

From: The Clewer Initiative <clewerinitiative@churchofengland.org>
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To: ctcinfohub@gmail.com
Subject: Children in the Shadows - a new resource for Lent 2022



Mobilising the Church to help end modern slavery.

Preparing for Lent 2022

This month's newsletter is devoted to The Clewer Initiative's new Lent resource, Children in the Shadows. As well as offering a sneak preview of some of the content, we also share a moving case study from Italy and news of VITA, an organisation committed to helping healthcare professionals identify and support victims of modern slavery.

Please forward this newsletter to your friends and colleagues and encourage them to sign up to receive it regularly.

The Clewer Initiative's new resource for Lent 2022



Lent is a time of year when the Christian community pauses to reflect on what we have and how we can help others as well as remembering our Saviour's journey to the cross. Over the last couple of years, The Clewer Initiative has produced a Lent Resource which has been widely used by churches and individuals. In 2020, we launched the County Lines Lent Resource and in 2021, the Women in the Shadows Lent resource.

This year's new resource for Lent is called **Children in the Shadows**. Week-by-week, we explore the various forms of child exploitation in the UK and overseas, the scale of the abuse, some of the push factors and the need for us all to increase our awareness and effective response.

We have included contributions and insight from practitioners working in the areas of child trafficking, exploitation and safeguarding. This includes Ben Lindsay (the founder of [Power The Fight](#)), Becky Lewis, the Strategic Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Service Manager at Bristol City Council, Bill Crooks and Fiona Kendall of [FCEI-Mediterranean Hope](#) and the team at [Hestia](#). Some of their reflections come in the form of short one minute film clips to inspire and guide discussion.

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Making the most of Children in the Shadows



Children in the Shadows is a five-week, interactive Lent resource which can be used on your own or in a group. Each week includes definitions, statistics, insight from frontline experts (both written and on film), examples of current good practice, and suggestions of how individuals and churches can make a significant contribution to extending care and strengthening resilience and resistance in their communities.

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Don't forget to follow us on social for more news from The Clewer Initiative!





How do children get targeted?

In the Children in the Shadows resource, we interview and learn from a number of practitioners working in the areas of child trafficking, exploitation and safeguarding. In this clip from week 3 of Children in the Shadows, Ben Lindsay, the founder of Power The Fight explains how young people get targeted by county lines gangs.

WATCH BEN



How can communities help fight modern slavery?

One of the practitioners working in the areas of child trafficking, exploitation and safeguarding who features in Children in the Shadows, is Becky Lewis, the Strategic Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Service Manager at Bristol City Council. Watch her explain how communities can speak out against modern slavery.

WATCH BECKY

Using art to connect with refugee children in Italy

In week 5 of Children in the Shadows, we provide a global perspective on children and modern slavery. As part of this, we spoke to The Clewer Initiative's trainer and facilitator, Bill Crooks about his new role in Italy, running community art workshops with refugee and migrant communities.



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Calling healthcare professionals – have you heard of VITA?

VITA is a clinician-led organisation working to advance the health response to modern slavery human trafficking. VITA does this through VITA training, research, national and international advocacy and its growing VITA Network.

Dr Rosie Riley set up VITA five years ago. She explains: “Modern slavery and human trafficking is such an unknown within the health service. Research shows that we don’t have effective training, we don’t know what red flags to look for, we don’t know about the scale, but much more importantly we don’t know what to do when someone is sitting in front of us. What do I say, what do I not say, how do I get this accompanying person out of the room without them knowing I want to speak to the patient alone?”



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Sign up for our latest courses:

[Train the Trainer: Breaking County Lines – spaces left!](#)

The Clewer Initiative is running three Train the Trainer Breaking County Lines courses in early 2022 – two are on Friday mornings, one is on Tuesday afternoons. The first two are suitable for people from faith communities, the final one is designed for a secular audience. To find out more, go to:

February course. Faith. Mornings:

Friday 11th Feb, 10:00-12:00

Friday 18th Feb, 10:00-12:00

Friday 25th Feb, 10:00-12:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/239057827397>

March course. Faith. Afternoons:

Tuesday 8th Mar, 14:30-16:30

Tuesday 15th Mar, 14:30-16:30

Tuesday 22nd Mar, 14:30-16:30

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/239063815307>

April course. Secular. Mornings:

Friday 25th Mar, 10:00-12:00

Friday 1st April, 10:00-12:00

Friday 8th April, 10:00-12:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/239065400047>

New county lines seminar for parents, grandparents and guardians

Are you a parent, grandparent or guardian worried about the influence of county lines? Why not sign up to our new course designed specifically with parents and grandparents in mind?

Thursday 17th March 10am-11am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/230291256347>

The Clewer Initiative enables Church of England dioceses and wider church networks to develop strategies for detecting modern slavery in their communities and help provide victim support and care. [Learn More](#)

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