

The National Drug Research Institute invites you to

Engaging teenage girls and communities in AOD prevention

Free public seminar with

**Dr Hilda Loughran, University College Dublin, and
Nancy Poole, BC Centre of Excellence for Women's Health**

Wednesday, 28 March 2012

2pm

National Drug Research Institute Seminar Room
Curtin University Health Research Campus,
Level 2, 10 Selby Street, Shenton Park, WA

Community experience of AOD problems in Dublin

- Dr Hilda Loughran, School of Applied Social Science, University College Dublin

The National Advisory Council on Drugs funded a research project to investigate the community experience of drug problems in Dublin. Through school community education partnerships, three community groups were engaged in participatory research that resulted in making a case for the development of community indicators of drugs problems. The challenge was to identify the impact of alcohol and drug (AOD) use not just on individuals but on families and communities. This presentation explores some of the issues regarding the community participatory research method, gives an overview of the experiences of the three communities, and identifies challenges that remain in taking this broader perspective on AOD use.

Girls, Alcohol and Health Promotion – a Canadian experience

- Nancy Poole, Director of Research and Knowledge Translation, BC Centre for Women's Health

While promising practices centered on gender risk and protective factors have been evidenced in prevention of heavy alcohol use by girls, there is considerable room for integrating such practices in prevention and health promotion efforts. Nancy Poole will share results of a study by a pan-Canadian research team on the role of girls' empowerment groups in promoting health and preventing heavy alcohol use by girls aged 13-15. She will also discuss a scan identifying targeted health promotion approaches and tools, and implications of trends in girls' drinking for research, policy and practice.

Hilda Loughran is a Lecturer in the School of Applied Social Science in University College Dublin. Originally educated as a social worker, Hilda specialised in addiction and later joined UCD. Her research interests are mainly in the area of alcohol and drug policy and service provision and include a focus on brief interventions. She is engaged in developing community partnership projects between UCD and communities around Dublin, and has recently published a book on Understanding Crisis Therapies, which developed from work with communities on exploring crisis and drug use.

Nancy Poole is Director of Research and Knowledge Translation for the British Columbia Centre of Excellence for Women's Health in Vancouver. She is involved in research teams and knowledge exchange projects in Canada related to women's alcohol and tobacco use, Aboriginal women's drug use, prevention of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, heavy alcohol use by girls, gender and health promotion, and the intersections of women's mental health/experience of trauma/drug use and addiction. Nancy is also known in Canada for leadership in piloting online participatory methods for knowledge generation and exchange on women's health.

RSVP to (08) 9266 1600 or ndri@curtin.edu.au by Friday 16 March, 2012