

## - SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT -

Thank you for booking, we look forward to seeing you at this event!  
Before we do, we wanted to provide you with a few details about the safety of the space.

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### Event details:

#### ***Book Launch: We Need to Talk by Emily Hunt***

Thursday 9 March 2023

6.15-8.00pm BST

Followed by a reception and book signing

In person at Clore Lecture Theatre, Birkbeck, University of London

Age guidance: 18 yrs+

#### Panel:

Emily Hunt, Author and Policy Advisor

Charlotte Proudman, Barrister and Academic

Alexandra Topping, Journalist

Emma Yapp, Researcher at Birkbeck College

Ruth Beecher, Academic

On March 9th, SHaME will be celebrating the release of Emily Hunt's new book, *We Need to Talk: The truth about sexual violence and my fight for justice*, published by [Mardle Books](#). Emily will be joined by a panel of speakers for a conversation about the systemic lack of support for victim-survivors and the potentials for societal change.

Part memoir and part investigation, Emily Hunt's new book *We Need to Talk* shines a light on the fault lines of a system and a society that is failing rape victims by examining how rape is a mainstream, everyday problem deeply damaging victims, their families, their workplaces and the economy. This is a conversation starter about why we don't talk about rape; that the only cause of rape is rapists, not rape victims; who commits rape and why; the reasons why society defaults to blaming the victim; and ultimately how we need to change and humanise the way we talk about rape in order to truly hear and support victims and end the current epidemic of sexual violence.

The evening will feature a reading from the book, followed by a group discussion, and a brief audience Q&A.

This event will close with a reception. *We Need to Talk* will be available for purchase and signing at the event.

As you might expect, this event will address difficult topics, which might feel overwhelming. We know that some of our discussions will be hard to bear: please remember it is normal to feel sad, angry, distressed, during or after this event. We reserve the right to eject anyone from the space who espouses any criminal, oppressive, or disrespectful comment or question. Where possible, we will do our best to avoid graphic descriptions and distressing details. However, some images or

details will still refer to events of sexual violence. We are conscious that our audience members may have experiences of their own and feel very strongly about these issues.

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If you feel distressed by the content of the event, here is what you can do:

- You can leave the event to have a break at any time, breathe, drink a glass of water, talk to someone you trust, or any other reassuring activity you can think of.
- If you are in the UK, you can call the National Rape Crisis Helpline on 0808 500 2222 for confidential support. The helpline is open every 24/7, calls are free of charge, and the number will not appear on your bill. The services are also available via chat online at <https://247sexualabusesupport.org.uk/>
- If you are joining from elsewhere in the world, you can consult this guide for resources available in your country: <https://osapr.harvard.edu/international-resources-0> (Please note this list is not exhaustive and was not compiled by us).
- You can always rejoin the event when you feel better and ready, or not return if you prefer.

Following the event, you will be sent a feedback form.

Please feel free to give us suggestions on how we could have handled things differently.

Note that we won't cover every topic related to this issue, as this is a broad field of study. If some of your questions were left unanswered, feel free to write to us or to take a look at our website, where we have put bibliographies and open-access resources: <https://shame.bbk.ac.uk>

Thank you!

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Birkbeck, University of London  
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