

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Shameless! Festival of Activism Against Sexual Violence

Saturday 27 November 2021 | London venue TBA

This is a call for public engagement proposals for the [Shameless! Festival of Activism Against Sexual Violence](#), which aims to bring together diverse communities of interested persons, researchers, survivors, artists, activists, and medical, psychiatric, and legal professionals in a transformative programme of talks, performances, workshops, “how to” clinics, and wellbeing spaces.

Shameless! is a Wellcome Trust-funded programme of public engagement, co-produced by [the SHaME project](#) at Birkbeck, University of London, and [WOW - Women of the World](#). The festival will be held in person at a major London arts and cultural venue (to be announced shortly) on Saturday 27th November.

There is an opportunity for successful applicants to have their work platformed at the festival. This could be in the form of curating your suggested event, workshop or activity or working with the WOW team to work the idea into a pre existing session.

We are seeking proposals for:

- Research-led talks
- Panels
- WOW Bites - short TED Style talks telling hidden or untold stories
- Roundtables
- “Making and Doing” activities
- “Hands-on” interactions using texts or material culture
- Creative workshops
- Reflections on collective organising for anti-rape activists

Although many sessions in the festival will be curated by WOW and SHaME, up to four sessions are available in this open call. They have been provisionally scheduled as 45-minute slots, but there is some flexibility. We welcome suggestions from academics and/or academics in collaboration with activists, authors, artists, and practitioners. All successful applicants will be offered a fee for their participation.

We anticipate that the main themes of these contributions will focus on:

- Medical and psychiatric aspects of sexual abuse
- The sexual abuse of children
- The sexual abuse of people from minoritized communities
- Consent and gendered/racialised bodies
- Activism in the post-#MeToo landscape
- Recovery and building back positive relationships with yourself and others
- Memory and understanding physical triggers

We also welcome proposals that may differ in format or in theme. We are looking for any ideas, themes and activity that will challenge, reimagine or build back recovery.

Please send an abstract (up to 300 words) with a short biography to both organisers **by 17.00 on Friday, 16 July 2021.**

Organisers: Professor Joanna Bourke at j.bourke@bbk.ac.uk and Dr Rhea Sookdeosingh at r.sookdeosingh@bbk.ac.uk.

Many thanks for support from: