

“Someone should have just asked me what was wrong.”

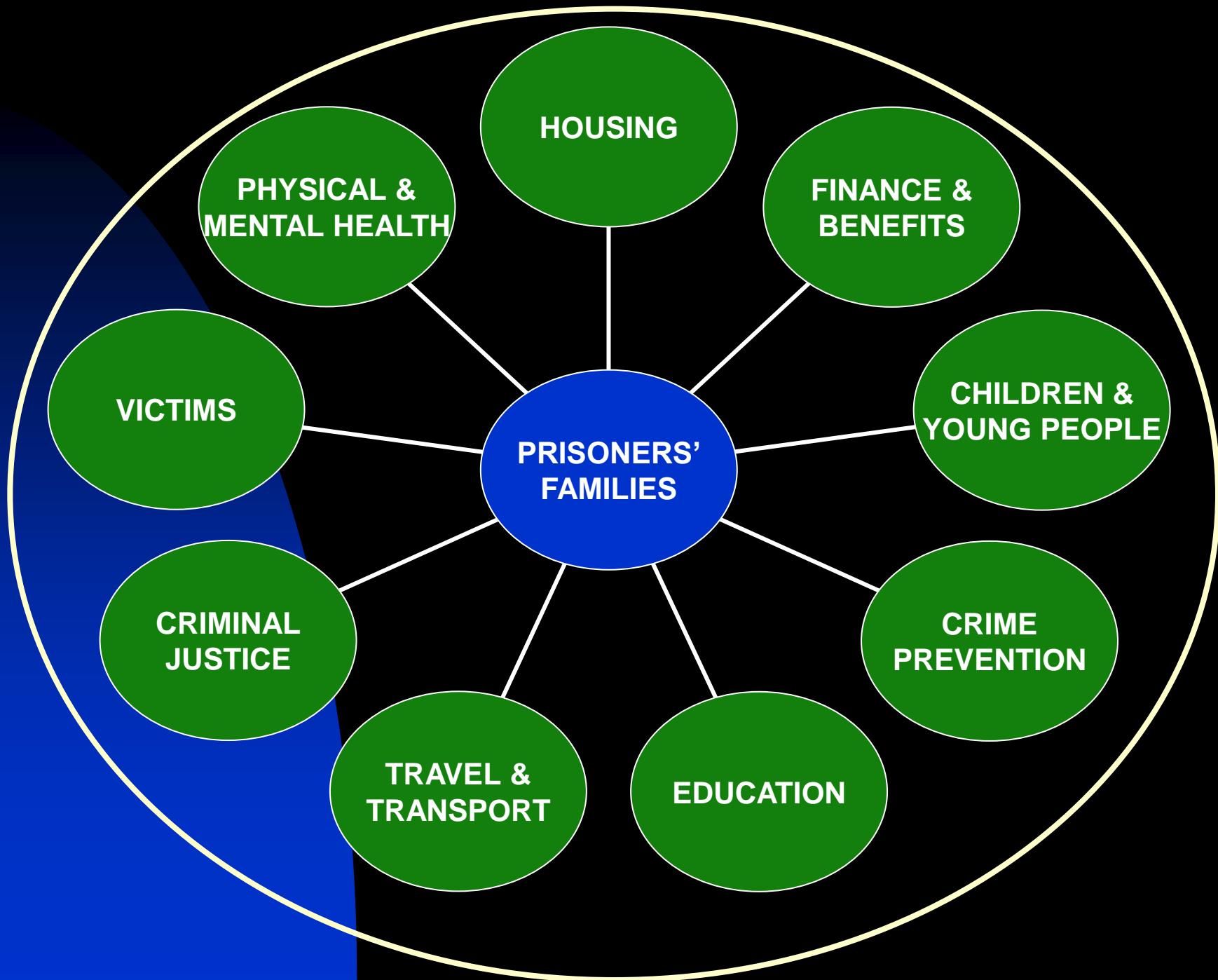
Family Impact Assessments

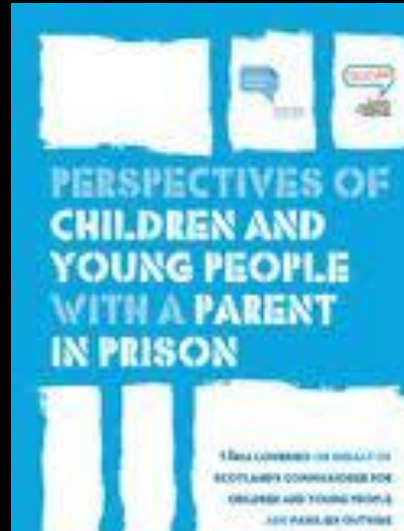
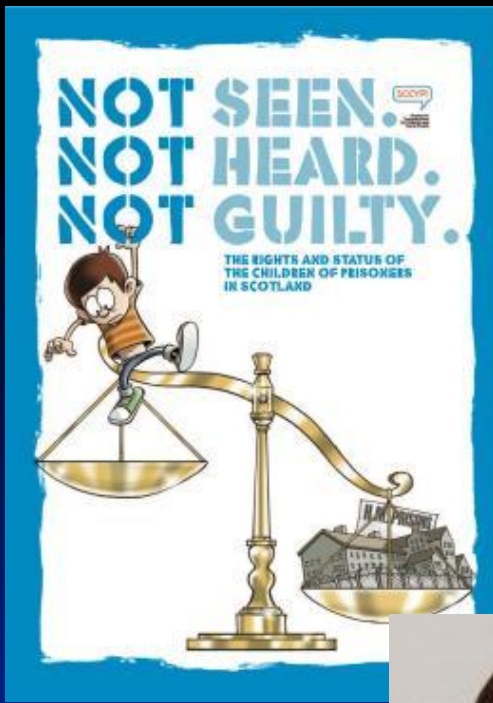
families
outside

voicing the needs
of families affected
by imprisonment



Prof. Nancy Loucks
SPS International Symposium
Marriott Hotel, Edinburgh
28 May 2015





Do we need a new tool?

**Criminal Justice
Social Work reports?**

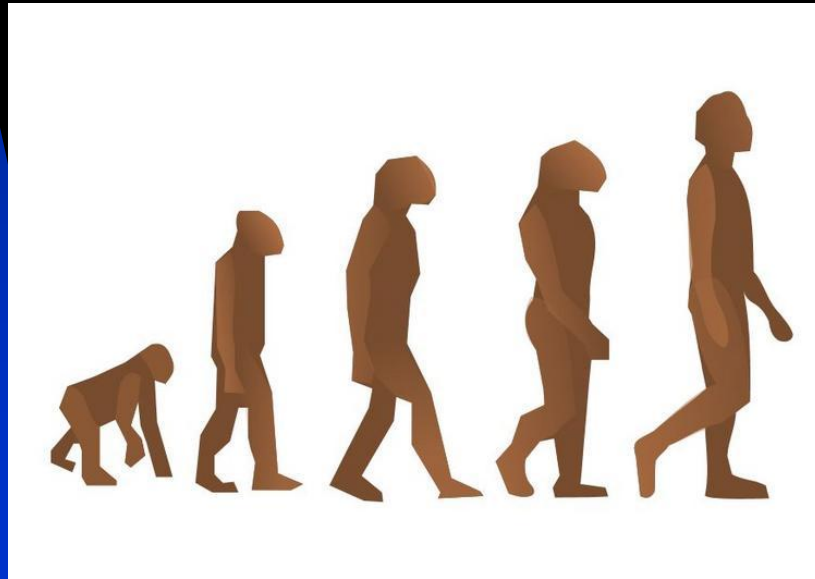


Stuart Gorrie v. PF Haddington (Jan. 2014):

You will perhaps recollect from our previous conversation that in my view the question of the consequences of parental imprisonment would inevitably be brought to the sentencer's attention through the social enquiry report and the defence lawyer's submissions. I was wrong.



PF for Slovakia v *Denise Srponova* (Jan. 2013)



Do we need a new tool?



Local Authority tools:

- Child in Need assessments
- Vulnerable Adult assessments

Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 ?



Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC)



SAFE GROUND



*Every child has his or her own dignity. If a child is to be constitutionally imagined as an individual with a distinctive personality, and not merely as a miniature adult waiting to reach full size, **he or she cannot be treated as a mere extension of his or her parents, umbilically destined to sink or swim with them....** The sins and traumas of fathers and mothers should not be visited on their children.*

Justice Albie Sachs, *S v M* (2007)

What is the optimal model for minimising impact?



**KEEP
CALM
AND
JUST
ASK**

Family Impact Assessments

TO BE CONTINUED...

Nancy.Loucks@familiesoutside.org.uk