

**Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (CAPVA):
Conceptualising and Responding to a Hidden Problem.**

Festival of Practice, March 2023



Respect

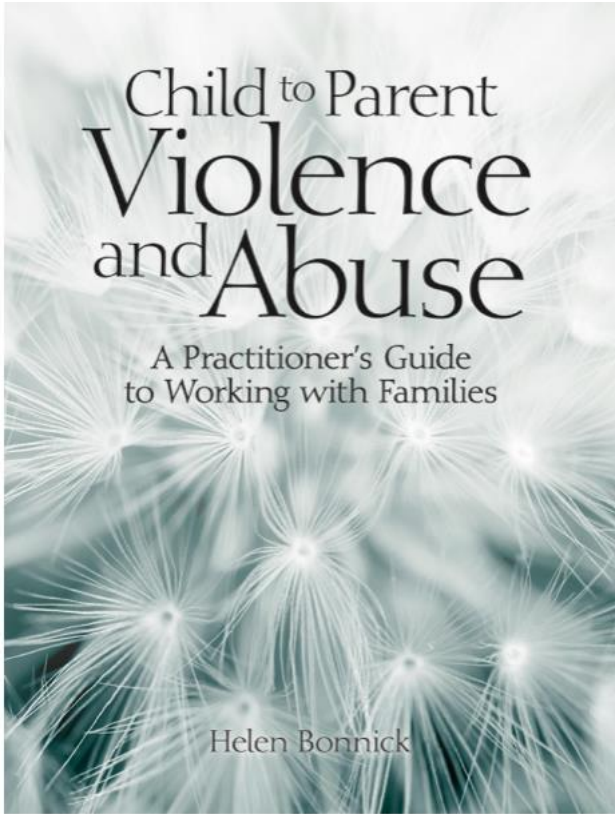


HOLES IN THE WALL

HOME A PRACTITIONER'S GUIDE ABOUT CONTACT EVENTS & TRAINING
 READING LIST RESEARCH RESOURCES SOUND AND VISION DIRECTORY



Helen Bonnick



Understanding CAPVA

A rapid literature review on child and adolescent to parent violence and abuse for the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office



By Victoria Baker and Helen Bonnick
 November 2021

Child and adolescent to parent violence and abuse
 Briefing paper 1 of 3
 Dr Victoria Baker Helen Bonnick

Child and adolescent to parent violence and abuse (CAPVA) refers to a pattern of harmful, and in some cases, controlling, behaviour by children or adolescents towards parents or caregivers, where abusive behaviour can be physical, verbal, emotional, psychological, economic, property-based or sexual. Abusive behaviour can be intentionally harmful and controlling, and/or emotionally harmful, functioning to communicate distress, anxiety or trauma.

What's the problem?
 Violence and abuse towards parents or caregivers is an issue appearing with increasing frequency in practitioners' caseloads, with minimal UK policy or practice guidance. A lack of evidence, with specialist provision in residential in families struggling without the support they need. This can result in enduring physical and emotional harm and young people being uncontacted and/or removed from the home.

How common is it?
 Currently there is no agreed UK definition of CAPVA and no consistent way of recording cases when they do arise. The reason for this might lie in prevention and incidence in primary, secondary, and further education, with estimates varying according to research design and sample characteristics. Further, parental misrecognition, shame and fear, all work to keep the issue hidden, resulting in underestimates of the problem.

Why does CAPVA happen?
 CAPVA is a complex and harmful social problem with one side 'forced' or 'driven' to respond. It is not a 'family' issue, but one that involves parents and caregivers coming about incidents in primary, secondary, and further education, and often inter-connected - housing, custody and individual health, such as mental health. CAPVA can usually be broken down into three at the individual level, those at the interpersonal level, those at the community level and those at the sociocultural level.

What does it look like?
 Young people who repeatedly use verbal, emotional or psychological forms of abuse. 10% of young people who repeatedly use verbal, emotional or psychological forms of abuse. 3-5% of young people who repeatedly use physical forms of abuse.

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An ecological model of CAPVA

The crying on the inside, she's crying on the outside... - James Lee White (2019, 15 pp)

"One she's in the eye, then the anger" - James Lee White (2019, 15 pp)

"... 'Cause I see health' instead, I see 'cause me 'cause I'm 'cause" - Casey (14 pp)

"I started feeling things of it, about those 'me violence stuff'" - Casey (14 pp)

"I smashed her head against the wall" - Casey (14 pp)

"I just don't like people 'punch' at me and 'punch' with me... 'Cause how it's brought me up." - Casey (14 pp)

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So, what can we do?

As highlighted in Briefing Paper 2, there is no one prevention of CAPVA, and indeed, no one 'intervention' that can address it. Effective seeking help may be as early on or only at breaking point, where behaviour has become seriously harmful and entrenched. Support for families therefore needs to be available along the full spectrum of need.

CAPVA intervention matrix

Level of intervention	Who is it for?	What type of support?	Where is it delivered?
Universal approach	All families	Messaging regarding acceptable behaviour and healthy relationships. Anti-bullying programmes. Parenting support for all.	Media campaigns. Part of school RSE. Youth work. Family centres.
Early intervention	For families where CYP behaviour is beginning to appear apparent and/or is presenting challenges. Families recognised as "at risk" due to diagnosis or circumstances.	Understanding the nature and learning appropriate strategies e.g. de-escalation, communication systems, mediation, conflict resolution, psychoeducation.	Youth work. Family support. Adaption support. Disability support. Substance use. Bereavement support. Domestic abuse services.
Targeted support	For families where CAPVA has become more persistent and is escalating, where early help has not effected change.	Structured, evidence-informed programmes, delivered to the whole family by trained practitioners.	Delivered from a multi-agency base, possibly as part of larger team work on co-occurring issues.
Specialist / High risk intervention	For families where CAPVA is severe and there may be significant risk to welfare and/or life.	Highly specialist support, primarily coordinated through a MARAC. Harm prevention. Risk. Multi-agency agencies working together.	Specialist practitioners within residential provision e.g. brook, secure care, hostels.

Three main points ...

- What do we mean by CAPVA?
- What responses are there?
- Why is this work important?

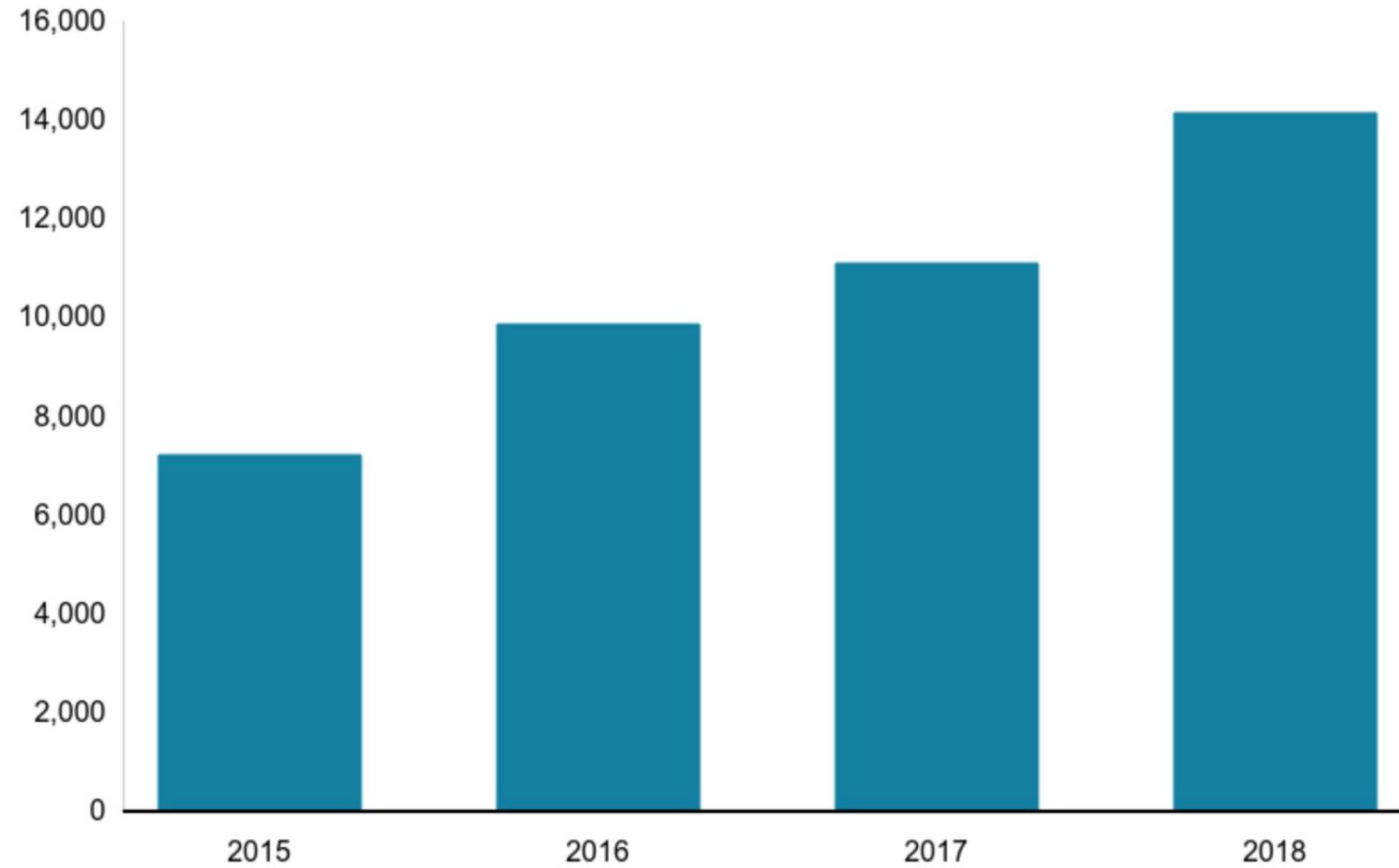
Child/ Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse

Respect use the term Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (CAPVA) to describe the dynamic where a young person (8 years -18 years) engages in abusive behaviour* towards a parent or adult carer where the abusive behaviour is harmful and repeated.

*By abusive behaviour we mean more than physical violence, but including emotional, coercive, or controlling behaviour, sexual abuse, and economic abuse.

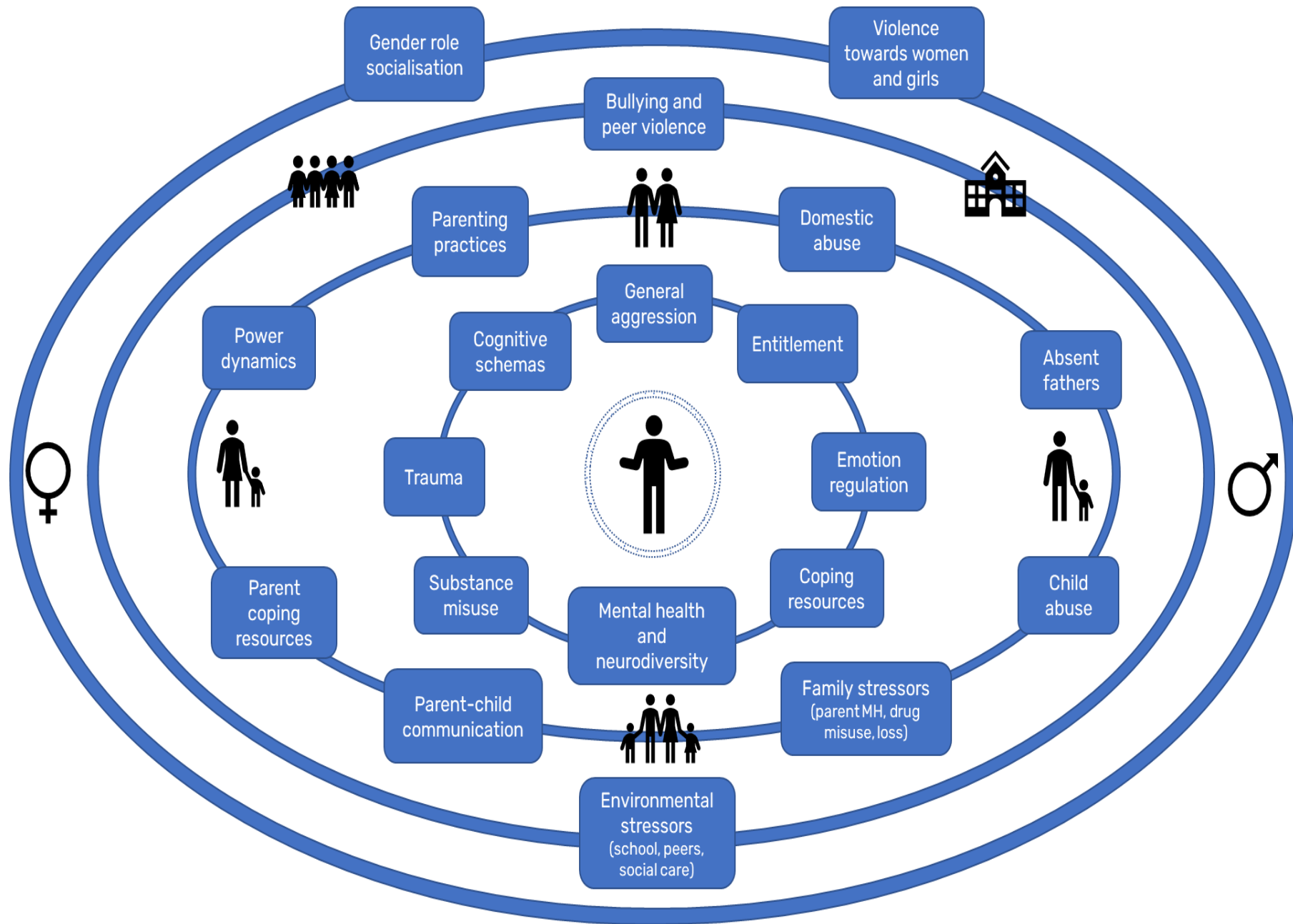
Violence against parents

Cases of adolescent to parent violence and abuse incidents (APVA)



Note: Figures are for 19 police forces which record APVA separately

Source: BBC Freedom of Information request



Adapted from Baker (2021)

Respect

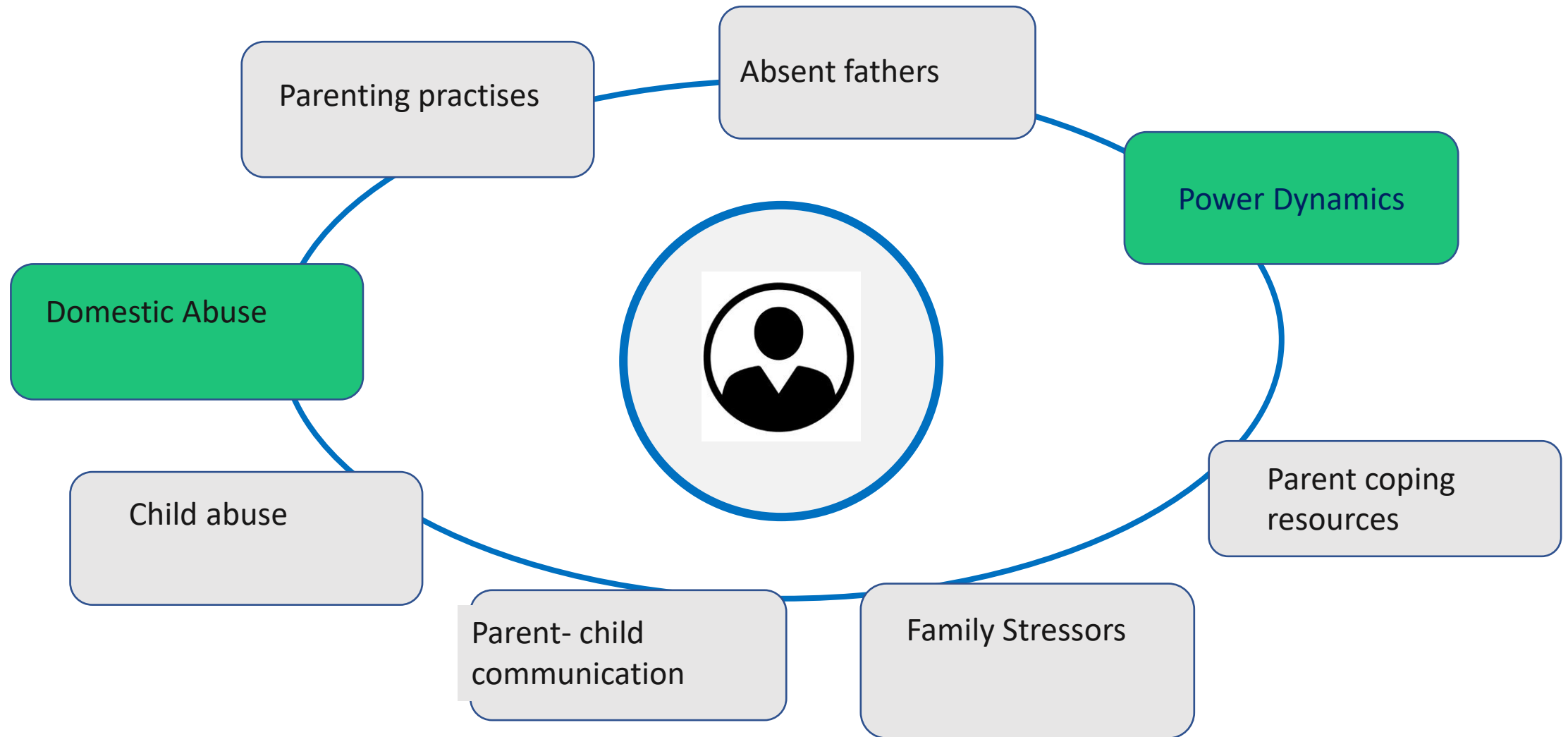
Neil Blacklock

Head of Young People's Services

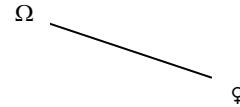
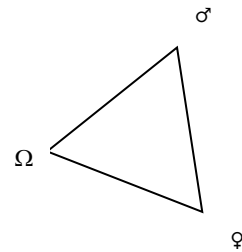
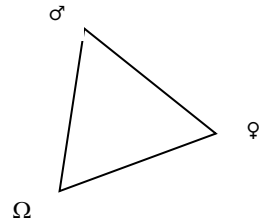
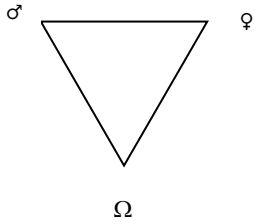
The Respect Young People's Programme is an intervention for families where children or young people aged between 8 and 18 are abusive or violent towards the people close to them, particularly their parents or carers.



Family Level Factors



Domestic Abuse and CAPVA





Jane Griffiths

Founder and CEO Capa

+30 yrs - Family work

+18yrs - familial violence

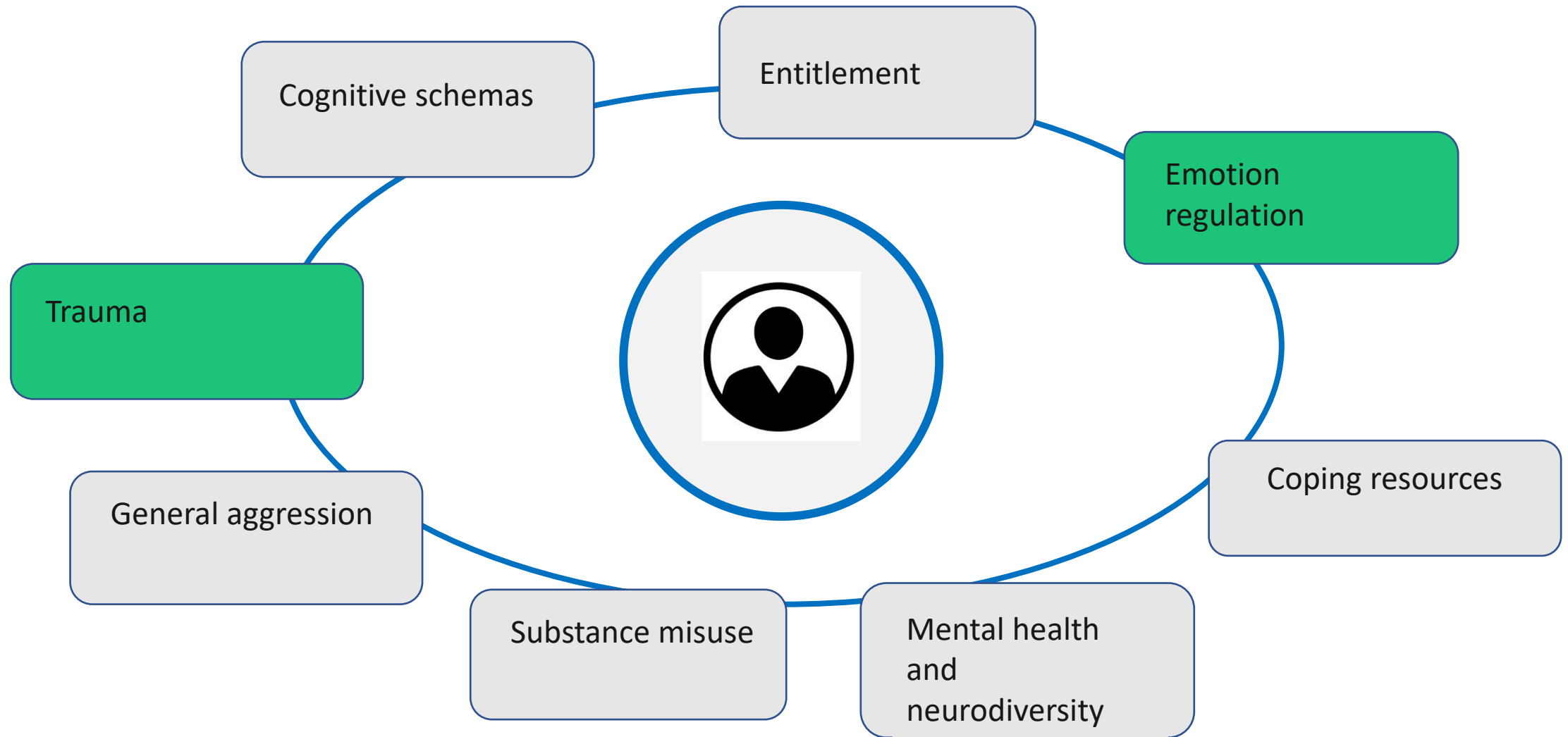
+10yrs - child/yp using harmful behaviour in
the home

info@capafirstresponse.org
www.capafirstresponse.org



Capa First
Response

Individual/ Teenage





We might want to **FIGHT**



FLIGHT (Run away)

Fight or Flight

What responses are there?

- How do they compare with responses to intimate partner abuse?
- What we offer
- A developing evidence base

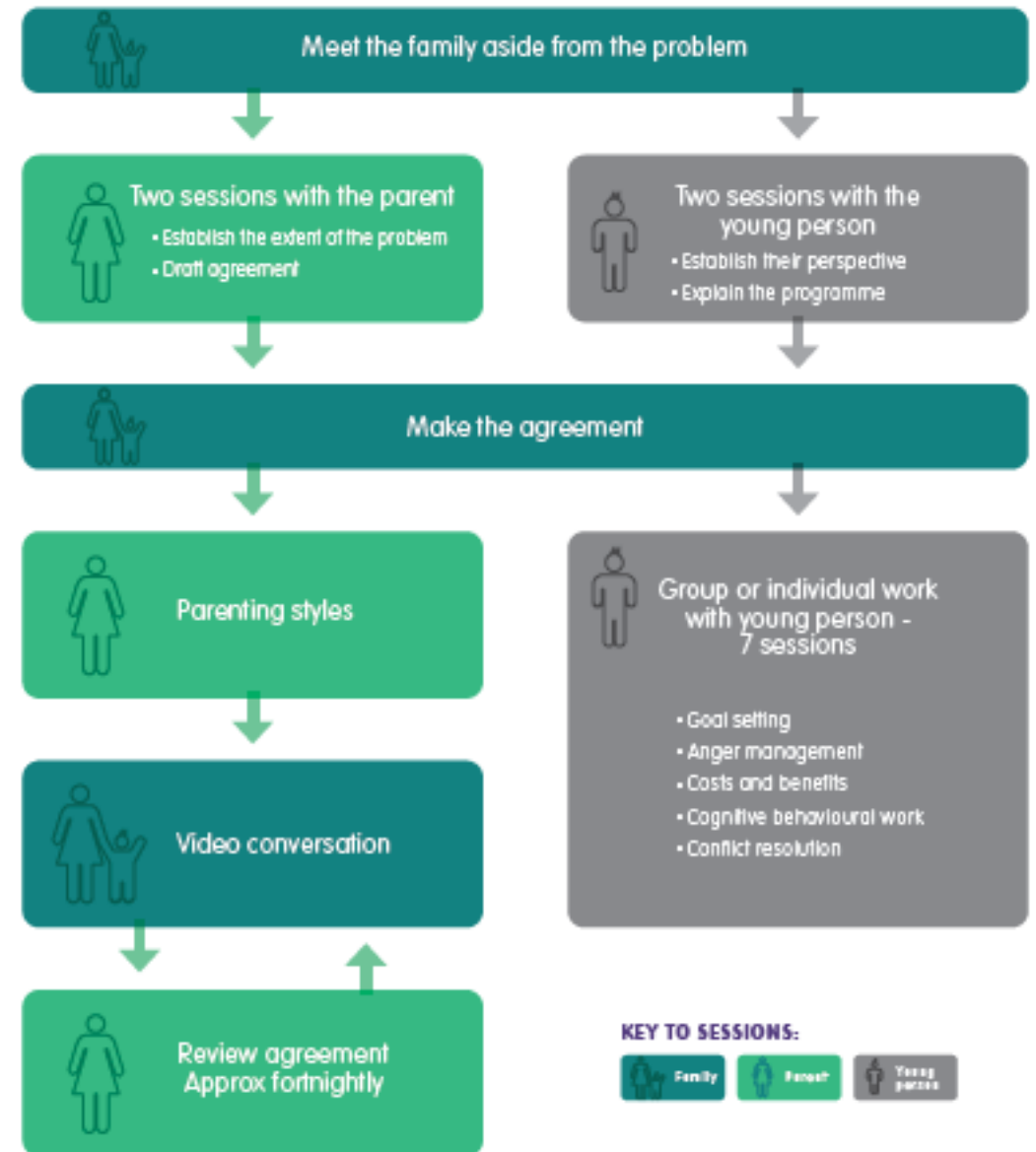
The RYPP intervention



18 Sessions delivered over 12 weeks, based on approximately:

- 7 sessions with parents
 - 9 sessions with YP
 - 2 family sessions
 - 1 exit / closure session
-
- Fits with Restorative Justice Council Quality Mark

RYPP flow diagram



Whole System Approach

Awareness
raising for
relevant
professionals

Police Response

Early
intervention

Systemic family
intervention –
various kinds

Implementation
support

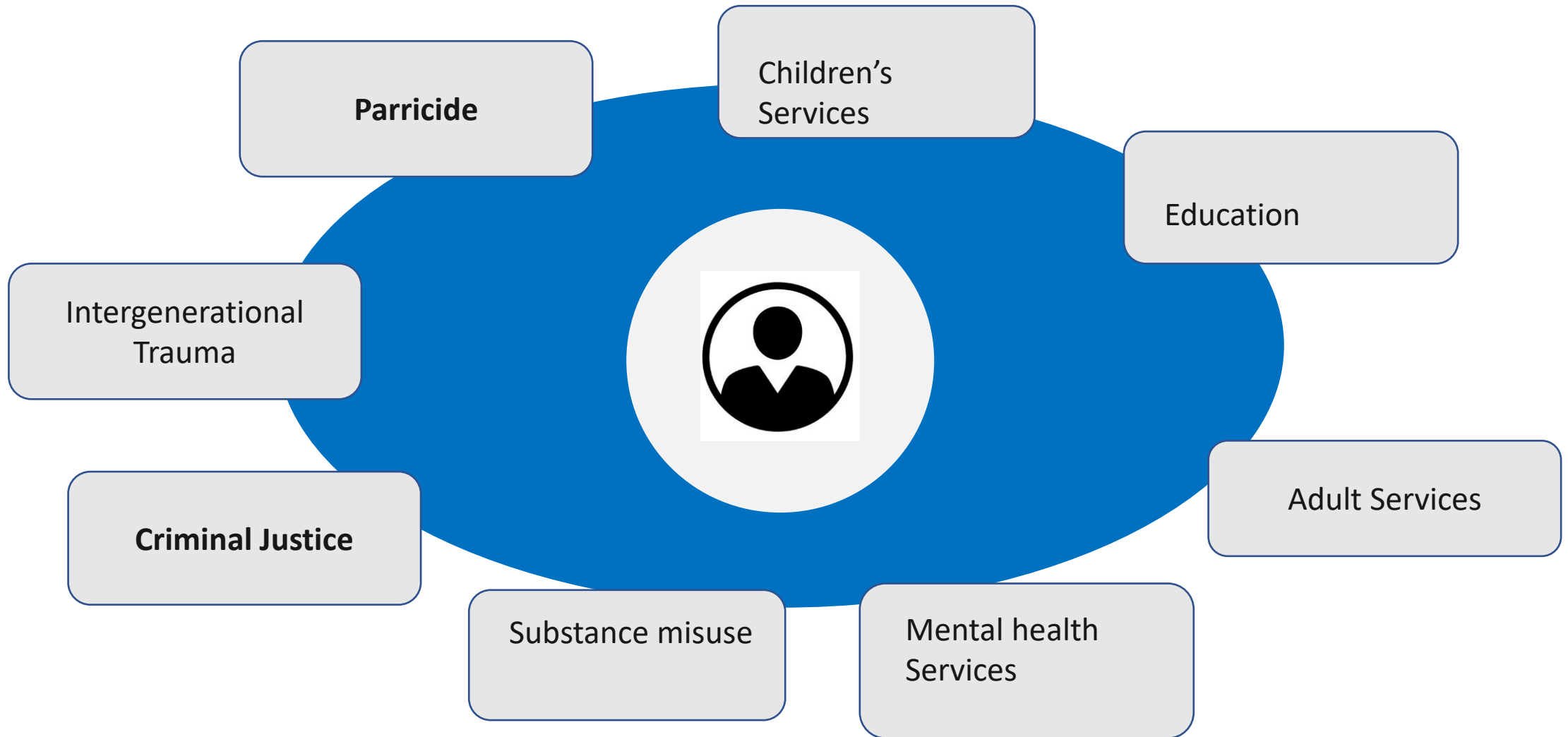
Who is accessing the Respect CAPVA intervention (sample 562 families)

- There were more young men than young women significantly
- The primary target was most commonly a female carer (mums/grandparents/step mums) regardless of sex of the young person.
- The services were accessed by education, children's social care, police and DA agencies and via self-referral routes
- Between 40% and 51% young people were known to Children's Services
- About a quarter had police involvement
- 59% of the families were lone parent families
- 58% of the young people had previous exposure to parental domestic abuse

Why is this work important?

- Preventative?
- Building safety
- Costs of not doing it
- The right service at the right time to the right person

System Cost/impact



Q and A

- What one thing do you want to know?
- What would help build a service?

“How is your relationship with your child?”

Thank you!

Respect.uk.net

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