

## Organized Abuse

October 30, 2020 | 10:00AM – 5:30PM Eastern Daylight Time



Professor Warwick  
Middleton



Valerie Sinason, PhD



Dr. Johanna Schröder



Michael Salter, PhD

**Presentation Title:** Ongoing incestuous abuse during adulthood and its relevance to understanding organised abuse, & Jeffrey Epstein, Les Wexner, Prince Andrew and two American Presidents: High level organised abuse and the debunking of "conspiracy theory".

**Presenter:** Warwick Middleton, MB BS, FRANZCP, MD

**Presenter Biography:** This workshop explores the pervasive nature of the organized abuse of minors and how society interfaces with this uncomfortable reality, presented by the last three successive Chairs of the ISSTD RAMCOA SIG. The workshop situates the last three decades of clinical practice and criminological study of organized abuse within contemporary developments, including the recent Australian Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, the case of Jeffrey Epstein and the sexual trafficking of children, the rise of the #MeToo movement, numerous scandals involving the organized sexual abuse of children associated with mainstream churches, and increasing attention on the ways some parents expose their children to various forms of organized abuse. It will be argued that society has reached an unprecedented tipping point, with national leaders, royalty, prominent entertainers/movie industry heavyweights, law enforcement officers and high-level churchmen, not to mention family-men, being exposed by credible allegations of involvement in the sexual abuse of minors.

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### Objectives

Upon completion of this webinar participants will be able to:

- Identify the key events in the emergence of a balanced knowledge of the nature of organized abuse
- Identify the key dynamics operating in families characterized by the reality of ongoing incest that extends into adulthood
- List a range of common responses professionals have when asked to engage with accounts of extreme trauma involving organised abuse
- Identify the principals and enablers in a range of politically-connected child sexual abuse groupings
- Evaluate the role of the press in enabling child-exploitation systems to exist and indeed flourish

**Presentation Title:** Problems in work with Organised Abuse: complex links between inner, outer and societal reality

**Presenter:** Valerie Sinason, PhD

**Presenter Biography:** Dr Sinason is a poet, writer, child psychotherapist and adult psychoanalyst. She founded the Clinic for Dissociative Studies (where she is now Patron) and was Consultant at the Tavistock Clinic, In London and Consultant Psychoanalyst at the University of Cape Town Child Guidance Clinic . She has published over 15 books and 200 papers and chapters

**Abstract:** It will be argued that society has reached an unprecedented tipping point, with national leaders, royalty, prominent entertainers/movie industry heavyweights, law enforcement officers and high-level churchmen, not to mention family-men, being exposed by credible allegations of involvement in the sexual abuse of minors. What is the impact on the clinician of the complex link between internal, external and societal reality? What is the societal impact of the victim-perpetrator.

### Objectives

Upon completion of this webinar participants will be able to:

- Identify the key events in the emergence of a balanced knowledge of the nature of organized abuse
- List a range of common responses professionals have when asked to engage with accounts of extreme trauma involving organised abuse
- Describe the extra pressures that come when an alleged abuser named by a patient is known in wider life outside of the therapy room
- Recognize the fear caused by victim-perpetrators who often receive the most severe custodial sentences
- Articulate the problems of being involved in this work

**Presentation Title:** Organized and Ritual Child Sexual Abuse in Germany

**Presenter:** Johanna Schröder, PhD

**Presenter Biography:** Dr. Johanna Schröder is a psychologist and trained cognitive behavioral therapist. She studied the effectiveness of psychological interventions for several psychiatric disorders, focusing on attitudes towards Internet interventions in her PhD at the University of Hamburg, Germany. She worked as a research associate in the Clinical Neuropsychology Working Group in the Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, University Medical Center Hamburg until 2017 and is now working at the Institute for Sex Research, Sexual Medicine and Forensic Psychiatry, University Medical Center Hamburg.

**Abstract:** This webinar will present the findings of a German project with individuals disclosing organized and ritual child sexual abuse (ORA) as well as mental health professionals who have supported ORA survivors. Organized abuse refers to the sexual abuse of multiple children by multiple perpetrators acting coordinately, whereas ritual abuse can be defined as an ideological, more violent and more family-associated subtype. Qualitative content analyses reveal which elements ORA consists of and which factors contribute to impeding the uncovering of perpetrator groups. Further, quantitative studies, capturing the experiences of 165 survivors and 174 health care professionals shed a light on perpetrator strategies as well as on the psychiatric impact of extreme abuse and a lack of professional support for those affected. Awareness of ORA in society and especially amongst health care professionals is crucial for implementing more adequate supply structures for survivors in the future.

### Objectives

Upon completion of this webinar participants will be able to:

- Recognize characteristics of organized and ritual child sexual abuse
- Describe possible perpetrator strategies
- Discuss the impact on the mental health of survivors

**Presentation Title:** The role of parents in the production of child sexual abuse material of their children

**Presenter:** Michael Salter, PhD

**Presenter Biography:** A/Prof Michael Salter is a criminologist and Scientia Fellow at the University of New South Wales. His research is focused on child abuse, gendered violence and complex trauma, particularly organised abuse and technologically-facilitated abuse. He is the author of Organised Sexual Abuse (Routledge, 2013) and Crime, Justice and Social Media (Routledge, 2017) as well as numerous papers. He sits on the board of directors of the International Society for the Study of Trauma and Dissociation, and he is an advisor to the Australian Office of the eSafety Commissioner and the Canadian Centre for Child Protection.

**Abstract:** This webinar will present the findings of a German project with individuals disclosing organized and ritual child sexual abuse (ORA) as well as mental health professionals who have supported ORA survivors. Organized abuse refers to the sexual abuse of multiple children by multiple perpetrators acting coordinately, whereas ritual abuse can be defined as an ideological, more violent and more family-associated subtype. Qualitative content analyses reveal which elements ORA consists of and which factors contribute to impeding the uncovering of perpetrator groups. Further, quantitative studies, capturing the experiences of 165 survivors and 174 health care professionals shed a light on perpetrator strategies as well as on the psychiatric impact of extreme abuse and a lack of professional support for those affected. Awareness of ORA in society and especially amongst health care professionals is crucial for implementing more adequate supply structures for survivors in the future.

## Objectives

Upon completion of this webinar participants will be able to:

- Identify the role of parents in the creation and distribution of CEM
- Describe the key scenarios of parental CEM perpetration identified in legal cases
- Discuss the responses of children to parental CEM perpetration
- Analyze the challenges to investigation and prosecution of parental CEM offending

## Can't Make It?

If your schedule won't allow for you to attend, the webinar will be recorded and made available for purchase approximately three weeks after the live event. The recordings cost is \$25 for ISSTD Members and \$45 for non-members. The webinar recording can be accessed on the CE-Credit.com website or in ISSTDWorld for ISSTD members. Exam fees for Continuing Education credits start at an additional \$10.46.

**CE Learning Systems is a co-sponsor of this event. The webinar is pending approval for 6 credits (APA only).**

## References

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### **Problems in work with Organised Abuse: complex links between inner, outer and societal reality**

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