

No Quarter

Issue 2

March 2010

Hello and



welcome to the second edition of our not quarterly, quarterly newsletter, full of the latest news and information about the Charities that reside at 1 Victoria Road, Dundee.

Big topics this issue include:

New resources -
new languages

New partnerships

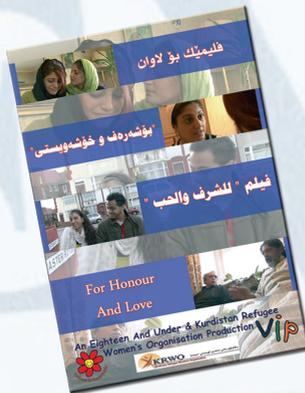
VIP and child
protection training

New project to
tackle Under 5's
Violence

Why training is
so important for
running violence
and abuse
prevention sessions

New Violence Prevention DVD tackles forced marriage, honour killings and FGM

There are 60 million child brides worldwide. Over the next decade, this number is expected to rise to 100 million. Conservative estimates put the number of forced marriages in the UK at 3000. Honour killings, forced marriage and FGM are huge issues that need to be highlighted and addressed. Our new DVD, For 'Honour and Love', offers young people the opportunity to discuss these and other cultural issues that impact on our community.



The DVD examines issues such as forced marriages, the treatment of women and honour killings – issues that are still prevalent in some areas of our community. We produced it in partnership with the Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation. Members of the Arabic and Kurdish community wrote scripts and took part as actors. It is available in English, Arabic and Kurdish.

The production of the DVD was funded by the Nationwide Foundation who also funded the recent translations into Kurdish and Arabic of the Teen VIP DVD (covering date rape, domestic abuse, sexual abuse exploitation, Internet dangers etc) and the Wee VIP DVD for nursery and primary aged children (covering peer pressure, sexual abuse, domestic abuse, road safety, exploitation,

An in depth trainers booklet accompanies the DVD. It is available now in our shop. www.vipshop.org.uk



Violence Is Preventable



izzy's promise

www.izzyspromise.org.uk

18Plus
preventing abuse supporting survivors

www.violenceispreventable.org.uk

www.18u.org.uk

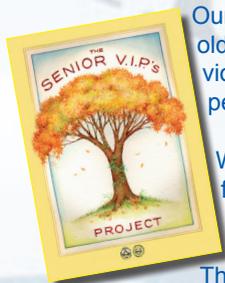


The VIP Programme is a multi award winning abuse prevention programme for children, young people and vulnerable adults throughout the UK.

VIP News

For the most up to date news about VIP visit www.violenceispreventable.org.uk or follow us on [twitter](#). If you would like an ebook download or a hard copy of our resources catalogue, call us on 01382 206222.

Senior VIP



Our Senior V.I.P. Programme, an intergenerational project which brings older and young people together to work on personal safety, non-violence and community issues has been running with groups of elderly people in the community for a few years now.

We have now developed and evaluated several prevention resources for use with older or vulnerable adults to teach them (in a fun way) about all aspects of abuse, violence, health and safety.

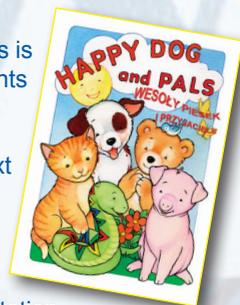
The Senior V.I.P. Pack and the Senior V.I.P. DVD was developed with older people and evaluations show it to have measurable success in reducing fear of crime. Over 3,850 elderly people have benefitted from this programme to date though we still have no funding for the work. See more at www.seniorvip.org.uk

New Resources - new languages!

The Polish translation of the toddler V.I.P. resource Happy Dog & Pals is now complete and this is being made into an e book for use by parents with their children. This is available to purchase as a download now!

We have no funding to print it as yet so producing an e-book is the next best way of making it available.

Jenny's Story (pre-school age), the wee VIP DVD (for nursery and primary age covering bullying, domestic violence, safety, racism, peer pressure, drugs, etc) and Teen VIP DVD (covering date rape, exploitation, LGBT, drugs, internet, etc) are next in line for translation into Polish and we have some potential partners in Poland who we will hopefully soon have on board.



We now have a small team of volunteer translators on board thanks to Milena, a former student placement. Thank you everyone who made suggestions of possible partners in Poland. We are following up each one and are very excited about another partnership.

VIP Encourages disclosures...we provided VIP sessions to just over 500 children in December alone and, during the sessions, just over 60 of the children made disclosures of personal harm that they had experienced. As usual, teachers were made aware of all disclosures and follow up support was offered to the schools.

We carried out over 1000 mailings to schools throughout Scotland and already we are being booked up well this year for new and returned V.I.P. sessions.

On December 19th, we lost a dear friend and supporter of many years. Bill McCabe worked tirelessly in the community, raising funding for us and many other charities. We will miss him terribly.

New poetry story book for Toddlers

Our latest publication, *Toddlers Rhymes*, was launched in December. Along with the Lord Provost of Dundee, staff, our volunteer artist and author and lots of very small people, we attended the printers to see how they print the books.

The children (and us) were able to watch the creation of the first of the new books as they came off the presses. It was very interesting and exciting and we got some good publicity too.

The *Toddlers Rhymes* book is dedicated to Brandon Muir, a Dundee toddler who was killed by his mother's boyfriend. The book is a standalone book to be read with very young children, but is also part of a new resource pack for parents and educators to help keep young children safe and educate parents in keeping children safe and raising them without violence.



From the back left, Lord Provost John Lefford, Marley Laurie (Author), Kaya, Laurie, Carol Storer (Artist), Front left Kaitlyn and baby Blythe.

Hope for new partnerships

We are seeking funding to take the VIP Project into Palestine with our partners CARE (Centre for Applied Research in Education). We are optimistic that we will find some funding to pursue this exciting project soon. In the meantime, The Kirkton Beat, our children's samba drumming group, will make collections at all of their performances over the Summer towards raising funding to advance this partnership work. The drumming group practices weekly and they are very popular at the Gala days and public events.

A new partnership has been proposed between V.I.P. and a large national charity in NSW in Australia. We have shared our resources with them so they can try them out there and we are working on a joint proposal to have exchange visits for workers from both agencies so that we can learn from each other and share practice and ideas.



Teachers Training DVD

Filming has continued throughout the quarter in the development of our teachers training DVD. All staff, volunteers and even the students have been roped into the making of this resource as we have few funds available for its production. We never let that stop us though. Hopefully this resource will soon be available.

See over for what's new with Izzy's Promise, Eighteen And Under, 18 Plus, DASI, Taywise and our view on training...



izzy's promise

Working to end RITUAL & ORGANISED ABUSE in the world

The Evidence Of Ritual Abuse



Below is a small advertisement which was placed in "Gumtree" recruiting followers.

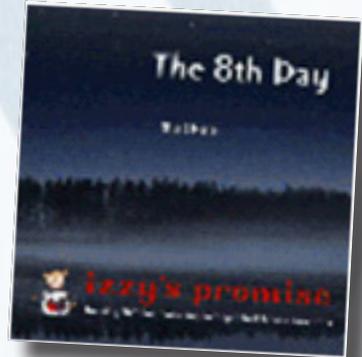
This is some of the evidence that support workers and survivors need to be aware of in terms of existence of ritual abuse in our society.

For more support and/or information, check out our DVD 'The Eighth Day' which aims to raise basic awareness of ritual abuse in order to encourage more agencies and workers to provide support to survivors.

The DVD covers topics such as

- What Is Ritual Abuse?
- Facts about Ritual Abuse
- The belief system
- Why it is difficult for survivors to talk about ritual abuse
- The evidence - it is not a myth
- Best support practices
- How support workers can look after themselves

The DVD is available from the [VIP Shop](#) or by calling 01382 206222.



Izzy's Promise offers support to:

- Ritual/organised abuse survivors
- Refugees
- Asylum seekers
- Ethnic minorities
- People trafficked via rituals

Additionally we offer training and consultancy services to agencies, produce resources to assist with the support of abuse survivors and conduct research into causes of ritual abuse.

You can contact us on 01382 206222 or by email to josephlumbasi@aol.com

We've done really well for publicity this year so far. We have been on TV on the 6 o'clock news, on the local radio stations several times and in the newspapers. We even got a full page spread about the V.I.P. Project in the local rag.

Groups and Projects

18 Plus

18 Plus is a newly formed organization, which we are helping develop. It will provide support to any survivors of childhood sexual abuse but with a focus on support provision for adult male survivors and elderly survivors.

Taywise

Our Taywise project was very busy. Taywise stands for Tayside Against Young Women Involved in Sexual Exploitation and we carry out street work to engage with vulnerable young women, offer drop in services and consult to find out what they need and want from services. Most of the young women we work with come from Dundee, Fife, Angus and Perthshire but we have been contacted by several young women from London, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Most of these young women are extremely vulnerable and none will willingly go to statutory agencies. In addition to direct work with young women, we provide prevention workshops on commercial and sexual exploitation in schools and communities. We are increasingly working with asylum seekers, drug users and runaways. Although we receive no funding for work with young men involved in sexual exploitation, we do frequently encounter them and work with them. These young men are particularly vulnerable as they are not on anyone's radar and no one is funding work with them. Unseen and unknown to statutory services are far as we can tell.

Dasi

The DASI project is busy too. DASI stands for Domestic Abuse: Stop it! This project provides services to all young people who are affected by domestic violence. The violence can be direct or indirect and the young people can phone, e mail, drop in or be seen in schools. We provide confidential support for as long as the young person wants it and in whatever way they wish the support. They define what they need for themselves from support. The project funding is for young males also which is a really welcome change.

Resolve It

The rising rate of children and young people at risk of exclusion from primary and secondary schools requires swift, preventative action and a new project called 'Resolve it' aims to do just that.

With new figures showing that 2,600 children aged 5 and under were excluded from school for violence in England alone, this is a subject that will now receive much 'remedial' attention. Violence in schools is by no means a new trend but, alarmingly, the children that are involved in these particular incidences are very young.

Watch this space for more information on our new project.

The Chinchilla, who now has as many names as we have children, got a new luxury cage to live in thanks to the fundraising activities of some volunteers. He doesn't spend much time in it and is generally seen running round the room chewing everything in sight!

Our view...

Encouraging children and young people to disclose their experiences of abuse and violence is as specialised area. It requires skill and a readiness to encourage them to tell.

V.I.P. is the only abuse prevention programme, which has proven value in getting children and young people to tell. The resources are available widely across the UK and are being translated for use in other countries.

Research carried out by Dr Ian Barron showed that when delivered by Eighteen And Under, V.I.P. programme was more effective and led to large numbers of abuse disclosures. While V.I.P. delivered by teachers did lead to increased awareness of safety, it did not lead to disclosures. The difference in approach and delivery by Eighteen And Under was analysed and highlighted the workers at Eighteen And Under's prevention mindset as underpinning the reason for children telling about harm.



Many agencies and schools now use V.I.P. resources with children and young people. While anyone can buy the resources, we believe it is important to ensure that they are trained to the highest standards and that standards of effective delivery are set and maintained. Full training and accreditation is now available. Once trained in use of the different programmes, workers or teachers can choose to become Approved Providers of V.I.P. This requires video analysis of the worker delivering a session to children by Eighteen And Under. Approval will be given to those who are running V.I.P. programme to standards set by Eighteen And Under.

We fully believe, and many independent studies agree, that V.I.P. leads the field of abuse prevention and personal safety in the UK in terms of effectiveness, resources, programmes and the wide range of issues included. It covers domestic violence, sexual abuse, Internet, bullying, sexual exploitation, drugs, peer pressure, sexism, homophobia, racism, etc. V.I.P. has programmes for children and young people from age 3, people with learning difficulties or disabilities and other vulnerable adults.

Our next V.I.P. training days on abuse prevention work in schools are:

6th, 7th, and 8th April and
26th, 27th and 28th October.

Please note that there are limited spaces available on these training days. If you are interested, please email or call us for more information.

We have continued to search for grants and other forms of funding for the many initiatives we are involved in currently and those we intend to be involved with in the future. Due to the recession other agencies are struggling and once again we find ourselves in great demand with other voluntary agencies asking us to help them find and secure funding.

Other news...

Other training initiatives...

We recently provided 2 courses on Child Protection, one an internal course for workers and volunteers and the other was provided to a national children's organisation. We also delivered training courses on policy development, support of young survivors of abuse and a 2-day training course about ritual and organized abuse. Our management members all took part in a training day to refresh and update their knowledge and skills.

Working with Broken Rainbow

We are still actively seeking funds to develop some of our partnerships further. Our partnership with Broken Rainbow in London continues with us joining them in their latest fundraising event. This event is a party in London and a celebration of LGBT history month. We are still awaiting the publication of the joint on-line survey report on young people's experience of domestic violence, which we carried out with Broken Rainbow.



VIP for all?

There have been presentations to teachers in 6 different schools over January. Each of these was very well received and several of the schools have now signed up for further input from V.I.P. We also began delivering V.I.P. with children in a new primary school and ran several workshops with young people in 2 high schools. In total in January, we worked with 1056 children and young people in the schools. In addition to this, a further 36 young people have received one to one support from us every week.

Our Senior V.I.P. project was much in demand over January with just over 50 older people taking part in the weekly sessions at different venues in Scotland. Interestingly, as we usually find with children and young people receiving the prevention programmes, we had a range of disclosures of abuse.

Survivor support

There has been a huge increase in survivors contacting us through our message boards and by e-mail. This is possibly due to the amount of publicity and advertising we have been doing. The most vulnerable people do seem to prefer this safer way of making contact with us, as they can more easily remain totally anonymous. Though we do have a very high degree of confidentiality and this is what survivors of all ages want and need, it takes time and effort for them to trust us. E-mail is a perfect vehicle for their use.

This quarter we have also carried out some VIP work in Perth prison, and provided consultancy to several agencies and workers including women's aid, rape crisis centres, teachers, asylum seeker agencies and social workers.

Other news...

A plea for sharing

We still deal with many child protection cases. One involved a 13 year old child in Tayside, Scotland and, while we are happy to report that we placed all information in the hands of child protection services, we have no idea whether or not it was appropriately dealt with or what the outcomes were for the child. It is rare for services in Tayside to let us know anything at all.

By way of contrast, we highlighted a serious child protection concern that we had come across involving several children in the Fife area and, within a few days of passing the information on, received a courtesy call back informing us that the matter was being looked into by the authorities. Such small courtesies do make a difference in encouraging information sharing by small charities such as ours and indeed by members of the public.

We were also involved in a child protection case (by a local authority in England) that was very well and sensitively handled. This gives us some hope.

New website launched

Our [18u website](#) has undergone a dramatic facelift with a whole new design which matches in with our other promotional material. All of the old information which was accessed regularly still remains, but we hope we now have a much better lookin and more user friendly site.

Feedback as to how it could be included is always welcome, so please let us know if there is anything you would like to see on this, or any of our other websites.



And good luck Jaksyn

Finally, little Jaksyn Finlay the 2-year-old boy who cycled the 3 miles over the Tay Bridge and raised thousand of pounds for us has been nominated and now short-listed for the national Children's Champion Award.

We wish him luck!