

Title: Risk assessment, threat assessment, and the role of psychologists in preventing violence

Most psychologists will, at some point in their careers, become concerned that a client may pose a risk of harming someone else. Despite how common these concerns can be, there is limited guidance available about how to respond in an ethical and defensible way when they arise. In this lecture, Prof. McEwan will explain the difference between risk assessment and threat assessment, and discuss why understanding threat assessment and management can be particularly valuable for psychologists. Drawing on research into targeted violence, she will provide a practical framework to help psychologists think through and respond to concerns about a client's potential to harm others.