnerable populations, primarily women, to make informed decisions that increase their safety, may improve relationships between the public and the police, and may increase access to services. Arguments have also been made that they unethically responsabilize women, pressuring them to request disclosures or end the relationship following a positive disclosure, or risk being blamed for putting themselves or their children at risk. DVDS schemes have therefore been critiqued for the contradictory goals of empowerment versus responsabilization. This keynote panel, featuring researchers who have collected some of the preliminary findings on Clare’s Law, will discuss why programs like Clare’s Law appeal to the public, resulting in their continued global spread, the challenges with transporting programs of this nature from one jurisdiction to another, the varying ways in which DVDS have been implemented and the implications for program success, and whether and why we have reason to be concerned about their pending spread across Canada.



Dr. **Charlotte Barlow** is a Reader in Criminal Justice and Policing at the University of Central Lancashire, where she is a member of the Connect Centre for Research on Violence & Harm and Policing Strand Lead for the Centre for Criminal Justice Partnerships. She is elected Vice President of the British Society of Criminology. She is also a trustee of Cheshire Without Abuse, a domestic abuse charity in England. Charlotte researches gender-based violence, in particular domestic abuse. Her work focusses on policing, criminal justice and legal responses. Recent externally funded projects have explored

domestic violence disclosure schemes/ Clare's Law, coercive control, court systems and domestic abuse, including integrated domestic abuse courts and Family Drug and Alcohol courts, interventions for children who experience domestic abuse, rurality and domestic abuse and multi-agency working. Charlotte has published widely in this field, including two monographs, an edited collection and journal articles in high impact factor journals, including the British Journal of Criminology and Feminist Legal Studies. Achieving real-world impact is central to Charlotte's approach to research, and her domestic abuse research has influenced national and international policy and informed the development of police and partner agency training.



Dr. **Katerina Hadjimatheou** is an applied ethicist and criminologist. Her research looks at developments in technologies and data for policing, criminal justice and security. She works particularly in the field of domestic abuse, surveillance, criminal records, and human trafficking. Her research has been funded by the British Academy, Home Office, ESRC and European Commission amongst others. Kat is Chair of the British Society of Criminology's Policing Network. She is also a member of various policing and ethics committees, for the National Crime Agency, HMRC, College of Policing, and Gloucestershire and MET Police forces. She has

provided consultancy and advice to the Foreign Office, European Commission, United Nations, US National Science Foundation, Cabinet Office, Ministry of Justice and FRONTEX. She is also an independent ethics reviewer of technology research project proposals and projects, mainly for the European Commission.



Jennifer Koshan is a Professor in the Faculty of Law and Research Excellence Chair in Family Violence at the University of Calgary. Her research and teaching focus on equality and human rights, legal responses to gender-based violence, feminist legal theories, and access to justice. With several colleagues, Professor Koshan recently completed a project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council on Domestic Violence and Access to Justice Across Multiple Legal Systems.

Publications from this project include an e-book mapping domestic violence laws across Canada ([2020 CanLII Docs 3160](#), 3rd ed), a [report](#) for the Roadmap to the National Action Plan on Violence Against Women and Gender-Based Violence, and a [special volume](#) of the Canadian Journal of Family Law (2023). Professor Koshan works with the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund, National Association of Women and the Law, and National Judicial Institute on equality rights and gender-based violence litigation, law reform, and professional education. She blogs on equality, gender-based violence and other issues on [ABlawg.ca](#), an award-winning academic blog that she co-founded and co-edits.



Dr. Amanda McCormick is an Associate Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the [University of the Fraser Valley](#), a Research Associate with the [Centre for Public Safety and Criminal Justice Research](#), the Commitment Leader for the [Peace and Reconciliation Centre's Community of Practice in Domestic Violence Reduction](#), a Co-Investigator with the [Canadian Centre for Policing Intimate Partner Violence](#), and a member of the [Network to End Violence in Relationships \(NEVR\)](#). She is also a member of the Abbotsford/Mission Violence Against Women in Relationships Committee and the Purple Lights Nights Committee, which raises community awareness about intimate partner abuse (IPA). Dr. McCormick has conducted numerous studies on IPA, including police investigations of IPA files involving strangulation and

brain injury, police investigations of IPA harassment files, Interagency Case Assessment Teams (ICATs), police attitudes towards IPA files, the barriers to reporting victimization to the police among survivors of IPA, development and evaluation of an adolescent healthy relationships/dating violence prevention program, police risk review/assessment in IPA files, the impact of court rulings on police investigations of sexual assault, the potential application of restorative justice to power-based crimes, and police investigations of elder abuse and neglect files. Her current or pending research projects include a pilot study on Clare's Law, police investigations of IPA involving coercive control, restorative responses to gender-based violence, and the use of civil protection orders in IPA. Dr. McCormick's research strives to support the development of evidence-based practices and policies to reduce IPA and enhance the community and criminal justice system responses to gender-based violence.

May 30



Stigma-informed Support for Victims of Violence

Yvon Dandurand, Ph.D.

In recent years, victim support interventions have been strengthened by a trauma-informed approach, but they have yet to fully integrate new knowledge on the impact of various stigmas that often accompany the experience of violent victimization. Stigma is known as a major determinant of behaviour, health and well-being among vulnerable and marginalized victims of violence and their families. In brief, stigma is an inhibitor of progress for victim recovery, offender desistance from crime and social reintegration, or recovery from addiction. It has an especially debilitating effect on individuals who experience stigmatization because of sexual exploitation, intimate partner violence, and other forms of victimization.

Service providers who assist individuals through difficult life transitions following victimization, criminalization, or a mental health crisis are well aware of the debilitating effects of stigma. These effects often lead victims of violence to develop self-disclosure, self-protection, self-isolation, and risk management strategies that are not particularly healthy and can hinder recovery. There is a need for a stigma-informed approach to victim assistance. The overall goal of a stigma-informed practice is to develop gender-responsive and culturally appropriate support interventions that increase the victim's self-control, self-efficacy, resiliency, autonomy, and agency while providing them with opportunities to regain control of aspects of their lives affected by victimization and the accompanying stigma.



Dr. **Yvon Dandurand** is a criminologist, Professor Emeritus, Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of the Fraser Valley, as well as a Fellow and Senior Associate of the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy, a United Nations affiliated research institute located in Vancouver. He specializes in comparative criminal justice research and has been extensively involved in justice reform and policy development projects in Canada, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. His interests include the prevention of violence against children, restorative justice, human trafficking and organized crime, and the social reintegration of offender. His recent work, together with Dr Amy Prevost, includes research on social stigmas and the coping strategies developed by those affected by it.

June 6



Men's unwanted sexual experiences: assemblages of care and violence

Carl Bonner-Thompson, Ph.D.

In this presentation, Dr. Carl Bonner-Thompson explores the multiple barriers that prevent men from receiving appropriate and timely care after sexual violence and abuse. He draws upon data from the Men's Unwanted Sexual Experience (MUSE) project, which included semi-structured interviews and arts-based workshops with 40 self-identifying men in northeast and southeast England. The MUSE project was conducted by a team of interdisciplinary researchers based at Universities in the UK and the Netherlands. In this presentation, Dr. Bonner-Thompson exposes the failures of caring for men who are survivors and highlight possibilities for developing better caring networks. He explores caring relations beyond healthcare settings and examine the multiple and unlikely spatiotemporal contexts where caring relations play out. He uses assemblages of care as a framework to enable an understanding of the multiple human and more-than-human elements, spaces, scales and temporalities involved in shaping caring relations following sexual violence. He argues that contemporary discourses and institutions do not enable men who are survivors to access care.



Dr. **Carl Bonner-Thompson** is an Assistant Professor in Urban (In)justice at the Human Geography and Spatial Planning Department of Utrecht University. They use feminist and queer perspectives on urban geographies to ask how vulnerabilities and care are co-constituted by economic and social conditions, violent encounters and digital technologies and the ways these are negotiated and contested by marginalised people in their urban lives. Their research and teaching are focused on learning to live with digital platforms and technologies, including dating apps, social media, smartphones and digital data; geographies of genders and sexualities, including LGBTQ+ experiences, spaces and equalities; and changing geographies of masculinities, and contemporary issues around men and emotion, care and work. Inequality, marginalisation and power are key themes in their research exploring the politics of embodied feeling and sensation.

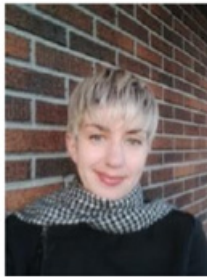
June 13



Documentary Storytelling as a Strategy for Challenging the Family Policing System

Alana Prochuck, Alysha Collie, Patricia Dawn, and Blue Thunderbird Woman/Heather Spence

Join us for a screening of the 11-minute documentary Kids Are Only Kids Once, which exposes the harms of child apprehensions in BC and shares parents' vision for change. The film was created by parents, advocates, 3 Crows Productions, and the gender justice non-profit West Coast LEAF. The session will explore the inspiration for creating the film and insights of filmmakers and interviewees about how viewers can support the movement to end the violence of the family policing system (often called the child welfare system) and the intergenerational trauma it causes.



Alana Prochuk (she/they) lives uninvited on stolen Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh homelands and is of mixed European ancestry. Alana is the Manager of Public Legal Education for West Coast LEAF, a non-profit in BC that uses legal strategies to advance gender justice. Alana was honoured to provide organizational support for the *Kids Are Only Kids Once* documentary project. Before joining West Coast LEAF, Alana coordinated anti-violence initiatives at Salal Sexual Violence Support Centre and Seniors First BC.



Patricia Dawn is a Metis Cree Sacred Life Giver and an advocate for the Red Willow Womyn's Society. In January 2018, Patricia Dawn advocated and interrupted the removal of a 6-day-old infant at the local hospital, keeping the baby with Mom. Patricia seeks to end colonial child protection practices by acknowledging First Nations Sacred Law as a primary promise of truth and reconciliation.



Alysha Collie is a multidisciplinary Indigenous artist from the Soowahlie First Nation mixed with settler and African ancestry. Collie graduated from the University of the Fraser Valley with a Bachelor of Science degree. She is an Indigenous Educational Storyteller and a Filmmaker at 3 Crows Productions. She also creates custom beadwork through her own company, The Collie Collective.



Heather Spence is the co-founder of Kandú, and Indigenous Led for PACK, and proudly serves as a mother and grandmother. Hailing originally from Treaty 1 territory, Heather brings a wealth of diverse life experiences with the core mission of elevating the voices of Indigenous communities that face systemic discrimination, striving to create a platform where these voices are heard and respected. Heather is dedicated to supporting the vulnerable, raising awareness, destigmatizing, and driving positive change.

June 13

Gender Apartheid and Afghan Women and Girls

Lauryn Oates, Ph.D.

This presentation will describe the current situation facing women and girls in Afghanistan from a rights perspective, and how the systemic discrimination against women and girls has resulted in a rise of gender-based violence, and impunity for those who perpetrate it. The session will explain the meaning of a term used by Afghan and Iranian women, gender apartheid, why this concept effectively captures the systemic and state-led nature of violence against women and girls in Afghanistan, regardless of where such violence takes place -- whether privately or publicly -- and how international legal recognition of the concept could make possible new mechanisms for pursuing justice and accountability on behalf of those who experience and survive gender-based violence. The role of education, advocacy and awareness in preventing violence against women and girls in the Afghan context will also be explored.



Dr. Lauryn Oates advocates for equitable access to quality education in conflict zones, and works to realize the transformative power of educated women and girls. She's Executive Director of Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan, a charity that has helped make the human right to education real for Afghan women and girls through DD Academi, a virtual school, and other education programs that have ensured access to learning for thousands of Afghan girls and women. Learn more at www.cw4wafghan.ca

June 13

In-person Closing Keynote Trauma Yoga (please register separately for this closing keynote on our Evenbrite page- it will be \$10 and refreshments will be provided.)

Jasmine Bhambra

As a trauma and resilience certified yoga teacher and grief recovery specialist, Jasmine draws upon her personal experience of loss and grief, particularly the murder of her sister, which propelled her onto this transformative journey.

Jasmine shares how yoga became a powerful tool in her own journey of grief and trauma recovery, providing insights into the impact of trauma-informed techniques.

With compassion and expertise, Jasmine guides participants through a blend of gentle movements and meditation, offering a safe space for exploration and healing.

Participants are invited to connect with their inner selves and cultivate resilience in the face of trauma.

During the segment, Jasmine will demonstrate two different variations of the practice to illustrate the difference between regular instruction and trauma-informed instruction.

Attendees will learn practical strategies to integrate trauma-informed practices into their own lives and professional work, emphasizing the importance of language, permission, and empowerment in supporting trauma survivors.

Jasmine's segment promises to inspire and empower participants to embrace healing, resilience, and self-discovery in the face of adversity



Jasmine Bhambra is a multi-faceted professional deeply involved in fostering connections and collaborations through her role as a Community Builder with United Way, where she tirelessly works to cultivate healthy and inclusive communities. Jasmine's impact goes beyond her professional achievements. She is a captivating public speaker, using her voice to inspire positive change, and she serves as the Vice President of the Fraser Valley Indo-Canadian Business Association, where she advocates for the interests of her community. She has also been a residential builder, designer and realtor for over

20 years in the Fraser Valley.

Her journey of advocacy and community engagement was profoundly influenced by a personal tragedy: the murder of her sister, Manjit Panghali, in 2006. This tragic event led her to pursue her yoga and meditation journey. Jasmine has been teaching at schools and yoga studios in Abbotsford as well as private one on one classes since 2015. Jasmine's qualifications include a 200-hour Yoga Teacher Training certification from Red Door Yoga (2015), Yoga for Kids certification from Yoga Kids International (2017), Yoga for Trauma and Resilience certification from Langara College (2017), and Grief Recovery Method Specialist certification from the Grief Recovery Institute (2023).

Presentation Abstracts



Applying a holistic, collective lens to working with South Asian communities in Metro Vancouver

Dr. Daljit Gill-Badesha, Gary Thandi, and Anita Lal

We are leaders of three different agencies but work collaboratively, harnessing each of our strengths to address the needs of underserved communities - in particular South Asian communities. In our presentation, we will describe how we can offer services to all members of a South Asian family/extended family, addressing issues they may be impacted by, such as gender-based violence, racism, substance use, mental health, intergenerational trauma as well as caste-based oppression. This work is focuses both on micro and macro level factors impacting these communities .

Presentation Abstracts



Effective Evidence-based gender-based violence prevention in high schools and communities

Yasmin Vejs Simsek & Oreofeoluwa Adeyonu

Our presentation will be about our WAGE funded work at the North Shore Women's Centre with effective, evidence-based gender-based violence prevention in high schools and communities. We will present on our process and what we've learned and introduce you to two evidence-based programs we strongly support and encourage implementation of: Flip the Script and Safe Dates. Most of our work this year has been implementing Flip the Script in high schools and communities - it's a 12 hour prevention program aimed at female-identified students, developed at the SARE centre at the university of Windsor and a two year RCT has shown a 46% decrease in completed rape after 1 year and a 63% decrease in attempted rape.

Presentation Abstracts

Intimate Partner Violence Brain Injury Recognition Training for Police

Dr. Stephanie Ashton & Dr. Amanda McCormick

Over 7000 police officers work in urban, rural, and remote communities throughout BC. They play a key role in response to Intimate Partner Violence. Stef Ashton's research involves the creation of a novel virtual reality (VR) scenario-based training tool to change police response in IPV cases where head injury and strangulation symptoms exist with the goal of improving long-term health outcomes amongst survivors. It is recognized that simulation is a gold standard for case-based learning. The educational content, developed for delivery through a VR experience, involved input from police, stakeholders from the gender-based violence sector, and those with lived experience, to ensure representation and inclusion in a simulated environment. The final scenario training tool will be tested within the learning environment and again six months after the training to determine the consistency with which front-line officers are applying the knowledge. This presentation will discuss the study's findings and implications.

Presentation Abstracts



Gray Divorce- Supporting South Asian Women Divorce

Meena Dhilon & Jasmine Gill

We will discuss gray divorces in the South Asian Community, i.e. where women are dealing with divorce after they are mid-40's. We will discuss how to practice with cultural humility and be alert to issues that are relevant for women in this category, the challenges and the needs faced by South Asian Women dealing with divorce. We share learnings from our practice and legal clinic. We believe it is important to give middle-aged to senior South Asian Women's needs a distinct voice.

Presentation Abstracts

GBV Prevention and Practice: Supporting mothers and engaging men and boys

Yusra Qadir & Kaitlin Shannahan & Kate Bojin

GBV Prevention and Practice: Supporting mothers and engaging men and boys will be a panel style presentation with some interactive components. It will share good practices and lessons learnt in supporting mothers (survivors of GBV) in rebuilding their lives, and preparing their children for school and life. It will also share data and analysis from discussions with men and boys across Canada to identify areas of effective engagement, so men and boys can step up as allies to prevent and end GBV in their homes and communities.

Presentation Abstracts



Criminal Law and Beyond: The Law Responds to Coercive Control in Intimate Partner and Family Relationship Context

Dr. Margaret Hall

“Coercive control” describes a pattern of conduct (including psychological abuse, sexual humiliation, isolation, and financial exploitation) that deprives the victim of their psychological liberty. As a grotesque caricature of stereotypical male-female relationship dynamics, coercive control builds on and exploits those stereotypes (and so is not a gender neutral phenomenon). The deprivation of liberty in coercive control relationships causes significant psychological damage and, in many cases, financial damage (financial abuse being one technique through which coercive control is exercised, with financial benefit being one of the goals). Physical violence is generally unlikely so long as the coercive control relationship is “working” for the perpetrator; the potential for physical violence is highest where the terms of that relationship are disrupted. Canada is now considering a criminal offence of coercive control (following the lead of England and other countries). This presentation reviews the criminal response (including the experience of other countries) together with the need to develop non-criminal responses to coercive control that would allow victims to sue perpetrators directly to recover for psychological harm and financial loss.

Presentation Abstracts



Measuring gendered violence in your workplace

Dr. Cherylynn Basani

Measurement of gendered violence (GV) in the work place has a number of benefits. It can be one effect tool that gauges what is happening in the workplace. While an individual (employer, manager, human resources or employee) might think that they know about gendered violence in their workplace on account of their personal experiences, without measurement one can not make generalizations, for what we have come to know as managers, company owners, HR representatives or employees might be biased. Ideally, new policy and programs/training should not be created without understanding the state of GV in the workplace. And once new policy and programs/training are enacted, measurement of GV in the work place should be conducted so to determine the effectiveness of training and (changing) policy over time.

Measuring GV in the workplace is important and is something that all workplaces can do, no matter their size or budget. While there are clear pros to hiring an external evaluator to come into your workplace and measure GV, all workplaces are able to measure GV through internal evaluation. In this workshop Dr Bassani briefly overviews the measurement of GV in the workplace and helps guide individuals to come up with an initial measurement strategy for their particular workplace.

Presentation Abstracts

Canadian Women Abused by Intimate Partners: Practice Implications from a Collection of Results from the Healing Journey Study

Dr. Leslie M. Tutty

This presentation features results from “The Healing Journey,” a tri-provincial research project (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta) on women abused by intimate partners. The study included 665 Canadian women (336 Indigenous, 283 White, 40 visible minority). The presentation reviews results from a number of analyses on issues including: mental health and well-being, a longitudinal analysis, comparing the mental health of Indigenous women versus non-Indigenous women, women with disabilities, mothering, protective strategies from mothers, sexual assaults by partners, child custody issues, father-child visitation issues, post-separation coercive control, women’s use of counselling services, including support groups, Indigenous women’s resilience, use of services and colonization. The presentation summarizes the practice issues that emerge from the study.

Presentation Abstracts



Domestic Abuse Service Providers and their Stories

Dr. Rebecca Shaw

When we think of stories, or narratives, the first thing that comes to mind is not usually their connection to domestic abuse. However, narratives can actually have an important role to play when it comes to harm and vulnerability. They can inspire and motivate harmful action; they are used to make sense of harm and vulnerability; and they are used in the process of surviving harm. Stories, therefore, are crucial for helping people make sense of the world. Yet, how we see, react and make sense of domestic abuse often involves drawing on 'dominant' socio-cultural narratives: systemic and structural narratives that produce and reproduce stereotypes and biases, silence victim/survivors, minimise perpetrators and perpetuate problematic myths of domestic abuse. This paper, therefore, sets out to instigate a discussion of the power of these dominant narratives, and why the existence and co-constitution of these narratives should be recognised, and engaged with, by practitioners and service providers.

It will draw on findings from a UK Economic Social and Research Council project 'Domestic Abuse Service Providers and their Stories' to showcase how entrenched, 'dominant' narratives impact how service providers view and approach domestic abuse victim/survivors and perpetrators. The project has involved focus groups and individual narrative interviews to collect first hand insights into experiences of front-line workers and the narratives which dominate domestic abuse discourse. Specifically, this paper will argue that an understanding of these 'dominant' narratives, and their power, should form a crucial part of a comprehensive critical praxis framework for service providers. It calls for us, as practitioners, to recognise how we conceptualise, articulate and employ these narratives if we are to change perceptions and 'rewrite' those problematic and persistent narratives of domestic abuse.

Presentation Abstracts



Preventing and Addressing Violence among Children

Dr. Balbir Gurm & Hanieh Ghaderi

Violence among school-age children poses significant challenges to their well-being and safety. To address this pressing issue, we conducted a comprehensive scoping review to explore existing interventions and prevention strategies aimed at stopping violence among children. Our review synthesized findings from a diverse range of sources, including academic literature, grey literature, and best practice guidelines. Drawing upon the insights gleaned from the scoping review, we embarked on the development and refinement of a practical toolkit tailored specifically for middle and high school students. This toolkit is designed to empower adolescents with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to effectively prevent and address violence in their schools and communities. Through a participatory approach involving input from students, educators, and experts in the field, we refined the toolkit to ensure its relevance, accessibility, and effectiveness for its intended audience. Key components of the toolkit include evidence-based strategies for conflict resolution, bystander intervention, peer support networks, and community engagement initiatives. By equipping adolescents with proactive strategies and tools, our aim is to foster a culture of empathy, respect, and non-violence within school environments. In this presentation, we will provide an overview of our scoping review findings, discuss the development process of the toolkit, and highlight its potential impact on promoting safer and more inclusive school environments. We believe that empowering adolescents as agents of change is crucial in addressing violence and fostering positive social norms among school-age populations.

Presentation Abstracts

Mobilizing the Narratives of LGBTQ Survivors

Dr. Claire Robson

One of the key outcomes of The Indigo Project (conducted in 2023) was the publication of a collection of survivor narratives cowritten by LGBTQ participants and published by Springer (Elder Abuse in the LGBTQ2SA+ Community: The Impact of Homophobia and Transphobia). In this presentation we will consider how the narratives might be used to educate and to inform practice.

Presentation Abstracts

Caregiver Styles and Trauma: exploring the role of the caregiver and intergenerational effects on attachment

Lisa Kaldenbach

The relationship between caregiver styles and intergenerational trauma is a complex and significant area of study. Caregiver styles can play a crucial role in either perpetuating or mitigating the effects of trauma across generations. By understanding these relationships, we can develop effective interventions aimed at breaking the cycle and fostering resilience in families.

Presentation

Abstracts



LGBT+ and Heterosexual Elder Abuse Prevalence, Types, and Perpetrators: Findings from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging

Dr. Gloria M. Gutman, Dr. Heather Stewart, and Dr. Mojgan Karbakhsh

Analysis of Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging data reveal divergent risk for elder abuse across gender identity and sexual orientation groups. Overall prevalence was 10% for heterosexuals and 12% for sexual minorities, psychological abuse and financial abuse were the most common types, with highest prevalence (15.5% and 7 % respectively) among lesbian and bisexual women. Analysis of perpetrator characteristics also show divergence across victim gender identity and sexual orientation groups. In this session study co-investigators Drs. Gloria Gutman, Heather Stewart and Mojgan Karbakhsh will discuss policy and service implications of these findings for sexual minority and sexual majority men and women in Canada .

Presentation Abstracts



Dixon Transition Society's Equity in Education Project

Simar Saini & Monika Verma

Dixon's Equity in Education program is aimed at exploring school policies and procedures through a gender-based lens. Through collaborations with organizations such as KidsPlay, we were able to form 3 Youth Advisory Committees, consisting of youth attending high school. We were grateful to gain insight into experiences of these youth within the school system, while enhancing their leadership skills. This session would be a dissemination of the results from the research conducted over the span of three years.

Presentation Abstracts



Older Adults and Domestic Violence case study

Kelly Ann Taylor & Allie Blackburn

Review of our program and services:

We are a unique mobile nursing team that provides services to clients within the rural Renfrew County area emergency departments, which include 5 sites. Distance to each site varies and our furthest distance is between an hour and an hour and a half. With a High senior population base we had received funding to expand our program, allowing our forensic nurses to maintain and manage older adult cases. Services we may offer: Crisis Counselling and emotional support Physical examination and treatment of injuries Documentation and photographs of injuries Pregnancy and STI prevention including HIV Pregnancy and STI/HIV testing and follow up Testing for drugs of abuse Collection of forensic evidence Risk assessments and safety planning Referral to community supports and services including counselling Follow up health care, testing and support Testify in court as expert witness Would like to briefly touch base on our program, our expansion into Older Adult Protection Services and end with a case study of a case with an Older adult experiencing Domestic Violence. Reviewing the case, our interventions and the outcome.

Presentation Abstracts

Listening, Supporting and Believing Survivors of Sexualized Violence

Shivani Jeet

As a survivor of many shapes and forms of abuse, my journey to healing and dedicating my work to advocate for survivors of violence stems from personal experiences, the experience of others and the injustices so many of us have faced. As we share our truths and experience to others, it is difficult but necessary to say that the support we receive whether its from friends, family or community members isn't always empathetic.

Presentation Abstracts



Failures of the Sociological Imagination: Canadian News Media Representations of Intimate Partner Femicide

Lucy Liu

Approximately every six days, a woman in Canada is killed by her intimate partner (Statistics Canada, 2019). Statistics have also demonstrated that Intimate Partner Femicide (IPF) in Canada is on the rise, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Although countless women suffering from domestic violence are invisible to society, media coverage of intimate partner femicide (IPF) has been minimal, and when it is covered, it is often framed as a private problem rather than a severe social issue. This research investigated how Canadian news outlets shaped and framed IPF stories. Utilizing a mixed-methods approach, this research analyzed 127 news articles covering 18 IPF cases between 2018 and 2022. The finding revealed that the newsworthiness of IPF is influenced by the victim-perpetrator relationship, with less attention given than in the case of homicides by strangers. News media often adopt an event-centered approach, presenting IPF as an individual problem and omitting key contextual issues. Moreover, victim-blaming persists, attributing responsibility to victims, and media often uses dramatic narratives, raising ethical concerns about prioritizing newsworthiness over moral considerations. This study helps to bridge the gap in understanding how media dynamics influence societal attitudes towards IPF and argues it is imperative to shift the narrative from personal tragedies to urgent social issues. By unveiling the nuances of media representation, the findings contribute to advocacy efforts and preventive measures, reframing IPF as a critical social issue demanding immediate attention.

Presentation Abstracts



The Entanglement of Violence in Relationships & Violence Towards Animals

Sue O'Neill & Kerri Thompson

This session introduces the audience to the Violence Link which is the interconnection of violent crime including gender-based violence, animal abuse, child sexual abuse, intergenerational violence, and other acts of criminal behaviour. This session discusses Humane Canada's work to support survivors of GBV including the ACT Project, funded by Women and Gender Equality (WAGE) Canada, and the Canadian Violence Link Coalition (CVLC). Survivors experiencing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) face an inadequate system of support that has additional barriers for survivors with animals. The majority of GBV shelters do not take in animals, and survivors are often faced with the impossible choice of leaving their companion(s) behind or staying and enduring more violence. Over the past year, the ACT Project has worked with cross-sector organizations across Canada to develop an Adaptable Collaborative Response Model (ACRM) (ACT to Keep Families Safe) to guide program development and emerging practices that support survivors experiencing gender-based violence with animals. This model aims to help organizations better support survivors in overcoming barriers toward securing a violence-free future. The CVLC, with its collaboration across many sectors, has provided the foundation upon which this work has been built. The session will highlight key opportunities and tools to further participants work within survivors of GBV including 1) Raising awareness and increasing communication about the Violence Link; 2) Engaging in cross-sectoral collaboration and tools available to support this work 3) Accessing education, tools, and resources to support organizations responding to survivors with animals experiencing GBV.

Presentation Abstracts



Gender Based Violence: EW-M2Y / ADAGE

Nosheen Mathew & Amandeep Gondara

Vancouver & Lower Mainland Multicultural Family Support Services Society (VLMFSS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to ending family/gender-based/intimate partner violence. Based in the Metro Vancouver area since 1991, VLMFSS serves immigrant, refugee, non-status and visible minority women and children facing family violence. The organization is delivering two projects, EW-M2Y and ADAGE. The Enhancing Wellness- M2Y project, funded by Public Safety Canada, is a groundbreaking 5-year research initiative led by the VLMFSS. This project aims to delve into the unique challenges faced by immigrant women and youth who have experienced violence and abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic. After the completion of a thorough literature review including an environmental scan of digital interventions, the groundwork has been laid for surveys and focus group discussions among 6 immigrant communities. This mixed method research will provide substantial data analysis which will inform the development of an interactive web app. The purpose of this app will improve the experience of survivors of violence and abuse through the provision of education, resources, and access. ADAGE (Attitudes Development for Gender Equality) is a project, funded by Women and Gender Equality Canada, serves to identify and address attitudes (thinking, feeling and behavior) that need to be addressed in order to prevent family violence and build gender equality. It invites reflection and collaboration in fostering a healthy relationship among members of the family which then influence the community.

Presentation Abstracts



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Policy & Beyond

Tanya Dawar & Dr. Balbir Gurm

Childhood experiences profoundly shape our health and well-being throughout life. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), such as abuse, neglect, and family challenges, can have lasting effects on physical and mental health. In British Columbia (BC), the prevalence of ACEs is concerning, particularly among Indigenous communities and other vulnerable populations. To address this urgent issue, collaborative action is needed. A policy proposal is prepared for Minister Adrian Dix, Minister of Health and Jennifer Whiteside, Minister for Mental Health & Addictions, emphasizing the importance of government intervention and partnerships across sectors. It identifies gaps in current ACEs programs and highlights the need for targeted funding and preventive measures. The proposal advocates for a transformative approach, integrating healthcare, social services, education, justice, and other sectors. By aligning with international best practices and focusing on equity, health, and social outcomes, BC can lead the way in ACEs reduction. Furthermore, the proposal underscores the financial implications of inaction versus proactive investment in ACEs prevention. While initial investments may seem substantial, the potential long-term savings and improved well-being justify the commitment. Stakeholder support, particularly from non-profit organizations and community stakeholders, is crucial for success. Collaborative action is essential to mitigate the impact of ACEs and promote the health and well-being of all British Columbians. By embracing this comprehensive approach and fostering cross-sector collaboration, the government can create a healthier future for generations to come. More will be shared during the conference and feedback will be taken.

Presentation Abstracts



Anti-SOGI Campaigns

Dr. Travers

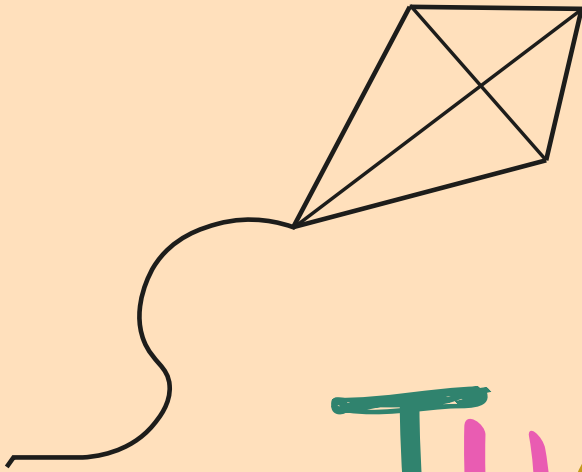
A constellation of conservative social movement and organizations in the USA and Canada are targeting queer and trans kids and inclusive gender and sexuality education programs in public schools for elimination. This is alarming and genocidal. Queer and trans people have always been and will always be part of our communities. What anti-trans campaigns seek is to make life unliveable for those of us who defy traditional heteropatriarchal norms but we have come too far to be shoved back to the margins again. In this talk I situate anti-SOGI campaigns in fascist, white supremacist political movements and outline strategies for fighting back.

NEVR Conference Committee Members

- **Committee Co-chair:** Dr. Balbir Gurm, Nursing Faculty, KPU, Founder/Facilitator NEVR
- **Committee Co-chair:** Dr. Jennifer Marchbank, Professor, GSWS, SFU
- Karen Kilbride, STA Women's Committee
- Vera LeFranc, Board Member, NEVR
- Sheila Early, President, SDE Consulting
- Hanieh Ghaderi, Project Coordinator, NEVR
- Nikita Mitra, Intern, NEVR

Thank-you to Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) for being our conference partner!





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