

Violence at Home:

The Links between Child Abuse, Animal Abuse and Domestic Violence



The Links Group, PO Box 5816, Milton Keynes MK10 1DB

The Links Group is supported by the following organisations:
Blue Cross, BVA, BVNA, Dogs Trust, Intervet UK, NSPCC, Paws for Kids, PDSA,
Refuge, Royal Victoria Infirmary, RSPCA, ScottishSPCA, Wood Green Animal Shelter

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**Wednesday 16th May 2007, Dogs Trust West London, Highway Farm,
Harvil Road, Harefield, Uxbridge UB9 6JW**

Dear Delegate

For those who haven't heard of the Links Group, we're a committed multi-agency interest group established to promote the welfare and safety of vulnerable children, animals and adults so that they are free from violence and abuse.

Increasing research and clinical evidence suggests that there are inter-relationships, commonly referred to as 'links', between child abuse, animal abuse and domestic violence. Our aim is to raise awareness of the 'links' to all professionals in the hope that agencies will work together to help prevent related cases from going undetected and foster a better understanding of these links to protect victims and promote and safeguard their welfare.

The aims of our inaugural conference are to raise awareness of the links, to communicate the latest research findings, to share information and best practice, to provide a discussion forum relating to child abuse, animal abuse and domestic violence and to encourage closer working relationships between all organisations working in this field.

As the Links Group is a not-for-profit organisation there will be a £75 registration fee to cover some of the costs of the conference. We would also like to express our thanks to animal health company, Intervet UK for making this conference possible with their generous sponsorship.

I very much hope that you are able to attend and look forward to meeting you in May.

Kind regards



Jonathan Silk

Chairman of The Links Group

Conference Programme

Topics include:

- Update on the Links from around the world: Phil Arkow, Chairman of the Latham Foundation
- Personal experience: Wendy Turner-Webster
- Update/comparison of legislation in human and animal welfare: Animal Welfare Acts 2006, Children Act 2004, Domestic Violence Crimes and Victims Act 2004
- Update on the latest research
- Saving lives: case studies where cross reporting has made a difference

Who should attend?

We anticipate that the audience will include individuals from any authority or organisation involved in promoting the welfare of children, animals and victims of domestic violence

We hope to welcome representatives from the following groups:

- Social Services (social workers, child and family support services, child protection services, children safeguarding boards)
- Human Healthcare (health visitors, midwives, GPs, practice nurses)
- Animal Healthcare (vets, practice nurses, veterinary organisations eg. RCVS, BVNA, charities)
- Crime prevention / law enforcement (police, ACPO, domestic violence units, Youth Justice Board, probationary services)
- Victim welfare and support networks
- Child care, welfare and support networks (including those involved in education and childcare)
- Animal welfare and support networks
- Government departments and MPs with special interest, eg. Defra.

Registration Form (please complete a separate form for each delegate)

Title First Name Last name

Organisation

Address

.....

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Postcode Telephone No

Fax No E-mail

I would like to register for the above conference on Wednesday 16th May, 2007

I enclose a cheque for £75 made payable to The Links Group

Please state any special dietary requirements:

Please state any other special requirements:

Please note:

- A confirmation letter, directions to the venue and receipt will be issued following registration
- Regrettably, we are unable to issue refunds if you are unable to attend
- The Links Group is not VAT registered

N.B. Places are strictly limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Also, there is a small bursary available to cover up to 10 places for individuals who have significant financial limitations that may preclude them from attending the conference. For further details please telephone 01908 685685 option 4 (CPD booking line at Intervet UK) or email: linkssecretary@aol.com

I cannot attend but would like further information about The Links Group

**Please return form to: Nicola Baddeley, Hodgson Morris Ltd, 4 Stamford
Business Park, Ryhall Road, Stamford, Lincs, PE9 1XT**