



Helping Boys to Be Allies Thursday 20th May 2021, 3.30pm – 5pm

AGENDA

Introduction and Pre-Training Discussion by Chair, Graham Goulden

Director, Cultivating Minds UK

Helping Boys Become Caring Men

Dr Martin Robb

Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Wellbeing, Education and Language Studies and Academic Lead, MA in Childhood and Youth, The Open University

- Ensuring boys have an experience of consistent care
- Giving boys an experience of caring for others
- Fostering notions of healthy and positive masculinity

“Boys will be Boys” How stereotypes in childhood sow the seeds of gender based violence & what we as caregivers can do about it

Susie Heywood

Co-founder, Gender Friendly Scotland

- Explore how the seeds of gender inequality (which is both a cause and consequence of men’s violence against women and girls) are sown in the early years through stereotypical messages about what it means to be a boy or a girl.
- Understand our role as care givers to not only challenge but to provide a counter balance to these messages.
- Consider different actions in the early years which could make a difference, including fostering the roots of activism or allyship

Engaging boys as allies in violence reduction: The role of early intervention

Dr Kirsten Russell, Research Analyst, Scottish Violence Reduction Unit

- Introduce primary prevention/early intervention as key component of the public health approach to violence reduction
- Summarise findings of international evidence on approaches that have been shown to be effective or show promise in reducing the likelihood that boys will engage in violence (with focus on how education-based approaches have potential to influence boys’ knowledge, and behaviours and therefore engage them as allies)
- Approaches discussed: social, emotional, and life skills development programmes and dating violence prevention programmes (including MVP)

