

# Dr Jessica E. Eaton

## Curriculum Vitae

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### Employment

**VictimFocus – Founder (Consultant Researcher in Forensic Psychology, Sexual Violence & Trauma)**

[www.victimfocus.org.uk](http://www.victimfocus.org.uk) and [www.victimfocus-resources.com](http://www.victimfocus-resources.com)

**February 2017 – PRESENT**

- Conducting national pieces of research, evaluation and consultancy for police, local authorities, private companies and charities in forensic psychology, sexual and domestic abuse, offending and mental health
- Specialising in deconstructing and improving victim blaming, oppression and traumatising interventions and services
- Speaking, keynote, workshops, lecturing and teaching at several UK and US universities, events and large conferences
- Writing national materials, frontline briefing, evidence reviews, service evaluations, policies and guidelines in VAWG child sexual abuse and trauma
- Developing resources for professional and public to challenge victim blaming and stereotyping of people subjected to sexual violence, oppression and trauma
- Developing critical evaluation frameworks for child sexual exploitation services and interventions to track the progress of children and young adults affected by CSE
  
- Awarded Fellow of Royal Society of Arts (FRSA) 2019
- Shortlisted for Emma Humphreys Award for Work Against VAWG October 2018
- Shortlisted for Emma Humphreys Award for Work Against VAWG October 2017

### University of Derby

**Senior Lecturer in Forensic and Criminological Psychology (Victim Psychology)**

**September 2019 – PRESENT**

- Developing and delivering victimology and victim psychology modules to Undergraduate and Masters degree students
- Supervising current PhD Psychology/Criminology students

### University of Birmingham

**January 2017 – August 2017**

**Research Fellow**

- Designing survey and questionnaire methodology and content
- Conducting data analysis for a large-scale evaluation into perspectives of teaching and assessment methodology
- Writing reports from the data
- Conducting literature review and writing report

**JustWhistle/Safe and Sound**  
**June 2015 – February 2017**  
**National Training and Research Manager**

- Safe and Sound is an organisation supporting children and young people that have experienced trafficking and child sexual exploitation.
- Conducting research, design and deliver lectures, conferences, training courses and resources for professionals (police forces, probation, NHS, LSCBs etc.) throughout the UK to improve practice.
- Train, prepare and manage a national team of 15 highly specialist CSE trainers and manage over 400 training events to over 5000 professionals every year.
- Design all training materials and submit for CPD accreditation at intermediate and advanced levels.
- Speak at conferences on a regular basis and engage in detailed analysis and impact monitoring of our professional training programme including in-depth evaluation for police forces, local authorities and health services about the impact on the workforce pre, during and post training.
- Significant amount of literature searching, teaching and transferring knowledge to large audiences.
- Responsible for winning and maintaining the bids, tenders and proposals for large contracts for our training services and regularly meet and liaise with senior decision makers within local authorities, police forces, health services and voluntary agencies around the UK to discuss how to improve their responses to CSE.
- Won and managed total contracts worth over £350,000 and have increased income every financial year

**The Eaton Foundation**  
**August 2013 – PRESENT**  
**Chairperson and Founder**

**Key Roles and Responsibilities**

- I founded The Eaton Foundation in memory of my Father in Law who died from drug and alcohol abuse in 2013. In this role, I have used my skills from TSO management, project management, policy writing and research to create the charity, register it with Charities Commission and successfully secure funding for the charity for the next six years. It has a current annual turnover of over £125,000 and employs 6 members of staff and 12 volunteers, supporting over 50 men per week.
- Chairperson and Founder for the charity and therefore hold the responsibility for all executive management decisions, finance, banking and HMRC and annual reports/returns.
- Responsible for securing all contracts, tenders, partnerships and grant funding – track record of winning over £700,000 of national and regional grants in the last 2 years.
- Created the 'You and Your Loved Ones' 2014 (and the Male Mental Health Survey 2015) which was circulated online and in hard copy to adults to collect quantitative and qualitative feedback from participants about their experiences of offending, dependency, poverty, homelessness and mental health issues in males in their families.
- The Eaton Foundation Training Services – Designing and delivering anti-gender stereotyping training and male mental health courses for Police, NHS, Council, LSCB, Housing Associations to increase self-gen funding and unrestricted funds/reserves.

- On the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015, I launched the UK's first Male Mental Health Centre in Burton on Trent. Our large facility offers holistic support to men experiencing mental health issues, poverty, offending, homelessness, unemployment and dependency all in one place.
- Frequent press appearances including national TV and newspaper coverage

**JustWhistle/Safe and Sound**  
**May 2014 – June 2015**  
**Trainer (National)**

**Key Roles and Responsibilities**

- Research, design and deliver training courses, lectures, conferences and resources for professionals (police forces, probation, NHS, LSCBs etc.) throughout the UK to raise the knowledge of CSE and trafficking, prosecution, evidence gathering and safeguarding to provide professionals with the information, skills and methods they need when supporting young people and their families experiencing or at risk of CSE/trafficking.
- Writing and accrediting new materials in this topic area up to an advanced level.

**Sexual Abuse and Rape Advice Centre**  
**October 2012 – May 2014**  
**Training and Programme Co-ordinator**

**Key Roles and Responsibilities**

- Research, design and conduct training courses for graduates and counsellors
- Develop and deliver the longer training courses and also the CPD awareness sessions and training days
- Conduct weekly group therapy sessions with clients affected by abuse.
- Develop and deliver the corporate training scheme to large businesses and HR dept
- Develop and deliver the advanced skills awareness programme for experienced counsellors
- Management of the helpline service, face-to-face counselling service and group therapy service.
- Supervise approximately 30 qualified and trainee counsellors that provide the support services to clients that have been affected by rape, abuse and trafficking/exploitation.
- Conduct monthly statistical analysis and present the findings to the management committee
- Conduct a series of short studies to improve the diversity and accessibility of the service.
- Conduct a large volume of training evaluation surveys, progress and monitoring surveys, quality of service assessments and client evaluation assessments which have been created using survey software or simple hard copy surveys.

## **Victim Support October 2011 – October 2012**

**Service Delivery Manager for the Vulnerable and Intimidated Witness Programme (VIW),  
Restorative Justice and Visual Evidence for Victims (VEV) for Staffordshire**

### **Key Roles and Responsibilities**

- Developing a comprehensive service for 5 criminal courts in Staffordshire County. The VIW service supports vulnerable and intimidated witnesses (as defined by law) when they are called to give evidence as a witness. We supported the most vulnerable witnesses and also taught children and adults with learning disabilities and/or mental health needs how to give evidence and how to cope with cross examination.
- Recruiting, supervising, training and managing 46 support workers county-wide.
- Specialising in: trafficking, exploitation, rape, sexual abuse, murder, manslaughter
- Public speaking and training support workers for CPD
- Development of statistical evaluations and service analysis

## **Victim Support**

**March 2011 – October 2011**

**Service Delivery Assistant Manager** for Burton Magistrates Court Witness Service and South East Staffordshire Victim Service

### **Key Roles and Responsibilities**

- Managing the Witness Service in a magistrates court
- Supporting vulnerable and intimidated witnesses
- Conducting pre-trial visits and assessments
- Development of statistical evaluations and service analysis

## **Doctoral Research**

**PhD Psychology Thesis Title:** *'Logically, I know I am not to blame, but I still feel to blame': Exploring and measuring victim blaming and self blame of women subjected to sexual violence and abuse*

**PhD Psychology Awarded: 2 May 2019**

**University of Birmingham  
School of Psychology**

**Study 1:** Literature review of factors that contribute to the victim blaming and self-blame of women and girls who have experienced sexual violence

**Study 2:** Development and validation of a new psychometric scale to measure victim blaming of women and girls in the general public and professionals (BOWSVA Scale)

**Study 3:** Semi-structured interviews with women who have been blamed for sexual violence

**Study 4:** Semi-structured interviews with professionals working with women who have been blamed for sexual violence

## Research Interests:

- Feminist approaches to understanding oppression, abuse and harm of women and girls
- Stereotyping, attitudes and perceptions of rape and sexual/domestic/childhood abuse
- Psychology, origins and effects of victim-blaming on society
- Strengths based, trauma-informed approaches to victims of abuse and exploitation
- Anti-psychiatry approaches to working with traumatised children and adults
- The psychological effect of abuse on the person including risk of re-victimisation
- Feminist psychology including hyper-sexualisation, oppression, gender issues, masculinity, objectification, porn and equality
- The effect of training to break down stereotypes and myths surround sexual violence and child abuse on professionals in the UK
- Design and evaluation of scales, measurements and psychometric tools in mental health, crime and abuse

## Publications

Eaton, J. (2019) 'Logically, I know I am not to blame, but I still feel to blame': Exploring and measuring victim blaming and self-blame of women subjected to sexual violence and abuse, University of Birmingham

Eaton, J. (2019) The Human Rights of Girls Subjected to Child Sexual Exploitation in the UK, VictimFocus

Eaton, J. (2019) After CSE Films: Supporting children and families without traumatic imagery, VictimFocus

Eaton, J. (2018) Stop Asking Me 'What About Men?', Journal of Gender Based Violence, Policy Press

Eaton, J. (2018) Sexual Exploitation and Mental Health, Research in Practice for Adults, Dartington Press

Eaton, J. (2018) Can I tell you what it feels like? Exploring the harm caused by CSE films, VictimFocus

Eaton, J. Coulson, L. & King, S. (2018) Birmingham Assessment Change Initiative Report, University of Birmingham

Eaton, J. (2017) The impact of child sexual exploitation training on a whole police force: An evaluation of impact, knowledge and attitudes, Safe and Sound Group

Eaton, J. & Holmes, D. (2017) Working effectively to address child sexual exploitation: An evidence scope, Research in Practice, Dartington Press

Eaton, J. (2017) The impact of child sexual exploitation training for children's services in a city council, Safe and Sound Group

Eaton, J. (2016) We need to talk about CSE toolkits, Safe and Sound Group

## **Books and Chapters**

Eaton, J. (2018) 'Victim blaming is at the core of the CJS', Report or not to Report: Survivor Testimony of the Injustice System, pp.184-192, Resonance Press

Eaton, J. & Paterson-Young, C. (2018) The Little Orange Book: Learning about abuse from the voice of the child, VictimFocus

Eaton, J. (in preparation for Jun 2019) 'Approaches to preventing Child Sexual Exploitation: Critical Perspectives' in Preventing Sexual Violence, Policy Press, London

Eaton, J. (in preparation for Jun 2019) 'Hypersexualisation of children and the media' in Preventing Sexual Violence, Policy Press, London

## **Invited Keynotes and Presentations**

Eaton, J. (2019) Conference Speech - The Psychology of Victim Blaming Women Subjected to Sexual Violence, SVHE Conference, Loughborough University

Eaton, J. (2019) Keynote Speech - Victim Blaming in Child Sexual Exploitation Practice and Theory, Canterbury Conference

Eaton, J. (2019) International Women's Day Annual Speech - Victim Blaming and Self-Blame of Women, Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge

Eaton, J. (2019) Filmed Keynote Speech - The Psychology of Victim Blaming Women, Argyll and Bute Women's Aid

Eaton, J. (2018) Keynote Speech – 'Victim blaming of women who have experienced sexual violence', SATEDA Conference, Kent

Eaton, J. (2018) Keynote Speech – 'Understanding blame and self blame of victims of sexual abuse', NOTA Conference, Glasgow

Eaton, J. (2018) Keynote Speech – 'Exploring the harm caused by CSE films: When preventative methods go wrong', Prevention of Sexual Violence Conference, Worcester

Eaton, J. (2018) Conference Presentation – 'Exploring victim blaming in sexual violence in higher education', Sexual Violence in Higher Education Conference, Loughborough University

Eaton, J. (2017) Keynote Speech and Chair – 'VAWG: Are we out of the woods yet?' Parliamentary Conference on Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, London

Eaton, J. (2017) Invited Seminar – 'Exploring safeguarding and evidence in child sexual exploitation: A seminar for psychologists in practice', British Psychological Society, London

Eaton, J. & Woodhams, J. (2017) Conference Presentation - Things I 'should' have done differently: Factors affecting victim blaming and self-blame of women who have experienced sexual violence and abuse, VIA Conference, Coventry University

Eaton, J. & Woodhams, J. (2016) Conference Presentation - 'Exploring the impact of victim blaming on self blame and revictimisation' Sheffield University Sexual Violence Research Symposium

## **Invited projects and funding**

Eaton, J. (2019) Sexual abuse, trauma and victim blaming: An invited visit to New Zealand to deliver seminars and lectures on the topics of child sexual abuse, the psychology of victim blaming women and girls and trauma-informed practice

Eaton, J. (2019-2020) Child Sexual Exploitation Workforce Development Programme and Resource Supply for UK Local Authority

Eaton, J. (2019-2021) Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Workforce Development Programme for UK organisation

Eaton, J. (2018-2019) Complex Abuse and Safeguarding: A commissioned 3-day programme to be rolled out across 5 local authorities to prepare for new programme of complex safeguarding work in the UK

Eaton, J. (2018) Victim blaming in sexual violence: An invited visit to USA universities to lecture and speak at events on doctoral research in victim blaming of women who have experienced sexual violence

Eaton, J. (2018) Improving E-Safety Education in Schools: A funded project to evaluate, revise and pilot new e-safety materials to schools that challenge victim blaming of children who have been abused online

Eaton, J. (2018) Improving practice in Child Sexual Exploitation: A funded project to evaluate current local authority responses to CSE and to explore more innovative and evidence-based ways of identifying and supporting children who are being sexually exploited

Eaton, J. (2019-2020) Understanding Child Sexual Exploitation practice: A funded project to take a retrospective and future look at how a local authority has responded to cases of CSE as practice has evolved over the years

Eaton, J. (2018) Having children from rape: A funded report and ethical recommendations to production company making a feature length documentary on the experiences of women who have had children from a rape in UK

Eaton, J. (2017-2018) Improving evaluation and tracking of child outcomes in residential care: Two funded projects to design, develop, implement and pilot new self-evaluation methods in residential care companies working with children who have experienced trauma from abuse

Eaton, J. (2017-2018) Evaluating prison safety: A funded project to conduct live action research in a male prison exploring feelings of safety of the prisoners and the prison staff

## Research/Executive Boards

The Eaton Foundation Trustee Board (Chairperson)  
August 2013 - Present

Equality and Diversity Board, West Midlands Victim Support  
October 2011 – October 2012

Victim and Witness Survey Reform Board, Staffordshire Police HQ March 2012 – July 2012

## Education

PhD Psychology, Birmingham University September 2015 - March 2019  
Forensic Psychology

BSc Psychology (Hons) 2.1 The Open University - March 2011- June 2015

Advanced Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Practice - Dec 2013

## Vocational Training

Date	Training Course
May 2011	Domestic Abuse Training
June 2011	Sexual Violence Training
September 2011	Victim Support Basic Training
February 2012	Equality and Diversity Course and Examination
March 2012	Data Protection Law Course and Examination
March 2012	The Effective Leader Training Course
May 2012	Vulnerable and Intimidated Witnesses
May 2012	Homicide Training Course
June 2012	CAMHS Level 1 Training
July 2012	Supervision, Accreditation, Recruitment and Management in the Third Sector
June 2012	Managing volunteer counsellors and support workers
Sept 2013	Advanced Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Practice
Dec 2013 – Dec 2014	Diploma in Statistics and Mathematics
Dec 2013 – Dec 2014	Level 4 TEFL Qualification
May 2014	CSE Champion Training
June 2014	Supporting BYM in Child Sexual Exploitation
June 2014	NRM and Human Trafficking
April 2015	CEOP Ambassador Training and Accreditation
May 2016	Inferential Statistics Training (SPSS)
Jun 2016	3-day British Criminology Conference CPD
Sep 2016	3-day Advanced Psychometrics Training – University of Bham
Jan 2017	3-day Qualitative Interview Training – University of Bham

**List of Training Courses and Awareness Sessions  
Designed and Delivered by Dr Jessica Eaton**

- Understanding and responding to vicarious trauma, burnout and desensitisation in CSA/E in staff members
- Exploring the origins and psychology of victim blaming, self blame and sexual revictimisation
- Unpicking rape myths and stereotypes
- Developing child-centred, empowering services for children after sexual abuse and violence
- Critical perspectives of CSE - the latest evidence and practice
- Understanding and recognising sexually harmful behaviours in children
- Exploring the sexual exploitation and trauma of adults
- Understanding and responding to digital sexual violence ('revenge porn', sexting, porn use, sexual bullying, webcam abuse and grooming online)
- Understanding and responding to the hypersexualisation of children
- Modern Slavery, Domestic Trafficking and the Use of the NRM in Social Care
- Exploring the impact of porn on relationships and abuse
- Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus: Exploring gender role stereotypes, trauma and abuse
- Measuring impact: How to measure impact in sexual violence support services
- Understanding the experiences of women and girls in domestic violence
- Working with boys and young men affected by CSE/A
- Understanding the psychology of perpetrators and paedophiles
- Skills workshop: How to talk to children about sex, abuse and porn
- Skills workshop: How to work with adults affected by childhood sexual abuse
- Working with parents and carers of children who have been sexually exploited
- Life after abuse: understanding trauma and coping mechanisms in children
- Train the Trainer programmes (beginner to advanced) in CSA/CSE/SV/DV
- Train the Teacher programmes (beginner to advanced) in RSE
- Working towards trauma-informed practice in sexual violence and child abuse
- Understanding the effect of porn and the media on women and girls
- Mental Health training (beginner to advanced)

*Plus a range of other commissioned pieces of writing, speaking and resources.*