Black and minority ethnic (BME) victims and perpetrators

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Workshop structure

- Means that we work on issues together!
  - Ask questions during the 20 minute presentation
  - Dialogue and recording of key points
  - Together create safe & respectful environment that facilitates participation

- Structure
  - Introductions
  - Presentation
  - Discussion
Introductions to each other

- Name & employment/basis of interest in the workshop
- Relevant experience
  - Practice
  - Research
  - Teaching
  - Other (please specify)
- Particular issues of interest/concern
Brief presentation – a catalyst for conversation!
Some definitional issues

- ‘Victim’
  - Survivor, victim-survivor, thriver etc
- Perpetrator
  - Offender
- BME
  - ‘Panethnic’ terminology
    - Perhaps highlights crude racial discrimination, but ...
    - Obscures much
    - Ethnicity v Race
    - Cultural diversity/variation
    - Faith
Exploratory themes/foci

- Inhibitors & Facilitators of engagement with processes & procedures
- Role of communities
- Understanding intersectional identities within dynamic (social) contexts
  - Inevitable overlaps
Inhibitors & facilitators: CJS processes

- CJS processes
  - Reporting
  - Investigating
  - Decision making
  - Prosecution
  - Sentencing
  - Sentence planning
    - In custody & community
      - Risk assessments (linked to ‘progress’ through the system & release from surveillance)
      - Reporting requirements
    - Sex Offender register
      - Address, employment & travel
    - Public Notification
      - Making a request and dealing with the information
Inhibitors & facilitators in requesting and accessing help

○ NB – offenders’ trajectories are much more closely mapped out
  ○ Health issues
    ○ Physical
    ○ Psychological
    ○ Emotional
    ○ Behavioural
  ○ Social information
    ○ Benefits
    ○ Housing
    ○ Release dates
    ○ Legal
    ○ Employment
Routes to obtaining help; inhibitors and facilitators

- Statutory
  - CJS (primarily for offenders)
  - NHS
  - Social Work

- Voluntary/independent sector
  - Victim support
  - Rape crisis
  - Other victim centred agencies
  - Circles UK (tied to statutory sector)
  - Self-help groups

- Faith
  - Services & rituals
  - Prayer
  - Counselling
Role of communities

- Faith-based, geographically-based, ethnically-based, identity-based etc.

- Role of communities
  - Self-protection
  - Recognising ‘wrong’ done
  - Including v Excluding
  - Sustaining or blocking development of new identities
Understanding intersectional identities within dynamic social contexts

- Identity not monolithic based on one aspect (e.g., ‘race’, gender, age, class, sexuality, (dis)ability or faith.
- All of these identities are dynamically present and may be more or less important according to time and place.
- Identities are not ‘essential’ but are ‘performed’ through time and in place(s) – i.e., the performance is contingent upon things in the outside environment.

- This can help to understand what inhibits or facilitates BME engagement in CJS processes & procedures.
Some questions for group to consider

- What would you like to discuss?!
- Here are some other options:
  - Is BME engagement in CJS processes & procedures related to policing and protecting people from sex crimes important? (supplementary question – ‘why?’)
  - What is needed to facilitate engagement?
  - How will this be delivered?
  - What is the role of ‘community’ in responding to sex crimes?
    - (How) can this be initiated/developed?