

Sarah Nelson

Dr Sarah Nelson has been a researcher, writer and campaigner on issues of sexual violence and abuse for more than 30 years. Her book *Incest: Fact and Myth* was influential as the first British book to highlight childhood sexual abuse (CSA) as a gendered abuse of power. A graduate of Edinburgh and Strathclyde Universities, she entered professional journalism, where she covered closely the Orkney child abuse case and Inquiry, before returning to academic research, which has included collaborative work with Professors Norma Baldwin and Julie Taylor.

She has since carried out qualitative research at both the Centre for Research on Families and Relationships, University of Edinburgh (where she remains a research associate) and at the University of Dundee. This includes studies on mental health in female and male survivors, physical health in CSA survivors and whole- community prevention against sexual crime. She has also published on abused young people and schools, on organised abuse and on good practice with survivors in primary care. She contributes regularly to conferences and media discussions.

Sarah has just published (June 2016) *Tackling Child Sexual Abuse: Radical Approaches to Prevention, Protection and Support* (Policy Press). This book considers issues as diverse as mental and physical health, sex offending, ways of countering child sexual exploitation, new models of child protection, and the deconstruction of popular “backlash” theories. She was an adviser to the Scottish Government’s Survivor Scotland team from 2006 to 2011, and adviser to the Scottish Parliament’s Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Scotland (Scottish Parliament, 2014).