

## Resources

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### **A toolkit for tackling racially motivated or aggravated offending behavior**

Most social work practitioners do the work they do because they hold a fundamental belief that people can change. Anti-Discriminatory Awareness Practice Training (ADAPT) was conceived with this principle in mind. The intervention was developed for working with people who have committed or are at risk of committing racist hate crime. The Toolkit contains 44 exercises designed to alter prejudicial attitudes and change behaviour. During 2006–2008, in collaboration with criminal justice social work, the procurator fiscal service and the court service/sheriffs, ADAPT was piloted in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire, where, as appropriate, the intervention was included in social enquiry reports and subsequent probation orders with offenders who presented with crimes involving a racial aggravation or motivation. The evaluation research found no re-offending twelve months after participants completed ADAPT. An account of the evaluation is included in the ADAPT Toolkit. The Toolkit also contains a theoretical overview of hate crime. The Toolkit was principally developed to address racist behaviour/offending. However, most of the materials are applicable or can be adapted to address other areas of hate crime and discrimination. Moreover, many of the exercises can be modified for non-criminal justice settings including schools, residential care and youth clubs. ADAPT was initiated by Grampian Regional Equality Council (GREC) and developed by former GREC CEO, Jeannie Felsinger. To access a free online copy of ADAPT go to <https://sites.google.com/site/grec2website/adapt-1>. Hardcopies of the book can be purchased from the GREC office, see [www.grec.co.uk](http://www.grec.co.uk)

### **Practitioner guidance for working with personality disorder**

In September 2015 NHS England and NOMS published a second edition of *Working with Offenders with Personality Disorder: A Practitioner's Guide*. Personality disorder is a complex psycho-social disorder. It affects between 4 and 11 per cent of the UK population, 50 per cent of offenders managed by probation services, and 60–70 per cent of prisoners. This guide is intended for all staff who work with offenders with personality disorder. It provides practical information and advice for managing people whose behaviour can be extremely challenging. It also considers the effect on staff well-being with suggestions on how staff can protect themselves. This second edition provides updates throughout, additional guidance, and new chapters. New chapters include: working with young adults (which

explores adolescence), what is different when working with young adults with personality disorder, along with treatment pathway information; another additional chapter covers working with women that considers the understanding of the risk and the do's and don'ts when working with women. There is also new guidance on developing case formulations. The guidance is available for free online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-with-offenders-with-personality-disorder-a-practitioners-guide>

## **A tailored approach for working with young adults in courts**

Transitions to Adulthood and Centre for Justice Innovation have collaborated on producing a guidance document entitled *Young Adults in Court: Developing a Tailored Approach*. A growing body of research highlights that criminal justice responses to the behaviour of young adults should reflect their variable developmental maturity and make allowances for their specific age-related needs. The guidance aims to address this and considers how a court process adapted for young adults may improve outcomes for those involved in the justice system aged between 18 and 25 years old. The document considers the evidence basis and the current legislative framework in order to tailor an approach within existing systems. A young adult court process would have the following features: specialist listings for young adults; specialist judges and magistrates presiding over the hearings; family involvement at court; adapting procedurally fair courtroom language and communication already practised in youth court; and adapted courtroom environment more conducive to engagement. See: <http://www.justiceinnovation.org/better-courts/publications/young-adults-court-developing-tailored-approach>

## **Life in prison: HMIP Findings summary reports**

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) is publishing a series of short reports entitled *Life in Prison*, that focus on daily life in prisons and young offender institutions (YOIs) holding young adults aged 18 to 21 years. The series explores particular topics that are regularly reported to HMIP as concerns during our routine inspections, or which merit detailed and specific examination. These findings papers will be of interest to practitioners and provide insight into the reality of life in prison. The *Life in Prison* findings papers have covered: the first 24 hours in prison; peer support and earning and spending money. Additional topics are planned. The concise reports outline expectations, summarize the findings from individual inspections and make brief recommendations. The reports can be accessed at <http://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk>