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Biography of the speakers



Pascale Franck

Pascale is the Vice-president of the European Family Justice Center Alliance (EFJCA) and founder of the Family Justice Center Antwerp, she works for the Flemish government in enrolling the multidisciplinary approach of domestic violence and child abuse. Pascale Franck is criminologist and experienced project manager and team leader, with a demonstrated history of developing and coordinating multi-agency approaches and cross-professional cooperation in the field of gender-based violence, domestic violence and child abuse. Her main tasks are the development, management, monitoring and sustainability of the multidisciplinary centers on domestic violence and child abuse in Belgium and abroad. In this approach she focuses on methodology bringing empowerment of survivors of violence (adults/children). Trauma-informed care and client-centered approach are the lead in this development. During her 32-year career Pascale developed a FJC, a shelter, perpetrator programs and projects for children witnessing and/or experiencing family violence. Pascale is the co-author of the book "One Safe Place for Hope and Empowerment, development of the multidisciplinary approach of domestic violence, child abuse and sexual abuse in European Family Justice Centers".

Bert is a former Police inspector with 20+ years of experience in child friendly interviewing and in criminal investigations on sexual crimes, trafficking, child pornography, child abuse and other related crimes. Besides an active involvement in national projects focusing on the development of an integral approach of domestic violence, sexual violence and child abuse in the Netherlands, he led several multi-year international projects focussing on developing and implementing a multi-agency approach on gender-based violence and child abuse. As project leader Bert led the by the EU funded project 'Family Justice Centers in Europe' and was responsible for the development and implementation of Family Justice Centers (FJC) in five European countries. Bert is the co-author of the book "One Safe Place for Hope and Empowerment, development of the multidisciplinary approach of domestic violence, child abuse and sexual abuse in European Family Justice Centers". Currently Bert is the President of the European Family Justice Center Alliance (EFJCA). He also operated as a case manager at the Sexual Referral Center (CSG) in the region of Zwolle, the Netherlands. He has 30+ years of professional experience in policing, policymaking and project management with a focus on domestic violence, sexual violence, human trafficking and child abuse.



Bert Groen



Luk Lemmens

First deputy of the province of Antwerp Luk Lemmens was born on 8 September 1956 in Wilrijk (Antwerp), his home until 2021. Deputy Luk Lemmens knows our beautiful port city like no other, and all roads in his life lead there. Antwerp is where he sowed the seeds of his political commitment, where he stood up for the Volksunie, later N-VA. Among other things, he was a district councillor in Wilrijk (1984-1995 and 2018-2021), as well as municipal councillor (1998-2006) and vice-president of the social department (2007-2012) of the city of Antwerp. In 2012, he became first deputy of the province of Antwerp where he is responsible for Environmental Planning, Environmental Permits and Appeals, Mobility, Education, Heritage, Havencentrum and the Provincial Art Collection. Spearheads in his policy include the construction of an extensive network of bicycle highways in the province, but also investing strongly in education geared to the needs of the labour market. Luk Lemmens also has a big heart for culture. Until the downsizing of the province in 2018, he was responsible for it. But his expertise in the museum landscape extends much further and has led him, among other things, to chair the board of directors of the KMSKA (Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp), where he as president of the board oversaw the reopening of the most beautiful museum in Antwerp and Flanders after a decade-long closure for renovation.

Alessandra Pauncz is Executive Director of the European Network of the work with perpetrators (WWP EN) a young vibrant network organization of over 60 organizations from 30 European countries. She earned her Ph.D. at the University of Rome “La Sapienza” and has been working in the field of domestic violence for over 25 years covering many areas of expertise. She has advocated and worked for victims of domestic violence as a shelter worker, psychologist, researcher, manager, trainer, and in fund and conscious raising at a local (Association Artemisia), provincial (Equal Opportunities of the Province of Florence), regional, national and European level (European Women’s Lobby & WWP-EN). She founded and ran the first Centre in Italy working with perpetrators (CAM – Centre for abusive men), and set up the National Italian Network of work with perpetrators (Relive). Additionally, Alessandra has published articles and books for the general public (Shifting power: 2012,; Da uomo a uomo: Erickson, 2015; Dire di no alla violenza domestica: Angeli, 2016).



Alessandra Pauncz



Yana Demeyere

Yana Demeyere is a teaching assistant and PhD candidate. She holds a master's degree in Criminology (VUB, 2018). For her Master's thesis, she examined how far the UPP (Brazilian police force in Rio de Janeiro) could be considered a model of community policing as known in the Global North, and the impact it had on the ongoing police violence in Rio. In 2018-2019, she has conducted research on the role and function of police officers from a migration background in strengthening police legitimacy with ethnic minority groups, a project called 'voicing diversity', at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Currently, she is doing a doctoral research on child-to-parent violence and abuse (CPVA) in Belgium at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Focussing on the lived experiences of parents, children and siblings involved on how they conceptualise, explain and deal with this phenomenon.

Dan Dulberger is founder and director of the Center for NVR Therapy and Practice. A systemic therapist, a counselling therapist and a counsellor in NVR interventions, Dan is internationally acknowledged as an instructor and innovator in the Non-Violent Resistance therapy approach, as well as in NVR interventions with families of non-emerging adult children with entrenched dependence. His professional activities include clinical work with families in crises, consulting to mental health organizations, training, supervision, authoring, teaching and speaking, in Canada, in Europe and in Israel. Dan teaches and supervises at the University of Calgary's Post-Masters Certificate and Diploma in Couple and Family Therapy and is formerly a staff member of the Calgary Family Therapy Center. In 2010 Dan founded the Israeli Clinic for Parental Empowerment, together with Haim Omer. Dan holds an M.A. degree in Psychology from the Tel-Aviv University, is a graduate of SHINUI (the Israeli Institute for Systemic Studies, Family and Personal Change), and was personally trained by Haim Omer in the NVR approach. Dan is certified by the Israeli (CCFT), Canadian (CAMFT) and American (AAMFT) Associations for Marital and Family Therapy, and by the Association of Counseling Therapists of Alberta (ACTA). He is also accredited as a Practitioner and Supervisor by the UK Association of NVR Practice (UK).



Dan Dulberger



Willem Beckers

Willem Beckers works as a staff-member and systemic psychotherapist at Interactie-Academie, an institute for systemic training and therapy in Antwerp. He specializes in family therapy and domestic violence, particularly child-to-parent violence and working with parents of resident and care avoiding (young) adults. He is an external trainer at the European Family Justice Center Alliance and trainer / supervisor at the Belgian and Dutch Associations for Family Therapy (BVRGS and NVRG). He is also accredited as a Practitioner and Supervisor by the UK Association of NVR Practice (UK).

Dr Declan Coogan is a registered social worker and family therapist, who joined the University of Galway as a lecturer and researcher in social work in 2009, following practice experience in child protection and welfare and CAMHS teams. He is a Research Fellow with the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre. He was the Ireland lead for the 5 nation EU co-funded Responding to Child to Parent Violence Project which aimed to develop awareness of child to parent violence and to carry out action research on intervention programmes for child to parent violence. The RCPV project successfully concluded in 2015 (see www.nvrireland.ie). He was awarded a PhD through NUI Galway in 2016. In 2018, his book *Child to Parent Violence and Abuse – Family Intervention with Non Violent Resistance* was published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers and is available in paperback from www.jkp.com Declan continues to enjoy working with families and practitioners, especially using Non Violent Resistance. He is the chairperson of NVR Ireland, a network of practitioners and researcher committed to using Non Violent Resistance in practice and research.



Declan Coogan



Tom Meeuws

Tom Meeuws is Vice-Mayor of the City of Antwerp and its alderman for social affairs, poverty reduction, social economy, environment and honorary services. Over the past 20 years, Meeuws has worked in a number of roles at the City of Antwerp, including: staff member to the city's labour market policy, chief of staff for the Vice Mayor for Community Development, Director of the City's department for community building and society, and Director of its public mobility enterprise De Lijn. Prior to this, he was a policy advisor on labour market and sustainable development for the Federal Planning Bureau, an independent advisory institution supporting Belgian policy making. In his current role as alderman, Meeuws is responsible for Antwerp's commitments in several European partnerships and member of the European Regional Executive Committee of ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability. Building on these, his areas of focus include tackling energy poverty, decarbonising buildings, and the just energy transition. Throughout his long career, family justice matters have always been an important concern. In his (rare) spare time, Tom is a passionate drum player in several local bands.

Katja Lenzing joined DG Justice and Consumer's gender equality unit in January 2021 as deputy Head of Unit. Previous assignments in the European Commission include work on rule of law reforms in the Secretariat General and the Support Group for Ukraine/DG NEAR as well as legislation on civil justice in DG Justice and Consumers. Before joining the Commission in 2004, she worked as a legal council in the banking sector. Ms Lenzing received her legal education in Germany, France and the UK, and holds a Master's degree from Oxford University.



Katja Lenzing



Franky De Keyzer

Franky De Keyzer was sworn in as Prosecutor of the Antwerp public prosecutor's office in May 2019. In 2016, Mr De Keyzer was appointed by royal decree as a member of the expert committee in charge of evaluating federal discrimination laws, committee sitting under the (co-)chairmanship of Professor Françoise Tulkens and Professor Marc Bossuyt. In 2008, he became a member of the High Council of Justice and served on the Advisory and Scrutiny Committee. His mandate was renewed in 2012 and from then until 2016 he served on the Appointments and Appointments Commission. In 2002, Mr De Keyzer was delegated by order of the public prosecutor to the public prosecutor's office of the Antwerp Court of Appeal. Here he represented the public prosecutor at the assize court of Antwerp and Limburg 13 times (amongst other in some media-sensitive cases including the dossier Hans Van Themsche). In 1996, Mr De Keyzer took the oath as substitute of the public prosecutor at the Antwerp Court of First Instance. As substitute public prosecutor, he handled cases on general criminal law, environmental and special criminal law, economic and financial law and was in charge of disciplinary and criminal investigations on behalf of police officers.

Joris Herweyers graduated as a bachelor's degree in orthopedagogy. As one of the founders of various projects in professional assistance, he became the first case director at the FJC Antwerp. After over 15y in professional assistance, he decided to take a different path. The will to work with children and to look for new paths, translated into the project TaRMaK, where he and his colleagues from Ell Circo D'ell Fuego are building a safe and fun environment for the young victims of situations of domestic violence. He supports a strong belief in physical movement, being together (togetherness) and the power of circus. In addition, he also supports students orthopedagogy and social work at the AP college, our future Social Workers.



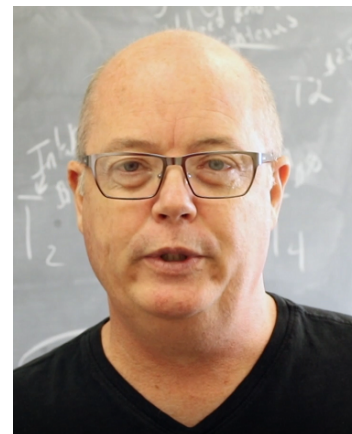
Joris Herweyers



Josefin Grände

Josefin Grände is a licensed psychotherapist and supervisor specialized in trauma, working in private practice in Stockholm, Sweden. Since the end of the 1990's, she has worked with gender-based violence, with special focus on domestic violence and sexual violence, within the framework of various organizations and authorities. She has for many years done supervision work with professionals who work with trauma and with survivors and perpetrators of violence. She has also written a couple of books in the field, and is often engaged as educator and trainer as well as an expert consultant in both official reports and research. As a psychotherapist Josefin is specially interested in the integration of trauma specific modalities, affect-focused psychotherapy and power-responsive approaches.

Chan is a Professor of Social Work at the University of Oklahoma and Director of The Hope Research Center. He has written more than 150 scientific publications and has presented at numerous national and international conferences worldwide. Chan's research is focused on hope as a psychological strength helping children and adults overcome trauma and adversity. Chan holds Adjunct Professor appointments in the Department of Internal Medicine and Department of Pediatrics for the OU College of Medicine and the Department of Health Promotion Sciences for the OU College of Public Health. Chan's research is focused on the application of hope theory to those impacted by trauma and adversity. He is also interested in the impact of prevention and intervention services on increasing and sustaining client hope. Chan teaches master's and doctoral level students primarily in the areas of positive psychology, research methods, and statistics. He also directs student research in the areas of hope and nonprofit organizations.



Chan Hellman



Melissa De Roose



Anna Defossez

Anna Defossez, Coordinator of Echo, an initiative of the Flemish Expertise Center for Child Abuse. Survivor and practitioner.

Melissa De Roose, Cooperator at Echo, survivor

ECHO, Resonance for survivors of child abuse by Anna Defossez and Melanie De Roose from Echo, peer support group Echo (Belgium), VECK (Flemish Expertise Center on Child Abuse).

We notice that bystanders, children, perpetrators, aid workers, survivors... often remain silent when it comes to child abuse. Why is everyone silent?

The message is clear. To stop or prevent child abuse more, we need to speak up.

What can we do and mean together? How can we speak up when we are worried? Without having to solve everything. You don't have to be a hero to mean a lot. The writers in the book OverLeven already chose to speak.