

OPEN SEMINAR SERIES

Tuesday 23rd October 2007
13:00 – 14:00

SEERC Seminar Room
SEERC Bldg

“Protecting Children from Harm: HOW FAR SHOULD WE GO? An exploration of the English experience”

By

Jan Horwath
Professor of Child Welfare
The university of Sheffield

ABSTRACT

Perceptions of what is harmful to children has changed significantly in England and the Western world over the past 30 years. In this presentation consideration will be given to the research in the 1990s and the highly publicised deaths of children from abuse that gave rise to a widening interpretation of the term ‘harm’. This has changed from a narrow focus on child abuse and neglect to a much wider brief to protect and promote the welfare of children. Drawing on my developmental work with the English government, in terms of policy and practice guidance, and my research in this area, the presentation will explore the changes that have taken place and the implications with regard to both ways in which children are perceived and the increased responsibilities placed on parents and communities to meet the needs of children.

Jan Horwath is Professor of Child Welfare at the University of Sheffield. She has worked with Governments in the United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland, Australia and South Africa to develop policy and practice in relation to child protection. Her research interests include assessment practice, child neglect and the implementation of organisational systems that promote effective child care practice.

The seminar series is open to all members of *staff* and *students* of CITY and to any *externals* that wish to attend.