



FORENSIC INTERVIEW SOLUTIONS



SEXUAL GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

INVESTIGATION & INVESTIGATIVE
INTERVIEWING COURSE



Forensic Interview Solutions

SEXUAL GENDER BASED VIOLENCE INVESTIGATION & INVESTIGATIVE INTERVIEWING COURSE

Police officers and investigators deployed to investigate Sexual and Gender based Violence (SGBV) require the specialist knowledge, skills, and attitudes to deal with these complex and traumatic investigations. Without the subject matter and interview skills necessary to deal with the most vulnerable victims, investigations will be ineffective in meeting the needs of victims or bringing perpetrators to justice.

The aim of this training course is to develop specialist police SGBV investigators and/or enhance the skills of main office investigators with training in trauma-informed victim centred investigations, with focus on the interviews. Interviewing is a challenging and complex area of the investigation process.

The Indicative Training Content

This two week training course will:

- develop the participants knowledge of SGBV, its concepts, forms, and impacts including the impact of trauma on victim and witnesses.
- Improve awareness on the importance of a trauma-informed first response.
- Develop the participants knowledge of managing SGBV investigations, including forensic evidence.
- Using the Achieving Best Evidence (ABE) model for interviewing vulnerable victim and witnesses of SGBV
- Using the PEACE conversation management model for interviewing the suspects.

INTERVIEW TECHNIQUES FOR THE FIS® SGBV COURSE

This 2-week training course will develop the cognitive interviewing skills of the participants with a focus on SGBV cases.

Such cases are often time sensitive, underscoring the importance of the initial investigative response including the first response and interviews.

Investigators must be equipped with the appropriate skills and knowledge to understand how to fast track the investigation and support SGBV victims in presenting the best evidence utilizing proven methods such as Achieving Best Evidence (ABE).

This training will help participants understand how forensic evidence, especially medical evidence, can be used in the investigation.

This ten-day classroom-based training will be based on adult learning theories and a high degree of student participation.

There will be several practical exercises throughout the training with prepared case study scenarios, including conducting interviews of both victims and suspects involved in a number of rape investigations. This investigative interview training will use role players to maximise learning opportunities and explore how to develop the ABE cognitive interview skills and conversation management models in an audience of investigators.

It is important to provide a private space and build rapport with the victim or witness, where there are no distractions or interruptions, in order to obtain the best evidence. Victims of SGBV are likely to be vulnerable and as part of the offending, perpetrators are likely to have made threats to them and taken advantage of their vulnerability.

Using a suitable interviewing room will help to build rapport and trust and remove any barriers of communication.

The proper handling of such cases will ultimately contribute to increasing the public confidence of the police and the justice process which will support more victims coming forward to report these crimes, helping them recover and bringing more perpetrators to justice.

Background to ABE in criminal proceedings

The ABE model of interviewing was developed with a firm base on psychological research, utilizing the cognitive interview approach to support investigators when interviewing vulnerable and intimidated victims and witnesses, such as victims of SGBV. It allows the interviewee to remember at their own pace, utilises unbiased memory-enhancing tools, aims to retrieve the maximum quality and quantity of information from an interviewee and most importantly hands over control of the interview from the interviewer to the interviewee.

The Cognitive model is embedded within ABE guidance and the 'phased approach' recommended for these interviews has striking similarities with the components of PEACE.

The ABE model

The 4-phase approach within the ABE model is compatible with the PEACE model, in both models effective planning and preparation are key to the successful application of both processes. Establishing a rapport means being genuinely open, interested, and approachable, as well as being interested in the interviewee's feelings or welfare.

The ABE model provides guidance to ensure evidence obtained from vulnerable victims of SGBV is of the highest quality and obtained in such a way as to ensure its integrity.

FIS® SGBV INVESTIGATION & INTERVIEW COURSE SCHEDULE

DAY	SUBJECT
Day One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Opening- introduction and overview • Needs, Concerns & Expectations • Concepts and Forms of SGBV • The enduring impact of SGBV • Recap
Day Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap • Investigative Decision-Making Investigative Strategies- Initial Response • Effects of Trauma • Recap
Day Three	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigative Strategies-CSM & Forensic evidence • Investigative Strategies-CSM & Forensic evidence • The ABE model of interviewing • Recap
Day Four	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap • Conducting ABE Victim Interviews – Peer feedback • Conducting ABE Victim Interviews – Peer feedback • Conducting ABE Victim Interviews – Peer feedback • Recap of Interviews by trainers
Day Five	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap • Conducting ABE Witness Interviews – Peer feedback • Conducting ABE Witness Interviews – Peer feedback
WEEKEND	

DAY	SUBJECT
Day Six	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation management PEACE model of interviewing suspects
Day Seven	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap • Planning a suspect interview • Conducting a suspect interview • Conducting a suspect interview • Recap
Day Eight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap • Conducting a suspect interview • Suspect Interview evaluation • Conducting a suspect singletopic Interview
Day Nine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap • Conducting a suspect singletopic Interview • Suspect Interview preparation Challenge phase • Conducting a suspect interview Challenge • Recap
Day Ten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap • Conducting a suspect interview Challenge • Suspect interview evaluation • Final exercise De-brief • Recap and looking forward
ENDS	

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