



# amaze

association of christian youth and children's workers

## Welcome

This edition updates you on the progress of the Independent Safeguarding Authority and how this regulatory body will affect recruitment of those involved with youth and children's work. There is also information on a few resources that you might find useful.

The next edition will include something on young people with knives and how you might handle those difficult situations.

If you would like AMAZE to cover specific topics please let us know.

**Leon Coates**  
*Amaze Director*

## BICHARD INQUIRY COMMISSIONED

**Following the murders of Jessica Chapman and Holly Wells by Ian Huntley (a school caretaker) in 2002, the Bichard Inquiry was commissioned. One of the issues this inquiry looked at was the way employers recruit people to work with children and vulnerable adults.**

The inquiry asked whether the way employers check the background of job applicants is reliable enough. It also asked whether employers should be responsible for deciding whether a job applicant can be safely employed. As a result the government has created the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) which will affect the way we recruit people to work with children, young people and vulnerable adults.

ISA have defined 2 types of activity, controlled and regulated. Controlled activity describes work where someone has access to sensitive records about children and vulnerable adults or undertakes support work in an adult social care setting. Regulated activity is any frequent, intensive or overnight activity that involves contact with children (under 18's) or vulnerable adults. (Frequent is defined as once a month or more and intensive is 3 or more days in a 30 day period.) Regulated activity is also any activity that involves

people in certain defined positions of responsibility (trustees for example).

From 12 October 2009 anyone in a job that that involves regulated activity, whether or not paid must be registered with ISA. For those in paid employment there will be a one off fee of £64 which includes a CRB check. There will be no fee for volunteers. Individuals will then receive an ISA registration number (effectively a personal identification number unique to them) which they will provide to any prospective employer (for paid or voluntary work) as they move from job to job. The employer will then need to check with ISA that the individual is not barred from working with children or vulnerable adults.

ISA will inform an employer if any individuals working for them become barred from working with children or vulnerable adults. It will be the duty of the employer to refer relevant information to ISA where there is concern relating to harm or the risk of harm to children or vulnerable adults. This includes someone leaving your organisation that could have been because of a child protection issue. On receiving such information ISA will make a decision as to whether an individual poses a risk to children and/or vulnerable adults based on all the evidence.

Organisations should continue to consider CRB disclosures. This is because ISA will let you know if some one is barred from working with children or vulnerable adults which is quite specific, whereas, in relation to a CRB check, someone could commit a crime that makes them unsuitable to work for an organisation that might not necessarily legally ban them from working for it.

If you have further questions you could visit the ISA website at <http://www.isa-gov.org.uk>, email Amaze on [admin@amaze.org.uk](mailto:admin@amaze.org.uk) or call us on 0121 5029649.

## Dear Member,

I am writing to you regarding some significant changes to the provision of services that your membership of amaze entitles you to. You may well be aware that we have had an official partnership with the Community and Youth Workers Union (CYWU) since the foundation of Amaze. This has meant that should a member become involved in a dispute with their employer and need legal advice and support, this help would be available from CYWU. To more effectively use our resources we have decided to terminate this agreement and legal advice and assistance will in the future be sourced directly from solicitors who are specialists in the charity and Christian sector. I want to stress that we do not expect this to significantly effect the provision of help and support to you as an amaze member but we felt you should be kept informed of this development. Amaze has always offered the option of joint membership with CYWU, if you have taken this up your membership of CYWU will not be affected. We have also taken this opportunity to review and clarify the terms and conditions of the benefits that members are entitled to. These will follow in our next newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact us should, you have any questions about this.

Yours sincerely,

**Nigel Argall**

*Chairman of the Board of Directors, Amaze.*

NEW from  
Scripture  
Union



LightLive

LightLive is a website which puts a wealth of Bible-based activities and ideas at your fingertips – and it's free of charge!

Designed to help you tailor material to the specific needs of your group(s), LightLive brings a new dimension to your children's, youth and all-age ministry. You can:

- Plan and manage your group programme like never before!
- Access the bank of activities and ideas
- Enrich your programme with multi-media activities
- Search, save and print resources – all from one website
- And so much more....

Through LightLive, we want to help leaders like you to be inspired and equipped with excellent Bible-based material so that children and young people can meet with God. Over 650 new activities are added to LightLive every three months on top of over 10,000 activities already stored in the archive.

Find out more at [www.lightlive.org](http://www.lightlive.org)

## Watch this space!

As members don't forget that we will advertise your vacant posts in editions of the Amaze newsletter which is produced 3 times a year.

When you have an advert contact the Amaze office for further information including the date of the next publication.



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Phone: 0121 502 9649  
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Website: [www.amaze.org.uk](http://www.amaze.org.uk)

# A GLIMPSE OF SPIRITUALITY IN YOUTH WORK

**Glimpses – Youth Work and Spirituality: resources and ideas to aid exploration and reflection**

A new resource pack from The National Youth Agency will help youth workers to develop spirituality for themselves and in their work with young people.

Glimpses – Youth Work and Spirituality: resources and ideas to aid exploration and reflection is designed to be an accessible pack to help explore what the concept of spirituality means in modern life and how it can be applied to modern day youth work.

Written by Steve Bullock, Church of England Diocesan youth officer in Gloucester, and Nigel Pimlott of the Frontier Youth Trust, the five sections in Glimpses will encourage readers to reflect on spirituality and stimulate thought and discussion and promote greater awareness.

The Reflections section provides a series of visual images to engage with and reflect upon; Atmospheres explores the power and importance of environments and Essences tries to get to the heart of what is meant by spirituality and spiritual development. Stations provides a range of some 30 practical tools to aid exploration and engagement and Breaths is packed full of miscellaneous ideas and resources. The pack also contains a DVD which complements the activities and includes photos, music and video clips.

NYA chief executive Fiona Blacke has welcomed the pack as an invaluable tool in the youth workers' armoury. 'For many young people spirituality is becoming increasingly important and therefore supporting spiritual development can be a key aim of modern youth work. The resources in Glimpses enable youth workers to explore a variety of subjects using tried and tested approaches. One big advantage of this is that it will better place

youth workers to discuss and explore these important concepts, which can have such a profound effect on young people's happiness and wellbeing, with the groups with which they work. Glimpses is an excellent resource to help all youth workers understand and get the best from this subject.'

Bishop Roger Sainsbury, NYA chair and President of FYT, has also welcomed the emphasis on spirituality within the youth work agenda: 'At a time when religious law and faith are often seen in the media and by some politicians as harmful and divisive, Glimpses provides insights for youth workers into a spirituality that can be healing both for individual people and their communities. Young people today are very aware of global conflicts in the world and growing divisions in our own communities in the UK, both often linked to religion – it has never been more important to clarify the place of spirituality and spiritual development in youth work.'

Co-author Nigel Pimlott added: 'I am delighted that we have been able to develop this resource at a time when so many people are talking about spirituality. Glimpses will enable youth workers to effectively integrate the spiritual dynamic of youth work into their everyday practice.'

Glimpses is available from Publications Sales at The National Youth Agency, price £15 plus £2 postage and packing. E-mail [sales@nya.org.uk](mailto:sales@nya.org.uk) or telephone 0116 242 7427.

The Frontier Youth Trust can provide youth workers and organisations with training to help them obtain the most from Glimpses. For more information e-mail [frontier@fyt.org.uk](mailto:frontier@fyt.org.uk) or telephone 0121 687 3505.

## Health and Safety Risk Assessment, know what you're doing?

In response to some member enquiries looking for training and advice on Risk Assessment we have teamed up with Christian Camping International (CCI). CCI is an association of Christian centres, organisations and individuals involved in camps, holidays, conference and outdoor activity ministries. This is your 'one stop shop' to all your residential holiday and group needs. Whilst from this description CCI's activities may not match with a lot of our members, one of their areas of expertise is Health and Safety and Risk Assessment. Should you require this kind of training or advice for your organisation please contact us. <http://www.cci.org.uk>

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