

safeguarding AFRICAN CHILDREN AT RISK

Seminar for
AFRICAN PARENTS & PRACTITIONERS
WORKING WITH AFRICAN CHILDREN IN LONDON



MONDAY 22nd JUNE 2009

9.00am to 3.30pm

**Venue: Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP,
65 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HT**



BACKGROUND

AFRUCA is the premier charity promoting the rights and welfare of African children in the UK. This seminar is being held as a follow up to our various training activities for African parents and practitioners across London in the area of child protection. Many of our event participants have highlighted the need for a constructive dialogue between parents and practitioners to enable both parties interact in a neutral, non clinical environment, while learning more about the issues affecting children and the challenges each party experience in addressing them. The need to share ideas and knowledge about how to work together to better ensure the safety and wellbeing of African children, has also been identified as a key priority.

This event is being held as part of a week long series of activities marking AFRUCA's 8th anniversary from 22nd to 27th June 2009.

OBJECTIVES

- To examine the issue of child abuse, neglect and poverty and the link with anti social behaviour among young people
- To enable discussion and information exchange on the exclusion of Black/African children from schools and the long term implications for children, parents and the community.
- To deliberate on the twin issues of knife/gun crime and gang culture and the link with child abuse among African youths.
- To examine the growing problem of teenage pregnancy among African girls in London and strategies to address it
- To examine the impact of domestic violence on African children and families
- To identify strategies to enhance greater understanding and joint working between African parents and practitioners to better safeguard African children in London

OUTCOMES

1. Participants will attain an improved awareness of the relationship between child abuse, neglect, poverty and anti social behaviour among young people in London.
2. Professionals will gain a better understanding and insight into the needs and priorities of African families as well

as an improved awareness of the challenges African parents experience in raising children in London.

3. Parents will gain an improved knowledge of the role that practitioners play in safeguarding children from abuse and harm as well as better understanding of the type of support they can receive from related Services.
4. Participants will gain new strategies to enhance understanding and improve joint working between African parents and practitioners to enable better safeguarding of African children in London

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

African parents, African faith leaders, social workers, health sector practitioners, education sector practitioners, sure start programme staff, policy makers, academics, voluntary sector organisations.

SPEAKERS

Leethen Bartholomew - Community Partnership Adviser, Hackney Children's Services.

Steve Morrison – Head teacher, Kingsdale Foundation School, Southwark.

Mike Jervis – Executive Director, Damilola Taylor Foundation.

Pauline Ogazi– Personal experience on gang culture and knife crime

Debbie Ariyo - Executive Director, AFRUCA

Esy Oluwafemi – Executive Director, Wisegem

Gennifer Onyutta – Executive Director, South London African Women's Organisation.

SEMINAR THEMES

- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Child Poverty
- Gang Culture
- Domestic Violence
- Exclusions from Schools
- Teenage Pregnancy

PROGRAMME

- 09.00 – 09.30** Registration
09.30 – 09.45 Welcome and Introduction
09.45 – 10.05 Leethen Bartholomew - Community Partnership Adviser, Hackney Children's Services
Children at risk of child abuse and neglect
- 10.05 – 10.25** Steve Morrison – Head teacher, Kingsdale Foundation School
Black/African children experiencing exclusion from school in Modern day Britain

Questions and Answers

- 10.30– 10.50** Mike Jarvis – Executive Director, Damilola Taylor Foundation. Relationship between child abuse, poverty and gang culture within the Black/African Community
- 10.50 – 11.10** Pauline Ogazi – personal experience of gang culture and knife crime

Questions and Answers

- 11.15 – 11.30** Tea Break
11.25– 11.45 Debbie Ariyo, Executive Director, AFRUCA
Working with Practitioners and African Families – Case-Study of Southwark
11.45– 12.05 Esy Oluwafemi – Executive Director, Wisegem
African children at risk of early pregnancies
- 12.05 - 12.25** Gennifer Onyutta – Executive Director, South London African Women Organisation. Impact of domestic violence on African children
- 12.25 – 13.00** Panel Discussion

Question and Answer session

- 13.00 – 14.00** Lunch Break
14:00 – 15.00 Workshops
15.00 – 15.30 Feedback from Workshops, Next Steps
15.30 Close

Booking Form

I would like to book a place (1 booking form per delegate)

Name:

Organisation:

Address:

..... Post Code:

Tel No: Fax:

Email:

LUNCH

Lunch will be provided.
Please tick one dietary requirement:

- Mixed inc. meat** **Vegetarian** **Halal**
Please advise us if you have any additional needs.

WORKSHOPS (please choose one option)

- Child Poverty and Child Abuse
 Working together to tackle anti social behaviour among young people

FEES

Terms and conditions:

(Payment is required in advance with your booking)

- One place £100.00 statutory organisations and charities with more than 10 employees (per delegate)
- Invited African parents are users of AFRUCA's services and will attend for free

Please invoice my organisation for £

Address if different from above:
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A fee of £5.00 will be charged for invoicing
A receipt will be dispatched with confirmation of your registration.

Please use your tab key to move to the various fields to fill in this forms. When you finish, print this out and Return your booking form with payment to:

Justin Bahunga
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CANCELLATIONS

Must be made in writing and will be subjected to an administration charge of 50% if cancelled up to 2 weeks before the date of the conference. We regret that no refunds will be made after this date, but we are happy to accept a substitute delegate.