



RITUAL ABUSE AGENCIES NETWORKING SURVEY REPORT 2008

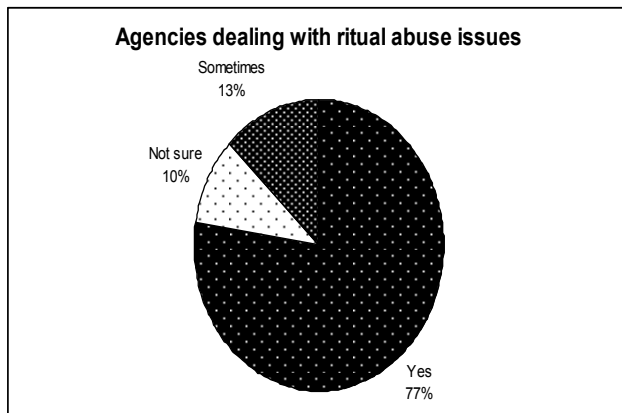
Introduction

In an attempt to determine the training needs by agencies either directly involved in supporting ritual abuse survivors or indirectly through referrals of ritual abuse survivors to other agencies, we conducted a survey in April 2008 with at least 500 organisations throughout the UK. We send out consultations forms to at least 350 organisations. Out of this number we received 31 completed consultation forms. The analysis of this report is based on 31 consultation forms which were completed and send back to us.

The aim of the survey was to determine whether the organisations in question were involved in supporting ritual abuse survivors; the services they provided to the ritual survivors; their level of knowledge and skills in trying to deal with ritual abuse survivors; whether they needed further training on how to support ritual abuse survivors; the best and suitable mode of training they would prefer and whether they were willing to pay for the training.

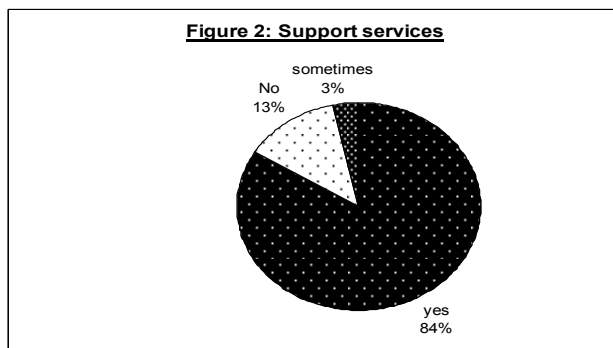
Involvement with Ritual abuse survivors

The results of the survey indicate that out of 31 organisations, 24 were involved with ritual abuse survivors, 3 were not sure whether they were involved with ritual abuse survivors while 4 said that occasionally they supported clients who were ritual abuse survivors (see Figure 1).

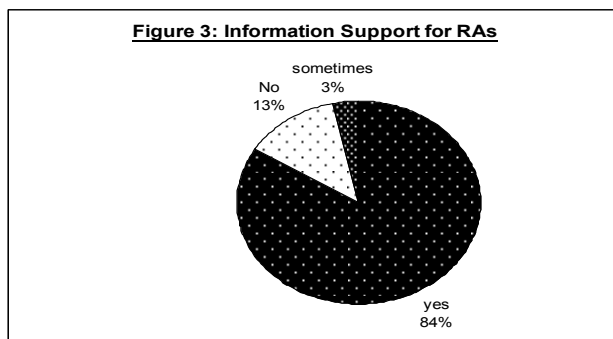


Involvement with ritual abuse survivors was looked at in terms of support services offered by these agencies to ritual abuse survivors. Out of the 31 agencies, 26 supported ritual abuse survivors, 4 agencies did not offer support services to ritual abuse survivors, while 1 agency occasionally supported ritual abuse survivors (see figure 2). Support services was used as a combination of services such as referrals to other agencies, face to face support, telephone support, email support and text support. The involvement of these agencies with ritual abuse survivors was also looked at in terms of providing information to ritual abuse survivors (see figure 3), counselling services (see figure 4), advocacy (see figure 5), accommodation (see figure 6), and psychotherapy services (see figure 7).

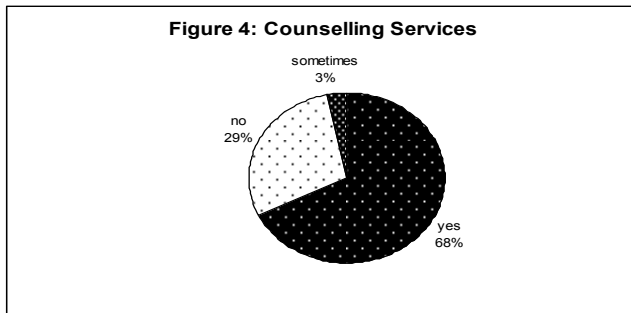
84% of all the 31 agencies provided support services to the ritual abuse survivors in one way or the other (Figure 2).



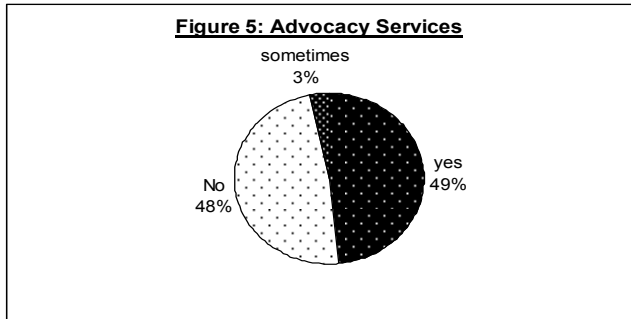
84% of all the 31 agencies provided information services to ritual abuse survivors in one way or the other (Figure 3).



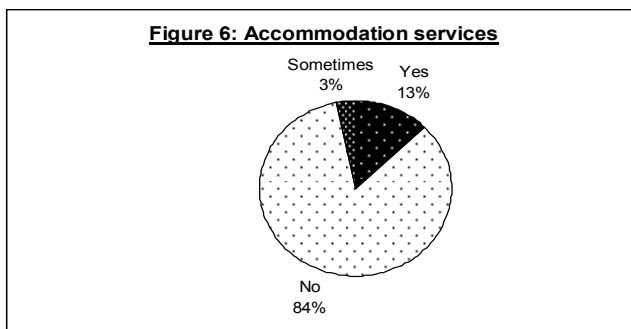
68% of all the 31 agencies provided counselling services to ritual abuse survivors in one way or the other (Figure 4).



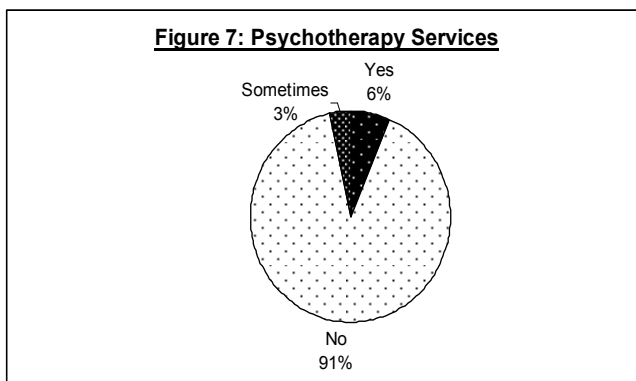
49% of all the 31 agencies provided advocacy services to ritual abuse survivors in one way or the other (Figure 5).



Only 13% of all the 31 agencies provided accommodation services to ritual abuse survivors in one way or the other (Figure 6).



Only 6% of all the 31 agencies provided psychotherapy services to ritual abuse survivors in one way or the other (Figure 7).

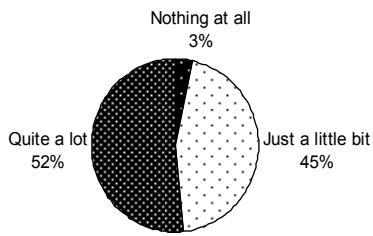


The results from the survey clearly indicate that most of the agencies provided support, information and advocacy services represented by as high as 84%. Accommodation and psychotherapy were some of the major services that most of the agencies never provided to ritual abuse survivors.

Level of knowledge on Ritual abuse issues

The survey assessed the level of knowledge by the agencies in terms of dealing with ritual abuse survivors in terms of not knowing, having just a little bit and knowing quite a lot. The results of the survey indicate that out of the 31 agencies, 1 knew nothing at all about ritual abuse issues, 14 knew just a little bit, while 16 agencies knew quite a lot (see figure 8).

Figure 8: Level of Knowledge on Ritual abuse issues



Mode of Training

Looking at the mode of training, 13 agencies out of 31 indicated that they preferred a combination of a training pack, a DVD and a training session with Izzy's promise Trainers, 8 agencies out of 31 indicated they wanted either of the three training options individually either a training pack on its own, a DVD on its own or a session with Izzy's Promise trainers, while 10 out of the 31 agencies did not want any type of training (see figure 10).

26% and 42% opted for some sort of training on ritual abuse issues giving a total of 68% of agencies interested in training as indicated in figure 9.

Figure 9: Need for Training on Ritual Abuse Issues

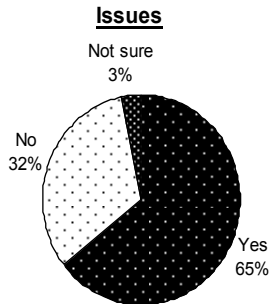
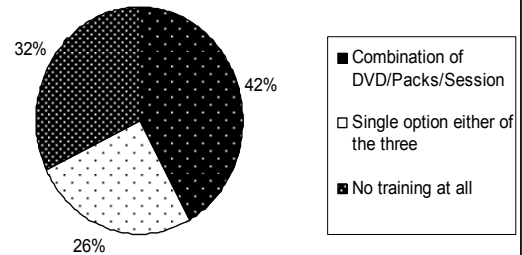
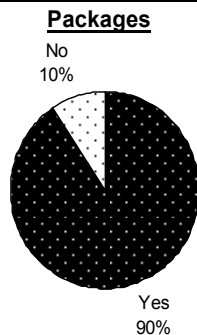


Figure 10: Mode of Training



Of all the 21 agencies that declared an interest in training on ritual abuse issues, 19 were willing to contribute towards the cost of training or paying to be supplied with the training packs and DVDs while 2 agencies said they were unable to pay due to lack of sufficient funds (see figure 11).

Figure 11: Willingness to pay for the Training Packages



Even though most agencies were willing to pay for the training session or packs and DVDs, the average each agency was willing to pay was between £10 and £40 for the packs and DVDs while for a training session most of them were interested but they were non-committal citing lack of funding to invest in training their staff on how to support ritual abuse survivors.

Recommendations

- Need for more networking and collaboration amongst abuse agencies in terms of supporting ritual abuse survivors.
- Need for agencies dealing with ritual abuse survivors like Izzy's Promise to develop training manuals/packs and DVDs to be distributed to other abuse agencies for use in equipping support workers and volunteers in order to offer quality and informed service to ritual abuse survivors.
- Need for more advocacy and campaign work by abuse support organisations aimed at sensitising statutory agencies and the general public on the support needs of ritual abuse survivors in UK.
- Need for abuse support agencies to set up support services for ritual abuse survivors.