## **'TURN OUTRAGE INTO ACTION TO PROTECT CHILDREN FROM ABUSE'**

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KUCHING: Sarawak Development Institute (SDI) will run a talk on 'Protecting Sarawak's Children from Abuse' at Wisma Bapa Malaysia from 10.30am to noon, this Sept 8.

The talk will be conducted by Gill Raja who is a former lecturer in social work from the Faculty of Social Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas).

In a press release yesterday, SDI pointed out heightened awareness of the threat of child abuse in Malaysia recently following reports of online abuse, the successful prosecution of the paedophile Richard Huckle and the controversy concerning 'finger' rape and other cases related to rape of minors.

The challenge, it added, was to turn outrage into action so children could live free from all forms of abuse.

Gill will be sharing insights in the various forms of abuse and means of tackling them.

The talk will also give participants the opportunity to discuss additional steps that can be taken in Sarawak to protect children from abuse, and help heal those who have experienced such trauma.

A lecturer in social work at Unimas for over 20 years, Gill, as a member of the Sarawak Women for Women Society (SWWS), has helped raise awareness of sexual abuse and the need for a system to better protect children from different forms of abuse.

She is a graduate from the London School of Economics where she did a MSc in Social Administration and Social Work Studies and Reading University (Psychology), and is a member of the British Association of Social Workers and the Malaysian equivalent, having practised in both countries. The talk is open to all those interested.

Registration is free of charge and on a first-come, first-served basis.

Contact Evelette Robin of SDI at 082-415484/416484 or email to eveletterobin@sdi.com.my to register.