Jo Todd



Why fund domestic violence services for men?

Tuesday 28th June 2011

Services for perpetrators

Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programmes (DVPPs)

Integrated Support Services (ISSs)

Why wouldn't you fund DVPPs?

 Money is tight – funders should prioritise services for victims and children

Ideology – they're driven by feminist dogma which shames and blames men

 Soft option – perpetrators should be jailed not given counselling

Why wouldn't you fund DVPPs?

 They don't work – abusive men don't change

There's no evidence to say they work

 Commissioners want shorter, cheaper interventions not expensive DVPPs

Why wouldn't you fund DVPPs?

"I have mixed feelings about perpetrator programmes. I'm very concerned about referrals to things that call themselves perpetrator programmes but don't adhere to safe standards."

Theresa May (not verbatim) Inter Ministerial Group 14.6.11

So why fund them?

 Financial argument – it costs more to do nothing

 Human argument – perpetrators are everywhere in society – their partners and children deserve that services are available for them

The no-brainer argument

If you don't work with the cause of the problem you will never solve it

Why wouldn't you fund services for male victims?

There aren't any male victims

They're all perpetrators really

They don't need services

Why wouldn't you fund services for male victims?

 The numbers are so small it's not cost effective to set up separate services

 Women's services should work with men too – the issues are the same

So why fund them?

 Human argument – all victims deserve specialist services which meet their needs

- Equality argument if you believe in equalities you can't pick and choose – but services should be proportionate to need
- Financial argument it costs more to do nothing



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