Congratulations

Lynn Jamieson has been appointed Chair of the British Sociological Association (BSA).

Linda McKie has been appointed as Head of School for Applied Social Sciences at Durham University – the first female alumni to do this. Linda has also been elected as a trustee of BSA.

Nancy Lombard has been awarded an Associate Beltane Fellowship to foster a relationship with educational practitioners and provide an evidence base for the sexual health and relationships aspect of the Curriculum for Excellence. Nancy has also been asked to become a core expert for the European Network of Experts in Gender Equality.

Heather Wilkinson has recently returned from Australia where a new research partnership relating to dementia care has been established between Hammondcare and The University of Edinburgh.

Publications

Childhoods

Punch S & McIntosh I (2014) ‘Food is a funny thing within residential childcare’: Intergenerational relationships and food practices in residential care. Childhood. 21(2): 72-86.

Gender-based violence


Population health and wellbeing


Practitioner Research

Research impact

What’s new...

Negotiating Civilian and Military Lives

A new CRFR project is exploring the views and experiences of reservists and their families as they move between military service, work and family life.

The study comes at a time of significant change within the Armed Forces. Recent policy decisions will see them move towards a ‘whole force’ structure, thereby reducing the numbers of full-time personnel and increasing numbers of part-time personnel (formerly known as the TA). The study is one of four projects funded under the ‘Future of the Armed Forces’ stream by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Ministry of Defence to address issues arising from the ‘whole force’ initiative.

CRFR will also have a co-ordinating role across all four projects to encourage and support the uptake of the research findings by relevant policy and practice communities.

For information contact: zoemorrison@abdn.ac.uk

What Works Scotland

CRFR is delighted to be part of the new What Works Scotland initiative, funded by the ESRC. Launched on 26 June, What Works Scotland will improve the way local areas use evidence to make decisions about public service development and reform.

The What Works Scotland team will work with specific Community Planning Partnerships to: learn what is and what isn’t working in their local area; encourage collaborative learning; learn what effective policy interventions and effective services look like; and help organisations get the skills and knowledge they need to use and interpret evidence. Case studies will be developed for wider sharing. CRFR is bringing 13 years of knowledge exchange experience to the project and is leading the ‘evidence to action’ stream.

For details go to: http://whatworksscotland.ac.uk and follow us on twitter @WWSScot

What is CRFR?

CRFR produces research and commentary on families and relationships. It facilitates a network of researchers, and those interested in families and relationships, to promote the use of research in policy and practice.

To find out more about all CRFR research projects go to www.crfr.ac.uk/projects/current-projects/
Hunger matters

Jessie Gunson
Flinders University, South Australia

Megan Warin and Vivienne Moore
University of Adelaide, South Australia

When we think of the relationship between hunger and poverty we often conjure in our mind images from famine and overseas aid campaigns. If we are asked to think of a picture of a child who is hungry, that child would more than likely appear as thin. This child we imagine as having ‘not enough’ food. Childhood obesity, on the other hand, (indeed obesity in general) is commonly presented as being a case of ‘too much’. Too much ‘junk food’, too many calories, too many fizzy drinks. However, our recent research has prompted us to think about the ‘unspoken’ possibility of being both hungry and obese, how this impacts on children’s lives and what implications this might have for public health interventions... read on at http://crfrblog.blogspot.co.uk/

Read our latest blogs in full at http://crfrblog.blogspot.co.uk/

Events/training

Exploring self harm

This one day conference will take place in Edinburgh in November 2014. It will be of particular interest to practitioners, researchers and anyone working with those who self harm.

5th International and Interdisciplinary Conference Emotional Geographies

This conference will explore and discuss the role of emotion in shaping and experiencing space and society.

http://emotionalgeographiesconference.wordpress.com/

Collaboration with University of Toronto

Children exposed to intimate partner violence: Expanding our understanding of vulnerabilities and resiliencies

Sarah Morton is collaborating with colleagues at the University of Toronto social work department, providing specialist knowledge mobilisation advice on a project investigating risk and resilience amongst children and young people living in violent families.

This builds on a longer term collaboration and exchange with Professor Ramona Alaggia who has visited CRFR twice and who hosted Sarah in Toronto last year. The project will link to the Gender-based violence research network, and make findings accessible to policy-makers and practitioners both in Canada and Scotland.

GUS New findings

Two new reports were published in June:

• The first explores the relationship between children’s experience of pre-school provision and changes in their social and cognitive development between ages 3 and 5. It looks particularly at whether differences in the quality of pre-schooling impact on the outcomes for children.

• The second explores the influences from family and school on children’s social and emotional wellbeing at age 7.

For details of these and other CRFR events go to www.crfr.ac.uk

CPD courses

The following courses can be taken as stand alone courses or as a series of 2 or 3.

Involving children and young people in research and consultation
10-12 June 2015 Edinburgh

Using creative methods in research with children and young people
12 & 13 March 2015

Using digital methods in research with children and young people
23 & 24 April 2015

5th International and Interdisciplinary Conference Emotional Geographies

10-12 June 2015 Edinburgh

CRFR International Conference Unequal Families and Relationships

13 - 15 June 2016 Edinburgh

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A collaborative research team, including Jane Mair and Enid Mordaunt from Glasgow University, School of Law and and Fran Wasoff from CRFR, is looking at how lawyers and judges use the Family Law (Scotland) Act 1985 to make financial orders when people divorce or dissolve their partnerships. The project, Principles in Practice, will examine 200 published court cases of divorce, where financial awards were made, alongside interviews with legal practitioners.

Enid.Mordaunt@glasgow.ac.uk

**New Associate Director**

We warmly welcome Sarah Wilson, senior lecturer at Stirling University, as an Associate Director. Sarah’s research interests include the sociology of health and illness, particularly chronic illness and substance use in family contexts.

**PhD pathway leads to CRFR**

CRFR welcomes 3 new PhD students:

- Alexandra Macht
  Fatherhood and Love: A psychosocial and cultural exploration of the meaning of love in parenting.

- Nathalia Salamanca
  Sense-making and life narratives: Colombian former child soldiers and their views about childhood during war.

- Sara Diane Stewart
  (ESRC Families Pathway)
  Women, sectarianism and Scottish intergenerational family relationships.

**NEW PROJECTS**

**The AFFIRM study - preventing stillbirths through awareness of fetal movement**

Part of the Scottish Government’s action on preventing stillbirths is to promote awareness of fetal movements amongst pregnant women. A new intervention called AFFIRM is combining new clinical guidelines with awareness raising, as a way of identifying women and fetuses who might be at risk of stillbirth. The AFFIRM intervention is being tested in a random controlled trial, and our part of the project will investigate the experiences of medical staff and pregnant women of the AFFIRM intervention.

Contact: gemma.phillips@ed.ac.uk

**Understanding why and how grandparent-grandchild relationships change**

Using data from Growing Up in Scotland, this project looks at what socio-demographic characteristics of both parents and grandparents are associated with a greater involvement in the life of a child and whether they are significantly different between lone parent families and couple families.

Contact: e.ribe@sms.ed.ac.uk

**PROP2: Practitioner research**

CRFR has run several practitioner research programmes (PROP). A new programme on health and social care integration is launching in September.

Working with partners from health and social care, practitioners will be supported to undertake a research project to address an issue related to their practice.

Contact: h.wilkinson@ed.ac.uk

You can also read the Journal of Integrated Care vol.22(3), a special issue on practitioner research featuring articles from practitioners involved in a previous PROP programme.

Contact: carrie.purcell@ed.ac.uk

**Evaluating community-based abortion services**

Recent medical developments in Scotland mean that abortions at up to 9 weeks’ gestation can now be provided at community sexual and reproductive health clinics as well as hospitals. Using interviews with women who have recently had an early medical abortion, and with staff working in abortion services, this study compares these two clinical contexts, and identifies where experiences might be improved.

Contact: nancy.lombard@sms.ed.ac.uk
Young people's experience of antisocial behaviour was shaped by class or gender. Professionals, with little attention paid to how their experiences were shaped by class or gender, were often seen as one social group by young people. This conflict often resulted in hostility and resistance by young people. What professionals and policy makers defined as antisocial was frequently what young people saw as social behaviour. This conflict was in contrast to the way relationships between older adults and young people were often portrayed. Young people were often seen as one social group by professionals, with little attention paid to how their experiences were shaped by class or gender.

Public spaces were the site of many happy and positive interactions between adults and young people. This was in contrast to the way relationships between older people and young people are often portrayed. Young people recognised that their neighbourhood looked bad and that this perpetuated the area’s poor reputation. However, many had come to accept disorder as ‘normal’ and everyday. Young people were often seen as one social group by professionals, with little attention paid to how their experiences were shaped by class or gender. Young people were often defined as antisocial by professionals, like parks and leisure centres.

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