



**Julie Brown** is a Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist working mainly from an Object Relations Perspective. Julie has worked in the area of sexual violence and trauma for fifteen years. She currently works as part of the clinical team in One in Four working with adults who have experienced sexual abuse in childhood, individuals who have sexually offended against children and, the families of both. She teaches occasionally on the MSc in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy at Trinity College Dublin. Julie has conducted research into complainants' experiences of the Criminal Justice System and is trained in the use of Restorative Conferencing for complex cases. She is a past Chairperson of the IFPP and Current Board Member of the Psychoanalytic Section of ICP.

Julie will speak about how, in sexual offending the boundary between reality and fantasy can be permeable. This may be exaggerated online where boundaries become doubly porous – fantasies can be externalised and realised in a virtual reality. This experience, alongside the fantasies of others, may then be internalised, often compulsively, leading to increasingly primitive, raw, violent scenarios sometimes involving ever- younger children. The relationship between the internal and the virtual from the perspective of the offender will be explored. Of course, there are no virtual children only the fragile bodies and inchoate psyches of real children. The resulting catastrophic breach of their psyches will be considered.