

E-update: 11 April 2008

To All Muslim Women Network Attending and e-Network Members

In The News....

1. "30 years of equal pay legislation ... yet the pay gap is 15% and growing" 11 April 2008

"The gender pay gap is still growing despite more than 30 years of equal pay and sex discrimination legislation, a Scottish Government report has found."

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2160498.0.30_years_of_equal_pay_legislation_yet_the_pay_gap_is_15_and_growing.php

2. "Muslim sex offenders may opt out of treatment" 9 April 2008

"Muslim sex offenders may be allowed to opt out of a prison treatment programme because it is against their religion, it has emerged."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2008/04/08/nmuslim108.xml>

3. "How trendy are you?" 8 April 2008

"From your wealth to your health, find out the latest social trends revealed in the Office of National Statistics report. Think you know the pay gap between men and women? Whether more people move from North to South than vice versa? How satisfied are Britons with their lot?"

<http://www.channel4.com/news/articles/society/how+trendy+are+you/1968747>

4. "Sudan: Responding to humanitarian needs in Darfur and Abyei" 8 April 2008

"ICRC teams carried out nearly 80 field missions in more than 60 rural areas throughout South, North and West Darfur during the first three months of the year, despite the prevailing insecurity and despite having only sporadic access to certain areas."

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/fromthefield/220224/4e61ece2ef59b877d83fdad60cc9fc34.htm>

5. "Bid for abuse funding" 8 April 2008

Bids for central government funding for projects which deal with domestic abuse and substance misuse are being prepared by Dundee City Council (writes Brian Allison, local government reporter).

<http://www.eveningtelegraph.co.uk/output/2008/04/08/story11180522t0.shtm>

6. “Cathedral protest charges dropped” 7 April 2008

Two men who protested against adopting Muslim laws in Britain during an Easter sermon by the Archbishop of Canterbury have had charges against them dropped.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/7334931.stm>

7. “Apprenticeships still 'jobs for the boys' 4 April 2008

“New research shows that female apprentices are still being left far behind their male counterparts. The report 'Still More (Better Paid) Jobs for the Boys' - prepared for the TUC Young Members Forum - shows that while more apprenticeship places have opened up for women in general, this has not happened in better paid male-dominated sectors such as engineering and construction.”

<http://www.trainingzone.co.uk/cgi-bin/item.cgi?id=181689&d=680&h=608&f=626&dateformat=%25e-%25h-%25y>

8. “Poverty gap has not narrowed under Labour” 3 April 2008

Britain grew richer during Tony Blair's decade in power, but for large sections of the population it did not become fairer, the government's chief statistician disclosed yesterday.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2008/apr/03/socialexclusion.labour>

9. “Colombia's displaced women sexually abused and forced into early motherhood” 2 April 2008

“If you're a Colombian girl displaced by the war, there's almost a one in three chance you'll have at least one baby before your 20th birthday. And over your lifetime, there's a one in five chance you'll be raped.”

http://www.alertnet.org/db/an_art/1264/2008/03/2-161822-1.htm

10. “Officers face action over honour killing” 2 April 2008

“Two police forces were accused today of “letting down” an honour killing victim when she told officers she feared for her life in the months before her murder.”

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/officers-face-action-over-honour-killing-803718.html>

11. “Sexist workplace culture under attack” 2 April 2008

The Fawcett Society has called for tough action to stamp out sexism in UK workplaces. Nearly 40 years on from the outlawing of discrimination against women in the workplace, sexism remains rife, according to the women's rights organisation.

<http://www.dofonline.co.uk/management/sexist-workplace-culture-under-attack6447.html>

12. “White teenage boys are the new poor in Labour's Britain” 2 April 2008

“White boys from sink estates are the new poor in Labour's Britain, an official report said yesterday.”

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/news.html?in_article_id=554328&in_page_id=1770

13. “Making the Grade? Not yet...” 1 April 2008

“Janet Veitch says that with a score of 2 out of 10, the Government needs to start taking real action to make the grade for addressing violence against women.”

<http://www.newstatesman.com/200804010003>

14. “‘No more mosques' says Synod member” 1 April 2008

“Alison Ruoff claims that building mega-mosques could help turn Britain into an Islamic state.”

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/faith/article3662450.ece>

15. “Women scientists face discrimination, says study” 20 March 2008

“Women continue to struggle to reach the top echelons of academia due to discrimination, according to new research presented at the Royal Economic Society annual conference this week.”

<http://education.guardian.co.uk/print/0,,333202152-108229,00.html>

Events

1. No-Recourse Campaign - Day Of Action - 23 April 2008

There is only three weeks to go now until the Abolish No Recourse Day of Action on the 23rd April! This email is the first of regular campaign updates we will be sending before the day itself. You have received it because you have affiliated to the campaign with Southall Black Sisters, or because you have asked to be kept updated.

Taking Action:

The finished campaign resource pack is now available on the Women Resource Centre website: <http://www.wrc.org.uk/>

- A brief background on no recourse to public funds

- Details on the Day of Action
- Actions you can take, plus tips on meeting with and lobbying your MP.
- Case studies and examples of other organisations actions.
- Charities and campaigning.
- A template letter, press release and model resolution
- Fact sheet on the issues to help you campaign.
- Links to further resources and a list of affiliated individuals and groups.

On the Day:

The plan for the Day of Action is to assemble at 11.00am for a demonstration at 11.30-12.30 on the Embankment opposite Portcullis House, Westminster, London (nearest tube Westminster) we were not able to get permission to gather in Parliament Square. A big, bold and beautiful banner is being made by an Amnesty artist. Please wear black on the day.

The public meeting will begin at 1pm in Portcullis House, details of the speakers will follow shortly.

If you are organising a coach party for the day of action on the 23rd, please make sure your coach company arranges a place to park, as this may need to be booked in advance!

For more information contact:

Southall Black Sisters, 21 Avenue Road, Southall, Middx UB1 3BL

Telephone: 0208 571 9595 e-mail address: southallblacksisters@btconnect.com

2. Women Take Part

Women Take Part is a piece of work funded by the Government Equality Office, looking at the participation of women, in particular under-represented women, in governance and decision making, in both community and public life.

Women Take Part has been collecting information about two sides of the story 'what works' in terms of approaches, initiatives and learning models that encourage different groups of women to become more involved and 'what needs to happen' so that structures, policies and organisations work in ways that encourage the recruitment and support of more women.

We would like to invite you to come to Birmingham on MAY 13th, share our findings, contribute further to the research and consider how we can take this forward and make a real difference.

Introduced by Barbara Follett MP Deputy Minister for Women & Equality

Date: Tuesday 13th May 2008

Time: 9.30am for 10.00am start 4.30pm finish

Venue: The Deaf Cultural Centre,
Ladywood, Birmingham B16 8SZ
(www.deafculturalcentre.com)

Fully accessible, parking available on request

Plenty of taxis at the station

Hotel deals can be arranged

R.S.V.P by Monday 28th April
01743 350198
WTP@changesuk.net

Funding

The Department for Communities and Local Government is pleased to announce the opening of the next round of the Preventing Violent Extremism Community Leadership Fund. This grant fund is intended to support work that will build the capacity of individuals, organisations and communities to take the lead on tackling violent extremist influences.

The funding will be focused on the following areas:

- Capacity building of organisations and communities
- Supporting Muslim young people
- Supporting Muslim women
- Capacity building of Muslim faith leaders
- Local forums against extremism and Islamophobia

Funding for the first four strands of work will be limited to projects which have national reach/significance. Funding for the fifth strand of work will go to projects which are delivered locally.

This fund will complement the much larger scale work being taken forward by many local authorities. If you are considering a project in a single town or single county you should check the information on work going forward in your local area using these web pages or by contacting your local authority.

You can find details for the Community Leadership Fund at the address below:-

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/communities/preventingextremism/communityleadershipfund/>

Please read all attached guidelines and FAQ's before submitting an application

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