
Paper relates to conference theme: systems approaches to developing family support/supporting parents through programmes and practices.

This workshop aims to increase awareness and understanding of the problem of child to parent violence (contribution to knowledge) and to equip delegates with skills to build support networks with parents to effectively address this emerging problem (new learning).

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Child to parent violence is an abuse of power through which a child under the age of 18 years attempts to coerce, dominate and control parents and anyone in a parental role in relation to the child (Cottrell 2001). Parents living with this problem live lives of isolation and shame, surrounded with a veil of silence, with embarrassment and fear (Gallagher 2004; Tew & Nixon 2010; Holt 2013), which helps perpetuate the problem of a child’s use of violence towards parents.
This inter-active workshop session begins with an exploration of the nature and extent of child to parent violence in families and the similarities and differences between domestic violence and child to parent violence. Participants will be invited to reflect on case examples provided by the facilitator. It will be proposed that evidence based and structured interventions with parents can mobilise family support in the community and wider networks to effectively address the problem of child to parent violence. Workshop participants are invited to consider the authoritative parenting and support network model of the Non Violent Resistance Programme (Omer 2004; Weinblatt & Omer 2008; Coogan & Lauster 2015) as an intervention that can make a real difference in the lives of children and families by enhancing parental presence and support, leading to greater safety and protection at home.