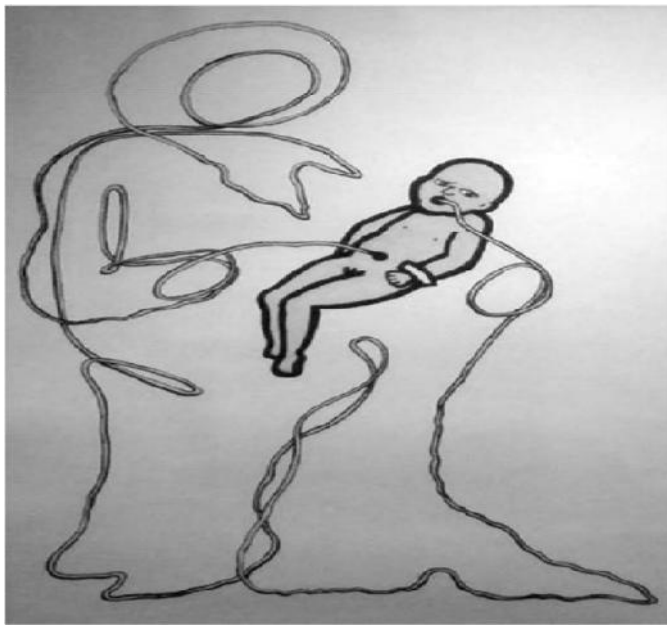




***Understanding and reconnecting
individuals who have experienced
separation and loss through
past adoption practices***



Dr Sue Green

Welcome





- ✓ **Rationale for the Workshop**
- ✓ **Content and learning outcomes**
 - ***Understand the context and impact of past adoption practices***
 - ***Identify the effects of loss, grief and trauma***
 - ***Provide support to individuals and identify potential resources for healing and growth***

Past adoption

Leigh Hubbard
VANISH Chairperson

Activity

Discuss:

- **What does past including forced adoption mean to you?**
- **What were some of the social, political, religious and moral norms, attitudes and values that may have led to this practice?**
- **What psychological theories on child development that may have influenced this practice?**

Core Issues in adoption over the life cycle

The Adoption Legacy

*Adoption is a fundamental, life-altering event.
Like a wheel, it rolls along for a lifetime.*





The experiences of those affected by forced and closed adoptions



A mother's experience

Madeleine

An adoptee's experience

Isabell

VANISH

Presentation

Disenfranchised Grief



Possible presenting difficulties, expressions of grief & trauma and triggering events

- ✓ **Presenting difficulties**
- ✓ **Expressions of grief and trauma**
- ✓ **Triggers over the life course**



Adoption- sensitive practice and Inquiry

- ✓ **Adoption sensitive inquiry**
- ✓ **Myths about adoption**



Activity

Discuss:

***‘My current practice and awareness
of my personal values and
assumptions’***

Ask the question

Pauline Kenny

Research Fellow, AIFS

What helps

- ✓ **Acknowledgement and Validation**
- ✓ **Self-education**
- ✓ **Information and records**
- ✓ **Support for search and contact**
- ✓ **Specialist counselling**
- ✓ **Support Groups**
- ✓ **Community Education-'never again'**

**An adoptee talks about the
role of support groups**
Isabell