

# EXPLAINING AND SUSTAINING THE DECLINE IN STRANGER AND ACQUAINTANCE VIOLENCE

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Galleries of Justice Museum

*High Pavement, The Lace Market, Nottingham, NG1 1HN*

Dear Facilitator

Thank you for agreeing to act as a roundtable facilitator at our end-of-project conference.

The roundtable discussions will take place after lunch (13:30-14:40). The conference room will be organised cabaret style and you will be assigned to a table. First you will be asked to give a brief (2-3 minute) informal introduction of yourself (/your organisation) to all delegates. Please feel free to do this from your own table or coming to the front of the conference room. Facilitators will subsequently lead a roundtable discussion with a small group (maximum 10 delegates). This will include policy makers, practitioners and academics.

The aim of the roundtable discussions is to steer and encourage productive opinion exchanges on how the research project findings can be used effectively to sustain the decline in stranger and acquaintance violence and/or how the findings (some counter-intuitive) may be explained. You may wish to consider the following questions:

- 'Less serious' violence, e.g., common assault, between young males who know each other appears to have driven the fall in violence since 1995. Does this reflect your own experiences and why might this be?
- Our results show there are now fewer victims of violence compared to 1995. However, the average number of violent incidents per victim has remained stable (i.e. repeat victims are experiencing the same level of violence as they were in 1995). Does this reflect your own experiences and why might this be?
- How do you explain findings that suggest that divorced/separated individuals experience high frequency of both stranger and acquaintance violence in recent years?
- How do you explain findings that suggest that social renters have experienced more violence by people they know both before (1991-1995) and after the crime drop (2010/11-2013/14)?

- How do you explain findings suggesting that cannabis use - commonly considered non-aggressive substance - is a persistent risk factor before and after the crime drop?
- How do you explain findings suggesting that heroin users experienced fewer incidents of stranger violence twenty years ago, from 1991 to 1995?
- We found that heroin and cocaine users experience high frequency of acquaintance violence in recent years. What can be done to protect drug users from experiencing violence?
- How could we implement these findings in practice?
- What should be our focus going forward?
- What additional research should be carried out?

Finally, we ask you to relay the main points from your group discussions to all delegates during the last part of the conference which will end with Refreshments. You may wish to provide this summary from your own table or standing at the front of the conference room. Also, facilitators are kindly requested to keep a note containing a brief summary of the main points which they can give to the research team afterwards. Flip charts and pens will be available for each group.

If you have any further questions or specific requests, please do not hesitate to email [soenita.ganpat@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:soenita.ganpat@ntu.ac.uk)

Kind Regards

The Violence Project Team