Project Title: The role of shame in Child Sexual Abuse Disclosures

Principal Investigator: Dr. Rosaleen McElvaney, a Clinical Psychologist

School/Research Centre: School of Nursing and Human Sciences

Project Description

A Research Intern is being sought to work on a project investigating the role of shame, self blame, guilt and embarrassment in how children and young people tell someone that they have been sexually abused. Data has been collected from 40 interviews with young people in Ireland and Canada and we expect to have approximately 60 interviews completed by June 2018. The Research Intern will prepare the data for analysis, conduct a qualitative coding of a small sub-set of data, assist in the analysis of the entire data set (using nVIVO and SPSS) and get the opportunity to present these findings at a national conference. The study is being led by Dr. Rosaleen McElvaney, a Clinical Psychologist with over 20 years’ experience working in the field of child sexual abuse and currently a Lecturer in Psychotherapy in the School of Nursing and Human Sciences in Dublin City University.

The successful candidate will be based in Dublin City University for a period of 6-8 weeks. An opportunity to learn about child protection procedures and services will be available, with the possibility of visiting child sexual abuse services. Experience in conducting a literature review, data preparation and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data and preparation of a conference presentation will be available under weekly supervision.

Interested applicants need to be registered as undergraduate students. Ideally, the student will have completed at least 3 years’ study although life experiences will be taken into consideration in evaluating applications. An interest in child sexual abuse and child protection is essential.