

Leigh Day

The Use of Physical Intervention and Restraint

Helpful or Harmful?

A seminar, held in conjunction with 39 Essex Chambers, on the use of physical intervention and restraint in specialist educational and residential settings.

Details

- Date:** Monday, 13 June 2016
- Time:** 14.00 - 16.00
(followed by a drinks reception)
- Venue:** 39 Essex Chambers
81 Chancery Lane,
London WC2A 1DD

The seminar will be followed by a question and answer session and a drinks reception.

The event is free to attend and open to everyone, but places are limited, please register your interest by email to Imacbrayne@leighday.co.uk



This seminar will:

- Provide an opportunity for expert discussion of current and future policy and practice regarding the use of physical intervention and restraint;
- Include contributions from parents and carers of children with special educational needs and learning disabled adults;
- Reflect on common themes in high profile scandals;
- Explore alternatives to the use of restraint and consider a unified approach to challenging behaviour;
- Provide legal advice about the circumstances in which it may be possible to challenge the use of such techniques, human rights violations and abuse, as well as offering practical guidance about this process;
- Provide an opportunity to put questions to a panel of experts and to network with legal professionals, commentators and campaigners in this field.



Helpful or Harmful?

Speaker Biographies



Alison Millar

Alison Millar is a Partner and Head of the Abuse Law Team at Leigh Day. She specialises in claims for abuse and ill-treatment of children and adults at risk of harm. She is currently bringing claims on behalf of children with special educational needs and learning disabled adults, arising out of excessive and unreasonable physical interventions in various institutional settings. Alison previously acted for a number of the former residents of the private hospital, Winterbourne View, where the ill-treatment of adults with learning disabilities was exposed on BBC Panorama. Alison is assisted in her physical intervention cases by Kate Whiting (solicitor) and Lucy MacBrayne (paralegal).



Bernard Allen

Bernard Allen worked for 12 years as a School Principal, managing groups of specialist schools, before becoming a Principal Tutor for 'Team-Teach'. He also acts as an independent expert witness on issues of restraint, and was one of the authors of the recent Medway Improvement Board Report, following allegations of excessive restraint at Medway Secure Training Centre. Bernard has served as a member of the National Advisory Group on Special Education, was a Trustee of the National Control & Restraint (General Services) Association, and is a member of the National Executive of 'ENGAGE in their future' (the national association for schools catering for children and young people with social, emotional and mental health difficulties).



Dr Theresa Joyce

Dr Theresa Joyce is a Clinical Psychologist and National Professional Advisor on learning disabilities at the CQC. This involves advising the CQC on good practice in services for people with learning disabilities, as well as participating in inspections and providing training to CQC staff on issues that particularly affect people with learning disabilities. She has worked both as the lead clinician in psychology services for adults with learning disabilities, and as the lead on Mental Capacity Act and Safeguarding Adults for South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust. She has specific interests in challenging behaviour, safeguarding, and in the assessment of mental capacity and determination of best interests. She has published on a number of topics, including challenging behaviour, mental capacity and best interests and is co-author of staff training packs on these issues.



David Jack

David Jack is the parent of a severely autistic learning disabled man. He is a trustee and dedicated volunteer for the Challenging Behaviour Foundation, and a member of their steering group on national strategy. David was a member of the Winterbourne Medicines Programme Board (in the capacity of a parent and carer representative), contributing to the NHS Improving Quality Report (April 2014 - April 2015) on improving the use of medicines in people with learning disabilities.

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John Williams

John Williams is a commentator, comedian and author of the 'My Son's not Rainman' blog, recounting his every day experiences as the father of a child with autism and cerebral palsy. He has performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and at numerous education and healthcare conferences throughout the UK (including as Keynote Speaker at the National Autistic Society Annual Conference). An excerpt recorded for Radio4 programme, 'Four Thought', was featured on Pick of the Year 2015 and went on to be selected by the BBC as one of their Magic Moments of Radio 2015. His book, 'My Son's Not Rainman', is due to be published later this year.



Victoria Butler-Cole

Victoria Butler-Cole is a barrister at 39 Essex Chambers, specialising in Court of Protection, Human Rights and Administrative and Public Law. She is currently instructed in a number of claims relating to the use of calm rooms and physical restraint, and also deals with legal issues concerning community care, healthcare, mental health and education. Before qualifying as a barrister, Victoria worked in the field of medical ethics and public policy.



Dr Peter Carpenter

Dr Peter Carpenter is now semi-retired but is an Honorary Consultant in Learning Disabilities at Avon & Wiltshire Partnership NHS Trust ('AWP'), where he was also Associate Medical Lead in Learning Disabilities and Specialist Adult Services. His main work at present with AWP is with adults with autism or ADHD, and he also acts as a special visitor for the Court of Protection. Dr Carpenter acts as an independent expert witness and has provided guidance for NICE on the diagnosis and management of adults with autism. He was a member of the working group behind the paper, 'Challenging behaviour: a unified approach', providing clinical and service guidelines supporting people with learning disabilities who are at risk of receiving abusive or restrictive practices.