

Domestic Violence: A Human Rights Issue

Motivation for event topic:

Domestic violence still many lives affects. According to the Crime Survey of England and Wales, an estimated 1.3 million women experienced domestic abuse in the year ending March 2016, and 4.3 million women have experienced domestic abuse at some point since the age of 16. Two women are killed by their partner or ex-partner every week, on average, in England and Wales. Disabled people are twice as likely to be victims as non-disabled people (Public Health England: 2015). 13.6% of people who identify as male were victims in 2015/16 too. Domestic abuse related crime is 10% of total crime.

Domestic violence has long been considered a human rights concern. It is time to revisit the issue with the introduction of Clare's Law, calls for a domestic violence register in light of the conviction of serial abuser Theodore Johnson and the Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill.

Date and venue of event:

April 2018, Matrix Chambers

Ideal Speakers:

Katie Ghose (CEO of Women's Aid/ Barrister) https://www.womensaid.org.uk/katie-ghose-2/	Dr Shazia Choudhry (Professor of Law/Solicitor) http://www.law.qmul.ac.uk/staff/choudhry.html	Ronagh J.A. McQuigg (Lecturer) https://pure.qub.ac.uk/portal/en/persons/ronagh-mcquigg(75783bc1-2e3d-42ad-8dc0-937a13cfdd6e).html
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Event format (1.5 hours):

1. Seat guests in front of panel.
2. Welcome and introduction to speakers (5 minutes).
3. Overview of the significance of human rights law in domestic violence cases (20 Minutes).
4. Dialogue as to the structures, policies and supports needed to prevent domestic violence (20 Minutes).
5. Debate as to whether the provisions in the Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill are sufficient and how it could be improved (30 minutes).
6. Questions (15 minutes).
7. Drinks and networking.