

APRIL 2023, NO. 17

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS BULLETIN

Website:

https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice

Awards



Prize Jury Member - ECPR Joni Lovenduski Phd Prize in Gender and Politics.



Dr Dorota Szelewa is a Prize Jury Member of the prestigious Joni Lovenduski Phd Prize in Gender and Politics, European Consortium for Political Research. The Prize is awarded biennially for an outstanding PhD dissertation in the field of gender and politics, including gender and/or sexuality studies perspectives in political science, international relations, political philosophy, public policy and public administration. The prize is awarded by the ECPR and the ECPR's Standing Group on Gender and Politics and endowed with €1,000.

Link:

https://ecpr.eu/Prizes/PrizeNominationProcedure.aspx?PrizeID=9



Dr Mary McAuliffe was awarded the 2023 Foy-Justice Award by UCD LGB I student society.

The annual Foy Justice Award is an honorary award to recognise the contributions of LGBTQ+ activists to the community

APRIL SCHOOL EVENTS

Seminar/Book Launch
Organised by Dr Naonori Kodate, "Systems thinking for Global Health"
seminar & book launch with Speaker Prof. Tony Holohan, Adjunct Full
Prof. of Public Health, UCD.

For more information see:

tttps://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice/latestandupcomingotherevents/assocprofnaonorikodateseminartuellapr/

Seminar
Organised by Dr Nessa Winston, "Unpacking green and just transition policies: instruments and toolboxes" with Speaker Ekaterina Domorenok, Professor of Political Science, University of Padua.
For more information see the following:
https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice/latestandupcomingotherevents/drnessawinstonwebinar18april2023/

Seminar Organised

Organised by Dr Karen Smith and Dr Marie Moran, ""A Pandemic Policy Puzzle: How COVID19 simultaneously promoted and sank the idea of a universal basic income" on 20th April 2023, 6pm with Speaker Jurgen de Wispelaere, PhD, Visiting Prof., Götz Werner Chair of Economic Policy & Constitutional Theory, University of Freiburg, Germany & chaired by UCD Prof. Emeritus John Baker, egalitarian academic and activist.

For more information see the following:

https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice/latestandupcomingotherevents/mmoranksmiththurapr2023jurgen/

Book Launch

Organised by Dr Bryan Fanning on the publication of his latest book "Public Morality and the Culture Wars: The Triple Divide" Emerald Press.

Publication: 30th March 2023. Speaker: Dr Tim Mooney, UCD School of Philosophy.

For more information see the following:

https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice/latestandupcomingotherevents/profbryanfanningnewbookmar2023/

Seminar (MPP)

Organised by Dr Stephan Koeppe, "The Irish Policy Agendas Project" with Speaker Dr Conor Little, Lecturer, Dept Of Politics & Public Administration, University of Limerick.

For more information see the following:

https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice/latestandupcomingotherevents/skoeppemppseminarapr282023/

Past Events

RESEARCH SEMINAR & BOOK LAUNCH

Organised by Dr Naonori Kodate, 'Systems Thinking for Global Health' @ Museum of Literature Ireland (11 April 2023)

Adjunct Professor of Public Health, Dr Tony Holohan gave a special talk to mark the publication of the book "Systems Thinking for Global Health: How can systems-thinking contribute to solving key challenges in Global Health?" (Oxford University Press, 2022). Associate Professor Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice & UCD Centre for Japanese Studies) and Associate Professor Hasheem Mannan (School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems) hosted the event at the Museum of Literature Ireland (MoLI) on Tuesday 11 April 2023, together with Associate Professor Frédérique Vallière (Director, Trinity Centre for Global Health) and the late Dr Fiona Larkan's family.



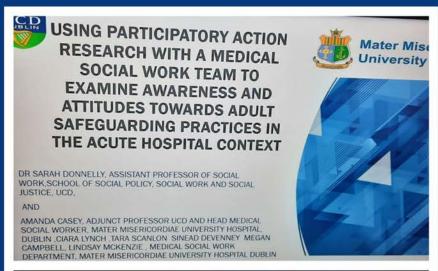
From left to right: Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate, Mr Tony Murphy, Prof. Tony Holohan, Mrs Beattie Murphy, Assoc. Prof. Frédérique Vallière, Mr Bradley Larkan, Assoc. Prof. Hasheem Mannan (Photo: UCD-JaSt).



European Conference for Social Work Research

Milan, 12-14 April 2023

ECSWR is the biggest annual social work research event in Europe. The conference is the primary space for members of the European social work research community to gather and get to know each other, to share high quality research and expertise, and to build collaborative relationships and networks.





Adult Safeguarding-Exploring the possibilities of a carer assessment framework

Dr. Lorna Montgomery, Queens University Belfast, N. Ireland Prof Emer Bridget Penhale, University of East Anglia, England Assoc Prof Sarah Donnelly, University College Dublin, ROI Dr Kathryn Mackay, University of Stirling, Scotland **Dr Sarah Donnelly** gave three papers over the course of the conference:

- First, Sarah presented on her recently launched 'Understanding Carer Harm' report which was carried out in partnership with Family Carers Ireland and funded by the Irish Research Council, New Foundations Grant.
- Second, sarah presented preliminary findings from a 'Participatory Action Research Study examining Awareness and Attitudes towards Adult Safeguarding Practices in the Mater Hospital, Dublin'. This study was carried out in conjunction with Amanda Casey, Adjunct Professor SPSWSJ UCD/Head Medical Social Worker and members of the Medical Social Work Department.
- Third, Sarah was part of a research team that presented a paper on 'Adult Safeguarding-Exploring possibilities of a Carer Assessment Framework.' This paper was coauthored by Dr Loran Montgomery, Queens University Belfast, Dr Kathryn Mackay, University of Stirling and Professor Emeritus Bridget Penhale, University of East Anglia, England.



Dr. Alan Maddock presented the results of a randomised trial of the Mindfulness-based Social Work and Self-Care (MBSWSC) with social workers at ECSWR2023. This trial found that the MBSWSC programme improved stress, emotional exhaustion, anxiety, and depression in social workers versus an active control, along with a range of potential mindfulness mechanisms of action. This paper is available via open access here: https://rdcu.be/c6opi

Symposium 4.TH - Social Work during COVID-19: Glocal Challenges and and Implications for the Future of Social Work

15:00 - 16:30 Thursday, 13th April, 2023 Room G.016 Maria Immacolata Symposium

652 Social Work during COVID-19: Glocal Challenges and and Implications for the Future of Social Work.

Timo Harrikari¹, Andreas Møller Jørgensen², Maria Appel Nissen², Mie Engen², Malathi Adusumalli³, Joseph Mooney⁴, Declan Coogan⁵, Caroline McGregor⁵, Olive Lyons⁶, Paula McFadden⁷, Ruth Neill⁸, Jill Manthorpe⁹

¹Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare THL, Helsinki, Finland. ²Aalborg University, Aalborg, Denmark.

³University of Delhi, Delhi, India. ⁴University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland. ⁵National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland. ⁶University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada. ⁷Ulster University, Londonderry, United Kingdom.

⁸Ulster University, Belfast, United Kingdom. ⁹King's College, London, United Kingdom

The symposium involving **Dr Joseph Mooney** on Thursday 13th Aprils was entitled "Social Work during COVID-19: Glocal Challenges and and Implications for the Future of Social Work" and was delivered at the Università Cattolica of Milan and coordinated by Professor Timo Harrikari (Research Professor at the Finnish Institute of Health and Welfare).

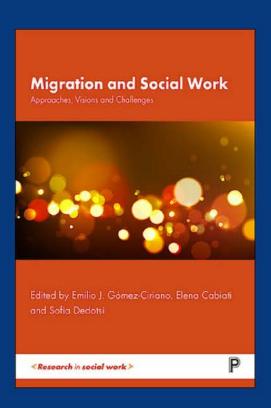




A new Routledge International social work text entitled "Social Work During COVID-19: Glocal Perspectives and Implications for the Future of Social Work", edited By Timo Harrikari, Joseph Mooney, Malathi Adusumalli, Paula McFadden, Tuomas Leppiaho was formally launched at the recent European Conference for social work research, in Milan (April 12-14th). The book was launched as part of a symposium on day two of the conference which attracted a sizable number of Irish delegates from across schools of social work, North and South. Dr Mooney is one of four authors of chapter Thirteen - 'And I Say, "Yes" Because I Want to Help'-Social Workers' Reflections on Practice in Ireland during COVID-19 (Joseph Mooney, Declan Coogan, Caroline McGregor and Olive Lyons).

Dr Elaine Wilson presented a paper "Hospital visitation restrictions during Covid-19: The impact on social work staff." during Parallel Session 51.FR - Social work and Covid-19 Pandemic, 13:30-15:00 Friday, 14 April, 2023

Associate Professor Muireann Ní Raghallaigh contributed an invited presentation to the Special Interest Group on Social Work Research on Migration and Asylum. The presentation Building an ethical research culture in refugee-related research, was co-authored with Dr. Zoe O'Reilly and drew on research funded by the Irish Research Council and the UCD-University of Edinburgh Strategic Partnership Fund. It summarised the findings of the recently published briefing paper on this topic which highlights the key consideration for ethical engagement when research involves people of refugee background (https://researchrepository.ucd.ie/entities/publication/a087e9f2-e4e3-462f-93da-e5218d70a10d/details). Muireann also presented a paper co-authored with Dr. Karen Smith titled Family reunification in the lives of unaccompanied refugee children: significance, complexity and the role of social work. The presentation drew on findings from research commissioned by Nasc and funded by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, which is available here.



The conference also saw the launch of Migration and Social Work: Approaches, Visions and Challenges, an edited collection published by Policy Press. This includes a chapter by Associate Professor Ní Raghallaigh on Refugee children and families in the Republic of Ireland: The response of social work.

Publisher: Policy Press

Publication Date: 16 Jan 2023 Online ISBN: 9781447361831 Series: Research in Social Work

DOI: https://doi.org/10.51952/9781447361831

(For more information go to this link: https://policy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/migration-and-social-work).

Upcoming School Seminar - April 20



SEMINAR



A PANDEMIC POLICY PUZZLE?

HOW COVID19 SIMULTANEOUSLY PROMOTED AND SANK THE IDEA OF A UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME



SPEAKER Jurgen De Wispelaere, PhD, Visiting Professor, Götz Werner Chair of Economic Policy & Constitutional Theory, University of Freiburg,

CHAIR: UCD Emeritus Professor John Baker, egalitarian academic and activist.

ABSTRACT: During the COVID-19 pandemic calls for introducing a basic income reverberated across the globe, but no real policy window for its implementation seems to have emerged. This talk outlines how the municipality of Maricá in Brazil managed to build an emergency basic income on top of a pre-existing universal basic income policy and how both policies reinforced each other during and after the crisis.

DATE | TIME

THUR. APR. 20TH I 6PM

LOCATION

UCD GEARY INSTITUTE SEMINAR ROOM, BELFIELD CAMPUS, DUBLIN 4

This seminar has been organised by Dr Karen Smith, Asst. Prof. (Social Justice) and Dr Marie Moran (Director of ESC).

For more information email Karen.smith@ucd.ie

The Irish Civil War 1922-1923 and the Evolving Laws of War

Friday April 21st, 2023 Organised by the Irish Centre for Human Rights, School of Law, NUIG

A one-day conference exploring the Irish Civil War 1922-23 within the framework of the laws of war and emerging international regulations



Dr Mary McAuliffe gave a paper at a one-day conference at the Irish Centre for Human Rights in the School of Law at the University of Galway 'The Irish Civil War 1922-23 and the Evolving Laws of War'. The title of the paper was 'Militant women, gendered violence and the National Army during the Irish Civil War', Fri 21 April, 2023

Upcoming MPP Seminar: April 28



UCD MPP SEMINAR SERIES



The Irish Policy Agendas Project

Abstract: The Irish Policy Agendas Project is part of the established, world-class Comparative Agendas Project (CAP) network. CAP research projects aim to measure the allocation of attention to policy issues across multiple institutional, political, and societal agendas, and to use those data to understand policy and politics. This seminar provides an overview of findings from the first three publications of the Irish Policy Agendas Project, which draw on data coded from party manifestos (1981-2020) and legislation (1922-2021) (Green-Pedersen and Little 2022, 2023, Little 2023). Looking forward, it also makes some suggestions about how further projects using the CAP coding scheme and data could contribute to the study of politics and public policy in Ireland.

WHEN & WHERE?

FRIDAY

28TH APRIL @ 1PM

Geary Institute for Public Policy, B003/B004 Seminar Room

SPEAKER

Dr Conor Little, Lecturer, Dept Of Politics & Public Administration, University of Limerick



Organised by Dr Stephan Koeppe, UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work & Social Justice
For more information email Stephan.Koeppe@ucd.ie

Upcoming Seminar: May 26





Half-Day Seminar MAY 26th 9am

'When the invisible become visible: An exploration of when non-resident fathers have been considered as a resource by social workers in Child Protection Practice

SPEAKER

Dr Lee Sobo-Allen, Senior Lecturer in Social Work, Leeds Beckett University

ABSTRACT

This presentation will explore existing studies that have considered the barriers to this engagement, before presenting findings from Lee's study which explored factors where social workers had successfully considered non-resident fathers as a resource, to the point that the father had become their child's primary carer.



ORGANISED BY:

Dr Joseph Mooney, Asst. Prof. in Social Work, UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work & Social Justice

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL:

Joseph.Mooneyl@ucd.ie

Upcoming Book Launch: April 27

COME & JOIN US FOR

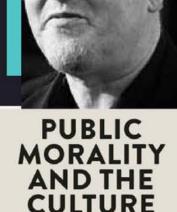
BOOK LAUNCH EVENT

By UCD Professor of Migration and Social Policy



Released Title:

Public for his Newly Morality and the Culture Wars: the Triple Divide





The Triple Divide

BRYAN FANNING

Thursday, April 27, 5:30pm, UCD University Club, Belfield Campus

With Speaker Dr Tim Mooney, UCD School of Philosophy.



Joint event hosted by UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice & the UCD Newman Centre for the Study of Religions.

Upcoming Conference: April 25-27

25 – 28 April 2023 Sciences Po Toulouse

and online (https://ecpr.eu/JointSessions)
List of the papers can be found here: https://ecpr.eu/Events/Event/PanelDetails/12494



Together with Adam Standring, **Dr Matthew Donoghue** is hosting a workshop at the **ECPR Joint Sessions in Toulouse**, **April 25–28.** The ECPR describes it:

"Our Joint Sessions of Workshops provide a unique platform for scholars at all stages of their careers, from all parts of the world, and all sub-fields of political science, to come together for several days of intense discussion, feedback and collaboration."

The workshop is entitled **Moral Politics In For and Against Transformative Change** and will bring together researchers at different career stages from across Europe.

Abstract: Despite their ubiquity in social life, social and political scholars have often avoided direct confrontation with morals, preferring to study measures such as interests, choice, or values, which obscure much of morals' shared, social, and contingent nature (Sayer, 2011). In the spheres of scholarship and politics, morals have been approached with a degree of ambivalence, their explanatory utility and their emancipatory potential subject to critique (Standring & Donoghue, 2022). The 2007–08 Global Financial Crisis prompted a rediscovery and reengagement with historical scholars such as EP Thompson and Karl Polanyi who had previously developed a moral critique of capitalism as practised (Rogan, 2017). There was also important recognition of the moral discourse used to justify responses and impacts of the crisis (Glynos et al., 2012). The concept of the 'moral economy', popularised by Thompson, became an important frame for understanding responses to the crisis, and resistance to those responses (Montgomerie & Tepe-Belfrage, 2016). Morals are of particular importance today. Contemporary, intersecting crises of the economy, the environment, society and politics have led to increased calls, from many sections of society, for transformative change – understood broadly as a fundamental shift in social values, beliefs and practices far beyond the techno-scientific fixes proposed to date (Lidskog, Standring & White, 2022). Crises are inherently destabilising events in which taken-for-granted norms and practices are challenged. Morals play an important role here in generating critique and framing demands, whether 'progressive' or 'reactionary', beyond discursive or communicative practices – drawing attention to the multiple, contentious, and often antagonistic ways social actors evaluate the actions of themselves and mediating political demands. The nature of current crises means climate breakdown and environmental degradation, social inequality and marginalisation, and political extremism and polarisation intersect to produce more frequent and severe transboundary symptoms. Indeed, reactions to contemporary crises frequently mobilise critique, with a plurality of normative or moral commitments (Boltanski & Thevenot, 2006).

Media Focus

Pink News

Dr Mary McAuliffe's research on the revolutionary Irish same sex female couples was the subject recently of an article in Pink News. The article is entitled "How a lesbian couple's contribution to Ireland's Easter Rising was scrubbed from history" PInk News is the UK's leading LGBTQ+ news, features and opinion online news site. It leads the way in gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender news.



Excerpt: Mary McAuliffe, director of Gender Studies at UCD, says Lynn's own writings paint a picture of a couple who were deeply committed to each other from the early years of the Irish revolution right up until ffrench-Mullen's death. In one passage, Lynn wrote of her joy at being reunited with ffrench-Mullen in Kilmainham Gaol. When she was moved to Mountjoy prison, she wrote that she would have given £10,000 to be back in Kilmainham with Madeleine. "That separation really impacted on them," McAuliffe says. Once Lynn got out of prison, the women "resumed their life together", McAuliffe says. They continued their fight for women's suffrage, for Irish independence, and for better medical and living standards for Dublin's most vulnerable people.

To read the full article please go to this link: https://www.thepinknews.com/2023/04/09/ireland-easter-rising-lesbian-kathleen-lynn-madeleine-ffrench-mullen/

Media Focus

Frankfurter Allgemeine FAZ.NET

FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG

Finanzen

SAMSTAG, 15: APRIL 2023 - NR. 24 - SEITE 2

DIE VERMÖGENSFRAGE

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Mit offenen Karten spielen

Vermögen zu vererben ist oft konfliktreich. Es gibt kein Patentrezep für jeden Einzelfall, aber einige hilfreiche Grundsätze. Das zeigen Erbstreitigkeiten, die vor Gerichten landeten.

Von Mark Fehr

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Interview of Dr. Stephan Köppe in FAZ

The German broadsheet Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung featured Dr. Köppe's research on inheritance conflicts. In their financial advice section, Köppe provides an overview on the factors contributing to family disputes around bequest and how to mitigate these. Together with Misa Izuhara (University of Bristol), Köppe shows that conflicts arise around larger estates, family homes, business assets mainly among siblings. Although the research focusses on English court cases, there are some general lessons that can be learned such as an open communication with relatives. Families struggle to address such a taboo topic, which contributes to more disputes. Yet, if not addressed during the life time, inheritance conflicts are brought to court.

The FAZ is the second largest national broadsheet in Germany with an approximate circulation of 250,000.

Media Focus



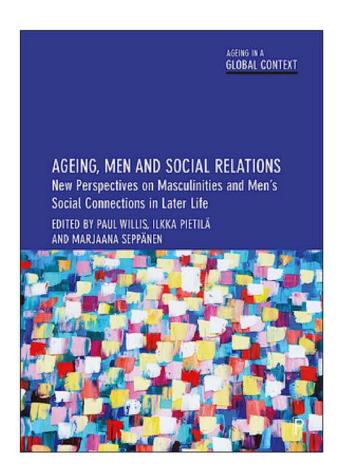


Dr Mary McAuliffe was a consultant and contributor to a major RTE documentary on Civil War memory – *The Silent Civil War. memory and trauma* being shown on RTE 1 television on 26th April and May 3rd at 9.35pm and will subsequently be available on the RTE Player.

It is supported through the Decade of Centenaries Programme 2012-2023 by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport, and Media. It premiered on Fri April 21 in the UCD cinema as part of the official handover of the Irish Civil War Memory Project (over 70 interviews with descendants) to the National Folklore Collection housed here in UCD.

For more information go to the following link: https://www.rte.ie/history/the-silent-civilwar/2023/0321/1364442-the-silent-civil-war-memory-and-trauma/

New Publications



Book Chapter

Elliott-ODare, C. and **Vasquez del Aguila, E.** 2023. "Exploring Older Men's Intergenerational Friendships: Masculinities, Ageing and ageism." In Willis, P., I. Pietilä and M. Seppänen (Eds.), Ageing, Men and Social Relations: Global Perspectives on Masculinities and Men's Social Connections in Later Life (19-34). Bristol: Policy Press.

Published: Mar 30, 2023 Page count: 248 pages

Series: Ageing in a Global Context

ISBN: 978-1447363057 Dimensions: 234 x 156 mm

Imprint: Policy Press

About this book: While there has been a gradual increase in scholarship on men, ageing and masculinities, little attention has been paid to the social relations of men in later life and the implications for enhancing their social wellbeing and counteracting ageist discourse. Bringing together scholars in social gerontology and the social sciences from across Global North and South nations, this collection fills the gaps in key texts by foregrounding older men's experiences. It provides new perspectives across the intersections of old age, ethnicities, class and sexual and gender identity, paying particular attention to older men from seldom heard or marginalised groups.



SOCIAL WORK DURING COVID-19

GLOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF SOCIAL WORK

Falited by
Timo Hatrikari, Joseph Mooney,
Malathi Adamamalli, Paula McFadden
and Toomas Leppiabo



Edited Book

Ist Edition Social Work During COVID-19Glocal Perspectives and Implications for the Future of Social Work. Edited By Timo Harrikari, **Joseph Mooney**, Malathi Adusumalli, Paula McFadden, Tuomas Leppiaho. Routledge.

Description: This book focusses on social work in the time of COVID-19. Social workers, their clients, and the organisations they represent have been affected by the pandemic in multiple ways. The pandemic and various efforts to curb the viral outbreak, such as face masks and lockdowns, have forced social workers to adapt to a 'new normal', launch new practices, mobilise social support and networks remotely, and above all, defend the most vulnerable populations. This requires an understanding of how social work and its clients are prepared for, capable to respond to, and further, to recover from a societal crisis and human disasters, like a coronavirus pandemic. Divided into three parts, it provides a wealth of knowledge related to social work in different local and cultural contexts during the period of the global pandemic. With experienced social work researchers across a diversity of settings, contexts, and research traditions, the book is reflective of the 'glocal' response of social work. Offering new perspectives on challenges social workers have faced in dealing with the pandemic, it makes critical and timely insights into the innovations and adaptations in social work responses, with a strong empirical basis.

It will be of interest to all social work scholars, students, and practitioners.

Chapter by Dr Joseph Mooney in Section Four – Restarting the Dynamics, Relationships, and Connectivity in Social Work

Chapter Thirteen – 'And I Say, "Yes" Because I Want to Help'—Social Workers' Reflections on Practice in Ireland during COVID-19. **Joseph Mooney**, Declan Coogan, Caroline McGregor and Olive Lyons





Contemporary and Innovative Practices in Child and Youth Advocacy Centre Models

Edited by Annick St-Amand, Pearl Rimer, Danielle Nadeau, James Herbert and Wendy Walsh



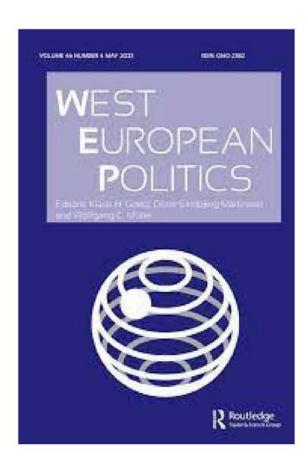
Book Chapter

Mooney, J., and O'Malley, A. (April 2023)
Barnahus in Ireland: Problematizing power, culture and collaboration, IN Walsh, W.,
Herbert, J., Nadeau, D., Rimmer, P. and St-Amand (April 2023) Contemporary and Innovative Practices in Child and Youth Advocacy Centre Models, Presses de l'Université du Québec, Canada

About the book:

CONTEMPORARY AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES IN CHILD AND YOUTH ADVOCACY CENTRE MODELS Child Advocacy Centres (CACs), also known as Child & Youth Advocacy Centres (CYACs), Children's Houses, and Barnahus, are a child-focused traumainformed approach to improving the multidisciplinary response to abuse and violence in the lives of children and youth. Contemporary and Innovative Practices in Child and Youth Advocacy Centre Models brings an international perspective to contemporary and innovative CAC practices around the world. It provides a range of perspectives offering valuable insights, suggestions, and advice to stimulate ideas for establishing, growing and modifying a CAC model and multiagency collaboration in order to build capacity to respond to the incredibly diverse types of cases, children, youth and families that come through a CAC's doors. As authors explore diverse sociolegal, demographic and cultural contexts within different service environments, they draw attention to successes but are also honest about challenges, barriers, and potential pitfalls.

For more information go to: https://extranet.puq.ca/media/produits/do cuments/4099_D5538-FP.pdf

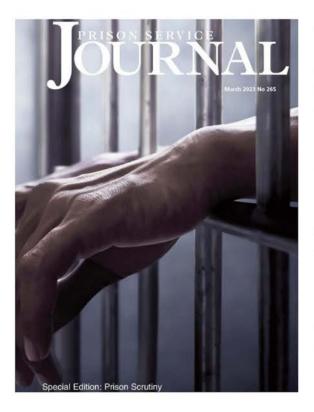


Journal Article

Brigitte Pircher, Caroline de la Porte & **Dorota Szelewa** (2023) Actors, costs and values: the implementation of the Work-Life Balance Directive, West European Politics, online first, DOI: 10.1080/01402382.2023.2181504

Abstract:

The European Union (EU) launched the European Pillar of Social Rights to improve social rights for EU citizens. However, little is known about the domestic dynamics of implementing these new rights. This article examines the implementation of the Work-Life Balance Directive in three member states with different policy traditions: Denmark, Germany and Poland. Based on an actor-centred approach, the article demonstrates that two main factors were crucial in motivating national actors to shape the implementation of these rights. First, the economic costs, including new permanent costs emerging from the provisions and the administrative costs of implementing an EU directive, shaped actors' positions in all three countries. Second, the values of gender equality whether promoting gender-equal leave or traditional family values - constituted an underlying reason for actors to customise the EU rules differently. Both factors, used as a defence or driver for change, increase differentiated policy implementation.



Sophie van der Valk is a postdoctoral researcher, UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Just

Journal Article

Sophie van der Valk and Mary Rogan. "Barriers to engagement: Scrutiny gaps in Irish prisons" March 2023, pp.35 - 43

The link for the issue is here:

https://www.crimeandjustice.org.uk/sites/crimeandjustice.org.uk/files/PSJ%20265%20March%202023.pdf

Abstract: Prisons in Ireland and across the world are subject to a growing range of scrutiny bodies. However, even as such bodies strive to develop best practices there remain inherent challenges related

to how best to generate meaningful knowledge about the prison experience. Through analysis of interviews with prisoners in Ireland, this paper explores the barriers to engagement which prisoners face when choosing (or not) to interact with prison oversight mechanisms. These barriers include low expectations of prisons and the ability of prisons to change, low awareness and trust in oversight bodies and their role in protecting prisoners' rights, as well as concerns about the consequences of speaking up and what is worth speaking up about. This final barrier termed wasted agency, can place a limit on when and what prisoners are willing to speak to bodies about and what is considered worth taking a risk for. Recognizing the role these barriers play in who and what is referred to prison oversight bodies can shine a light on scrutiny gaps which may arise and differences in communication between oversight bodies and those they are intended to protect.

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Video and Podcast



Series "Let's talk about Social Inclusion" by Cogitatio Press.

Episode title: "Why do some people decide not to have children in Poland?" with Dr

Dorota Szelewa

Despite the increase of pro-natalist policies in Poland, some individuals decide to be childless. To understand when and why family policy does not work, Dorota Szelewa explores the motives and welfare attitudes of Polish society and explains why some people in the country decide to have no children.

The discussion was based on Dorota's research published last year in Social Inclusion Vol. 10, No 3 (2022) 'When Family Policy Doesn't Work: Motives and Welfare Attitudes Among Childfree Persons in Poland'. To listen to the podcast please go to this Link: https://www.cogitatiopress.com/wp/lta/siepisode-2

Original article abstract: The primary goal of this article was to analyse the welfare attitudes of people self-declaring as childless by choice alongside the exploration of their social experience as childfree persons in the context of a rapid increase in the generosity of pro-natalist public policies in Poland. The analysis is based on semi-structured interviews conducted with 19 respondents recruited via Facebook network groups.

Thematic analysis was applied identifying six general themes: "satisfied and never had the need"; "dealing with social pressure"; "family measures—yes, but not this way"; "unfair treatment of the childfree"; "towards welfare state for all"; and "change my mind? Never, even if offered one million dollars." The research demonstrated that childfree persons present favourable views on state support for families with children. While critical of cash-based family support, respondents have a clear preference for investing in services enabling women to participate in the labour market. Finally, if public policies aimed at removing barriers to parenthood were strengthened, this would not change the respondents' minds about procreation.

Keywords: childfree; childless by choice; childlessness; family policy; Poland; voluntary childlessness; welfare attitudes

Published: 30 August 2022

Issue: Vol 10, No 3 (2022): Fragile Pronatalism? Barriers to Parenthood, One-Child Families, and Childlessness in European Post-Socialist Countries

DOI: https://doi.org/10.17645/si.v10i3.5504

