



Dr Andrew Frost

I've been involved in the human services field for about 30 years, working and researching in offender rehabilitation since 1993. During this time, I've worked in the provision and supervision of group therapy, and the establishment of a forensic therapeutic community. These areas remain central to my research interests.

Prior to my CQUniversity appointment I was a Senior Lecturer in Human Services and Social Work at the University of Canterbury, the Director of Te Awatea Violence Research Centre and Program Coordinator for the Bachelor of Social Work Program. In 2016 I started teaching in the Domestic and Family Violence Practice Postgraduate Courses at CQUniversity and I look forward to teaching the innovative Facilitating Men's Behaviour Change Course in 2017.

The Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research

Research Seminar

Of monsters and men: Deconstructing the sexual offender

Sexual abuse is arguably the most shocking of all forms of violence. This is perhaps because it violates and offends our most cherished sensibilities around intimacy. Little wonder then that serial perpetrators are cast in the most marginalised categories of identity. Barely human, intractable, and incurable, the most common public perceptions revolve around the gothic tropes of monsterhood.

Yet it now seems evident that the vast majority of abuse is carried out by those well known to victims. Indeed, perpetrators are typically revealed to have been in our midst, having carried out repeated acts of abuse, often over many years, without detection. It is dawning on us that such abuse is also carried out by popular or respected figures, and within our most revered institutions. Our preoccupation with monstrosity and the psychopathology of individuals has led psychological science to endeavour to profile offenders and calibrate their offending, typically resorting to outdated and unhelpful metaphors.

This presentation will consider the argument that such perceptions have dangerous implications for addressing sexual abuse. Here we will explore these implications and invite alternative narratives, seeking to move toward metaphors related to public health rather than individual pathology.

Where: CQUniversity Brisbane Campus
Level 6 / Room 8
160 Ann Street, Brisbane

When: 11:00am to 12:00pm, Tuesday 25th October

What: Free Public Presentation

Register: Register [here](#) by Friday 21st October

Contact the Centre on 07 4940 3320 for further information.

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