



**Supporting children and families
affected by family member offending
and/or imprisonment**

Training for professionals

Why attend training about children affected by parental offending?

It is estimated that there are **200,000 children a year** that experience the imprisonment of a parent and **10,000 visits every week** made to our public prisons by children and young people. Research increasingly shows the impact that parental imprisonment can have on these children – poorer outcomes, stigma, isolation, poor education attainment, health, and financial difficulties.



More children are affected by parental imprisonment each year than are Looked After and it is estimated that **7% of school aged children** will experience their father's imprisonment. Despite the significant numbers of families affected, many of these children will remain invisible with their needs unmet.

For over 20 years, in both prison and community based settings, Barnardo's has engaged in work which supports children of offenders and their families. In that time, we have developed a wealth of practice based experience, research and resources to support professionals. Barnardo's also delivers the national **i-HOP service** (www.i-hop.org.uk), a national knowledge hub for professionals which collates all the resources, services, research and policy concerning children affected by parental offending.

"The hardest things are that you've got to keep the house going, you've got to look after your children, financially you've got to be independent and then you've got to mentally support someone else when you need that support yourself. I want something back for me but I haven't got that."

Partner of a parent in prison

"Very engaging and informative – full of knowledge and easy to understand – slides and videos were excellent."

Practitioner attending workshop

Training

We provide training to raise awareness about the impact of parental offending and imprisonment, helping professionals develop skills and knowledge about how to support children and families.

■ **Hidden Sentence Part 1 (Raising Awareness), half day, 15 to 20 participants – £250**

This training was originally developed by Action for Prisoners' and Offenders' Families for all professionals who work with children, families and offenders. The course raises awareness by exploring the impact of imprisonment on children and families and focuses on how services can meet the support needs of those affected.

■ **Hidden Sentence Plus at HMP Parc, full day, £40 per person (lunch included)**

This training covers similar content to the Hidden Sentence Part 1, whilst allowing participants the experience of visiting a prison. Participants will gain an understanding of what it's like for families by going through security and seeing the visits hall. Training will take place on the family wing, prison staff and an offender will attend some of the training to share their experiences.

■ **Hidden Sentence Part 2 (Practitioners Skills), half day, 15 - 20 participants – £250**

This training is for frontline Practitioners working directly with children and families. It provides guidance on how to support children and families affected by parental offending; how to consider their needs when undertaking assessments and develop support plans that draw on the resources and services available. The training also provides information on how to ask the difficult questions; how to support parents to talk to their children; and advice on whom to contact within the relevant agencies.

■ **Hidden Sentence Combo (Part 1 & Part 2 combined), full day, 15 to 20 participants – £500**

This training combines both awareness raising about families affected by imprisonment and shares the tools practitioners can use to offer best practice support to families.

'I'm sorry to say this, but as a practitioner and as a strategic manager I knew little of the impact of this. Actually just hearing the facts about the number of children affected... I was completely astonished.'

Practitioner attending workshop

"Members of our team found this training informative, engaging, well-structured and delivered in a style that invited a good balance of participation and learning that will certainly help us with the future delivery of our service."

Practitioner attending
Hidden Sentence Training

"The best and most informative training I have received for a very long time. Will feel more equipped and informed if the need arises. Please deliver to all head teachers."

Practitioner attending workshop

Booking your training

The training can be delivered to individual teams or multi-agency audiences. All costs are not inclusive of VAT, refreshments, venue hire or expenses.

If you are interested in **booking training**, please contact us to discuss availability.

**Children Affected by
Parental Imprisonment
Team Barnardo's Cymru**

T 01639 620771

@ catherine.davies@barnardos.org.uk