



ENCLAVE

Enhancing the capacity of legal & justice
professionals on forensic interview procedures
for child victims and witnesses of violence

Pille Tsopp-Pagan, WSIC |

20/01/23

Guidelines for Victim's Support Organizations

101005464 — ENCLAVE — JUST-AG-2020 / JUST-JACC-AG-2020

Guidelines for VSO-s

Victim's support services are crucial members of support network during the process of legal proceedings and treatment of child victim and witnesses of sexual abuse.

ENCLAVE addresses the main points of the child-friendly work.



**Women's Support and
Information Center**
There is a way out of violence!



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

uc3m

Universidad
Carlos III
de Madrid

KU LEUVEN



This project is co-funded by the Justice Programme of the European Union

Terminology

Child - any person under the age of eighteen years

Child victim - someone under the age of eighteen who has suffered harm when the law was broken. All children have the same rights to be protected, no matter what role they may have had in the crime or the trial of the accused.

Child witness - someone under the age of eighteen who saw or heard what happened or knows something that can help explain the truth about what happened when the law was broken.



**Women's Support and
Information Center**
There is a way out of violence!



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

uc3m

Universidad
Carlos III
de Madrid

KU LEUVEN



This project is co-funded by the Justice Programme of the European Union



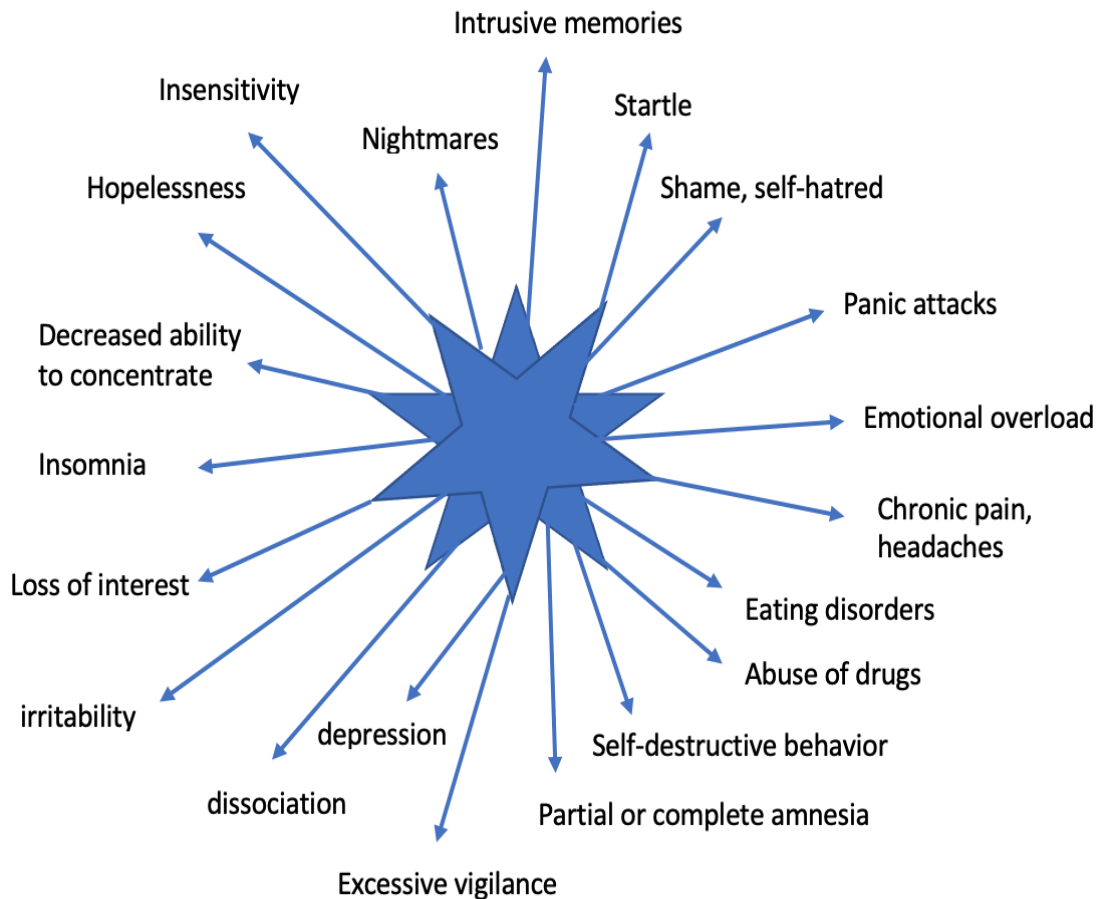
Trauma

Trauma is a tragic trace of the past in the present

An overwhelming traumatic situation or series of repeated experiences affects the individual on many levels

Traumas can temporarily or permanently affect not only the child's/adolescent's ability to cope with the incident, their perception of danger and understanding of themselves and the surroundings, but also their physiology

The Impact of Complex Trauma on Mental Health



Women's Support and Information Center
There is a way out of violence!



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

uc3m

Universidad
Carlos III
de Madrid

KU LEUVEN



This project is co-funded by the Justice Programme of the European Union

VSO-s role

To avoid and prevent **secondary victimization** of child victim all the time.

To support child before, during and (possibly) after the trial.

To avoid any conflict that can occur while preparing the child for forensic interview(s).

To cooperate and communicate with stakeholders during proceedings.

Implement trauma-informed-care approaches.



**Women's Support and
Information Center**
There is a way out of violence!



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

uc3m

Universidad
Carlos III
de Madrid

KU LEUVEN



This project is co-
funded by the Justice
Programme of the
European Union

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?



WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?



**Women's Support and
Information Center**
There is a way out of violence!



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

uc3m | Universidad
Carlos III
de Madrid

KU LEUVEN



This project is co-
funded by the Justice
Programme of the
European Union

Supporting/ensuring

- I believe you
- It was not your fault
- I'm so sorry this happened to you
- I am here for you, and I can help you in any way



**Women's Support and
Information Center**
There is a way out of violence!



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

uc3m

Universidad
Carlos III
de Madrid

KU LEUVEN



This project is co-
funded by the Justice
Programme of the
European Union

Remember!

- Don't use words that the child has not used to express him/herself.
- Thank them for trusting in you to talk about it.
- You shouldn't blame, question, or doubt what they tell you.



**Women's Support and
Information Center**
There is a way out of violence!



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

uc3m

Universidad
Carlos III
de Madrid

KU LEUVEN



This project is co-
funded by the Justice
Programme of the
European Union

Guideline's structure

- Definitions
- Role of VSO's
- Disclosure and reporting
- Victim's/witnesses' needs
- Preparation of child victims/witnesses for the justice process
- Forensic interview. Testimony. Evidence
- Caring and professional way throughout the justice process
- Support of the family
- Harm prevention



**Women's Support and
Information Center**
There is a way out of violence!



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

uc3m

Universidad
Carlos III
de Madrid

KU LEUVEN



This project is co-funded by the Justice Programme of the European Union

Thank you for your attention!



The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the ENCLAVE project and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union. Neither the European Union institutions and bodies nor any person acting on their behalf may be held responsible for the use which may be made of the information contained therein.