



“Home Truths”

2018 Badfaithed Inaugural Conference

4th October: 10.00am – 5.30 pm
Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church
235 Shaftesbury Ave, London WC2H 8EP

What happens when a clergy family splits up?
What are the challenges facing the family and the church?
Who helps spouses and children rendered homeless by a rift?
What are the moral and legal issues at local and national level?
Where does the church stand?
What can promote safety and safer outcomes?

The Badfaithed #Home Truths Conference 2018 sets out to explore and discuss aspects of “ecclesial abuse” which are seldom openly discussed. It will be of interest to all those currently working in response to clergy/ministerial marriage breakdown, tied housing arrangements, safeguarding, child protection, family therapy, policies promoting well-being, pension arrangements, family law and domestic abuse. It will seek answers to openly address the blame and shame cultures which can operate so powerfully within our churches and other faith communities.

Issues to be explored:

- Marital breakdown - the emotional and financial cost
- Tied-housing - the impact on broken families
- Public image, private suffering
- Secrecy, Trust, Betrayal #secretsnevertobetold
- Childhood trauma



- Domestic abuse, (financial, emotional, physical, coercive) and its aftermath
- Denominational engagement
- Blame, shame, and congregational involvement
- Processes, safeguarding, sharing best practice
- How to “love one another” in this arena of crisis?

Speakers include:

- Survivors’ stories
- Dr Kristin Aune (Coventry University)
- Dr Liz Oakley (University of Chester)
- The Rt Revd. Dr Joanna Penberthy. Bishop of St David’s Diocese Church of Wales
- Dr Sue Jervis: military policy for family breakdown and ‘greedy institutions’
- Dr Halleh Seddighzadeh - Understanding Child and Adult Trauma
- Legal Panel – Tied housing issues (including representatives for the Church Commissioners and Legal Practices)
- Callum Cowz (Prosecutor within the Military for Domestic Abuse cases)
- Lucy Berry (Performance Poet and Poet in Residence for JPIT)
- Susan Harrison (Safeguarding in Education Consultant)

Plenary Sessions will explore:

- Promoting wider understanding
- Areas for research and potential funders
- Ways forward in partnership (across denominations, synods and dioceses)
- Network development after the conference
- Non-legal redress mechanisms
- Improved institutional practice

This is a ticketed event with a limited capacity. The Chatham House Rule will be followed. This ensures open and frank discussion, maximises learning, and seeks to protect everyone’s right to privacy.

Areas of particular interest are:

- domestic violence,
- child abuse
- emotional and financial abuse
- ‘greedy institutions’
- tied housing,
- ostracism and social control

June Boyce Tillman will be launching her newest publication during lunch time 12.30 – 1.30pm in the basement. With her South African professorship in view, *Joloff Rice* (prepared by members of the Cherubim and Seraphim churches of Nigeria) will be available for those attending simply for this part of the day and her launch.

The new publication Set Adrift: survivor tales of former clergy wives by Vivienne Neville will be launched after the conference at 6.00pm – 7.15 pm

please sign up on the Eventbrite pages if you also plan to attend the launch. For further information on the day please contact Hometruths@badfaithed.org www.badfaithed.org/events #Hometruths and DO Socialise this information to maximise impact.