GANG-ASSOCIATED WOMEN AND GIRLS AN OVERVIEW OF THE ISSUES

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until we are equal

Presentation Outline

- Voices of girls and young women
- How are they associated?
- Case examples
- Routes into association
- Next Steps

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Voices of Women and Girls

'And when they're violent with everyone you start to know what they're capable of, I've been gun-butted by him as he was on his way out, and felt lucky that he didn't turn it round'

'One time him and 10 of his mates turned up, kicked my door in and all battered me for something I'd said To him, and did I get help, did I fuck; what would be the point of that'

Voices of Women and Girls

'I could try and talk to him and say get it out of the house but then it's like you just get your jaw broken again'

'You're not involved; he's got to sleep with it not you so I'd just do it, unless you want him to go inside. But don't wash the clothes, just burn them'

'I'll tell the nurses and like my counsellor about the domestic violence and that, but I won't tell them about the rest of it, cos they can tell other people and they won't understand, they'll think oh she deserved it, she's a criminal'

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How are they associated?

Associations 1	Associations 2
Mothers	Commit offences
Sisters	Enable offences
Cousins	Victim of violence
Intimate Partners	Sexually exploited
Friends	Hold intelligence
Associates	Influence for change
Gang members	No activity

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Case Examples

Generated from on-going case file analysis and FVV interviews

- *Mel – Robbery and Sexual Exploitation (gang assoc peer group)*
  - *Sue – ABH*
  - *Laura – Possession with Intent and Rape*
  - *Nina – DV and Murder*

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Routes into Association

- Intimate Relationships
- Familial connections (sisters and daughters)
- Peer Groups
- School connections
- Neighbourhood
- Internet

Gaps in response

- Age (victims)
- Age (perpetrators)
- Gender
- Victim/Perpetrator divide
- Multiple perpetrators/containment
- Power imbalances

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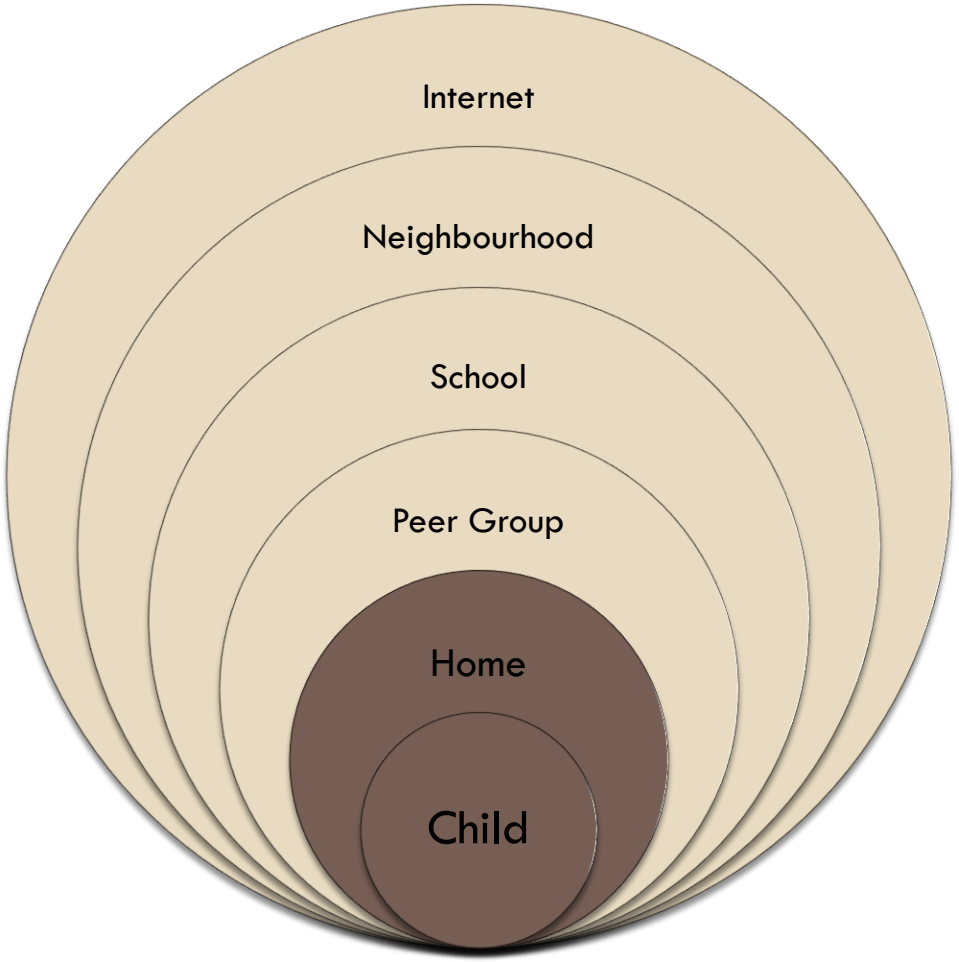
Developing a framework



What is the impact on:

- Identity
- Power
- Agency
- Consent
- Culpability

Particularly with reference to AGE and GENDER

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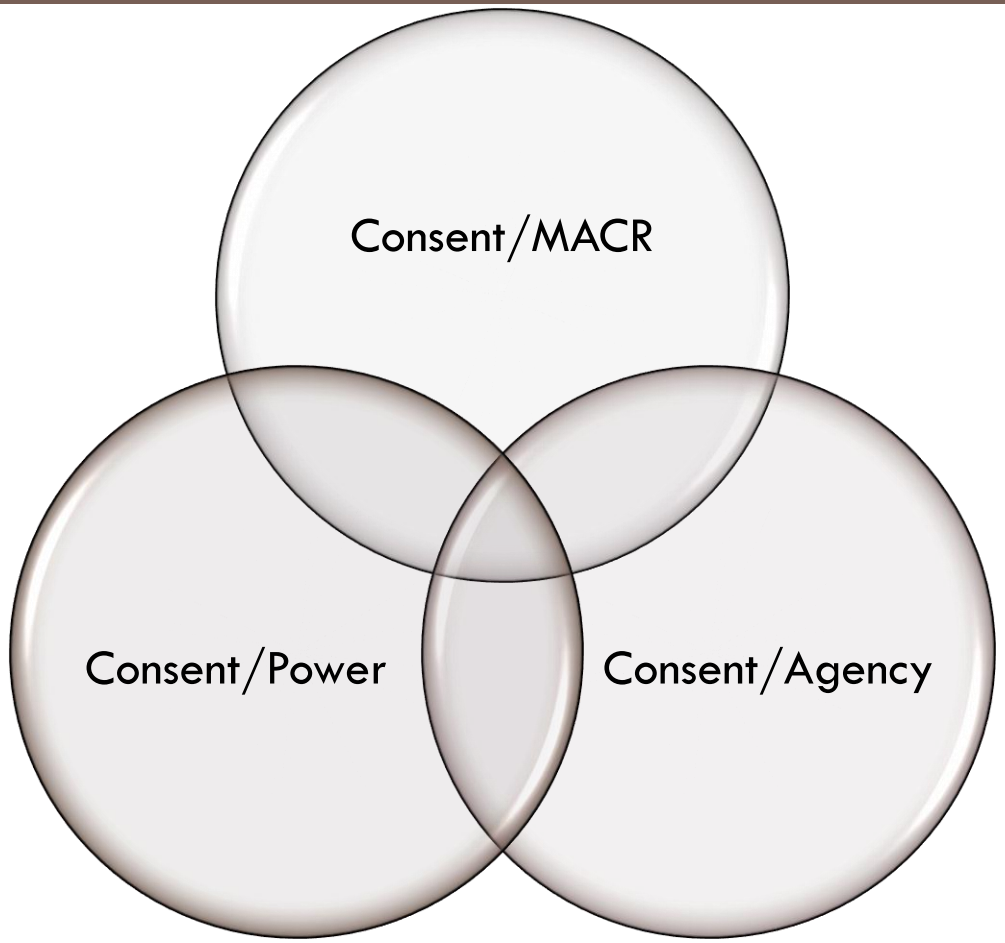
A social account of culpability



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For you to consider...

- What are the push and pull factors for your client in each of those spaces (witness intimidation, re-offending)
- Unpicking culpability, the group dynamic, and levels of power
- Notions of 'constrained choice' at what point does this become a primary consideration

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