

Useful Resources for Practitioners and Trainers

This document lists useful resources for practitioners and trainers covering the broad range of issues concerning prisoners' families, it has been put together by our training and development officers and information services. This list is regularly updated: if you come across a resource, be it a website, publication, social network or DVD, do let us know.

Further information can be found on our website - www.prisonersfamilies.org.uk. You may also wish to follow us on twitter - @prisonerfamily and Facebook – www.facebook.com/ActionPrisonersFamilies

If you do find that any of the resources below are no longer available or the links don't work please do let us know so we can remove them from the list.

Leaflets/Publications

Action for Prisoners' Families leaflets

The Outsiders series

The Outsiders is a series of informative booklets for the partners and families of prisoners. These survival guides outline the problems families are likely to face and provide practical information on how to cope while a relative or friend is in prison and what to consider when they are close to release.

Sent to Prison

Telling the Children

Preparing For Release

Living with Separation

Download free: www.prisonersfamilies.org.uk/publications

'Danny's Mum' and 'Tommy's Dad' books for younger children about having a parent in prison

'Finding Dad' a book and CD for older children www.prisonersfamilies.org.uk

'It's a tough time for everyone' cartoon book for older children/teenagers

Order from Action for Prisoners' Families www.prisonersfamilies.org.uk / tel 020 8812 3600

Recognising Quality is an evaluation tool for prison visitors' centres and prison-based families support centres. Price £15, you can order this from the APF website or by phoning 020 8812 3600.

Resources produced by other organisations

Visiting my Dad / my Mum downloadable resources to help children talk about their visit
www.ormiston.org.uk

Pact's website has information about how to get hold of their toolkit on **listening to prisoners' children** as well as a good practice guide to help prisons plan services for new arrivals in custody: www.prisonadvice.org.uk. It also publishes 'Daddy's working away' – A guide to being a good dad in prison'.

Kids VIP have produced a toolkit on '**How to Run a Family Day**'. The toolkit provides guidance and ideas to all those involved in developing Family Days. It costs £30. Anyone who buys the pack will receive a password to access additional online resources as they are published. To order e-mail: info@kidsvip.co.uk

Prisoners' Families Toolkit - a very useful resource produced by Southampton Council including worksheets to help children talk about their feelings
www.youngsouthampton.org/workforce

SCIE (Social Care Institute for Excellence)

SCIE identifies and disseminates the knowledge base for good practice in all aspects of social care throughout the United Kingdom.

www.scie.org.uk See **SCIE guide 22 'Children of Prisoners – maintaining family ties'**:
www.scie.org.uk/publications/guides/guide22/ and the elearning resource
www.scie.org.uk/publications/elearning

Helplines and support groups

Affect

Offers support for families in the south affected by long-term imprisonment
01329 832254 www.affect.org.uk

(National) Domestic Violence freephone Helpline

24 hours helpline s helpline is 24 hour, run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge: 0808 2000 247.

Grandparents Association

National charity which supports grandparents and their families. It has a Helpline: **0845 4349585** as well as welfare benefits advisors and support groups.
www.grandparents-association.org.uk

NSPCC Helpline

The **NSPCC Helpline** is a service for anyone concerned about the safety or welfare of a child. You can contact the helpline 24 hours a day, seven days a week **0808 800 5000**.
www.nspcc.org.uk/helpline

Offenders' Families Helpline (formerly Prisoners' Families Helpline)

Free helpline offering confidential support to offenders' families.

www.prisonersfamilieshelpline.org 0808 808 2003.

Parentline Plus

Free helpline offering help and support to anyone caring for children

0808 800 2222 www.parentlineplus.org.uk

PrisonChatUK

Online community giving support to those who have a loved one inside the British prison system.

www.prisonchatuk.com

Prisoners Families and Friends Service

London-based organisation offering support and helpline

0808 808 3444 www.pffs.org.uk

Prisoners' Advice Service

Provides legal advice and information to prisoners in England and Wales regarding their rights, the application of the prison rules and conditions of imprisonment.

0845 430 8923 www.prisonersadvice.org.uk/

SHARP

Offers free confidential help, advice and practical and emotional support to those serving the 'silent sentence'.

01743 245365. www.sharp-uk.org e-mail info@sharp-org.

SSAFA

Help for families of ex-servicemen and women who are serving a prison sentence or who have been recently released

0800 731 4880 www.ssafa.org.uk/how-we-help/offenders-and-ex-offenders

String of Pearls

String of Pearls can provide trained mentors who have themselves had someone close to them imprisoned to work with families of prisoners.

07989 922415 www.stringofpearlsproject.com e-mail: info@stringofpearlsproject.com.

Women in Prison

Women in Prison has a freephone helpline 0800 953 0125 and referral service: 020 7841 4760. www.womeninprison.org.uk

DVDs

Action for Prisoners' Families

Watch clips from two of our DVDs – Missing Out, about a woman prisoner's family dilemmas, and Family Business, about inter-generational crime, on Youtube:

Missing Out www.youtube.com/watch?v=7p9rG45AMB8

Family Business www.youtube.com/watch?v=QCKU3gvQ5Us&NR=1

Full DVDs available from Action for Prisoners' Families.

Howard League

Youtube video made by young men held in prison custody. The animated short looks at

life inside through the eyes of a young person who is denied early release in spite of his good behaviour): www.youtube.com/howardleague#p/u/7/JUEwp3jjCLQ. Also available on the Howard League website: www.howardleague.org/films/

Ormiston

Short film about visiting HMP Norwich www.ormiston.org/our-services/families-affected-by-imprisonment/norwich/

Pact

Walk through of the visits process at HMP Wandsworth www.prisonadvice.org.uk/vc_wandsworth?q=wandsworthfilm

Prisoners' Families and Friends Service

Stories from prisoners' families
www.pffs.org.uk/stories/

POPS have produced a DVD 'Real People, Real Lives' which uses visitors to talk about what it is involved in visiting a prison. Priced £6, e-mail: info@partnersofprisoners.co.uk for a copy.

SCIE Social Care TV

SCIE's Social Care TV has excerpts from DVDs, such as APF's Homeward Bound and Kids VIP's 'Children Visiting prisons. www.scie.org.uk/socialcaretv/

Youth Justice Board YouTube channel

The Youth Justice Board's You Tube channel has a series of films for youth justice practitioners working with parents. www.youtube.com/user/youthjusticeboard

Social welfare, legal and government information

Adfam

Adfam is a national organisation working with and for families affected by drugs and alcohol.
www.adfam.org.uk

Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

The CAB provides free, independent and confidential advice on benefits, finances, housing etc. Find your local bureau: www.citizensadvice.org.uk or see the Advice Guide www.adviceguide.org.uk for factsheets and information.

Family Information Services

Find out about the services provided for families in your local area through this site: www.familyinformationservices.org.uk. Every local authority has a Family Information Service.

Family Rights Group

A charity which advises, advocates and campaigns for families whose children are involved with, or require, social care services.
www.frg.org.uk Advice line: 0808 801 0366.

Local law centres

There are 56 law centres in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, staffed by solicitors and barristers who specialise in employment law, housing, discrimination, benefits, education and immigration.

www.lawcentres.org.uk

Directgov – Sentencing, prison and probation information

Directgov has information on all aspects of the Courts, sentencing and prison process

www.direct.gov.uk/en/CrimeJusticeAndTheLaw/Sentencingprisonandprobation

Ministry of Justice website

This government website contains information about all the prisons in England and Wales, including information for visitors.

www.justice.gov.uk/about/hmps/index.htm

Further Reading

Working With Children and Families of Prisoners (2009) Ormiston Trust

www.ormiston.org

Bibliography

Download the Action for Prisoners' Families bibliography of all the published research we know of on the children and families of prisoners on the APF website:

www.prisonersfamilies.org.uk/research

Mental health guide for criminal justice staff

Together, the community mental health charity, has published a mental health guide targeted at frontline criminal justice agency staff. It offers guidance to professionals such as police officers, probation officers, security and court staff on how to work effectively with people with mental health problems who find themselves in contact with the criminal justice system. It also includes information and advice on working with people who have substance misuse issues, alcohol problems and learning difficulties.

www.together-uk.org/news-events/publications/common-sense-download.

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