

**Abstract booklet**

The abstracts are divided into

i) Parallel sessions.....	1
ii) Whole panels.....	62
iii) Roundtables.....	74
iv) Workshops, creative and participatory sessions .....	76
v) Posters .....	78

**Please note that abstracts are ordered by the last name of the first author.**

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**i) Parallel sessions**

**Stigma power and symbolic violence: The experiences of Pakistani Muslim families in the criminal justice estate**

Tahir Abass, University of Leeds

Research on prisoners' families has proliferated over the course of the last couple of decades and has explored the diverse challenges and difficulties these families face. This has included exploring the role of stigmatisation and how this is experienced by prisoners' families. Simultaneously, academic scholarship on stigma has developed, shifting away from exploring the phenomenon through an individualistic and interpersonal lens and focusing on the role of social power in shaping stigma and stigmatisation. Based on 23 in-depth semi-structured interviews with Pakistani Muslim families, this paper will contribute to discourse in this field by consolidating the development of theory in stigma (power) with the experiences of familial imprisonment of members of a socially disadvantaged group. This paper will demonstrate that the socio-political position of the Pakistani Muslim community negatively and harmfully shapes the experiences of families from this community at each stage of their criminal justice journey.

## **Location of betting shops and crime: A co-location perspective?**

Oluwole Adeniyi, Nottingham Trent University and Ferhat Tura, Bournemouth University

Critics alleged that there is a link between gambling provisioning and crime and scholars argue that gambling opportunities are abundant in areas with high crime clusters, and they serve as attractors of anti-social and criminal behaviours. Therefore, this study aims to compare the patterns of gambling availability with three different categorisations of crime, namely; burglary, anti-social behaviour and bike theft in England. This study adopted a longitudinal approach between 2015 and 2019 using both geospatial and statistical techniques. This research used secondary data on crime, gambling premises and neighbourhood characteristics obtained from Police Recorded Crime Data, Gambling Commission, and UK 2011 Census respectively at LSOA level. Spatial analysis revealed significant clustering of crime types and gambling outlets in similar locations across England. Negative binomial multilevel model results further identified significant effect of gambling outlets on crime. Even after accounting for the effect of ethnic heterogeneity, concentrated disadvantage and inequality, residential instability, number of bars, other retail type locations and bus stops, there is still a higher likelihood of crime as gambling provision increases. Our findings suggest that all risk factors of crime including betting shops converge in similar areas, and this creates opportunities for more crimes.

## **How sexual victimization during incarceration inhibits well-being among victims, witnesses, and society at-large**

Eileen Ahlin, Penn State, Harrisburg

Persons who are incarcerated are exposed to, and many participate in, violent behaviors such as sexual victimization during their period of incarceration. Sexual victimization in correctional institutions is a retributive, extra-legal consequence of incarceration whose reach extends beyond those immediately involved as victim and perpetrator. This behavior negatively impacts the well-being of persons who are victimized, those who bear witness to the act, and society at-large because such experiences with violence diffuse beyond prison walls. When such prison violence “comes home,” it can negatively impact formerly incarcerated persons’ re-entry experiences, which can be detrimental to the safety of the community. Such experiences can lead to health issues, mental health concerns, and other limitations preventing individuals from reaching their full potential. This presentation places sexual victimization during periods of incarceration in context to address well-being at three levels: victim, witness, and society. The presentation includes a brief review of United States government efforts to quantify sexual victimization in carceral facilities; discussion on recent research; and concludes with a conversation on the challenges facing correctional facilities and researchers in addressing this important public health problem.

## **Shaping probation practice of the future: Why criminal justice pracademics matter**

Sam Ainslie and Laura Riley, Sheffield Hallam University

A consistent theme within probation research is the enduring value base of probation practitioners. As previous Probation Officers turned academics, we identify strongly with the espoused values of belief in the capacity of individuals to achieve change, and the need for probation practitioners to be a source of hope for individuals faced with the significant structural barriers to achieving desistance. Using examples of teaching on a traditional undergraduate criminology programme and a professional graduate diploma (Professional Qualification in Probation) we will demonstrate how our previous professional knowledge and experience within probation and youth justice can be used to enact transformative learning pedagogy as a means of protecting this value base. Drawing upon our experience as pracademics we will highlight the opportunities and challenges of design and delivery of probation education in the current context in England and Wales before concluding with the argument that pracademics occupy a position that can shape probation practice for the better.

## **Girls incarcerated: The pathways, discipline and licence of delinquent girls in juvenile institutions of the nineteenth century**

Tahaney Alghrani, University of Liverpool

Delinquent juveniles and solutions on how best to deal with them has been an area of contention since the establishment of the first juvenile institutions in the nineteenth-century. The Youthful Offenders Act (1854) marked a watershed moment in the history of the treatment of juveniles. Recent research *Young Criminal Lives* (2017) utilises archival/digital sources to examine the lives of 500 juvenile boys born between 1860-1910 and had all passed through a certified Victorian institution, (Godfrey et al, 2017) examining factors of pathways, desistance and persistence criminality.

My research examines female juvenile institutions in a Victorian port and industrial city, which are currently unmapped in the literature. 'Delinquent' and 'at risk' girls were deemed as wayward and in need of reform. They were subject to an intense moral concern by reformers who sought to 'save' these girls. The female institutions served a critical role in re-socialising working class girls along middle-class feminine codes of 'moral respectable' behaviour. My research not only focuses on the institutions, but on the girls incarcerated within them. Using archival and digital data, I piece together individual pathways into the institutions and licence/aftercare of the girls once released. This study foregrounds the dynamics and intersection of both class and gender, interrogating how the dominant hegemonic discourses of respectability, domesticity and motherhood, underpinned by religious and medical ideologies, were used to regulate female behaviour, both within and outside the institutions. The findings of this research will contribute to and enhance current debates around issues of female incarceration and probationary policies.

## **Credible messengers of change: A practice-led study of storytelling with prisoners to aid development of narratives of personal growth and self-realisation**

Carlotta Allum, University of the Arts, Central Saint Martins, London

Under the banner of working towards social change, I would like to present my practice led work with prisoners to co-create life stories, that by their very creation, help the prisoners move on and vision a better future. I will present creative digital stories from prisoners – some with pictures, lyric, and story, that tell a redemption narrative creatively. I will talk about my tools and techniques to co-create the stories and why they are so valuable. In creating this community of voices there is an element of activism and a desistance movement that can only be led by the community themselves – and explore my role as a former prisoner and conduit to the process. During the pandemic I created films and storybooks for in-cell work with mixed success, I will show examples of the booklets and films and talk about a project we are developing for telling your life story in-cells. I am writing a paper around the role of ‘credible messengers’, those with lived experience in the criminal justice movement and how they could work as a body to create a ‘desistance movement’

## **Understanding the contradictory approaches on the concept of serious crime by legal system and violent subcultures (case study of armed robbery and kidnapping)**

Mahbube Amini, Yazd University, Iran

Lawmakers sometimes criminalize behaviors that are not only not contrary to accepted social norms but may also be accepted in that particular community or society. This type of criminality, which is either duplicative or has been conducted without comprehensive study, may sometimes be so wide that it can be extended to more serious behaviors.

In this paper, we interviewed 25 juvenile offenders sentenced to 10 -15 years’ imprisonment for committing armed robbery and kidnapping. The main focus of this research is on informal social control and legal responses as different aspects of social control. Research data shows that the nature of such neighborhoods is associated with violent informal control tools. As they live in suburbs or slums, their behavior is in the form of common subcultures of their neighborhoods. These subcultures include: bullying, to settle a disagreement, to show off etc. In other words, they regard the above subcultures as a tool of social control and when they faced committing wrongdoing by others, specially a rival, an enemy, or, even, a former friend, they would retaliate by threatening him/her or locking him/her up in his/her car or home for several hours or threatening people with knives and taking their money.

This violent subculture requires a study. Since there is no specific control for it, judges punish defendants in line with serious crimes such as armed robbery and kidnapping. Thus, confronting a violent subculture, by interpreting it as a serious crime, not only does not deter, but make its subjects isolated and antisocial.

## **Ancient Iranian law's approach to physical punishment in comparison with the Islamic jurisprudence and their impact on the rehabilitation of offender and social integrity**

Mahbube Amini, Yazd University, Iran, and Maryam Khosroabadi, Yazd University, Iran

It is believed that criminal sanctions represent the context of the society and sometimes arise from prevailing religion or relate to that. In fact, if the inherent value of people's physical health is not considered to be important, the society (government or formal power) would not be concerned about the severity of physical punishments and vice versa. Historically, in Iran, when life was based on agricultural and livestock, every activity, especially punishment which was against the physical integrity of human beings, would be forbidden by *Zoroaster* religion. Thus, it is obvious that reducing physical punishment was an important aspect of this culture. In addition, Zoroastrianism took a special approach towards human beings by denying any predestination, and placing value on the capacity of individuals to be rehabilitated and make restitution for their wrongdoings. So, for that, the physical integrity of human being must be respected. The legal system of that time was significantly influenced by Zoroastrianism, and so the prevailing policy in criminal justice system was one of lenient sanctions. For example, the removal of limbs (as accepted in Islamic jurisprudence) was rejected because it went against the potential for rehabilitation. It also weakened society by physically damaging people, their mobility and capacity to work. This approach is at odds with the Islamic approach. In this essay, we study both of them and their impact on the human beings' potential to reintegrate to society and the integrity of a community as a whole.

## **Arms laws and mental health rights: Analysing the US school shootings**

Nikitha Anand, His Highness the Maharaja's Government Law College, Ernakulam, India

The second amendment to the US Constitution protects the rights of the people to keep and bear arms. Strengthening this amendment, the Supreme Court of US had struck down legislation in states which caused an infringement on this right. While there are certain restrictions on this right, the loopholes in the system facilitate a facile accessibility regardless of the restrictions. It helps in furthering the intention of a person to execute the crime. The rising school shootings in the US is a blatant example of this. In most cases the mental illness of the shooter is considered as the primary factor for school shootings. This highlights the neglected mental health oriented public health administration in the US.

Mental illness and accessibility can be considered as the two primary factors of school shootings which have a direct implication on the criminal justice system as well as the penal reforms. A socio-legal analysis is attempted which illuminates and explores the legal perspective associated with school shootings. In doing so it examines how the second amendment to the US Constitution is a primary factor in spite of the restrictions. It attempts to analyse the usage of insanity defence by the accused and also identifies the rights of the accused with mental illness to understand and analyse how it would affect their interaction with the criminal justice

system. It lays down the redressal and preventive methods prerequisite for controlling such school shootings.

### **From imagination to reality: Creating an inclusive and responsive criminal justice system through the voices of the formerly incarcerated**

Dwayne Antojado and Marietta Martinovic, RMIT University, Melbourne

The Beyond the Stone Walls Advisory Collective (BSWAC) was established in 2020 under the auspices of RMIT University in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. BSWAC's members are academics, researchers, higher education students, practitioners affiliated within the social justice space, and ex-incarcerated individuals. Our aim is to improve criminal justice outcomes, humanise the prison experience, and amplify insider perspectives of incarceration. The lived experience of people with criminal justice history has been largely omitted by policymakers, making the BSWAC unique to other advisory organisations in the social justice space. Our advice is incremental, apolitical and led by the voices of contemporary lived experience, whether as a practitioner, researcher or ex-incarcerated person. Further, BSWAC operates in close partnerships with government agencies, particularly the Department of Justice and Community Safety and Corrections Victoria. When advocating for systemic change, our recommendations are underpinned by academic literature coupled with the diverse lived experiences of its members. Significant projects undertaken by BSWAC include:

- Formulation of the lived experience framework with the Department of Justice and Community Safety;
- Development of effective strategies to improve prisoner-officer interaction and culture with Corrections Victoria;
- Design of Wyndham Law Court Project with Court Services Victoria; and
- Co-design of two suicide prevention projects with Justice Health Victoria (and subsequent co-delivering and co-evaluation) - one during incarceration and upon release.

BSWAC finds practical solutions to issues within the criminal justice system and collaborates with stakeholders to find holistic, responsive and relevant initiatives based on the voices of those with lived experience of the criminal justice system.

### **Humans of San Quentin: Humanising the incarcerated through social media advocacy**

Dwayne Antojado, RMIT University, Melbourne, Diane Kahn, University of San Francisco, and Marietta Martinovic, RMIT University, Melbourne

Academic literature has long recognised the deleterious effects of media representations of people entangled within the criminal justice system. Dramatisation, simplification, titillation, conventionalism, and novelty are common themes often cited in research concerning crime reporting. Misrepresentations are often made about the individuals who commit crimes within the news headline, especially when the media pursues sensationalist narratives which exacerbate personal characteristics to match the undertones and timbre of the news report. Several studies highlight the ways in which these representations negatively affect

the individual's therapeutic processes of rehabilitation and reintegration. Upon release, individuals often feel subjugated, subordinated and stigmatised. As a result, they find it difficult to readjust to the regime of society. Due to the lack of acceptance, stereotyping and discrimination, many have little upward mobility or positive social impacts which ultimately leads to high rates of recidivism.

In an effort to create a counter current to media misrepresentations of crime, to appease punitive dialogue, and shift the narrative. Humans of San Quentin (HoSQ), a humanitarian non-profit, was established in 2018 by Diane Kahn. Its aim is to give voice to people silenced in our communities by illuminating vulnerable narratives from within prison walls. Through the organisations' social media channels and website, HoSQ shines a light into prison cells around the world to engage a new perspective on human rights. With the use of social and restorative justice reform, they give people the opportunity to improve the lives of the underserved. They strive to provide a collective place to share resources, beliefs and to promote activism regarding social justice. They raise awareness and foster empathy by revealing the humanity that lives inside every one of us, story by story, person by person.

### **Understanding and preventing 'cuckoo' victimisation**

Laura Bainbridge and Amy Loughery, University of Leeds

Cuckooing is named after the parasitic nest stealing practices of wild cuckoos. It is a situation where heroin and crack cocaine dealers associated with the so-called County Lines supply methodology 'take over' (acquire) the homes of local residents to create a closed market drug dealing base. Cuckooing is an inherently exploitative and predatory practice, with evidence indicating that victims are typically vulnerable and in some instances socially excluded. Cuckooing presents a wicked problem for operational policing, and had attracted significant political and professional attention. Despite this, academic research dedicated to exploring, understanding and scrutinising this evolving phenomenon has remained in its infancy. This paper will present preliminary findings from an N8 PRP funded study that has been designed to close gaps in our existing cuckooing knowledge. Drawing on documentary and interview data collected from experts, victims and perpetrators in the north of England, the following three questions will be addressed: 1) how, when and why are cuckoo victims targeted? 2) how is cuckooing experienced by victims and perpetrators? and, 3) how can 'cuckooing' be prevented, or terminated once instigated?

### **Resolving criminal cases using mediation: A far-fetched dream or a reality?**

Arushi Bajpai and Akash Gupta, Jindal Global Law School

To resolve a dispute, there are several ways like litigation, arbitration, mediation, negotiation. However, in a country like India where 33 million cases are pending in courts, litigation does not sound the best option for the litigants. Pendency before the Supreme Court and the High Courts have been increasing in the last decade by more than 36% and 17% respectively. According to the PwC Report, 91% of the companies in India have a dispute resolution clause to resolve their disputes.

Some legal scholars criticize the formalistic court system as it is more time consuming, public in nature, more costly and less flexible. The timely disposal of cases and access to justice is a fundamental right. In contradiction, the Law Commission Report No. 245 indicates that the judiciary is unable to deliver timely justice as there is a huge backlog of cases. During the pandemic, the courts were closed for non-urgent matters which eventually led to over-burdening of the courts. To counter this problem, the usage of mediation shall increase and consequently it will reduce the burden of the courts. The moot point is whether there can be mediations in criminal matters in India. The Apex Court in India has said no to mediation in criminal matters in the landmark judgments such as *Afcons Infrastructure v. Cherian Verkey Pvt. Co. Ltd. and Booz Allen & Hamilton v. SBI Home Finance*. In this paper, the author will examine the possibility of mediations in certain criminal matters.

### **Criminal justice reform and neurodiversity: From research to implementation** Jeanie Bell and colleagues, The Brain Charity

Following the publication of *Neurodiversity in the Criminal Justice System: A Review of Evidence* (2021), The Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership commissioned research to understand the regional landscape and potential for criminal justice reform for neurodiverse people across Merseyside. Carried out by The Brain Charity, this research aims to understand the depth of awareness of neurodiversity among personnel and service users within the criminal justice system in Merseyside, beyond ADHD and Autism, which is where the majority of current research and work is focused. There are over 600 neurological conditions that may present varying degrees of vulnerability in terms of social, physical, emotional and medical management.

The research concluded with five local recommendations and proposals for two pilot projects in the Merseyside region to implement a whole system approach. Ultimately this research has been carried out to make recommendations that will ensure better outcomes for neurodiverse service users within the criminal justice system, evidenced by a lower rate of reoffending and a well-supported, well-informed and well-resourced workforce.

In this presentation, we will outline the background of the Another Sign Research project undertaken by The Brain Charity, along with the research findings, recommendations and proposed next stages of the pilots.

You can see more about our project here - <https://www.thebraincharity.org.uk/neurodiversity-in-the-criminal-justice-system-helping-prisoners-with-neurological-conditions-get-extra-support/>



## **‘No future at the moment’: Barriers to community resettlement for foreign national women**

Sophia Benedict, Senior Services Manager, London based charity delivering specialist services for women in the criminal justice system

This presentation is based on research undertaken between 2019-2020, published by the Griffins Society in 2020. The aim will be to provide an overview of the research objectives and findings, and to reflect on the recommendations made within the report. The research examines the barriers to community resettlement for foreign national women who have been convicted of a criminal offence in the UK. Providing an empirical exploration into the experiences of a group routinely overlooked within the criminal justice system, the research examines the complex web of additional and distinct challenges women face as a result of noncitizen immigration status. Drawing on interview testimony both with foreign national women living in the community and with the practitioners and probation staff supervising and supporting them, this study sheds light on the conditions of extreme material precarity which define women’s daily lives, where a lack of access to housing and welfare benefits, and denial of rights to work or study render women destitute and vulnerable to severe mental health deterioration. The findings highlight the impacts of ‘deportability’ and the profoundly painful mental health implications of waiting for the outcome of immigration cases, without adequate means for survival. The findings illustrate that the conditions sustained within the community constitute a form of everyday incarceration, strongly mirroring experiences within immigration detention and/or prison. Moreover, interview testimony reveals the challenges experienced by the practitioners supporting foreign national women, the overwhelming lack of resource they come up against on a daily-basis, and the inconsistent and ad-hoc nature of provision and support more broadly. Urging the need for a systematic approach and framework for supporting foreign national women in community contexts, the research makes a series of recommendations for improvements to both policy and practice.

## **Rupture and relationality: Unearthing inmate ethical projects**

Afonso Bento, University Institute of Lisbon

The original penitentiary project was premised on the idea that extreme physical and social isolation was fundamental to produce an individual ethical transformation. Current penal institutions have strayed away from this ideal both ideologically and materially, no longer resembling what once were deemed “total institutions”. However, the defining aspect of the contemporary carceral experience continues to be the forced physical alienation from personal relationships: the rupture of ties that are essential to how people find meaning and social stability in the world. This paper draws upon anthropological theory that asserts relationality as a constitutional fact of the human condition to explore how social relationships are central to the way inmates understand their past, live their carceral present and project their future on the outside. It delves into data from fieldwork carried out in the Portuguese penitentiary system to illustrate that personal relationships, their premises, obligations, and promise, are key to understanding both crime and the imagining of a renewed ethical life. At the same time, it also shows how prison mechanisms, despite how legalistic, technical, and actuarial they become, can continue to

reproduce the moral vision of the original penitentiary project by demanding narratives and embodied displays of individualized responsibility and ambition. By unearthing inmate's relational ethical projects, this paper hopes to advance a critical moral anthropology that can redress a neglected issue in prison research, while pointing to important policy issues.

### **Assessing the impact: The use of child impact assessments for children with a mother in the criminal justice system**

Sarah Beresford, Prison Reform Trust

Since September 2021 Prison Reform Trust Associate Sarah Beresford has been leading a consultation process on the use of a Child Impact Assessment for children with a mother in the criminal justice system. Co-created with children and young people with lived experience, the assessment aims to ensure children are listened to at every stage of their mother's journey (arrest, court, imprisonment or community sentence, release) and that they are meaningfully and appropriately involved in decision-making about any support they may need.

The consultation process has invited feedback from children and mothers with lived experience, carers of children, a wide range of statutory and voluntary sector stakeholders who work with children and / or mothers, and policy makers. This paper will present the main findings of the consultation and explore how Child Impact Assessments may help build children's resilience to cope with the trauma, grief, and stigma that they often experience when a primary carer is involved in the criminal justice system. Ultimately, this paper will propose a way of re-imagining the criminal justice system such that children are sensitively recognised and appropriately supported from arrest right through to release.

### **Policing and place: Trust in the police, 'narrow' and 'deep' security in an English town**

Ben Bradford, UCL

"... public security inheres not only in individuals' relative immunity from threat ("Am I safe?") ... To be secure, as opposed to simply safe, is to be comfortable in, and with, one's environment" (Loader 2006: 209)

In this paper we consider the contribution of policing to people's sense of safety and security. Using data collected from a survey of residents of a mid-sized English town, we consider the extent to which evaluations of police activity and behaviour are associated with (a) a 'narrow' sense of security – roughly speaking, feeling 'safe' – and (b) a 'deeper' sense of security – being comfortable in, and with, one's environment. Much policy discourse tends to concentrate on the contribution police can make to feelings of safety, narrowly defined. Yet, more expansive accounts stress the extent to which deeper rooted forms of security and belonging might be more important 'outcomes' of police activity; outcomes which, moreover, may be occluded or even inhibited by an excessive focus on demonstration of or at least claims to instrumental effectiveness. Our results resonate with these latter accounts. We find no link between perceptions of police effectiveness and subjective

(un)safety, but we find a strong association between perceptions of police fairness and people's sense of attachment to and belonging within their community. By focussing more accurately on the forms of safety and security police can hope to 'produce', we open up space for consideration of the ends they seek to achieve as well as the means they seek to use. Yet, translating these ideas to more fraught social and political contexts – and those with higher crime rates – may be a significant challenge.

### **Systemic exceptions and legal change: Processing migrant smuggling in the Slovenian criminal justice system**

Lora Briški and Mojca M. Plesničar University of Ljubljana

National criminal courts are increasingly asked to play a transnational role by being directly involved in the decision-making on major geopolitical issues, thus transforming the traditional criminal justice paradigm of reacting to past offences into preventing future risks (Weill, 2020). In our paper, we examine how cases of migrant smuggling are dealt with in the Slovenian criminal justice system.

Based on a dataset of 101 final criminal court judgments for the crime of Prohibited Crossing of the State Border and Territory, we point out the systemic specificities in the treatment of migrant smuggling: an untypically large proportions of 1) pre-trial detentions, 2) cases resolved on the basis of a guilty plea or plea agreement, and 3) imposed prison sentences.

In the uncertain times of the epidemic, the Slovenian Legislature significantly increased the penalties prescribed for this offence, allegedly with the aim of deterring potential perpetrators from committing such crimes. Our analysis shows that the Courts have softened the severe harshening of the legislative changes, using the margin of manoeuvre provided by the guilty plea provisions, which allow reductions in a sentence as well as (over?)using mitigating circumstances in sentencing. These developments bring up essential considerations regarding the separation of powers, the formation of sentencing policy, the consistency of sentencing, and the trial's fairness in general.

### **Exploring the lived experience of people from ethnic minority communities, crime and gambling related harm**

Geraldine Brown, Coventry University, Nicola Harding, Lancaster University, Tony Sales, We Fight Fraud and Wendy Knight, peer researcher

This research seeks to focus on and amplify the voices of people from ethnic minority communities who have been directly affected by gambling harms and crime. It aims to highlight the complex interplay between crime and gambling related harms through in-depth qualitative research about people's lived experiences. The overarching goal of this research is to develop and situate a knowledge base within the criminal justice system which recognises gambling harms and the specific related needs of people from ethnic minority communities, thus lowering the potential for criminal justice interventions in the future.

## **Navigating release expectations in the dark: Gauging what prisoners know about parole board decision-making**

Christopher Campbell, Portland State University

Following the 1970s “punitive turn” for the United States criminal justice system, many states removed or restructured how parole boards (Boards) were utilized. Several states opted to institute a determinant sentencing system with semi-structured guidelines, removing most Board discretionary power. Since the Board’s restructuring, states like Oregon added various complexities to hearings and decision-making processes, creating a labyrinth of layered laws and varying viewpoints of rotating members. Today, Oregon’s Parole Board oversees the discretionary release of approximately 1,300 adults in custody (AICs), none of whom have a guaranteed right to counsel to help navigate hearing complexities. Two critical questions that continue to underlie the Board are – (1) To what extent do parole eligible AICs understand the Board’s expectations in release hearings? and (2) How legitimate do adults in custody view the Board?

Presented here are findings from a survey administered to a random sample of over 300 AICs who are eligible for parole across five Oregon prisons. Developed from prior studies on procedural justice and prisoner perceptions, the final instrument includes 66, Likert questions covering various topics relating to the Parole Board: Quality of treatment, procedural and distributive fairness, and knowledge and perceptions of the parole board process.

## **Faster, fairer, justice!**

Janet Carter, former HMCTS

This paper proposes radical changes to the magistracy and jury system to achieve faster, fairer, justice at a reduced cost. What are the current problems in the criminal courts? In the Magistrates Court, there is a lack of diversity, especially in relation to age, with over 50% of the bench aged over 60. Lengthy selection and vetting, short induction training, and high costs to service and support the 14,000+ lay magistrates. Slow decision-making with the necessity for a qualified lawyer advising the bench, largely duplicating the sentencing process. In the Crown Court, the average wait time is currently 230 days. Juries are summoned randomly without any training at all, and whether, or not they are committed to the task. The proposal is to recruit and adequately train a single panel of lay volunteers purely to make the important decisions on guilt or innocence, both in the Magistrates Court and Crown Court. Fewer selection hurdles and a lower sitting commitment than the current magistracy will generate a wider diversity, with efficient deployment to both courts based on availability. The sentencing decision on conviction would be determined by qualified lawyers (Judges), who have the skills of daily experience, the knowledge of daily changes in the law, and the benefit in many cases of a professional probation report. Verdict by trained volunteers, law by lawyers, practicalities by professional probation officers. Faster and fairer justice.

## **Navigating retributivism through moral psychology: a restorative reading**

Halil Cesur, University of Warwick

All theories of punishment include the idea of restoration, and retributivism is no exception to this. Retributivism is a theory marked by a conception of penal justice that operates in pursuit and restoration of ideal/metaphysical justice: punishment restores the injured sense of justice in response to individual violations. But what does it mean for justice to be restored, and how do individuals experience *restored* justice? Reflecting on a victim statement made by Dr Adam Towler, this presentation analyses retributive theory from the points of view of the victim, the state and the perpetrator, asking how *restorative* retributive punishment can be. First, it explores the relationship between punishment and the reparation of the victim through Hampton's theory of retributivism. It then gives orientation to Hegel's classical retributivism as restoration of the law and order. Finally, it provides insights into Duff's theory of punishment to question whether punishment reforms offenders. The conclusion is that retributive theories are restorative in so far as they are attentive to the moral psychology of punishment.

## **Police awareness and practice regarding gambling harms**

Helen Churcher, Howard League for Penal Reform

Whilst research shows that gambling harms and addiction can lead to criminal activity, there is a lack of awareness/understanding within the criminal justice system. This research explores police awareness and understanding of gambling related harms and crime, and their operationalisation of this understanding in daily practice, illustrating a broader picture of the nature of gambling related harm and crime. It highlights the role of police custody as a significant engagement point (with the criminal justice system as well as other health and social services e.g., L&D); to share good practice; and finally, to challenge narratives about nature of gambling related crime. FOI requests to English and Welsh police forces regarding screening practices illustrate the development, presence and potential impact of gambling screening in police custody. Further FOI data about recorded crimes linked to gambling harms and addiction illustrates the diverse nature of gambling related crime and challenges existing assumptions, compounding the importance of awareness, training and screening amongst police and criminal justice professionals more broadly.

## **Governing victims**

Pamela Cox, University of Essex

This paper offers an empirically-grounded account of shifts in the governance of victims in England over the past three centuries. It outlines the tactics and techniques used by the local and central state and others to encourage, finance and manage the flow of their participation in the justice system. Drawing on the findings of a forthcoming co-authored book, *Victims: A Critical History* (by Pamela Cox, Robert Shoemaker and Heather Shore), it shows how victims have been made visible, and mobilised, as subjects of governance over time. The paper explores key moments in the journey from 18<sup>th</sup> century victim rewards to 21<sup>st</sup> century victim rights

and summarises the value of historicising victim participation and victim policy. It argues that the state sought to govern prosecution from a distance until the 1980s, and that the main aim of this governance was – and remains - to assert its own legitimacy by reducing crime and preserving public order through facilitating certain types of public access to justice.

### **Realising the importance of effective communication in the criminal justice system: The effect of developmental language disorders on young people involved in the criminal justice system**

Alison Coyne, University College Dublin

Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child affords children the right to participation. This fundamental right underpins a young person's involvement in and experience of all aspects of society, including the criminal justice system (CJS). To truly participate in a CJS, a young person must be able to communicate with the process.

'Interventions within the youth justice service tend to rely heavily on the medium of language, and weak language skills may preclude young people from deriving the full benefit of the rehabilitation on offer' (Winstanley et al, 2021). Sowerbutts et al. (2021) summarised this issue by stating that there is a 'fundamental mismatch between the communication requirements of the YJS, and the communicative abilities of many who encounter it' (Sowerbutts et al, 2021).

### **“Shame is an ocean I swim across”": An auto-ethnographic study of the harms caused to women in prison through a 'zemiological' lens**

Danica Darley, University of Sheffield

Recent years have seen a growing recognition that lasting improvements can be made to our institutions of control and power through a greater appreciation of the knowledge of those with lived experience. Through involving those who have direct experience of our prisons in our policy shaping and decision making arenas we can better understand how our systems can respond to women in a way that is both supportive and creates opportunities for their future development. This paper will consider the findings of an auto-ethnographic study of my own experiences as a woman in prison and will examine some of the social harms caused to women in prison, such as shame, stigma and status fragility through a 'zemiological' lens. Although auto-ethnography is an established field in many of the social sciences, criminology has often rejected the idea that good qualitative research can involve an auto-ethnographic element. However, more recently many leading criminologists have come to question the removal of emotion, feelings and passion from their research and many more stories that involve 'the self' have come to the forefront. Zemiology is a developing area of interest that examines harm to people, communities and the environment, seeking to understand harms that stop short of criminal sanctions yet, cause long term and lasting consequences for those that are affected by them. Through a combination of auto-ethnographic methods and the application of a zemiological framework I will make a case for developing a more

empathetic criminal legal system in an attempt to mitigate some of the harms caused by the prison system for women.

### **How do cancer incidence, treatment and survival in the English prison population compare with the general population?**

Elizabeth Davies, Centre for Cancer, Society & Public Health, Comprehensive Cancer Centre, King's College London, Jennie Huynh, and Margreet Lüchtenborg, Centre for Cancer, Society & Public Health, Comprehensive Cancer Centre, King's College London and the National Disease Registration Service, NHS Digital

Background : With a growing and ageing prison population in England, accurate data on cancer incidence, treatment and outcomes is of increasing importance to inform prison health care. We investigated the incidence of cancer, access to treatment and survival in the English adult prison population compared with the general population.

Results: From the English cancer registry data, we identified 2,015 incident cancers among 1,556 men and 459 women in prison between 1998 and 2017, based on postcode at diagnosis. The age-standardised incidence rate for men in prison was lower than in the general population, but increasingly similar in recent years. Women in prison are far more likely to be diagnosed with cervical cancer in situ than in the general population (IRR 2.13, 95% confidence interval (CI) 1.91-2.36).

Age, sex, diagnosis year and cancer site and stage matched case control analysis showed that cancer patients diagnosed in prison are far less likely to undergo curative treatment (odds ratio (OR) 0.63, 95% CI 0.53-0.75) than in the general population, notably surgical resections (OR 0.64, 95% CI 0.53-0.78). A prison cancer diagnosis carries a small but significantly increased risk of death (HR 1.16, 95%CI 1.03-1.30), half of that risk explained by lack of treatment with curative intent.

Conclusion: The combination of the cancer incidence in prisons having risen and patients diagnosed with cancer in prison having lower access to curative treatment and survival than the general population warrants attention on this group of cancer patients in data provision and cancer and prison health care policies.

### **The prevention of prison violence**

Andrew Day, University of Melbourne, Jennifer Galouzis, University of Melbourne, Catia Malvaso, University of Adelaide, Armon Tamatea, Waikato University, and Rhiannon Pilkington University of Adelaide

This paper will consider the meanings and functions of prison violence in relation to the development of a large national research project in Aotearoa New Zealand (Nga Tumanakotanga) to reduce prison violence. The paper will consider current conceptualisations of institutional violence and the theories and evidence that are currently available to guide prevention efforts. A public health approach to prison violence will be outlined, drawing on the lived experience of people who live and work in prison. This will be followed by a discussion of the merits and limitations of applying a wellbeing lens to correctional management, both locally and internationally.

## **Supporting rehabilitation: Creatively addressing the rehabilitative purpose of the "Sentencing Act 2020" in English prisons**

Marianne Doherty, University of Leicester

The Sentencing Act 2020 (s.57) outlines the purposes of sentencing. Inter alia, the punishment, and the reform and rehabilitation of offenders are to be considered by the courts during the sentencing process. Despite the recent call for prisons to promote a culture to foster the rehabilitative aims of the Act following Dame Coates' Review of Prison Education in 2016, little has changed in relation to supporting rehabilitative efforts in English prisons. As a result, reoffending and reconviction rates remain high in England, perpetuating unchanging cyclical trends in annual reports. This paper draws from the author's doctoral research which examined the pedagogical and methodological approach of an international prison-university partnership, the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Programme, and its perceived influence on prison-based students. The Programme purports to result in transformative outcomes through experiential learning, and the research sought to establish whether such outcomes could contribute to rehabilitative processes. It adopted an inductive methodological approach, employing semi-structured interviews with twenty-two prison-based, former Inside-Out students in three English prisons and an international sample of twenty-nine Inside-Out practitioners. The research revealed a strong connection with desistance theory, finding that sustained involvement with the programme could help support rehabilitation and desistance processes. Here the benefits of prison-university partnership pedagogy, which consists of experiential and non-traditional learning styles, are presented and it is argued that such an approach can be, and should be, employed more widely in the Criminal Justice system in custodial and non-custodial settings to meet the rehabilitative aims of the Sentencing Act 2020, and effect a positive change in rates of reoffending in England.

## **Mindfulness and prison education**

Marianne Doherty, Jessica Ritchie and Laura Bee, University of Leicester

The UK government recognises the prevalence of mental health problems in prison, and the need to provide appropriate treatment and support to prisoners. Paradoxically, the government allocation of resources remains predominately focused on building more prisons than on funding existing mental healthcare incentives. In failing to address pre-existing mental health problems, the potential for mental health complications to develop due to the conditions of imprisonment, and the need for additional support, the government has ensured that people in prison are not adequately equipped to cope. This has resulted in the dual failure of the government in its duty of care - to prisoners, and to the wider public. This paper draws from the authors' research-informed approach to establishing a prison-university partnership between the University of Leicester and HMP Leicester. The partnership was informed by the first author's doctoral research, which examined the pedagogical and methodological approach of an international prison university partnership, the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Programme, and its perceived influence on prison-based students. It adopted an inductive methodological approach, employing semi-structured interviews with twenty-two prison-based, former Inside-Out students in three English prisons and an international sample of twenty-nine Inside-Out practitioners. The research revealed the multiple and varied benefits of



experiential pedagogy in prison education and its ability to support mental health in prison. The authors argue that due to the failure of the government to address mental health in prison, and in light of the extreme conditions prisoners have been subjected to throughout the pandemic, greater emphasis should be placed on creating and maintaining social bonds with the community and maintaining the wellbeing of prisoners. They contend that this can be achieved through prison education and subsequently present their experience of creating and developing a prison partnership with HMP Leicester. They assert that shifting the focus to the preservation of mental health is critical in the broader context of reimagining criminal justice.

### **'Can we re-imagine prison as a 'space' for restoration?'**

Katherine Doolin, University of Auckland

Drawing on a case study of a victim of serious crime who took part in a restorative justice meeting in prison, this paper explores the potentialities and challenges of using prison as a 'space' for restorative encounters between victims and offenders. First, the paper considers strategies to minimise the risks posed to victims and offenders taking part in restorative justice in prison. This is particularly important given the capacities and vulnerabilities of those in custody who often have complex needs and experience a precarious and unsafe prison environment, and the vulnerabilities of victims who, in addition to the initial harm suffered, enter into a challenging and, often, foreign prison environment.

Secondly, the paper explores whether prison culture overrides and reduces the restorative potential of custody or whether there are 'emotion zones' (Crewe et al, 2014) within prison where victims and offenders participating in restorative encounters can find expression, safety and sanctuary.

The paper argues that restorative encounters in prison have the potential to be a humanising experience for victims and offenders in an often dehumanising prison environment. However, we must remain alert to (and mitigate) the risk that the use of restorative justice in prison might be re-interpreted within the context of a 'tough', punitive rhetoric when rolled out in an institution designed to mete out punishment, rather than being an expression of the holistic, forward-looking approach intended.

### **'Hope(lessness), tragedy and violence in prison: Can you find hope in a hopeless place?'**

Katherine Doolin, University of Auckland and Kate Gooch, University of Bath

The purpose of this paper is threefold. First, the paper presents a theory of hope (and hopelessness) within prison, considering what causes hope to flourish, for whom, and what can crush hope or create the structural conditions for hopelessness. Secondly, the paper considers the implications of hopelessness, and the relationship between hope and harmful behaviour (whether self-injury or violence). Finally, the paper seeks to consider whether it is possible to reform and reimagine the experience of imprisonment to promote hope and future ambition. In so doing, this paper draws on international comparative research in three jurisdictions (England,

Western Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand), and considers differences for men and for women in prison, and for prisoners in different category prisons.

### **Exploring the impact of youth engagement in social media: Shifting the boundaries of harms and criminality in the digital world?**

Lauren Doyle, University of Sunderland

This paper employs a qualitative approach to understanding the impact of youth engagement in social media. The expansion of social media has occurred alongside this. By applying a zemiological lens to the analysis of this study, from the early stages of data collection it was evident that ongoing changes to UK legislation around vulnerability caused, and perpetuated by, the online space remained a grey area for concern. Specifically in terms of who holds responsibility for safeguarding young people when engaging with a growing variety of information sources through social media. A particular interest area within this, for the researcher, is the harm posed to young people in the offline world, when engaging with image-based networks, filtered imagery and diet culture through social media platforms; an area that stands at the heart of various ongoing UK parliamentary debates, at the time of writing this paper, urging for vast legislative shifts. The discursive change of the Online Safety Bill to the Online Harms Bill, in its drafting stages, by the UK Government creates a clear pathway for this paper to pursue a zemiological analyses of current strategies to protect and criminalise the distortion of reality by the online world, under 'influencer culture'. This paper concludes that despite an expansive period of evidence collection by the UK Government, to understand the lived experience of vulnerable social media users, more time and effort is needed to make such legislative amendments an impactful, and collaborative process.

### **Challenging confinement: Mass incarceration and women's liberation in American prisons**

Bonnie Ernst, University of Florida

This paper examines how incarcerated women incorporated strategies from women's rights movements to reimagine punishment and advocate for penal reform in the final decades of the twentieth century. The paper focuses on women's prisons in the American Midwest to study how reform efforts mobilized around gender equality, gendered harm, and race during the era of mass incarceration. Incarcerated women in Chicago and Detroit formed broad, interracial coalitions with attorneys, artists, and activists to improve their access to rehabilitation. This history builds upon carceral studies by analyzing how coalitions deployed the gains of women's liberation to confront mass incarceration. This movement formed one tributary to the river of resistance to mass incarceration that has manifested in recent years. Drawing on archival sources, federal lawsuits, and oral history interviews, this paper reveals how incarcerated women engaged in grassroots organizing to fight for equality and prison reform in the late twentieth century. Examining how feminist ideals infiltrated the prison has several effects: it sheds light on an understudied subset of the American incarcerated population, it encourages a reconsideration of the purpose of punishment, and it inspires reflection on how feminism shaped activism in prisons.

## **Why are pregnant women in prison?**

Rona Epstein, Coventry Law School

Our research asked: Why are pregnant women in prison? This followed the death of a baby in an unattended birth at HMP Bronzefield in September 2019. We compiled an online survey asking women who had been pregnant in a prison in England about what led to custody. We analysed 22 cases: 19 responses to our survey and 3 reported cases. The main reason was recall for breaching probation conditions, after sentence, while under supervision. The most common offence was shoplifting. The group were very vulnerable; mental and physical ill-health and both drug and alcohol addictions were common. Several had experienced domestic abuse and coercion. It is not necessary to imprison pregnant women. Eleven countries, with a combined population of 646 million do not permit the imprisonment of pregnant women: they include Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Mexico, Brazil, Peru, Colombia. We argue for alternatives to imprisonment: community orders, deferred and suspended sentences and the use of non-punitive supportive residential facilities in the community such as Trevi and Phoenix Futures. No court should endanger the life of an unborn child.

## **Lived Experience: Sharing a family's pain and the impacts of an unreconcilable verdict and sentence for a crime committed by another. Absorbing, living with and fighting an outcome that "could not" and should not have happened**

Aimee Farquhar

Like many in our society I trusted and believed in the fairness of the British justice system. So, when my son was arrested and charged with a murder that he did not commit I believed that the police would work through the evidence and my son would be treated fairly. This however could not have been further from the truth. My beloved son was convicted of possession of a knife that he did not touch, see, or have any knowledge of, and found guilty of murder - the spontaneous actions of another individual when my son was not even at the scene. Despite this, my son was convicted of murder, and received a life sentence with a 26-year minimum term. My loving 23-year-old son, taken from us, will not be eligible for parole until 2 weeks before his 50th Birthday. I am determined to understand every factor that led to this grotesque outcome and fight for justice for my son. I want to share his story of injustice to make people aware what is happening right now in our country. I want to show everyone the damage that has been done to my family, and other individuals and their families, when an injustice on this level is delivered by our legal system. My paper will walk the reader through the pain and turmoil of having a loved one go through such an experience, dealing with the shock and fallout of an unexpected and unreconcilable verdict and sentence. It will unpick what happened at trial and discuss how the prosecution was able to achieve this outcome. It will highlight the lack of recourse in joint enterprise circumstance, and appeal to those in power to step in to ensure justice.

## **Exploring the experiences of care-experienced girls and young women with youth justice system involvement**

Claire Fitzpatrick, Lancaster University, Katie Hunter Lancaster University, Julie Shaw, Liverpool John Moores University, and Jo Staines ,University of Bristol

Across many jurisdictions, children who have been in the care of the state (for example, foster care or children's homes) are over-represented in both the youth justice and adult criminal justice systems. However, little attention has been paid to the specific experiences of care-experienced girls and young women. To explore this issue, this paper draws on findings from a study in England funded by The Nuffield Foundation which sought to amplify the voices of those with lived experience of care and criminal justice. Drawing on semi-structured interviews with girls and young women aged 16-26 who have been in care, we highlight how gender and care status may interact to create overlapping layers of structural disadvantage, with ethnicity adding a further layer of disadvantage for some. Key themes explored include the negative judgements of girls which may contribute to their unnecessary criminalisation, whilst their victimisation and exploitation may be minimised or overlooked. We further highlight the importance of moving beyond official files, the insufficient support for those leaving care, and the vital need to reimagine our systems of care and justice.

## **Death without indignities? The challenges of medical assistance in dying in federal corrections**

James Gacek, University of Regina, Canada

The perennial problem of federal prisons in Canada continues to be deaths in custody. While the focus on prison suicides (i.e. dying by unnatural causes) and aging in prison (i.e. dying by natural causes) remain concerns, the legalization and introduction of medical assistance in dying (MAiD) raises policy and operational challenges for federally sentenced terminally ill prisoners. Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) policy now allows for an external provider to end the life of a prisoner, contingent upon exceptional circumstances. Drawing upon carceral geography and case law, this presentation explores the objections to allowing MAiD to be carried out in penitentiary settings. In the presentation, death refers to the process of dying and thus incorporates "the period in which there is an awareness of what will end a particular person's life" (Allmark 2002, 255). Beyond the optics of an agency of the state enabling or facilitating death behind bars, there are greater considerations that must be discussed. Using Allmark's (2002) concept of "death without indignities" I identify two important factors that allow an ethical analysis: measures that would reinforce autonomy and removal of barriers to dignity. Death persists as a topic of concern for law; while law can produce death, in this conversation of MAiD, it is death that produces law, and the potential to reimagine legal deathscapes and carceral spaces in the process. This discussion provides a useful entry point for the analysis of prison health, death, and punishment by way of trying to die in a distinct way.

## **Shedding a light on prison lighting: Reimagining correctional officer workspace and well-being**

James Gacek, University of Regina, Canada, Bastien Quirion, University of Ottawa and Rosemary Ricciardelli, Memorial University Newfoundland

In our article, we investigate Canadian federal correctional officers' (CO) experiences and concerns with their prison workspaces. Drawing upon carceral geography, and recognizing the sociality of light and dark, we explore how spaces of incarceration and the challenges of living and working within such spaces help us understand the ongoing concerns of luminosity and murkiness within these spaces. We do so by interrogating how prison lighting (or lack thereof) informs CO workspace and well-being. Canadian federal CO experiences in our article (n=60) derive from a larger longitudinal study on CO mental health and well-being; findings suggest COs concern for the quality of prison conditions can impact their work. As the voices of COs reveal, the affect of prison conditions, specifically regarding access to natural light, on prisoner and correctional worker health cannot be understated – improving the mental health and well-being of staff and prisoners alike is necessary. Taken together, these concerns illuminate the problems of prison lighting circulating within spaces of incarceration, and the (un)intentional and latent consequences of prison conditions for care—recognizing such conditions remain the result of tight fiscal budgets and lack of investment in carceral spaces. We close with recommendations for improving CO and prisoner well-being as tied to space; findings highlight how these experiences are useful entry points for the analysis of prison health, well-being, and rehabilitation.

## **The design of a rehabilitative prison environment**

Jennifer Galouzis and Andrew Day, University of Melbourne

Correctional agencies across Australia are committed to providing rehabilitation services that assist people to desist from crime. Yet the custodial environments in which services are typically provided are widely viewed as damaging and dehumanising, potentially inhibiting possibilities for success. While applied theories of rehabilitation explore how change occurs for individuals who are incarcerated, insufficient attention has been paid to the role of the prison environment in this process. In this paper, we apply a social-ecological approach to present a theoretical framework that explains how the physical, social, and psychological elements of a prison environment interact to support or inhibit rehabilitation. The result is an applied multilevel model of prison-based rehabilitation, which provides theoretical guidance in the design and delivery of rehabilitative prisons as well as an empirical framework to examine the relationships between the multiple environmental elements and rehabilitation outcomes.

## **Exploring justice, violence and voice in Scotland**

Fern Gillon, University of Strathclyde

Contemporary philosophies of 'justice' are primarily adult defined concepts, which fail to explore the potentially differing understanding of children and younger people. Children involved in offending, particularly acts of violence, are further marginalised

in terms of opportunities to have their views heard. Voice and participation are key to a rights respecting youth justice system. Particularly important is amplifying their voice on topics in which children's voices are seldom heard, with particular efforts dedicated to groups of children who are additionally marginalised.

Combining findings from two research projects, this paper explores how the use of creative methods brings about opportunities to gain a deeper insight into children and young people's understanding of justice, and related concepts such as harm and violence, in contemporary Scottish society. This paper draws on findings from 'Thinking about Justice' a research project which adopted creative methods to help children aged 8-18 conceptualise justice; and an aspect of the Public Health Youth Violence Reduction (PHYVR) project, where community based fieldwork explores the changing nature of violence and harm from the perspectives of children and young people. The findings highlight children's complex understandings of justice, shaped by their status, gender and relationships with the adults around them. Their experience of justice, harm and violence highlight broader issues of power, protection, isolation, and the role of adults in shaping these understandings, and ultimately their experiences of justice.

This paper is novel in that it brings together two distinct but related projects, thus providing a unique and innovative perspective on the issues of voice and justice.

### **The (new) ecology of security: Tribulations of sustainable security in a small town**

Evi Girling, Keele University and Ian Loader, Oxford University

Drawing on our current revisiting of an old research site, Macclesfield in Cheshire, this paper reflects on shifts in the local meanings of in/security since the mid-1990s. In revisiting the town, we discover a set of everyday troubles (littering, dog poo, the tribulations of parks and other valued public spaces) that appear to call forth established forms of environmental criminology (the 'broken windows' thesis; theories of 'defensible space' in urban design). But we have also encountered security concerns that attach themselves to new objects that are often described as environmental (pollution, flooding, and other local indicators of climate crisis). In this paper, we argue that both these 'new' and 'old' forms of environmental trouble are signs of a greening of security wherein problems such as street-drinking, litter, badly parked cars, flooding etc. matter because they are entangled with people's sense of the liveability and sustainability of the places in which they strive to make meaningful lives. Discourse about 'fear' and 'crime' tend to be about moral boundary-drawing, defining place with reference to hostile 'outsiders', and defending these places from incursion. The new ecology of security shifts this orientation to protecting place in important respects. One is that concern for place is translated into practices of active caring, wherein questions of vulnerability, precarity, solidarity, resilience, and sustainability come to the fore. The second is greater consciousness of how 'we' (the insiders) have come become agents of our own peril - implicated in producing the security problems with which we are concerned.

## **Prisoner self-harm, the human condition and the pursuit of justice**

Kate Gooch, Georgie Barham and Holly Dempsey, University of Bath

The rate at which men are self-harming in prison has increased four-fold in the period 2009-2019. However, there is a paucity of qualitative research regarding self-harm by male prisoners, with much of the research focused on prison violence and/or quantitative measures of self-harm and suicide. This paper seeks to address this gap. Drawing on ethnographic research and interviews and surveys with prisoners and prison staff, this paper explores the nature, causes and dynamics of self-harm. It specifically focuses on the extent to which self-harm is related to the legitimacy of the criminal justice system and prisoner's treatment, and to wider questions of hope, humanity, dignity and justice.

## **'The rise and fall of the rehabilitative ideal at HMP Berwyn: Failure, sabotage of a victim of circumstances?'**

Kate Gooch, University of Bath

In February 2017, despite being one of the largest prisons in the UK, HMP Berwyn opened with the explicit aim of being a 'Rehabilitative Prison'. This aim was underpinned by specific strategic priorities and a much wider range of associated practices, norms and policies designed to support the rehabilitative vision. However, some six years later and with the prison nearly at full capacity, the vision that so successfully galvanised the original leadership team seems to have fallen away. Whilst it is common to consider the rise and fall of the rehabilitative ideal in penal policy, this paper seeks to focus on the rise and fall of the rehabilitative ideal at a local level within a specific prison. In so doing, the concept of the rehabilitative prison is interrogated, as are the reasons why any rehabilitative ideals are so easily frustrated. The paper considers the extent to which it is possible to create a rehabilitative prison or whether it is more typical to drift towards 'imaginary rehabilitation' (Carlen, 2008).

## **Continued and intensified hostility: The problematisation of immigration in the UK Government's 2021 'New plan for immigration'**

Clare Griffiths, Keele University and Julie Trebilcock, Brunel University

Drawing on Bacchi's (2009) 'What's the problem represented to be?' framework, this paper provides a critical analysis of HM Government's (2021a) New Plan for Immigration. We explore how immigration is problematised, the assumptions that underlie these problematisations, alternative ways of representing the 'problem' of immigration, and the possible effects of the proposed reforms. Our paper demonstrates how the New Plan is increasingly hostile towards, not only 'illegal' migrants, but an ever-widening group of people and organisations who may be viewed as facilitating illegal entry (organised criminals, hauliers) and/or those held responsible for preventing/delaying their removal (lawyers). The government's proposals risk creating a two-tiered system, increasing the exclusion experienced by those seeking asylum, and widening the net of those held responsible for immigration control. Ultimately, we conclude that while the sentiments behind the government's New Plan may not be all that 'new', they are nevertheless significant

for their continuation and intensification of existing hostile policies and practices relating to immigration in the UK. This is especially so, given a number of recent global events that could have provided an opportunity to disrupt the government's problematisation of, and hostility towards, people seeking refuge.

### **Reimagining the education and reintegration policy in prison: A global south perspective**

Sergio Grossi, University of Sao Paulo/Cambridge

South America is generally seen as a failure in policies of reintegration and education of imprisoned persons. However, there are various understudied experiences of reintegration and education that can inspire and dialogue with experiences considered as models in the Global North. In this presentation, we want to highlight the differences and similarities in discourse and practice in these experiences, in particular by comparing Social Reintegration Centres in Brazil, the University of Buenos Aires in Prison and the Grendon Prison in the United Kingdom. This study involves a literature review of prison experiences. A short ethnography was conducted in Brazil and it is in progress in the United Kingdom. It will be conducted in Argentina, involving a period of participant observation and open and semi-structured interviews with staff and persons deprived of their liberty. The results show that more attention is dedicated to South American projects, also thanks to the inspiration of Freirian pedagogy and the development of educational practices focused on political changes for the community. In the English model, more attention is dedicated to the psychological and emotional aspects of individuals, who work on their own development in small communities led by psychotherapists. Our current considerations show how an integral reintegration and education project for incarcerated persons must strongly consider aspects of individual care, while focus on changing the neighbouring community, the prison structure, and institutions in society. Without this reintegration, obstacles are found, which are difficult to overcome.

### **How co can you go? Justice time and coproduction in criminal justice**

Maggie Hall, Western Sydney University

When we analysed the cases studies for our forthcoming book- "Coproduction in criminal justice" a number of themes emerged. The "omnipresence of justice" is the element that separates coproduction in criminal justice from other contexts in which coproduction has been implemented. Justice is ever present.

Temporality runs through criminal justice, sentences are measured in years and the landscape of criminal justice contains a myriad of spatial and temporal controls. It is not surprising that it emerged as a key theme in our analysis. Time out of custody or off drugs can be a precondition for involvement in coproduction projects. Our linear conception of "time" can conflict with other cultural understandings. "Bureaucratic time" can conflict with the relational aspects of coproduction- trust takes time to establish and managerial imperatives often conflict



Using examples from our case studies set both in the UK and in various contexts in Australia, we illustrate how “time” and “justice time” in particular can affect “How can you go”. We take the analysis further and look at the “what ifs” – can we make “justice time” slow down or speed up, or bypass it altogether? How can we make time work for us in developing co-productive projects that accommodate justice time while not being constrained or dominated by it?

### **Assessing levels of assisted desistance in prison**

Mark Halsey, Flinders University, Andrew Day, University of Melbourne and Melissa De Vel-Palumbo, Flinders University

This paper outlines the development of a co-designed instrument for measuring the level of assisted desistance in prisons. Drawing on data from 600 inmates and correctional staff across two maximum security locations in Australia we discuss how such environments might more purposefully enhance desistance from crime. Particular attention is given to the tertiary dimension of desistance, implications for correctional officer roles, and inmate experience of “what works”.

### **Predictive policing through risk assessment**

Melissa Hamilton, University of Surrey

Predictive policing is “smart policing” in blending big data, scientifically derived risk factors for offending, and algorithmic scoring. Predictive policing has informed “hot spot” policing. A more recent turn is toward predictive policing for “hot people”—i.e., individuals at high risk of committing crimes. Police can use risk assessment tools to identify dangerous people and then to pre-emptively manage them. A corresponding trend has been to use algorithms to identify potential victims of violent crime in need of protection. Risk assessment models often hone to specific crimes because of their unique risk-relevant characteristics, such as the targeted risks of domestic violence, gang membership, gun violence, and terrorist involvement. As artificial intelligence flourishes, predictive policing tools can make better connections between data points to inform on criminal networks, patterns of offending, criminal history, and social media posts. Despite the potential for hot people predictive policing, cautions are warranted. Algorithmic legitimacy requires compliance with standards of fairness, accountability, and transparency. Care must be taken to reduce the risks that information relied upon is inaccurate or that biases in the training data are replicated in the tool’s algorithm. Officials must remain sensitive to potential disparities in outcomes based on racial, ethnic, and gender considerations.

### **“Just get on with it”: A qualitative exploration of the health and wellbeing of prison operational managers and governor grades**

Karen Harrison and Lauren Smith, University of Lincoln

In 2021, a multi-disciplinary team of researchers at the University of Lincoln were commissioned by the Prison Governors Association to evaluate the state of their members’ health and wellbeing, with this being particularly pertinent following the immense pressure experienced during the Covid-19 pandemic. In this context

wellbeing is an all-encompassing concept. It can be defined as a dynamic process understood as how people feel, how they function on a personal and social level, and how they evaluate their lives as a whole. Based on semi-structured interviews with 63 prison operational managers and Governor grades, this paper discusses our findings and talks about next steps in terms of how we hope these will impact on policy and practice. Key themes of our research include not feeling valued, impact on mental and physical health, frustration over lack of autonomy and fears for the future; all of which have led some to follow a 'path of disenchantment'. Participants recommendations for a more positive way forward will also be included.

### **Exploring the lived experience of women, crime and gambling related harm**

Nicola Harding, Lancaster University, Julie Trebilcock, Brunel University and Wendy Knight, peer researcher

This research seeks to focus on and amplify the voices of women directly affected by gambling harms, acknowledging intersectionality. It aims to highlight the complex interplay between crime and gambling related harm through in-depth qualitative research about people's lived experiences. The overarching goal of this research is to develop and situate a knowledge base within the criminal justice system which recognises gambling harms and the specific related needs of women, thus lowering the potential for criminal justice interventions in the future.

### **Thick legitimacy?: Exploring racialised, classed, gendered and place-based experiences of policing in an east-London borough**

Tim Head, University of Manchester and Emmanuel Onapa, University of Exeter

Drawing on findings from three years of ethnographic fieldwork and two years of Participatory Action Research (PAR) projects, this paper investigates the various ways in which the authority of the police is cultivated, challenged and disrupted in an inner-city London Borough. Working and researching alongside youth practitioners, community activists, local politicians, police officers, senior police leadership, and a small cohort of young people who see themselves as both 'overpoliced' and 'under protected', we explore the contestation of the police's 'right to power'.

Observing what Beetham has termed 'legitimacy deficits', we suggest that contestations of the police's 'right to power', or 'legitimacy', in these contexts are characterised by large 'discrepancies' between the shared beliefs/values of policing authorities and the shared beliefs/values of 'policed' populations.

In addition to these findings about policed young people, we also explore the ways that police officers and police leadership attempt to cultivate legitimacy in the face of these challenges to their authority at the interorganisational level, in a setting beyond the street and between power-holders.

Building on in situ observations and first-hand recollections about the cultivation and contestation of legitimacy, we argue that the police's 'right to power' in these contexts cannot be understood solely in isolation as a set of abstract or quantifiable beliefs, values or behaviours. Rather, we advocate for an understanding of

legitimacy as embedded within wider social processes of meaning-making. These processes, we argue, take shape following the uneven distribution of policing power across intersecting racialised, classed, gendered and place-based forms of social stratification.

### **Justifying joint enterprise: The problems of (un)fair labelling and (dis)proportionate punishment**

Susie Hulley, University of Cambridge and Tara Young, University of Kent

The doctrine of 'joint enterprise', or secondary liability, enables more than one person to be convicted for a single offence, and has been widely criticised for its lack of legal legitimacy and its disproportionate impact on BAME men (Williams and Clarke 2016, Hulley et al 2019, Young et al 2020). Despite a broadly welcomed change to the interpretation of the law in this area, in *R v Jogee and Ruddock* [2016] UKSC 8, a recent analysis of official data revealed that it has had 'no discernible impact on the numbers of people prosecuted or convicted of serious violence as secondary suspects' (Mills et al 2022: 5). This paper provides qualitative data to help make sense of this finding. Based on interviews with criminal justice practitioners working on cases of serious violence, it argues that the law of complicity continues to be justified and applied by the police and prosecution lawyers based on theories that over-emphasise secondary parties' contributions to the substantive offence and on policy and practice imperatives. In line with many of the defence lawyers who participated in the study, we argue that the law of complicity, and its application, continues to disregard normative assessments of culpability and contradict fundamental principles of fair labelling and proportionate punishment. The paper concludes by calling for changes to prosecutorial practice and further law reform, to recognise a continuum of culpability and ensure that the actions of individuals are fairly labelled and proportionately punished.

### **Ethnicity, care and youth justice involvement: Emerging findings from an analysis of linked MoJ/DfE data**

Katie Hunter, Lancaster University

The youth justice system in England and Wales disproportionately draws in children Black and minoritised backgrounds (Lammy, 2017; YJB, 2021) and those who have been in care (HMIP, 2021). In the last decade, the number of children entering the youth justice system has fallen dramatically (YJB, 2021) and as a result, existing inequalities have intensified (Cunneen, Goldson & Russell, 2018; Hunter, 2019). Despite recent successes in reducing unnecessary criminalisation of children in residential care (Sands, 2020), care-experienced children make up half of all those in youth custody (HMIP, 2021). Similarly, Black and minoritised children now constitute 52% of the youth custodial population (YJB, 2021). While evidence indicates that there is likely to be considerable overlap between these two groups (Prison Reform Trust, 2016), there was previously little quantitative data to explore this. Qualitative research suggests that care-experienced individuals who also identify as having an ethnic minority background, may experience a 'double whammy' of disadvantage in youth justice involvement (Hunter, 2022). This paper will present emerging findings from an ADR UK-funded Fellowship utilising newly linked Ministry of Justice/

Department for Education datasets. These datasets have made it possible to analyse the intersections between care experience, ethnicity and youth justice involvement for the first time. The paper will outline the nature and extent of youth justice involvement for care-experienced children from different ethnic groups. In doing so, it will highlight intersecting inequalities embedded in the youth justice system which require urgent attention.

### **Being at home in normativity**

Jonathan Jacobs, John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

Human beings' lives are informed and oriented by normative and valuative considerations as well as causal factors. Our lives reflect both the space of reasons and the causal nexus. Several forms of normativity shape the institutions, practices, policies, agents, and actions that criminology investigates and the significance and point of human activity, relations, and responses need to be understood as reflecting normativity. Those forms are not reducible to the causal nexus though there are complex and important relations between aspects of the space of reasons and the causal nexus.

A putative fact/value distinction is an attempt to confine investigation and explanation to the causal nexus, either claiming that the causal nexus is all that there is, or claiming that criminology that is to be scientific and explanatory must confine itself to the causal nexus. That is, I argue, a mistaken view. Normativity, including (but not limited to) valuative considerations is integral to a great deal of what criminology studies. Not only are normative considerations critically important to much that criminology seeks to explain, normative considerations can have explanatory roles. Often, our understanding of causal factors themselves depends on our conception of the relevant features of the space of reasons.

Human behavior, concerns, and relations generally reflect norms, rules, and valuative considerations in ineliminable ways. The discussion identifies and highlights some of the layers of normativity studied by criminology and also indicates how and why normative (including moral) considerations can figure in empirical investigation and explanation without compromising its scientific character.

### **Criminal justice system in the age of artificial intelligence: Human rights at stake?**

Tulio Felipe Xavier Januario, University of Coimbra, Portugal

The relevance of artificial intelligence for those activities that demand processing of a large amount of data in reduced time is currently undeniable. In addition to impacts on several other sectors, more and more implications of this technology are also expected in criminal investigations and proceedings, whether due to the evidentiary interest that the access to the information stored by it can generate, or for its potential to assist in state activities of intelligence, surveillance and even judicial decisions. However, we can immediately observe that its application in criminal justice system can imply several risks and may even affect internationally recognized human rights. The objective of this investigation is precisely to analyze how the

increasing use of A.I. in criminal investigations and proceedings can affect human rights. For this, we will initially study what we can understand by new technologies and A.I. and how they are intended to be used in these procedures. Subsequently, from a deductive methodology, we will seek to understand, in the light of the main international human rights charters, which are the main guarantees that may be affected in these contexts. At the end of the paper, we will demonstrate that, although we cannot completely abstract from A.I. nor ignore its potential implications in criminal proceedings, we need to find a point of balance between the interests at stake, in order to avoid that the incessant search of society for security ends up disproportionately affecting human rights, especially those of the people implicated in these procedures.

### **The Howard League: A history (1866-1948)**

Jess Kebbell, University of Leicester

The Howard League is the oldest penal reform charity in the UK, formed in 1866 under the patronage of Lord Brougham with the aim of the “promotion of the most efficient means of penal treatment and crime prevention.”. This paper will present the findings of a collaborative PhD studentship between the University of Leicester and the Howard League, looking at the history of the organisation between the years 1866 and 1948. The research builds on existing knowledge of the Howard League that has been compiled by academics such as Anne Logan (2017), the findings of which can be found in the text *The Politics of Penal Reform: Margery Fry and the Howard League*, as well as in other texts documenting the history of both penal reform and crime and punishment.

However, there is thus far no academic history of the organisation as a whole and this research attempts to address this and fill the gap. Using archival sources, as well as sources gathered from a range of online databases, this research has made key findings in four key areas – the makeup of the organisation’s personnel, the types of issues it campaigned on, their campaigning methods and activities, and the types of researching activities the League conducted in order to gather data they then used in their campaigning efforts. This paper will discuss the key findings in those areas to provide an in-depth look into the first 82 years of the Howard League’s rich campaigning history.

### **Problem gambling – a missing link in prison risk assessment**

Martin Kettle, Independent researcher

Problem gambling is one of the mental health concerns which we are learning to bring into the light of day. In prisons, however, while we throw money at substance misuse, we have not focussed enough on gambling as a factor in crime.

International evidence indicates that prison populations experience disproportionate levels of gambling problems, and excellent studies confirm that this is likely to be the case in the UK. The need for more problem gambling assessment at all stages within the criminal justice system has also been highlighted. However, we still struggle with a lack of systematic, integrated information.

One of the key reasons for this is that we have failed to include gambling behaviours in 'OASys' - the formal risk and needs assessment tool that is used across the criminal justice system. The Offender Assessment System (OASys) has, in the last 20 years, provided a rich source of actuarial information on drivers of criminal behaviour, and could readily be adapted do so as regards gambling. Gambling has been included in AssetPlus for young offenders, but only as a subset of the 'financial management' set of criminogenic issues, which does not give it sufficient focus.

This paper suggests that gambling should be included in both of these assessment tools, and that this would bring substantial benefits in terms of staff training and the developing appropriate support for offenders. It further suggests it would be useful to give consideration to the optimal wording and placing of gambling questions.

### **Q-methodological study, exploring students' subjective attitudes towards opportunities for ex-offenders**

Scott Kidd, Independent researcher

For many of individuals with historic involvement with the criminal justice system, higher education provides a transformative opportunity (Durfour et al., 2015; McNeil, 2018; McNeil, 2019; Galnader, 2020) to change their lives. Obtaining a degree post-conviction provides individuals with various skills essential to reintegration into society (Halkovic & Greene, 2015). UCAS (2021) states that an integral component of successfully navigating university is the social relationships formed with peers. A significant volume of literature attests to higher education's opportunities (Barr, 2012; BIS, 2013; McMahan, 2010; UCAS, 2021) and desistance from re-offending (Adresti, 2011; McNeill, 2018; McNeill, 2019; Jones & Jones, 2021), an area that has received comparatively little empirical attention, are students' attitudes toward ex-offenders (Binnall et al., 2021). Due to the opportunities that universities provide and how integral students are to navigating university successfully, further exploration into students' subjective attitudes towards opportunities for ex-offenders is essential due to the overall benefits to society in terms of fiscal gains and issues of public safety. This study addresses the lack of literature, using a Q-methodological study, with a representative sample of 20 undergraduate university students made up of males and females with a mean age of 29.95 (SD=9.63). They performed a Q-sort of 25 statements representing five sub-themes of societal viewpoint, opportunities, university experience, personal significance, and attitudes towards ex-offenders to gain a subjective view of students' attitudes towards the opportunities for ex-offenders. Factor analysis of the Q sorts produced four distinct perspectives of 'inclusivity,' 'stigma,' 'equality,' and 'barriers.'. The four definitions are discussed regarding their relationship to opportunities for ex-offenders. They found that a culture of stigma and inequality existed in students, universities, and broader society that could negate ex-offenders' transformation through attending higher education.

## **'No TV programme is made about boring magistrates' cases': Revisiting the 'ideology of the triviality' in the magistrates' courts**

Amy Kirby, Birkbeck, University of London

Just over forty years ago McBarent (1981) coined the term 'ideology of the triviality' to describe the fallacy of magistrates' court cases being interpreted as trivial by academics, the public, the media and criminal justice professionals, when in fact the cases heard are serious in nature and consequence to those involved. This perception of triviality renders magistrates' justice invisible to society and is concerning given that the magistrates' court deals with the vast majority of criminal cases. Drawing upon empirical research which examined victims', witnesses' and defendants' understanding and perceptions of the lay magistracy, and observations carried out at two magistrates' courts in England, this paper considers the extent to which the 'ideology of the triviality' pervades magistrates' justice today. The findings show that participants were uninformed about the role of the lay magistrate but, when provided with information, were generally supportive of the lay adjudicatory role. Court observations highlight the complexity of cases brought before the magistrates' courts and what is at stake for those involved. The findings are considered in the context of recent policy shifts that have affected the magistrates' courts, including court closures and the advent of the single justice procedure, the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic, and wider theoretical debates around open justice.

## **CoSA, Covid-19 and the road towards desistance: The experience of people convicted of sexual offences on release from prison**

Rosie Kitson Boyce, Nottingham Trent University

Successful reintegration following prison, for those with sexual convictions, is a key aim of criminal justice policy. In current society, however, there are many barriers to this such as, lack of employment or appropriate housing and societal hesitance in the belief of genuine change. Although loneliness and social isolation are recognised in the literature as risk factors for sexual recidivism, developing meaningful relationships and support networks are often difficult due to the nature of the offence committed.

Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA) have been providing pro-social support for people convicted of sexual offences for several years now. The potential effectiveness of the initiative and its role as a form of 'assisted desistance' is also discussed within the literature. COVID-19, however, has affected the risk management and community integration of people convicted of a sexual offense and has particularly impacted the work of CoSA.

This paper will briefly discuss the role of CoSA in the desistance from sexual offending and the impact the pandemic has had on this. In addition, research exploring the experiences of individuals once the support of the CoSA has ceased will be discussed. The qualitative interviews highlighted how participants maintained fears of their past being discovered and thus avoided transparency. In relation to the pandemic specifically, COVID-19 was recognised as having some detrimental effects. Interestingly however, positive impacts and a sense of adaptability also

emerged. In conclusion the findings lead us to consider the experience of these individuals as the world eases back to 'normal'.

### **Re-imagining justice in rape trials: Irish practitioners' perspectives on reform**

Susan Leahy, University of Limerick

This paper discusses some of the key findings of the empirical research project *The Realities of Rape Trials in Ireland: Perspectives from Practice* which was conducted in partnership with Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, supported by funding from the Irish Research Council. The project filled a gap in current knowledge on Irish sexual offences law by seeking the views of 12 court accompaniment workers and 16 legal professionals on the operation of Irish rape trials. Participants were asked for their perspectives on how current laws and policies are operating in practice and for their views on what reforms are necessary to effectively deliver justice in rape trials. The key themes which were addressed with the participants, included: consent; judicial directions; sexual experience evidence; counselling records; legal representation for complainants; and delay.

This paper focuses on three key areas which the study has highlighted for reform, namely: (1) disclosure of counselling records; (2) admissibility of sexual experience evidence; and (3) delay. Given the current consultation by the Law Commission, 'Evidence in Sexual Offence Prosecutions', the findings from this project are very relevant for stakeholders in England and Wales, as well as Ireland. The paper offers a unique perspective on how the laws and procedures relating to rape trials might be re-imagined to better deliver justice to both complainants and defendants in these complex cases.

### **Re-imagining the magistracy with younger magistrates: Opportunities and challenges**

Xavier L'Hoiry, University of Sheffield

This paper reflects on a qualitative exploration of the experiences of young (under 40 years old) magistrates in England and Wales. The study carried out 23 interviews with current and former magistrates classed as 'young' within the broader age profile of the Magistracy. The study found near universal enthusiasm for the principles of the Magistracy, including a strong sense of civic duty and a desire to make a positive difference to local communities. But interviews also uncovered a series of tensions and challenges for young magistrates, from practical difficulties of managing magistrate commitments around everyday life, to the emotional challenges of reconciling the intentions of young magistrates to the realities of the contemporary criminal justice system. This paper applies the lenses of emotional labour and identity work to explore how young magistrates navigate their way through the Magistracy as an often isolated group, and how they negotiate frustration and despondency to try and achieve the delivery of justice. The paper also reflects on how the Magistracy's elderly age profile might be addressed, and the benefits such a change might deliver for the administration of justice.



## **'Better together' – STRIVE: A joint agency response to crime in the community**

STRIVE team members, Probation Service, Dublin Northwest

STRIVE is a multi-agency project based in a community in North Dublin (Ballymun) and is a project under the National JARC Initiative (Joint Agency Response to Crime). Ballymun is an area exhibiting complex needs and classified as 'disadvantaged' with problems of anti-social behaviour and drug related crime.

The STRIVE project which has been operational since 2015 targets high-risk problematic offenders who are identified as causing the most harm in the community using a coordinated approach of various local stakeholders. These include local justice agencies (Probation Service, Irish Prison Service, An Garda Síochána), other statutory (Dublin City Council, Health Service Executive) and NGOs (Job Centre, Local Drugs Task Force). STRIVE operates at operational and steering group levels locally and connects into national structures and processes.

The overall aim of STRIVE is to reduce the offending of these individuals through multi-agency pathway programmes, thus delivering an effective and sustained improvement in the quality of life for the individuals, residents and community.

The presentation will outline the implementation of the Project, highlighting key outcomes, strengths and challenges in addition to reflecting how the Project has sustained and built upon efforts over the years.

### **Problem gambling among criminal sanction clients**

Kalle Lind, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

Problem gambling is highly prevalent among the incarcerated population. Untreated problem gambling increases the risk of recidivism. The presentation will outline an upcoming research project, which will explore data collected along a special development project (RISERaPeli) initiated by The Finnish Foundation for Supporting Ex-offenders. The purpose of the development project is to tailor a rehabilitation program to help community sanction clients with at-risk gambling or problem gambling, while also aiming to standardize the program into the routine procedures of community sanctions and eventually into the Criminal Sanctions Agency more in general.

The aim of this novel research project is to explore the characteristics of problem gamblers among community sanction clients and to also evaluate the feasibility of the existing online problem gambling treatment program in criminal justice setting and to tailor the program to their specific needs. The data will be collected from the participants before they enter the program and after they have completed it. The associations between gambling, crime and co-occurring problems, such as depression and substance use, are discussed.

Additionally, The Prisoner Health Survey and register-based data on convictions (combined to a gambling -related population survey data) will be analyzed to gain more understanding of this population and further develop efficient and purposeful support. The study will produce useful information for criminal sanction employees,

treatment providers, policy makers, scholars and various other experts working in the intersection between problem gambling and criminal behavior.

### **Policing in the United States: The case for reform in the post George Floyd era**

Richard Wayne Lindo, North Carolina Department of Public Safety, Division of Adult Corrections/Juvenile Justice

This paper focuses on a significant line of inquiry in modern policing review: the overarching repercussions of apathetic police reform in the post George Floyd era in America. It illuminates the apathy that is emblematic of multiple police departments across the nation and the disconnect between the police and the public. Cognizance of the inner workings of the criminal justice establishment will help us decipher why career law enforcement personnel is resistant to change. The scrutiny of interviews with ten current and ten former police personnel will provide a foretaste of the strength and resolve behind the thin blue line. Allegations of excessive force can be very divisive, and we are aware of the toll that it takes on families and communities, but we will see how the department at the center of such controversy is impacted. We also examined the dynamics of dealing with arresting fellow officers, coping with the loss of fallen comrades, and the perpetual thought of not making it home. Hopefully, the study will provide a cohesive framework vis-à-vis police reform, give practical guidance regarding public trust, and eliminate the ruinous perceptions that are seared in public consciousness about the police. Interviews with ten members of the public, including juveniles, from different socioeconomic backgrounds will shed light on how the police are perceived and received in their respective communities.

### **Safeguarding the vulnerable and the dignity of risk**

Ben Livings, University of South Australia

Elder abuse is a phenomenon that has garnered increasing attention in recent years. The nature of elder abuse means that its prevalence in Australia is difficult to know. The National Elder Abuse Prevalence Study found that 15% of older Australians had experienced abuse in the year preceding its release in December 2021. The study found that psychological abuse is the most common form of abuse, while other studies have pointed to financial abuse as the most common form.

The growing awareness of the nature and prevalence of elder abuse has prompted calls for policy developments. In 2017, the Australian Law Reform Commission rejected the need for additional substantive offences, preferring instead to advocate for the development of agencies to safeguard victims and potential victims. South Australia has responded to this by enacting legislation establishing an Adult Safeguarding Unit. In positing its response to the problems posed by elder abuse, the enabling legislation has attempted to balance two countervailing priorities: the need to safeguard vulnerable adults while maintaining their autonomy. This paper examines how this has been done and whether a satisfactory balance has been achieved.

## **Understanding gambling-motivated crime**

Michelle L Malkin, East Carolina University

Gambling-motivated crimes are those crimes committed by problem gamblers (primarily acquisitional in nature) in order to keep gambling and/or pay off gambling related debts. This paper focuses on the progression of problem gambling to crime. Specifically, this research applies the criminological General Strain Theory to better understand the relationship between problem gambling strains (social, economic, and legal) and gambling-motivated crime. It also considers the relationship between suicidal contemplation for problem gamblers and gambling-motivated crime. Two theories are presented. First, the social and economic consequences/strains of worsening problem gambling severity results in a depletion of legal avenues for money causing shame, guilt and desperation which leads to both suicidality and gambling-motivated crime. Second, while these strains may in-and-of themselves lead to suicidal thoughts, the commission of a gambling-motivated crime increases the likelihood for suicidal ideation. A quantitative research study based on a survey of U.S. Gambler's Anonymous members (N=196) is included to support these theories. Findings also are presented utilizing a gender lens. This research finds little difference between male and female problem gamblers in terms of social, economic and legal consequences. Encompassed in the research are guidelines for what is and what is not gambling-motivated crime for use by practitioners and criminal justice professionals.

## **Adverse childhood experiences and trauma among young people supervised by youth justice**

Catia Malvaso, University of Adelaide

This research is concerned with the prevalence and experience of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) in a representative sample of young people under Youth Justice supervision in South Australia. Data were collected from self-report assessments administered to 184 young people, which were subsequently linked to administrative records. The analysis showed that not only was the prevalence of ACEs particularly high in this population (89% experienced a combination of maltreatment and household dysfunction), but so too was trauma symptomatology, substance use, and internalising and externalising behaviours (with more than two thirds of young people scoring in the clinical ranges on each of these measures). Using latent class analysis, four distinct subgroups of young people were identified according to different patterns of ACEs experienced. These findings offer empirical evidence for Youth Justice policymakers and practitioners to develop new ways of working with justice-involved young people that take account of key developmental experiences of adversity. This work has led to a partnership between researchers and the State Youth Justice agency that will inform a research and service development agenda for investment in appropriate responses to the needs of children and young people.

## **“Now it's about survival for me”: Applying the power threat , meaning framework to narratives of prison governors to understand the impact on wellbeing**

Rachael Mason, University of Lincoln

Working for the prison service can be a challenging career and being a senior member of staff places additional pressures on individuals, increasing exposure to stress. Stress has consequences for mental health and wellbeing which was explored through conducting interviews with 63 governor grade staff. The Power Threat Meaning Framework was applied to the data to help understand emotional distress and identify the impact in terms of threat responses. Power was discussed by participants describing they were not empowered in their roles, they were overworked, and they were operating in an environment with a clear hierarchical divide which added to the Power struggles. This was alongside experiencing traumatic events either through their work, or due to how they were treated by the service. There was a perceived Threat of being punished for asking for help, for doing something innovative, and for not being able to take time away from their work. This resulted in a Threat to their wellbeing and work life balance, as well as becoming disconnected from the rest of the organisation. The Meaning they placed on this included a need to be “bullet-proof”, that support was inaccessible, they are weak if they need support, and their only option was to follow the rules, leading to disenchantment. To survive, the Threat responses included putting on “armour” to “just get on with it”, or that they were facing burnout, and for some, there was a decision to leave the service and retire early resulting in fears for future staffing.

## **Trauma-informed sentencing: Current practice and future opportunities**

Katherine McLachlan, Flinders University and Andrew Day, University of Melbourne

Trauma-informed practice was developed more than 20 years ago and has emerged as a way of working in corrections, and broader contexts such as health and education services. Recently the concepts of ‘compassionate courts’, ‘humane justice’, and ‘kindness in court’ have emerged in legal theory and practice in the US, England, Scotland and Australia. Nevertheless, there has been little research examining whether trauma-informed practice exists in sentencing. Using research undertaken in South Australia, this presentation examines the degree to which sentencing is currently trauma-informed, in terms of judicial decision-making, the sentencing process and the sanction imposed.

Trauma-informed sentencing requires that judges realise the presence of trauma, recognise its relevance, respond in a way that is informed by trauma and act to avoid re-traumatisation. Analysis of 448 sentencing remarks indicates that judges realised trauma was present in the lives of approximately half of all defendants but did not always overtly recognise a link between trauma and criminal behaviour and even when they did recognise a link, this did not guarantee a trauma-informed sentencing response. In cases where judges intended to impose a trauma-informed sanction, their practice was not always evidence-informed.

Leveraging the apparent judicial appetite for trauma-informed sentencing, this presentation concludes by outlining future opportunities to strengthen trauma-informed sentencing.

### **Move over!: Creating space for lived experience scholars in the academy**

Tina McPhee, lived experience activist

This is as much a first-hand account of marginalization at the hands of criminology as it is a call to action for meaningful involvement of people with lived prison experience in university disciplines that produce carceral logics. I am in the unique position to be engaged in the struggle of navigating the experience of criminology and criminalization simultaneously and as such, I will be using an auto-ethnographical approach to foster a deeper exploration of the notion of “lived experience” as a formerly incarcerated university student and to position lived experience voices as experts in carceral discourse.

From this standpoint, the following case study will explore the concept of students with lived prison experience using personal narrative and interrogate the positioning of formerly incarcerated people in institutions that shape and engage carceral policy. By focusing on the university-prison nexus, I can extrapolate the tensions and opportunities that exist within this dynamic. I will also explore Australian criminology’s failure to embrace the lived experience voices that the discipline has exploited and benefited from since the 1800s. This work is inspired by activist scholarship and complimented by a decolonial abolitionist framework because any discussion about carceral policy in this land now called Australia is inextricably linked to coloniality and an appetite for over- criminalizing and incarcerating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Finally, and this is where action is required, this paper will suggest a path forward; a way to work together that benefits us all.

### **A justice revolution**

Marianne Moore, Justice Studio

Our current justice system was built over 1,000 years ago on a value system that said humans were bad. Its survival does not mean that it has ever been right, humane, or just. The criminal justice system is adversarial and punitive – lawyers pit it out in a battle to win, and every stage of the system points towards punishment. But does it have to be a battle? Does punishment have to be the goal? Do we need to have lawyers, the police, judges, and prisons? In order for us to have a justice system that is truly humane, it is not enough to change bits of it, to think differently about it, or to twiddle about with parts of the interior. What is required is a completely new justice ideology: criminal justice needs a revolution. Criminal Justice needs a new goal and new values from which new institutions and practice can flow. A more humane system would see humans as being imperfect but essentially good, and have values that corresponded to this core belief. Substituting understanding for blaming and battling, compassion for control, and a goal of healing instead of punishment, we could have a justice system that is truly just. One that aids the victims to voice their needs, and where the offender can take genuine responsibility for what they have done. Battling lawyers, controlling police, judgemental judges and

retributive prisons would have no place in this system. It would be the justice system of our brighter future.

### **The persistence of the Victorian prison**

Dominique Moran, University of Birmingham

Prior scholarship tracing the origins and architecture of prisons has tended to focus on how and why prisons are built—what they are intended to achieve and their construction as an expression of the punitive philosophies of their age. It does not consider how prisons persist as time passes, perhaps beyond their anticipated operational life span, and into “obsolescence.”

Focusing on the Victorian-era prison, and considering the alteration and inhabitation of such prisons through time, this paper critically reinterprets notions of obsolescence in the built environment and explores an enduring cultural attachment to a particular and arguably archaic material manifestation of punishment. It reports on initial findings from an ongoing ESRC-funded project in partnership with the Howard League for Penal Reform.

### **Centring the voices of victim-survivors when designing justice responses to domestic violence and abuse**

Sarah Moulds, University of South Australia

Domestic and family violence, and in particular gender-based abuse against women perpetrated by intimate partners, continues to have significant and long-lasting impacts on all communities. The rate and complexity of family and domestic violence has increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. Past efforts to improve the effectiveness of legal responses have focused on expanding the scope of criminal law frameworks and increasing penalties for perpetrators. The data relied upon to support such measures has largely come from law enforcement agencies and court systems. However, this data generally fails to identify or prioritise the voice of victim-survivors or those intimately involved in service delivery in support of victims. As a result, we regularly fail to identify the legal, social, cultural and other barriers to the effectiveness of conventional legal responses.

This presentation argues that it is imperative that researchers, policy makers and lawmakers adopt sociolegal approaches to evaluating the effectiveness of legal tools to address domestic violence and listen and learn from victim survivors. Using a case study from South Australia, the presentation highlights how relational empowerment research techniques can help uncover key sites for legislative reform and generate cost-saving solutions. By listening to the voices of those with lived experience, it is possible to identify policy and legislative solutions that seek to re-orientate legal responses around the needs of the victim-survivor (rather than the perpetrator). This in turn opens up space to think beyond lengthy custodial penalties or court-enforced, prison-implemented rehabilitation programs and contemplate holistic, trauma informed approaches that prioritise safety and healing, as well as prevention and deterrence.

## **When conventional responses are not enough: Addressing the problem of child participation in drug networks**

Jane Mulcahy, University of Limerick

Child involvement in criminal networks can be classified as a wicked problem (Rittel and Webber, 1973). The Department of Justice in Ireland has funded the Greentown programme to operate two trial projects (in partnership with the Department of Justice, Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, An Garda Síochána (the Irish police service), Tusla – the Child and Family Agency, Probation and community-based organisations). The programme aims to a) reduce criminal network effects on children in the local community (frustrating grooming behaviour of network based adults to entice children into criminal activity) and b) provide meaningful and practical 'routes out' for children involved in a criminal network.

This paper will provide an overview of the four programme pillars: Intensive Family Support, Network Disruption, Community Efficacy and Pro-Social Opportunities. It will also present learnings from the 18 months of the Whitetown trial site regarding implementation of the Intensive Family Programme, including barriers and enablers. Recommendations pertain to the importance of safety and relationship-building for effective interagency collaboration to address this wicked problem.

## **Understanding interpersonal neurobiology, polyvagal theory and repetition compulsion for better outcomes**

Jane Mulcahy, University of Limerick

Drawing on qualitative interview data with twelve male prisoners approaching release, I explore how childhood trauma is at the root of their offending, based on their own personal backstories of neglect, abuse, family dysfunction, deprivation and community adversity. Involvement in criminality is just one of many symptoms of interpersonal trauma and social exclusion. Wounded people with offending behaviour need to learn to feel safe in their own bodies and to regulate their emotions in healthy ways. If they are not assisted to heal, to locate their real, authentic selves underneath their (mal)adaptive coping strategies, to take joy in human relationships and find purpose in the world, further criminality is a virtual certainty.

This paper argues that there is an onus on agents of the State, including criminal justice and penal institutions to take concrete, committed steps to remedy the human rights breaches prisoners experienced as children. This requires a holistic, "healing-centred engagement" (Ginwright, 2018) approach that is culturally sensitive and emphasises strengths, prioritises personal development, ensures safe transition management from prison and provides opportunities for mainstream flourishing post-release. The Compassion Prison Project is a model of trauma-responsive, heart-centred practice focused on healing which happens in community.

## **Racial and ethnic disparities in sentencing: what do we know, and where should we go?**

Ana Navarro Veiga, University of Leeds

Strong evidence of racial and ethnic disparities has been documented in recent government led reports, suggesting the presence of discrimination in sentencing, with Black and ethnic minority defendants being systematically sentenced more harshly than their white counterparts. However, we still do not know how these disparities come about as most of the sentencing research has relied on quantitative designs focused on documenting the problem, rather than exploring its causes. In this exploratory study we use qualitative interviews with criminal law barristers to explore the different mechanisms that may give rise to these disparities. From our interviews we identified two predominant causal mechanisms; the differential consideration of mitigating and aggravating factors and indirect discrimination arising from defendants' socio-economic background and over-policing. Based on these findings, we suggest effective strategies such as explicitly listing social deprivation as a mitigating factor in the sentencing guidelines and increasing judicial diversity for redressing these disparities.

## **It's not ok to not be ok...when you're a prison governor**

Helen Nichols, University of Hull and Gary Saunders, University of Lincoln

The research upon which this paper is based was conducted in 2021 and explored the wellbeing of governor grade prison staff in England, Wales and Scotland. The research participants were recruited from the Prison Governors Association membership. In total, 63 participants engaged in qualitative interviews during the study. The findings of the research highlighted several key issues providing insight into the occupational experiences of governor grade staff and the challenges they face in their working and home lives, including during the Covid-19 pandemic. For the purpose of this paper, focus will be given to interview participants' reference to 'macho culture'. When analysing the qualitative data in conjunction with existing literature, it became clear that more specifically, participants were referring to 'masculinity contest culture'. Masculinity contest culture (MCC) is a multidimensional construct that captures hegemonic forms of masculinity in the workplace (Berdahl et al., 2018). Hegemonic masculinities are characterised by dominance, aggression, and competition. The four dimensions of MCC include: (1) Show No Weakness (avoiding displays of femininity, such as vulnerability and emotions), (2) Strength and Stamina (valorising physical strength and stamina), (3) Put Work First (expectations to work long hours and put work ahead of family and any other external obligations) and (4) Dog-Eat-Dog (a hypercompetitive environment pitting one person against another) (Workman-Stark, 2019). Adopting the four dimensions of MCC as a structure, this paper will explore the prevalence and interpretation of masculinity contest culture as experienced by governor grade prison staff in their working lives and how this created a cultural barrier to accessing wellbeing provision.



## **Inequality, isolation and the institutionalisation of persons with intellectual disability in Irish prisons**

Blaithin O'Shea, University of Limerick

Historically in Ireland, persons with intellectual disabilities ('PWID') were criminalised and institutionalised in workhouses and asylums. Today, despite declarations of a deinstitutionalisation movement in Ireland and the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, PWID continue to be institutionalised, though instead of asylums and workhouses, this can be witnessed within the criminal justice system. Research indicates that PWID are over-represented in prison populations worldwide (with the prevalence of ID in Irish prisons reportedly being much higher than international estimates). There are many factors that may contribute to this over-representation. Although evidence shows that ID itself is not a risk factor leading to criminal activity, the relationship between ID and crime may be influenced by a range of psychological, biological and societal factors. In focussing on societal factors, this paper analyses how isolation and inequality may lead to a higher likelihood of incarceration for PWID. It proposes that when isolation and inequality is induced in the prison environment, it can result in several unique challenges for PWID, including but not limited to victimisation, solitary confinement and a lack of rehabilitative opportunities. Finally, the paper posits that these challenges negatively affect re-offending rates, thereby contributing to the modern-day institutionalisation of PWID in Irish prisons.

## **Sentencers' awareness and treatment of problematic gambling**

Sarah Page, Staffordshire University

Little is known about whether sentencers in England and Wales allow for mitigation for those committing crime to fund their gambling addiction and what criminal justice therapeutic support is made available. This research draws on findings from 656 magistrates and 21 stakeholders from the criminal justice and gambling therapeutic sectors to explore current sentencing understanding of gambling related crime and preferences for sentencing practice. Data was collected in 2020 and 2021 via online survey, online focus groups and online world café. This research was conducted using a participatory approach with an advisory board membership from Staffordshire University including an academic with lived experience of being a magistrate, representatives from the Howard League for Penal Reform and the Magistrates Association. This research has fed into the Commission for Crime and Gambling Related Harms to support the evidence based for changes in legislation, policy and practice. Our findings advocate for changes to sentencing guidance to allow for mitigation and direct access to gambling treatment supported by criminal justice that can be incorporated within sentencing. A Problem-Solving Court approach was less supported by magistrates, who felt that with more resources for multi-agency working, similar outcomes were viable through existing magistrate sentencing.

## **Reimaging court systems in the UK for gambling-related crime: The viability of problem solving courts**

Sarah Page and Laura Bailey, Staffordshire University

Under the new UK Drugs Strategy 'From Harm to Hope', Problem Solving Courts will be introduced for cases where drug addiction has contributed to offending. This innovative court model has been utilized successfully in the USA, some European countries and Australia. We explored with 26 Magistrates and 8 people with lived and learned experience of gambling-related crime (including affected others N = 3) over 7 focus group sessions, the viability of Problem-Solving Courts being used in the UK for those being sentenced for gambling-related-crime. Findings demonstrated support for therapeutically addressing root issues of gambling-related crime with experts in gambling treatment. Debate centered around whether the existing Magistrates Court in England and Wales, with increased multi-agency resource, could operate more broadly as a Problem-Solving-Court, rather than having specialist addiction courts set up. Ensuring the voice of the victim is heard, including affected family members, was also something important to those engaged in focus group discussion.

## **It's not your fault, but it is your responsibility: What perspectives from evolutionary biology and neuroscience offer to trauma-informed, adverse childhood experience (ACE) aware approaches**

Hayley Peckham, Zebra Collective

Our experiences, predominantly in childhood, shape the structure and function of our brains through mechanisms of neuroplasticity. We learn from our past experiences to anticipate our future experiences. This is a successful evolutionary strategy. Our experiences are biologically embedded in our brains; calibrate physiological systems such as our stress axis, and invisibly shepherd us onto biobehavioural trajectories that are adapted for the environment we experienced, constraining our choices and behaviours in coherent ways that serve evolutionary goals. This is Life History Theory, which makes biological sense of why people with multiple adverse childhood experiences typically 'live fast and die young' and others live more slowly and easily. Survival in dangerous or unpredictable environments is enhanced by being exploitative, reckless, and impulsive, seeking short term gains that generate irresponsible, antisocial and criminal behaviour. However, the recognition that external forces profoundly shape our brains and behaviours, suggests that the capacity for responsibility is not equal among individuals inviting us to work creatively with this challenge from a social justice perspective.

Zebra Collective, supports teams in the criminal justice system to draw on insights from neuroplasticity and Life History Theory to deliver interventions reinforcing It's not (y)our fault but it is (y)our responsibility. We support the capacity to A.C.T. rather than react. A.C.T stands for Accountability Compassion and Time. In contrast to approaches that hold compassion and accountability as exclusives; we maintain compassion alongside robust accountability, supporting people to move from reactive 'live fast' short term decisions to ACTive considered long term decisions.

## **'Keeping the faith'. The influence of faith on achieving long-term desistance goals.**

Sarah Plimley, Staffordshire University

The Transforming Rehabilitation reforms proposed some positive changes, with the potential to benefit people leaving prison. In practice it has shown signs of significant failure (Annison, 2019) which has presented many challenges to people leaving prison. The Government has failed to open the market to voluntary agencies, staff morale is at an all-time low and the 'Through the Gate' provision has merely become a signpost to external services (ibid).

The purpose of this research is to gain an extensive understanding of the resettlement challenges faced by people leaving prison once they have received their 'Through the Gate' review. Furthermore, the research seeks to understand the barriers to receiving support from the 3rd sector provisions that they have been referred to by prison resettlement staff. Qualitative data collection methods were used in the form of semi-structured interviews to capture the thoughts, feelings, and experiences of 30 participants, with lived experience of 'Through the Gate' and the resettlement process. Early findings indicate recurrent themes based around the inadequacy of the 'Through the Gate' process in terms of preventing recidivism, and the formation of pro-social identities through faith, as being indicative to a successful desistance journey.

This research highlights the importance of community support programs that include aspects of pro-social, self-awareness training. Along with the importance of faith in context to the individuals needs, such as faith in religion, faith in oneself or faith in a prosocial role model.

## **AI in prisons: use of machine learning to diagnose mental health conditions in prisoners**

Thais Portilho, University of Leicester

A scoping review of mental health in prisons following the Covid-19 pandemic by Johnson et al (2021) found that prisoners' mental health is likely to deeply suffer as a result of protective measures taken to decrease infection within prisons. This PhD project consists of research into the incidence and issues arising from undiagnosed mental health in prisons; and the potential use of a machine learning classifier to support prison mental health care teams to diagnose mental health conditions in prisoners. The central overarching question of this project is: "Can machine learning be used in the diagnosis of mental health conditions in prisoners?" This proposed system will be tested in two trials, in a student population and in prison, in an attempt to establish whether the use of this technology should be studied further.

## **Community resources and rehabilitation: Engaging the wider community in the support and reintegration of people on release from prison**

Laura Price, Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action, Angela Cristofoli, OCVA, Julian Hosking, HMPPS, Kevin Verner, HMPPS and Paul Reeve, HMP Bullingdon

Research supports the fact that - in addition to work and accommodation - good relationships and a sense of belonging are key factors in reducing the likelihood of reoffending. The issue for discussion is how best we can engage the good will and resources of the local community – in its widest sense - in offering relationship support to people when they are released from prison?

Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action is sponsoring a 2-year pilot in Bullingdon Prison which aims to connect people on release from prison with resources in the local community. Many groups have capability to offer relationship support and opportunities for the development interests, activities and learning, including: sports, arts, drama, music, outdoor activities, literacy, horticultural and environmental projects, faith groups, vocational learning and social clubs.

A full-time prison officer will work both in the prison and in the community to make connections and to support and educate keyworker prison officers about relevant support groups. Partnerships in the community will also have the potential to influence culture both inside and outside the prison: to educate and engage the local community about the prison environment and to encourage knowledge and skills sharing.

We hope this round table discussion will help us plan. We welcome challenges, comments, ideas, and thoughts about opportunities.

### **Communication-accessible custody suites: An environmental audit**

Keira Radice and Claire Westwood, Birmingham City University

When an arrested person is detained to a custody suite, it can be an unpredictable and stressful experience (Newburn and Hayman, 2013) requiring a high level of verbal competence to navigate.

Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) are much more prevalent in the offending population than in the general population (Talbot, 2010), with over 60% of young offenders having these issues. These difficulties can be with understanding what others say, explaining a series of events or struggling to manage social situations (Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT), 2019).

The Equality Act (2010) makes illegal the discrimination of disabled people accessing public services, including those with communication disabilities. Communication accessibility is especially important in situations where a person does not have control, such as being taken into custody (Fisher and Roccotagliata, 2017). If a person doesn't have fair access to a custody suite, this can have serious consequences in how they are processed through the criminal justice system.

With this in mind, the authors completed a communication accessibility audit of a local custody suite, via an adapted communication observation tool. This talk will outline the key findings of the audit, including existing good practice from officers and benefits of the current environment. This will be balanced with suggested reasonable adjustments custody suites can make to increase the communication accessibility for those who are detained.

## **'Tightness', autonomy and release: The anticipated pains of release from prison and life licencing**

Ailie Rennie, University of Cambridge

This paper will discuss a recent article published by Professor Ben Crewe and I. It explores how men serving mandatory life sentences in England and Wales anticipate life after release and the imposition of a life licence. It reports the various ways that lifers feared licencing as being exceedingly 'tight' and restrictive, sometimes resulting in them retreating from release altogether. At the same time, some participants reported a motivation to embrace the 'tightness' of their impending licence conditions, and use penal power as a means of structuring life on release. Whether they resisted or embraced penal intervention, all participants altered their aspirations to what seemed achievable upon release when subject to numerous conditions. Specifically, we argue that the anticipation of a particular mode of penal power has a material effect on lifers' approach to release. Further, the presentation will suggest some of the policy implications that may be drawn from this work, and further directions for study.

## **When prison security ends and the over-management of prison visitors begins: Understanding variation across four prisons in Ontario**

Katerina Richard, Carleton University, Ottawa and Phillip Goodman, University of Toronto

Recent high profile legal cases, such as the overturning of the half century old Roe v. Wade case in the US, reminds us how the law can erode people's control over their bodies. In addition to analysing (and fighting) these landmark historical moments in which rights are eviscerated, it is critical to investigate more subtle, but also problematic, ways in which institutions of social control police and govern incarcerated peoples and those who choose to interact with them. While there's much existing scholarship on the embodied and gendered governance of incarcerated people, in this project we examine the experiences of visitors, specifically students coming into prisons to participate in university courses. We compare and contrast the approach taken by staff and managers at four prisons and jails in Ontario, Canada. Data includes formal and informal 'dress codes'; policies and instructions given to university students about how they must interact with their incarcerated peers; and interviews with former student participants about these policies and their experiences before and during courses. Through this research, we thus centre the experiences of visitors to prisons as a window into better understanding the subtle (and sometimes not so subtle) ways in which prisons use the rhetoric of security and control as rationale for policing, governing, and controlling visitors and shaping their autonomy. We call for more research examining these practices of body regulation in this and other contexts in order to further understand how criminal justice institutions shape, and are shaped by, society.

## **No place for old men?**

Louise Ridley, Northumbria University

Recent years have witnessed a significant increase in numbers of older men imprisoned in England and Wales; a phenomenon experienced across the western world. Those aged fifty and over represent the fastest-growing demographic group in prison in England and Wales, now representing 17% of the prison population. This proposed paper will summarise explanations for and implications of this increase and the characteristics, needs and lived experiences of this population, before critically reflecting on current policy and practice responses; and how responses highlight definitional and policy ambiguities around older prisoners. The paper discusses a multi-agency initiative developed at one prison in northern England that recognised the uniqueness of older prisoners, modified regimes, and changed physical environments. Impact is benchmarked against Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons four tests of a healthy prison, followed by discussion of findings and implications for policy and practice. The paper argues for expanded collaboration to better manage challenges posed by older prisoners, supported by a national strategy. In addition, consideration will be given to how best to provide for this group of men, whilst also acknowledging the nature of the offending behaviour.

## **Reducing prison violence: Linking adverse childhood experiences to emotional literacy**

Ann Marie Rocheleau, Stonehill College, Massachusetts

Many researchers have examined the individual, prison, and situational factors associated with serious prison misbehavior and violence. Certainly, prisoners' personalities and pre-incarceration experiences (drug use, gang membership, trait emotions, etc.), as well as the conditions of confinement (dormitory living, violent prisons, boredom, etc.) and situational factors have an effect on whether they commit crimes in prison. However, there is not nearly sufficient research and discussion on how to possibly reduce prison violence. This presentation attempts to link research on the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) of California prisoners in solitary confinement with their opportunities to increase their emotional literacy. Adverse Childhood Experiences are those events or experiences of abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction that occur to children prior to age 18. These include psychological, physical, or sexual abuse; emotional or physical neglect; and having lived with family members with mental health problems, substance use disorder, domestic violence, criminal behavior, and parental separation or divorce. People with emotional literacy have the ability to perceive and understand their own emotions and can also explain them to others, all the while being able to control those emotions and react appropriately. Emotional literacy programs include program components that foster empathy, mindfulness, and self-regulation. This presentation examines the prevalence and nature of ACEs in prisoners residing in California Special Housing Units, which are akin to supermax facilities. It also presents these same prisoners' perceptions about their experience and the impact of participating in the Houses of Healing program – an emotional literacy initiative.

## **What would a diverse, digital crime history look like, and could it change people's minds about the criminal justice system today?**

Katy Roscoe, University of Liverpool

Genealogy was the second most popular use of the internet in 2013, and interest in genealogy has only grown during the COVID-19 pandemic (Barnwell 2013; Lubin 2021). Criminal ancestry, once a point of shame, is now a rich seam of genealogical detail and intrigue for family historians. In the UK alone at least 2 million people claim ancestry from transported convicts (Plowright 2020). This paper asks to what extent could the digital arena be used as a site of education to shape public perceptions of criminal justice today?

It challenges the field of digital crime history to centre more diverse narratives and position within the context of the over-representation in custody of Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) across the world, resulting (at least partly) from racialised policies brought in during British colonialism. Using historic case-studies, the speaker explores how digital penal heritage could be reimagined as a site for interrogating the intertwined histories of imperialism, racial injustice and xenophobia. Then asks, what would happen if these histories were more widely known outside of academia? It examines what opportunities innovative digital technologies offer to communicate these ideas to the wider public and sets out a potential 'digital pedagogy' for framing these interventions. The author's paper makes reference to the following case studies: Rottneest Island (Wadjmeup) Aboriginal Prison (Western Australia, 1839-1903), Cockatoo Island (Wareamah) Penal Establishment in New South Wales (1839-69), Bermuda Convict Establishment (182-1863) and Gibraltar Convict Establishment (1842-1875).

## **Sexual violence – Internet crimes**

Roni Rosenberg, Ono Academic College, Israel

In recent years the distribution of intimate images without the consent of the person depicted has become an epidemic around the world. Unfortunately, this phenomenon has expanded extensively during the Coronavirus pandemic. The non-consensual distribution of an intimate image has been named "revenge porn" and is typically gender-related, in view of the fact that the majority of victims are women. Today, the accessibility of the Internet, social media, and messaging apps has created convenient and easily accessible platforms for disseminating sexually explicit materials. Due to the unique characteristics of the virtual domain, the phenomenon of revenge porn has far-reaching implications for the victims: The harm suffered by the victims affects all aspects of their lives.

By 2021, almost all U.S. states had criminalized revenge porn. However the legislation is eclectic and sporadic. One of the principal reasons for this diversity, is the fact that revenge porn laws are perceived as violating the First Amendment right of freedom of speech. Therefore, many states have tried to limit its scope in order to minimize the potential violation of freedom of speech.

Contrary to the vast legislation in the U.S. and to the courts' decisions I will argue that revenge porn should be categorized as a sex offense and that this

reconceptualization has implications with regard to freedom of speech. In this framework I will also examine the main differences between the existing law in U.K. regarding revenge porn and the law in the U.S.

### **Mental health the key to unlocking the cycle of crime – urgency to reverse pattern of criminality**

Selina Sasse, The Prison Phoenix Trust and Steve Grix, Novus/HMPPS

With numerical evidence from the growing prison population alone that the current approach is failing vulnerable people, the time is right for cost effective, easily implementable measures to improve wellbeing as the component that underpins effective engagement in prison interventions, such as education, employability skills and therapeutic work.

#### **Collaborative working example**

The Prison Phoenix Trust, a charity supporting well-being and self-care in prison populations through yoga and meditation, has collaborated with prison educator, Novus - Foundations for Change, to address the root to learning. Recognising the need to be in the right mental state to be ready for learning and how this underpins a change in life trajectory.

#### **Lived experience**

The Prison Phoenix Trust is able to draw upon countless examples of how this approach has helped individuals to break the offending cycle. The voices of former prisoners are a powerful testament to first-hand experience that this approach works.

### **Reimagining justice through research and activism**

Marguerite Schinkel, University of Glasgow

This paper focuses on the ways in which academic researchers might go beyond mere critique of the criminal justice system and work towards alternatives. I will discuss a collaboration development project in Scotland, in which colleagues and I are working with local communities to start thinking about the role of place in criminalised people's moves away from harm rather than desistance. The talk will cover the opportunities and obstacles in developing these collaborations, and plans for a future systemic action research project that will map these places and make changes to the community in order to see how these are assisted and resisted. The second half of the talk will focus on activism by looking at the experience of being a part of the Coalition Against Punishment. It will examine the tension between pursuing immediate concerns, often the priority of those with lived experience of punishment, and more purist ambitions, like resisting prison building, abolition and transformative justice.



## **Child criminal exploitation and the quest for victim status: Reflections and challenges**

Julie Shaw, Liverpool John Moores University

The vulnerability of children to criminal exploitation has become apparent in recent years, both via the publicity surrounding various high profile court cases and the results of serious case reviews. Nevertheless, whilst official responses explicitly acknowledge the child as a victim of exploitation and abuse, for children whose actions and circumstances do not conform to 'ideal' victim expectations, the path to safeguarding and support can be tenuous, which stands as testament to the failings of a seemingly victim-oriented approach. The propensity to situate individuals in rigid categories of "victim" and "offender" continues and can result in children suffering not only because of their initial exploitation, but also because of the system's unwillingness to acknowledge their safeguarding needs. This paper will present the results of an ongoing research study that aims to unpick and confront some of the complexities and tensions surrounding the assignment of victim status by safeguarding and criminal justice professionals to criminally exploited children. In doing so, it aims to consider the individual, 'victim specific' factors, which may compromise the reactions of front-line professionals and perpetuate a culture of victim-blaming criminalisation, whilst also considering how professionals may be better informed about the dynamics of exploitation and the avenues currently available to them to safeguard victims. Finally, it aims to explore how current policy and practice may be improved.

## **Prisons, neoliberalism, stability: Resistance to reform**

Andrew Shepherd, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust

Prisons represent sites of pain and suffering within England and Wales. For prisoners themselves, this is represented through the burden of imprisonment. Professionals working in such environments may also suffer from narcissistic injury as the gap between their positive intention and actual impact widens. This situation was brought into contrast during the coronavirus pandemic as inequality between prisoners and the wider population were brought into focus.

That prisons are ripe for reform seems self-evident – the failure of many institutions and penal policy, for example with respect to the impact of short-term sentences on marginalised and disadvantaged communities. Yet, prisons are not reformed, and the question emerges as to why?

Prisons serve a series of functions within the criminal justice system (retribution, restriction, rehabilitation, restoration and potentially redemption). However, they also serve a function for wider society – representing powerful symbolic objects where their opacity to external scrutiny renders them particularly resonant for projective identification: For example, in the form of castratory anxiety around a powerful other, or in the capitalist denial of excess where incarceration serves as a corrective balance to the overwhelming fear of "missing out" that comes through the essential neoliberal introduction of inequality.

In this paper, drawing on group psychoanalytic and sociological theory, I will argue that prisons serve as an essential point of stabilisation in the neoliberal project. This stability inherently resists reform. I suggest that prison reform will only emerge as a consequence.

### **Prison is as strange as war, and as hard to describe to anyone who hasn't been there**

David Shipley, University of Hull

A soldier I met in prison said that incarceration is as strange as deployment, and as hard to describe to anyone who hasn't been there. The UK prison system is terrible. It damages and fails people who are already at their lowest. But even many who work in the justice system have no idea what prison is like. Without real understanding, reform will elude us. Current and former prisoners do understand. How can those of us with lived experience explain prison?

### **“Surviving not living”: The lived experiences of crime and gambling**

Lauren Smith, University of Lincoln

The Commission on Crime and Gambling Related Harms sought to understand the relationship between crime and gambling in England and Wales. Subsequently, The Howard League for Penal Reform supported a series of research projects to support a greater understanding. There is limited existing research into the lived experiences of crime and gambling and the current research was commissioned to focus on and amplify the voices of those affected by crime committed as a result of gambling.

The research comprised of 18 interviews with people who had committed crime as a result of gambling, and 4 interviews with family members. The findings highlighted the varied early experience of people who commit crime as a result of gambling; the impact of crime and gambling on health, finances, accommodation, relationships and employment; the lack of screening and support available to people throughout their journey through the criminal justice system; and implications for policy and practice within treatment and support providers, education, the gambling industry, and financial institutions. Recommendations were made across these areas. In addition, a number of avenues for future research were highlighted including a need for focused research involving women and ethnic minority communities. A summary of this research will be discussed.

### **Autism training for criminal justice professionals: Current reflections and implications for practice**

Lauren Smith and Lucy Bevington, University of Lincoln

Previous research has highlighted a need for training for professionals in order to provide effective support for autistic people in the criminal justice system. Training has been implemented in some areas of the CJS but there is limited research on the effectiveness of training and its application in practice. The current study used a

mixed methods design to explore the perceptions and suggestions for autism training amongst criminal justice professionals. Twenty-four participants completed an online questionnaire and 8 people completed a semi-structured interview. The presentation will present the statistical analysis and qualitative themes identified from the research. Themes include awareness and importance of training, current experiences of training, barriers to effective training, changes in practice following training. Recommendations for future training will also be highlighted.

### **Missing the signs? Challenges to and remedies for ineffective representation of neurodivergent criminal defendants**

Thomas Smith, University of the West of England (UWE)

Poor lawyering is arguably, at its core, a failure to be a good lawyer. One method of measuring 'good' lawyering is to assess how effectively lawyers discharge their professional ethical duties. Whilst such principles provide general guidance, their application in practice will necessarily vary depending on the particular client and their needs. 'Good' lawyers should be able to adapt to each client 'as they are' for such duties to have practical meaning. This paper seeks to explore this conceptualisation in the context of criminal defence lawyers who represent neurodivergent defendants – that is, individuals accused of criminal offences whose neurodevelopmental profile is atypical (for example, an autistic defendant). It will argue that defence lawyers must adapt to the particular needs of such clients, which can relate to communication and language, sensory processing, and learning and attention. Failure to do so effectively – in the context of direct engagement with clients and advocacy on their behalf – will mean that lawyers cannot effectively discharge their professional duties, and therefore cannot be said to be 'good' lawyers. The paper will review neurodivergence both as a general concept and in the context of criminal justice; examine general markers of 'good' lawyering; explore the challenges and implications for good lawyering when representing neurodivergent individuals; and will conclude by considering how these challenges might be addressed, through both improved understanding and awareness and proactive oversight.

### **Re-imagining youth justice systems: Lessons from the Covid-19 pandemic**

Hannah Smithson, Manchester Metropolitan University

During and after the Covid-19 pandemic, there will be societal implications for all children. However, for those in youth justice systems the impacts are likely to be particularly detrimental. It has intensified the inherent power dynamics between those children in conflict with the law and those professionals who make and execute the law. Working with over 40 children involved in the youth justice system and over 150 youth justice professionals, this paper presents the findings of a UKRI funded rapid Covid-19 response grant. The research demonstrates that some adaptations to service delivery and practice across the youth justice system worked better than others; children's mental health has deteriorated at a time when specialist services are not available; education has been disrupted; many of the risk factors associated with abuse and neglect have been exacerbated; partnership working has been impacted, and children's experiences of custody have been bleak. Children are likely

to be traumatised by their experiences of the pandemic and a serious and genuine commitment needs be made to support and encourage them to participate in the planning of post-pandemic youth justice service provision and delivery. The research highlights the importance of analysing and explaining the purpose of youth justice systems in a post-Covid 19 world and imagining the possibility for change.

### **Beyond framing: How respondent characteristics and experiences influence support for safe injection facilities in the United States**

Kelly Socia, University of Massachusetts

A recent policy proposal to assist with the opioid epidemic in the United States has been the use of safe injection facilities (SIFs). To date, relatively little is known about the sources of public support for this policy. To date in the United States, these facilities have only been officially authorized and opened in New York City. As more communities consider adopting SIFs in the future, understanding how members of the public may or may not support such proposals is vital for successful policymaking and planning.

This study is part of a larger national survey experiment that explored public support for SIFs both generally, and within the respondent's own neighborhood.

Respondents (N=1,200) from an online panel survey were randomly assigned to consider one of six unique message frameworks that varied: 1) the label of these facilities ('Safe injection facilities' vs. 'Overdose prevention sites'), 2) whether respondents considered only a definition of these facilities, or also considered information about their potential benefits, and 3) whether these benefits concerned either public health improvement or crime prevention. This study extends an earlier study on the influence of message framing by considering how respondent demographics and experiences with the opioid epidemic influence support for these facilities.

Results suggest that certain respondent characteristics can be particularly influential in determining individual-level support decisions even after controlling for the influence of message framing. Implications for policy and practice are discussed, with a particular emphasis on current policy proposals being considered in the United States.

### **Considering how context influences change in youth justice interventions: Intensive supervision and surveillance**

Charlie Sutton, Loughborough University

Dominant evaluation approaches, such as the 'What Works' approach, often fail to appreciate how contextual features influence the way interventions operate and are, therefore, premised on a limited understanding of causality. Realist synthesis offers a way ahead for a realistic, context-sensitive approach to intervention evaluation in youth justice, which we argue facilitates a more comprehensive consideration of evidence enabling policymakers and practitioners to understand not only what works, but who it works for, in what circumstances and why. In this paper we begin by outlining how youth justice responses and policies became heavily influenced by

reviews which prioritise Randomised Control Trial (RCT) research at the expense of research that could illustrate the effects of important contextual details. We then consider how a restricted focus on RCT research can limit a full understanding of intervention effectiveness because of the linear, individualised nature of causal explanations. Using the findings from our Realist Synthesis review of research on the intensive supervision and surveillance programme, we consider how youth justice policy and practice could be transformed through the use of alternative approaches to intervention evaluation.

### **Accelerated social ageing in penal settings**

Kirsty Teague, Nottingham Trent University

Since the 1990s there has been a growing interest in understanding the biological impacts of being a prisoner. This led to the 'accelerating ageing theory' which suggests that prisoners biologically age by up to 10 years faster than their comparative community population and experience a wide(r) range of health issues at a younger age compared to their community counterparts. However, the accelerated ageing theory is preoccupied with accelerated biological change and can be adapted to explain changes to connectedness and sociality resulting from having a (sexual) conviction. Penal settings are widely regarded to be preoccupied with risk. With this, those who are subject to supervision and those tasked with penal supervision often engage in risk-focused decision-making processes. This is particularly the case for men with a sexual conviction and those who work with them. This paper explores the implications risk-conscious decision making has for those navigating the world with a sexual conviction. In particular, the paper will focus on the complex feelings men with sexual convictions have to felt changes in their sociality and connectedness with others post-conviction. Whilst some individuals report finding safety in their own company or socialising with individuals older than themselves, others have found it to give a painful glimpse of a future of loneliness and isolation. The paper will therefore adapt the accelerated ageing theory to make sense of the above and conclude with recommendations for policy makers and practitioners on how to socially reintegrate men with sexual convictions upon their release from prison.

### **The Scandinavian prison project: Empirical observations on a changing prison climate**

Britte van Tiem, University of Pennsylvania and Jordan Hyatt, Drexel University, Philadelphia

Prison climate is widely understood to affect a range of in-prison and post-prison outcomes for incarcerated people. Prison reforms often aim to change outcomes for incarcerated people by improving selected aspects of the prison environment, but rarely measure how such reforms affect the experience of imprisonment. This paper draws on lessons from the Scandinavian Prison Project (SPP) and focuses on how being transferred to a Scandinavian-inspired living unit in one US prison impacts how incarcerated people perceive prison climate.

The SPP is an international collaboration between the correctional services in Pennsylvania (USA) and Scandinavia (primarily Norway and Sweden), which aims to test the transferability and adaptability of Scandinavian correctional practices to an American prison. After several professional exchanges, the SPP team developed a unique housing unit inspired by their experiences in Scandinavian facilities. Living conditions on this unit differ substantially from the regular conditions of confinement, including in structural design, resources, staff training, and unit policies governing a range of behaviors and activities.

To measure the impact of being transferred to the Little Scandinavia unit we use an adapted version of Leiden University's Prison Climate Questionnaire. Results provide preliminary insight into how perceptions of prison climate in the Little Scandinavia unit differ from other general population units at the prison. By shedding light on the short-term variation in perceptions of prison climate, findings inform our understanding of the impact of the carceral environment on the lived experiences of incarcerated people.

### **Psychologists instructed to staff support within the French police: Towards a change from the inside?**

Marguerite Trabut, University Paris-Saclay

Psychologists have been primarily integrated in the French police, in 1982, with the goal of reforming policing methods, through missions of training and recruitment of police officers. Since then, a growing number of psychologists employed by the police have been specifically dedicated to staff support. Yet it has been proven that police officers are reluctant to consult psychologists.

In this context, at what level and to what extent are the support psychologists intending and able, or not, to bring up changes in the French police, from within? I will answer this question based on a qualitative sociological study conducted within the French service of psychological support dedicated to police officers (interviews and ethnography with psychologists).

Ideally, police support psychologists would like to bring up new ways of engaging into situation, promoting reflexivity rather than quick reactions, and to induce among policemen the reassessment of some policing practices. Yet they tend to stick to police hierarchy's perceptions of situations and prescriptions. It is perceptible through the vocabulary they use, the issues they address, the temporality of their interventions, and the pressure they undergo to follow hierarchical demands to intervene in police services. Thus, their interventions run the risk to be used as ways of shifting police officers' status from author to victim and as proxies to hierarchical recognition.

## **Queer people in prison, stigma, and spoiled identities: Towards a queer penology?**

Aurore Vanliefde, KU Leuven, Belgium

This paper focuses on the implications of the increased attention for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and queer (LGBTIQ) people in prison studies for penal policy and penological theory. Goffman's concepts of 'stigma' and 'spoiled identities' will be used to frame the experiences of queer people in prison and to focus on the relation between the criminal justice system and this heterogeneous group of vulnerable people in prison. By linking 'stigma' and insights from queer criminology together, this presentation will highlight key issues in current penal policies and penological theory regarding queer people. The paper concludes by setting out three building blocks for queer penology: researching the experiences of queer people ('queer' as a category of vulnerable prisoners), assessing the institution of the prison through a queer lens, and critically assessing or 'queering' penological knowledge.

## **From social harms to socio-technical harms: Broadening zemiologist insights with a technological focus to explore the impact of algorithmic police surveillance on criminal justice practices and social justice**

Rosamunde Van Brakel and Lander Govaerts, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

The police are increasingly investing in socio-technical systems that deploy algorithms to try and predict crimes before they happen. However, there is an increasing amount of international evidence that these technologies do not work to prevent crime. The data and algorithms used are riddled with manipulation, error and bias, they are implemented without necessary legal and ethical safeguards, and they are having a negative impact on vulnerable communities and social justice. Regardless of this evidence, enthusiasm of police and policy makers for implementing algorithmic surveillance is not fading. Discussions about the deployment of such technologies in the criminal justice system and the potential socio-technical harms as a result have, up till now, not received sufficient attention in criminology. Discussions about harms of algorithms, outside of criminology, have tended to focus on technological and legal harms. Otherwise, zemiology offers another interesting starting point for moving beyond these debates by focusing on social harms. However, in this paper we will argue that this model does not pay enough attention to grasp the technological aspects of surveillance harms. Drawing on Deleuze & Guattari, surveillance studies, science and technology studies, the main aim of this paper is to expand zemiologist insights with a technological focus, and so to broaden the concept of 'social harms' to 'socio-technical harms'. By doing this, we aim to open up the discussion and contribute to a new direction of criminological scholarship, which focuses on exploring the impact of new socio-technical systems on criminal justice practices and social justice.

## **Never waste a good (police) crisis – the Belgian version**

Sarah Van Praet, Universite Libre Bruxelles

This paper proposes an analytic narrative of the genesis of an ongoing action research. The action research, financed by a police force, focuses on proposing an operational dispositive that aims to improve in some way the relations between police officers and young people in a large city, based on a diagnostic of the situation through analyses of discourse of young people, police officers, youth workers and municipal prevention workers.

The starting point for this research is the acceptance by the police council of a problematic relationship between themselves and young people. In the context of several high-profile incidents such as the death of little Mawda, shot by police officers (2018); the brutal treatment of M. Chovanec followed by his death (2018); or the death by a police car of Mehdi Bouda (2019), it was “simple” arrests during the Covid crisis that “helped” the authorities to change its outlook. The problematic relationship between diverse city youth and police is not new, nor a Belgian exclusivity. Exploring a culture shift around police violence targeted at ‘delinquent’ groups gives us an idea of how violence against people is regarded differently in relation to their social position.

## **Disenfranchised grief among the disenfranchised: A socioecological intersectional model of the loss, trauma and bereavement experiences of young men in prison**

Nina Vaswani, University of Strathclyde

This paper will present the main findings from the author’s PhD by Publication about the loss, bereavement and trauma experiences of boys and young men in prison. The thesis draws upon five previously published papers, and identifies the cohering themes as multiple and persistent experiences of loss and disenfranchisement, driven by prison masculinities, gender norms, shame, stigma and marginalised identities. These additional drivers of disenfranchised grief were located across multiple systems, such as family, institutions and public policy, including the loss, harm and marginalisation caused directly by the justice system itself. These experiences have added salience when considering location in time and place, with participants embarking on the key developmental stage of adolescence and young adulthood in the restricted environment of a prison.

Thus it became apparent that a more contextual understanding of disenfranchised grief was needed to account for the intensity of the young men’s experiences. Drawing from both Intersectional Theory and the Socioecological Model to depict the multiple and systemic drivers of disenfranchised grief, the author presents a unique socioecological intersectional model of disenfranchised grief in prison, that incorporates who is being disenfranchised, where this is happening, how, why and by whom. In this way the thesis confirms and extends the concept of disenfranchised grief, as well as provides insights into the challenges and locations for responding to disenfranchised grief for young men in prison.



## **Refugees, migrants and sites of apartheid urbanism**

Ayesha Wahid, University of Michigan

The Aryan Invasion of the Indian subcontinent, was a colonial project. It created a caste system that was reproduced in South Africa, through another colonial undertaking, namely the British colonization of South Africa, and manifested itself into what the world came to know as Apartheid. While the world celebrated the dismantling of Apartheid in South Africa in the early nineties, interestingly, around the same time, India adopted a policy of economic liberalization and Political Aryanism; marking the reopening of a chapter in an interwoven narrative of colonization and Apartheid.

This paper will describe the institution of Juhapura in Ahmedabad as a tale of disenfranchisement scripted by Oppressive Power and will draw parallels between the Indian Caste System and that of the apartheid system in South Africa. It will examine the response to riots and related legislative tools, such as the Disturbed Areas Act, that helped institute Sites of Apartheid Urbanism such as Juhapura, a measure that I call as premeditated ghettoization.

This paper will emphasize the need to distinguish between de facto residential separateness and sites of apartheid urbanism as a step toward safeguarding the needs of the vulnerable communities that reside in these sites.

Post World War II, distinction was made between refugee and migrant, with emphasis that refugees and migrants should not be conflated. Where refugees are seen as little more than a sub-group of irregular migrants, their protection needs might be overlooked.

Similarly, if Sites of Apartheid Urbanism (SAUs) are not distinguished from generalized residential separateness; the protection needs of the vulnerable communities will be overlooked just as was in the case when refugees were conflated with migrants.

## **Reframing carceral trust: A principle, a policy, and a 'polyfilla'?**

Sarah Waite, Leeds Trinity University

Penological analysis has created a body of work that identifies the importance of trust. However, questions remain regarding the qualitative meanings of trust for those within carceral institutions. Argued to be of fundamental importance to the quality of our social world, current analyses of trust uphold its virtues within the carceral institution, identifying its importance to the prison social climate and tertiary desistance (Liebling assisted by Arnold, 2004; Ugelvik, 2021). Whilst trust is important to people in prison, concepts focus on trust as rational, individualised, and goal-orientated. This can overlook meanings of trust in unequal and involuntary interactions and discounts questions of the achievability of trust in these complex institutions.

This paper unpacks notions of trust by centring analysis on the experiences of women incarcerated and staff working at an English open prison. Using the concept

of carceral trust, the paper argues that attention needs to be paid to the power of the institution to create and frame meanings of trust through defining, monopolising and objectifying the concept. In particular, this paper argues that within a prison, trust exists interchangeably through tangled meanings of principle and policy. Moreover, trust can exist and operate as a 'polyfilla', concealing cracks in carceral policy rhetoric that serves to categorise humans as 'other' and 'fix' with "responsibilising" discourse. Arguing for the reframing of carceral trust, this paper posits that through humanising processes of reconnection, alongside disconnection from explicit symbols of the institution, trust can operate ethically and as an authentic principle.

### **Blue lights and black boxes: Do computational criminal justice technologies including predictive policing proffer predominantly utopian or dystopian prospects?**

Phillip Wane, Nottingham Trent University

Algorithms and Artificial Intelligence (AI) are among the technologies that potentially offer policy makers a digital panacea. Or do they? Just as those who caution against lethal autonomous military technologies want to keep "the human in the loop" when it comes to decision making, should we also strive to keep the human in the loop of judicial decision making? Life altering decisions are an inevitable outcome of the process of justice, but should such decisions ever be delegated to operationally opaque (Black Box) technologies? From predicting crime patterns and the use of datasets to shape sentencing in courts, to the deployment of robots for policing, a spectrum of technologies is already entrenched in policing and legal systems. Once the preserve of science fiction these are now tangible, deployable, digital technologies, and how we use them in the context of criminal justice systems deserves to be debated. Is it time to arrest the deployment of potent but problematic policing technologies before they themselves predicate potentially fallacious arrests? This paper will present some key concepts and consider how technology is already reframing and reimagining core conceptions of criminal justice.

### **Criminal justice liaison and diversion schemes: A discursive analysis of collaborative practice in the police custody suite**

Jo Wells, Bournemouth University

The national roll-out of Criminal Justice Liaison and Diversion Schemes (CJLDS), a recommendation of Lord Bradley's 2009 Review, was completed in 2021. Little is known about how these health-police partnerships operate, and how organisational culture might affect CJLDS practice objectives to divert people who are made or considered to be 'vulnerable' (however that is understood), out of the criminal system and into services. This qualitative research explores collaboration between health and criminal justice agencies, taking place within police custody suites, and offers insights into how interprofessional cultures operate in practice.

Collaborative practice in a partnership between an English county police service and a National Health Trust CJLDS team was observed in custody suites. Twenty police and CJLD practitioners were interviewed. Key themes were identified, and a Foucauldian discourse analysis was used to describe a partnership dispositif. The

qualitative findings were supported by descriptive statistics of secondary quantitative data.

The research found that shared perceptions of vulnerability, understood as an objective assessment of risk, orientate action, practitioner positioning, and practices in the custody suite. Police custody culture alternates between the discourses of a 'carousel of repeat customers' and custody as a place of threat for 'risky' detainees. Practices are orientated by discourse, as CJLD practitioners are positioned to verify and mitigate risk, making detainees constructed as 'risky' the object of shared practice. This practice culture has implications for criminal justice and health service commissioning, as well as having an impact on the stated aims and outcomes of liaison and diversion policy.

### **The court experience: A view from the dock**

Sue Wheatcroft, Independent

Writing as an academic with lived experience of mental health and the criminal justice system I will present a unique view of the court process and its shortcomings. A defendant's experience of court depends on many things, including mental health, past experiences, and cognitive ability. I will address these, and other relevant issues, using my own story, and that of others. I will demonstrate the fears, confusion and other feelings people go through leading up to, and during, a court appearance. In doing this, I will include the part played by others involved in the court process, including judges, barristers, probation, and the police. I will highlight how multiple disadvantages, and a court system that often puts risk aversion above common sense and understanding, can lead to injustice and, often, to an unexpected prison sentence. I will then suggest potential solutions towards a re-imagining of the criminal justice system. These will come from issues raised in this presentation. Due to time constraints and personal knowledge, I will discuss only women, although many aspects will also apply to male defendants. Finally, I will mention some of the organisations that have the will and the capacity to include these issues in their work towards prison reform, so that the negatives that exist are replaced with common sense, awareness, and compassion. The distinctive nature of this presentation is its insight into the criminal justice system, by those who have been at the sharp end of its shortcomings.

### **Restorative justice ethics anew**

Amanda Wilson, Warwick Law School

Restorative justice is often heralded as a radically different approach to conventional criminal justice. In particular, it claims to provide an alternative to the retributivist 'penal equation'—that punishment is the sum of crime and responsibility. Yet despite its longstanding presence in the criminal justice arena, restorative justice has failed to challenge, let alone, break that equation. I argue that one of the reasons it has been unable to do either is because of a failure to develop an ethically robust independent ethics. Its ethics have instead been shaped in law's shadow. The upshot is a legal conception of restorative justice that comes with an impenetrable impasse. This paper pursues a different conceptualisation of restorative justice—

what I call ‘reconciliatory restorative justice’—that can be contrasted to legal restorative justice. The former—a sui generis conception, grounded in moral psychology and metaphysics—provides a challenge to retributivist ethics, and with it, the hope of breaking the penal equation.

### **Drug addiction treatment and rehabilitation in Hong Kong: A comparison between a mandatory prison treatment model and a voluntary Christian rehabilitation model**

T Wing Lo, City University of Hong Kong

Drug addiction treatment services in Hong Kong are run by both the government and NGOs on a compulsory (DATC) and voluntary (NGO) basis. Under the Drug Addiction Treatment Centres (DATC) Ordinance, drug users who have been convicted of an offence must undergo compulsory drug treatment at a DATC. The treatment period lasts from two to twelve months, depending on the progress and improvement of individual offenders. The treatment centres detoxify and restore inmates’ physical health. A variety of therapeutic and treatment programmes, including work therapy, personal counselling, outdoor physical activities and discipline training, are provided to wean inmates from drug dependence. Inmates attend a relapse prevention programme to psychologically prepare them for their release. Upon release, supervisees receive one year of aftercare supervision. Despite such treatment efforts, the relapse rate of DATC is high. In recent years, Christian drug treatment run by Christian NGOs has become popular in Hong Kong. Using both religious and spiritual treatment methods, and supported by ex-drug-addict peer-counsellors, the Christian model was commented as having achieved a better effect in relapse prevention. This presentation will compare the two models and highlight their successful treatment factors.

### **Reflections on remorse jurisprudence in India: Studying judicial forays into an emotional space**

Anandita Yadav and Satinder Kaur, Government of India and Maharashtra National Law University

An opportunity for expression of remorse promotes a singular chance for redemption for the accused while at the same time, paving the way for forgiveness by the victim. More importantly, it is a furthering of rehabilitation and reduced chances of recidivism on part of the accused. This due recognition to remorse during the process of trial fulfils the aim of any modern day criminal justice system, aiding reform of the guilty as well as reduced chances of recidivism. Today, the role of remorse expressed by the accused has become a fully-fledged “legal construct”, playing an undeniable role at the stage of sentencing by the criminal courts.

Recently, the Supreme Court of India has pronounced decisions that have accorded ‘remorse displayed on part of the accused’ the status of an aggravating factor, amongst other circumstances present, befitting even an award of the death penalty. This research paper examines such cases from the last decade, tracing the decisions wherein the role of remorse in the adjudication of the criminal’s guilt has travelled from a ‘relevant consideration’ at the stage of sentencing to a ‘mitigating

factor' and now being counted as an 'aggravating factor'. In doing so, we attempt to answer some pertinent questions: Can the remorseful conduct outweigh the aggravating circumstance of the nature of the crime, motive and pre-planned execution of the crime? May we move beyond using 'remorse' as a convenient parlay of the defendant lawyer for a reduced sentence towards re-imagining remorse as building block for a restorative justice system?

### **Justice in the streets: Responding to public homelessness and public protest**

Alison Young, University of Melbourne

This paper engages with the question of whether, in respect of public order, social justice is also a matter of spatial justice. It considers two case studies: first, the criminalised activities associated with public homelessness, and second, the increasingly narrow parameters for permitted public protest. Their occurrence in public space presents challenges to mainstream conceptions of the authorised use of such places, resulting in a wide range of criminal justice responses. In this paper, I shall consider ways of thinking criminologically about the public places used by protesters and by people without housing. These include developing an analysis of the sensory challenges they present to those using or moving through a location, drawing on new work within sensory criminology, and ideas within spatial criminology about the affordances for illicit adaptive use by people experiencing protest and by people engaging in protest in public places.

## ii) Whole panels

### **Parole boards and conditional release: International perspectives**

Harry Anison, University of Southampton, Jasmina Arnez, Oxford University, Mojca Plesničar, University of Ljubljana, Saori Toda, University of Nottingham, Katherine McLachlan, Flinders University and Thomas Guiney, University of Nottingham

The importance of ‘back-door sentencing’ – decision making around the conditional release of prisoners, often featuring a central role for parole boards – is increasingly recognised but there remains considerable scope for its scholarly investigation in specific contexts. This panel facilitates consideration of the role and practice of conditional release/parole in a number of nation states. This in turn invites comparative debate, considering what provisional lessons – or further questions – might emerge from these different perspectives.

#### **1. The legal framework and practices of conditional release in Slovenia: Parole, parole boards, and institutional dynamics**

Jasmina Arnez, Oxford University and Dr Mojca Plesničar, University of Ljubljana

Slovenia's imprisonment rates are among the lowest in Europe and the system has consistently stood out, encouraging the term “Slovenian exceptionalism” to parallel it with the Nordic systems. However, when it comes to back-door sentencing, little is known about the practices of parole on the ground. Formally called conditional release, the aims of parole in Slovenia have been challenged by the increased overcrowding in prisons over the last few decades. On the contrary, the legal framework of parole has hardly changed since the 1950s despite academic critique of its substantive and procedural elements. In this paper, we draw on desk analysis of legislation, statistical data on parole, results of a survey with staff in prisons and the probation service, as well as in-depth interviews with members of the parole board (judges, prosecutors, and civil servants at the Ministry of Justice), to critically review the legal framework and practices of parole in Slovenia. We argue that institutional dynamics between the parole board and prison staff, substantive and procedural aspects of legislation regulating parole, and practical problems that arise during parole hearings all impact the decision-making around parole. Based on the findings, we suggest how the parole system in Slovenia could become fairer, more efficient, and focused on rehabilitation.

#### **2. Parole and public concern in Japan**

Saori Toda, University of Nottingham

Recent years have witnessed the rise of ‘parole populism’ in certain English-speaking jurisdictions where parole is highly politicised through engaging community values and victims’ voices over prisoners’ rights and their rehabilitation and reintegration. Although the recent parole development in Japan bears certain similarities to these situations, it does not snugly fit the ‘parole populism’ model. While the parole practice for life and long-term sentence prisoners reveals the punitive and risk-averse orientation, parole is less politicised and generally promoted by the current government in Japan. This paper will explore the relationship between parole and public concern in the complex picture of the current Japanese parole

situation. In this paper, 'the public sentiments' acceptability of release', one of the parole criteria in Japan, will be under scrutiny. By delving into how it has gained importance, this paper will examine its historical and current functions. The practice of the Regional Parole Board (RPB) will also be investigated to shed light on the problems regarding considerations of public concern and public sentiments in parole decision-making. This paper will finally conclude by mapping the Japanese circumstances into the broader global context of parole populism and reflecting on what can be done to avoid being vulnerable to excessive public demand for harsh penalties and incapacitation.

### **3. Parole in South Australia: Drawing from seven years' experience as the victim representative on the Board.**

Katherine McLachlan, Flinders University

Drawing from experience as the victim representative on the South Australian Parole Board, Katherine will provide some key points of interest regarding parole in South Australia which are relevant to the current reforms of the parole system of England and Wales. Some of these are based on evidence-informed practice, some are in response to the rights of participants, and some reflect universal challenges of availability of resources, both within custody and the community. She will discuss the impact of executive oversight and punitive populism. Finally, she will touch on the role of victims of crime in parole board decisions.

### **4. Populism, Conservatism and the Politics of Parole in England and Wales**

Harry Annison, University of Southampton and Thomas Guiney, University of Nottingham

Reform of the parole system has emerged as the cause célèbre of a resurgent law and order politics. This is seen in England and Wales, against a backdrop of reform proposals in the United States of America, Australia and elsewhere. Successive governments have seized upon the symbolic power of parole to demonstrate 'toughness' with respect to violent and sexual offending, to express solidarity with the victims of crime and reaffirm a populist credo that, they argue, stands in opposition to an unaccountable and out of touch penal elite. This paper reflects on the English Ministry of Justice's Root and Branch Review of the Parole System, published in March 2022. I explore how its proposals represent a continuation of this well-rehearsed political strategy, but arguably goes further than ever before in its willingness to dispense with established constitutional conventions. In this paper I reflect upon what these developments reveal about the shifting contours of a new authoritarian conservatism. Further, I argue that a focus on good governance and public safety allows us to sharpen our critique of such proposed reforms.

## **Origins and contexts of crime, justice and reform: historical perspectives on policing and imprisonment**

Richard Bell, Oxford University, Jonah Miller, Kings College, Cambridge, Eleanor Bland, Oxford Brookes University, and Kiran Mehta, Worcester College, Oxford

By focussing on foundation myths, origin stories, penal experimentations and linguistic justifications, these papers seek to reveal the contingent and contested nature of modern forms of policing, punishment and state control. They consider the uses to which history has been put in legitimating these institutions, as well as the historical origins of controversial practices and discourses that are increasingly contested and yet seemingly intractable in the present day. Thus, they place these institutions and ideologies in historical perspective, seeking to destabilise narratives of their inevitable development or self-evident nature. In doing so, these papers will reflect on how we might reimagine these institutions, and the challenges (and perhaps opportunities) that this accrued historical and cultural baggage poses to attempts to reshape criminal justice.

### **1. Origin stories and police reform**

Jonah Miller, Kings College, Cambridge

Ideas of police reform are shaped by stories about the origins of British policing. Different foundation myths promote different ways of thinking about policing and how it might change. Standard accounts of Robert Peel's creation of the Metropolitan Police in 1829 emphasise organisational innovation and support organisational solutions to current problems: more oversight structures, new training regimes, changes in recruitment. More critical approaches to policing often go back further, beginning with the creation of the colonial paramilitary Royal Irish Constabulary in the 1780s. Advocates of some forms of community policing start the story even earlier, concentrating on amateur parish constables or the collective pursuit of suspects by hue and cry. Others refer to ancient practices of self-government among northern European tribes. Each story combines elements of truth and distortion to serve a particular political agenda. This paper reviews the most widespread origin stories and their connections to different models of reform, then suggests some new historical starting points for alternative ways of thinking about policing.

### **2. Policing suspicion in historical context and its contemporary implications**

Eleanor Bland, Oxford Brookes University

This paper proceeds from an analysis of the language used by police officers to explain their reasons for making arrests based on suspicion in nineteenth-century London. I will highlight the language used to describe 'proactive' policing practices and the behaviour of those viewed as suspicious in court records, such as the Old Bailey Proceedings and police court reports in newspapers. Police officers, for example, described suspects as 'lurking' or 'loitering' on the streets of the metropolis, and this language implied to judges, juries and magistrates that these individuals were associated with criminal activity. However, the wider significance and context of this terminology has not previously been examined in detail. Connecting this with wider scholarship on language and the exercise of police power, this paper will situate terms such as 'lurking' and 'loitering' within a wider framework of state control



in nineteenth-century Britain. It will reveal the deep historical roots of policing based on suspicion and the police targeting of marginalised communities. By highlighting on the clear continuities in policing practices across historical time, it will reflect on the inherent challenges of reform to problematic police targeting practices in contemporary Britain and beyond.

### **3. The (contested) origins of carceral ideology**

Richard Bell, Oxford University

As a consequence of rapid economic growth, demographic upheaval and social stratification, the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries witnessed a remarkable expansion of incarceration, particularly for debt. Between 1560 and 1650, London's central prisons experienced roughly a thirty-fold population growth, mirrored in local gaols. In this increasingly carceral society, the threat of imprisonment permuted and disciplined social relations, becoming central to notions of how those relations should be policed. These developments solidified new discourses of imprisonment that legitimised it as a vital tool in maintaining social order through coercion, punishment and rehabilitation. While the later reformation of prisons into the principal mode of criminal punishment marked a radical break from the past, it nonetheless drew upon these early modern developments in carceral theory. Yet these ideological innovations also had critics—not least among prisoners—who criticised this growing reliance on incarceration, highlighted the discrepancies between its ideologies and its outcomes and issued calls for more just ways of managing social conflicts. Thus, this paper explores what the sudden expansion in prison populations meant for developing ideologies of imprisonment in a period before mass criminal incarceration, and the ways in which contemporaries responded to, accepted or challenged this new logic.

### **4. Origins of prison labour**

Kiran Mehta, Worcester College, Oxford

This paper looks at early experimentations with prison labour. It details how English authorities in the sixteenth century came to view institutionalised labour as an appropriate punishment for poverty and petty crime and later, over the course of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, for serious crime. Most studies of English imprisonment conclude that, after an initial heyday in the sixteenth century when local authorities enthusiastically introduced labour systems into their prisons, and before the mid-nineteenth century when authorities embraced forms of arduous and unproductive labour, inmates in prisons did little to no work. Certainly, evidence of prison labour survives only sporadically before the nineteenth century. Nonetheless, this paper argues that prison labour largely defined the experience of convicts confined in prisons across the early modern period. Focusing especially on prisons in London, Middlesex and Surrey, this paper will show that not only did local authorities consistently prioritise putting prison inmates to work, but also, that convict prisoners in general could be found working. This paper will trace the range of industries established in prisons between the sixteenth and early nineteenth centuries and highlight the challenges that authorities faced in setting prisoners to work. Finally, it will note the renewed interest in prison work schemes in the late eighteenth century, contextualising such interest within the broader soul-searching

following the loss of the American colonies and the revival of the reformation of manner movement.

### **An introduction to ReSeT (Relational Skills Training)**

Charlotte Calkin, Jacob Dunne, Lucy Willmott, Jane Dring and Vicky Pails, ReSet

The panel is to discuss the paper and the first 18 months of the ReSeT (Relational Skills Training) Course in prisons in the UK (obstacles and benefits) and next steps.

ReSeT is available to everyone in jail, including officers, it is a 6-week relational skills course; addressing basic communication skills to improve everyday life in prison and build critical relationships through meaningful positive dialogue. It is delivered through film and other mediums and is designed to be accessible to all.

The methods used include Restorative Practice, Transactional Analysis, Non Violent Communication and others.

### **A roadmap to decarceration in a system defined by perverse incentives**

LB Eisen, Ram Subramanian, Joanna Weiss and Vincent Schiraldi, Brennan Centre, New York University Law School

Many Americans now recognize that mass incarceration is an urgent societal problem but are unaware of the deep financial stakes that the government itself has perpetuating America's dubious distinction as the world's number one incarcerator. Localities, states and the federal government have long held economic and financial incentives, both at an agency and individual level, tied to keeping more people imprisoned and have escalated enforcement practices to keep the funds flowing.

Bipartisan efforts to rein in the criminal justice system in the United States have gained momentum around the country. Yet the impact of these efforts has been relatively modest. While the nation's imprisoned population has declined since peaking in 2009, incarceration levels remain extraordinarily high. Nearly 1.2 million people are in state and federal prisons, and local jails churn through 10.3 admissions every year. Mass incarceration — a term now entrenched in the popular lexicon — is proving remarkably resistant to well-intentioned reforms.

This panel will be a discussion on how some of these incentives work and the approach that Congress, state legislatures, local governments, and law enforcement agencies will need to take to begin to untangle the ties between government funding and mass incarceration. The conversation may touch on fines and fees, the jail bed market and police performance metrics.

## **Experiences and perceptions of the police by young people from over-represented ethnicities in the justice system**

Hannah Hammond, University of Birmingham, Justin Coleman, Alliance of Sport, PC Ali Hunt, Derbyshire Police, Reahana Gordon and Daveral Gordon, Fight 4 Change

The Levelling the Playing Field project (LtPF; [www.levellingtheplayingfield.org](http://www.levellingtheplayingfield.org)) was launched by the Alliance of Sport for the Desistance of Crime in response to racial inequalities with regards to young people involved with the justice system as highlighted by the Lammy Review in 2017, and data from Sport England which consistently identifies that young people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups are less likely to participate in sport (Sport England; 2021).

By engaging forty community sports clubs across England and Wales the LtPF project is exploring how sport can be used to promote desistance from crime. The project recognises that young people's perceptions of the police can be a barrier to them developing strong social bonds and social capital, and that community sports clubs can play a role in shaping these perceptions.

Dr Baumer from the University of Birmingham is leading the evaluation of the three-year long LtPF pilot project (with Prof Joan Duda as Principle Investigator), which is due to conclude in July 2023. As part of this evaluation the experiences of, and attitudes towards, the police held by young people aged 10-18 years from diverse ethnicities engaged in community sport across England and Wales are being explored.

Young people will attend focus groups to discuss findings from questionnaires completed by their peers on experiences with the police. A selection of young volunteers from these focus groups will collate responses and use these to represent young people engaged in community sport in the round table discussions.

Joining our young people will be representatives from the police in the West Midlands, the project team at LtPF, and the UoB research team.

## **Doing criminological activism: Collaborative research principles in motion**

Will Jackson, Will McGowan and Emma Murray, Liverpool John Moores University

### **1. Principles of Criminological Activism**

Will McGowan

Over the past few years, the researchers on this panel have engaged in an approach to collaborative research they term 'Criminological Activism' (CA). This approach has underpinned a number of distinct and quite diverse empirical projects but has simultaneously evolved during this period into a set of unifying principles. It is our contention that research principles, including theories underpinning collaboration, ethics, and the dissemination of findings, are put to the test only in practice. However, with the benefit of reflexive hindsight, the purpose of this opening paper is to provide something of a research manifesto that adequately captures the broad essence of what we collectively refer to as CA. The paper begins by providing some brief context on how and why criminology and art make for interesting

epistemological bedfellows. It then categorises the key research principles of our approach into three areas: what CA can be used to study; how CA studies such phenomena; and, finally, what CA does with this programme of study – in other words, how are research objects themselves co-created, what exactly do ‘findings’ look like for CA, and how are these findings disseminated in practice. Two principles of particular importance here are, firstly, the desire to make direct interventions into social policy and social justice controversies and, secondly, that the ‘outputs’ of CA and their values are always in motion as living, breathing, practiced exhibitions and objects. Having set out the principles of CA, the remaining papers on our panel will then detail two distinct examples of this approach to collaborative research.

## **2. Playing the Game - Serious Games and Criminological Activism**

Will Jackson

This paper reflects on a strand of work conducted by the researchers on the panel that has considered the value of ‘serious games’ to the development of Criminological Activism. Drawing upon a series of case studies conducted since 2017, the paper outlines how the principles of CA have been devised, in part, through the production and dissemination of games that examine criminal justice and social policy issues. The practice of using games for political and pedagogic purposes is not new and such games have been developed in recent years by researchers and campaigners seeking to educate and inform audiences on a diverse range of issues from climate change policy to Alzheimer’s care provision. Working in collaboration with the Howard League, we have developed a series of games that use the notion of play to develop an outward facing research base that sits at the centre of a unique dialogue between the cultural, educational and campaigning sectors. By exploring the potential of Socially Engaged Art for criminological inquiry and penal reform campaigning, we have brought artists, academics and campaigners together with participants with lived experience to explore a range of criminal justice and social policy issues. This collaborative and interdisciplinary body of work seeks to reveal new and progressive ways of understanding criminologically significant phenomena through the medium of ‘play’ and develop new means of sharing it with audiences beyond the academy. This paper reflects on the challenges and benefits of the production and dissemination of serious games as a form of collaborative and interdisciplinary criminological research.

## **3. Criminology in Residence - Doing Criminology in an Arts Organisation**

Emma Murray

This paper shares some of the critical learnings and opportunities for doing criminology within an arts organisation gained while serving as Criminologist in Residence at FACT, Liverpool (2019-2024). Taking the form of an artist residency, this embedded research approach aligns critical criminological research practice with an art and research programme, Resolution - where artists make artworks together with participants who have experiences of the justice sector. Participants draw on their own expertise to produce artworks working with digital technologies. Through the ways in which artists and participants collaborate in these projects, the residency helps cross-sector research communities to design, deliver, and disseminate knowledge and ideas about the artworks produced. Designed to stimulate knowledge

exchange beyond the prison and the arts; policy makers, activists and researchers are invited to consider new ways of researching communities and disseminating knowledge. In this paper, it will be suggested that to 'do' criminology in an arts organisation is to harness the liminal spaces which production occupies and how theoretical, artistic, and research discourses document and shape the materiality and meaning of creative work. Specifically, the paper will focus upon the potential of artworks as visual and sensual data to influence policy, practice, and knowledge. The paper concludes with evidence to suggest that the artworks created through participatory designs have a long-life outside of art workshops if understood and shared as personal platforms with political currency.

### **The ministry of restorative justice – a new paradigm for justice? Restorative justice as a means of creating non-violent social relationships and community**

Lucy Jaffe, Why Me?, Why Me? Ambassador, Kat Aukett, Gloucestershire Youth Offending Team, Esther Wanije, Belong, Dave Walker, CALM, and Nina Champion, Criminal Justice Alliance

This panel will engage the audience on restorative approaches, where they fit in the current justice system, challenges in embedding RJ in a binary system (victim and offender), a vision of a radically new (restorative) justice which connects individuals with communities.

1. **Framing Restorative Justice and its place in the justice system** – where is it working – where are the gaps - where is the potential. Strategic planning and national leadership. Why me? Director Lucy Jaffé.
2. **RJ - not a zero sum game** – Why me? Ambassador with lived experience of RJ to speak about their experience and views on wider application.
3. **Children First – using RJ to divert children from the Criminal Justice System** – the successes and difficulties of implementation. Gloucestershire Youth Offending Team Operations Director Kat Aukett
4. **Restorative approaches to addressing conflict in prisons and probation** – making restorative practice part of everyday life. Belong Director Esther Wanije
5. **Restorative communities** - Equipping communities to address neighbourhood disputes, avoid escalation, address diverse needs and accommodate. CALM Director of Mediation, Dave Walker
6. **Systemic change** – Challenges of making the entire CJS restorative, how to start, building on success and areas for development – Nina Champion, Criminal Justice Alliance

### **Sex workers – marginalised and abused by clients, police and justice systems**

Bev Orton, University of Hull, Ryan Reed, Humberside Police, Jacqui Fairbanks, Humberside Police, Alexander Ornella, University of Hull, and Kay Brady, University of Hull

This panel will discuss the trauma and violence suffered by sex workers in the UK from clients, police and justice system. Discussions will centre on the theme of crime, justice and the human condition. Both theoretical and practice-based

contributions will be included whilst addressing the broad theme of crime, justice and the human condition. Sex workers are an extremely marginalised group who suffer human rights violations. Criminalization of sex work exposes sex workers to abuse and exploitation by police officers and justice system. Decriminalisation of sex work will help to overcome barriers to social justice, re-victimisation in the courts and provide a safer environment for sex workers.

Trauma will be used as the broad umbrella. The value of trauma informed policing will be examined. This will be supported by research that tends towards a model of relational policing that takes into account research that suggests that the quality of relationship is a predictive factor of a positive outcome.

The policing and justice system in relation to sex workers covers areas such as the impact of race and ethnicity on crime, criminal justice policy and the impact of discrimination and exclusion on criminal justice experiences and outcomes. There will be in-depth deliberations on the lack of social and economic resources in the health care, mental health and addiction programs, homelessness, the criminal justice system, and other legal areas. These will be in relation to the laws surrounding sex work in the UK

### **Prison officer voices**

Dan Brookes, Jace Lactore, Jess Bosi, Mahi Joshi, Natasha Porter, and Jack Anderson, Unlocked Graduates

Too often, the voice of the frontline prison workforce is missing from conferences and other forums in the criminal justice sector. Unlocked Graduates is a charity that works to break cycles of reoffending by recruiting and developing people to work as frontline prison officers for two years while they learn transferable leadership skills and delve into evidence-based solutions to the problems facing the prison service. The scheme grew out of a recommendation in the Coates' Review of Prison Education. Founder and CEO Natasha Porter will be joined by four current prison officers to share their insight on the current challenges in the system and what role prison officers should and could play in creating truly rehabilitative prisons.

### **Three perspectives on IPP: Describing and resolving a systemic injustice**

Henry Rossi, The Institute of Now, Harry Annison, University of Southampton, and Roger Grimshaw, CCJS

It is ten years since the LASPO Act brought to an end the sentencing of violent or sexual offenders to indefinite detention. Currently the Justice Select Committee in Parliament is considering evidence about the shocking circumstances of the thousands still serving the sentence in prison or living on licence in the community. Uncertainty is inherent in the nature of the sentence and is very damaging not only to those serving it but to their families, and arguably to the criminal justice system itself. This session will refer to two research papers and a short film that describe different aspects of the topic and give insight into the current situation.

## **Reframing, reimagining and transforming education approaches in custodial and youth justice settings**

Adeela Shafi, Tristan Middleton, Jordan Wintle and Dan Clark, University of Gloucester

Children and young people who come into conflict with the law tend to be disengaged with education and learning with many having dropped out of school before being incarcerated. This panel session presents alternative ways of approaching education in custodial settings that has a better chance of enabling them to recognise and therefore receive or engage in educational opportunities that can be transformative. The work of these three projects focus on the principles of engagement and motivation; social and emotional competencies and; the importance of skills for life as underpinning the development of and piloting of materials and pedagogy that have had demonstrable impact almost 500 young people in custodial and other youth justice settings in ten countries across Europe. This helps to mitigate against not only the impact of the youth justice system itself, but other inequalities and disadvantages so they have a better chance when re-entering society. Collective knowledge and practice from diverse perspectives on youth justice from across Europe can contribute to a reframing and re-imagining as shown by this collection of papers.

### **1. Re-engaging incarcerated children and young people with education and learning using Authentic Inquiry in Italy, Spain, Germany and the UK**

Adeela Shafi and Tristan Middleton

This paper reports on the activities and research conducted as part of the Re-engaging Young Offenders with Education and Learning (RENYO), a 3-year EU Erasmus+ funded project with 5 partners in four countries including Spain, Italy, Germany and the UK. The Project involved the development of a Training Pack to train educators in the partner countries on the Authentic Inquiry methodology which has been shown to be effective in engaging children and young people who are incarcerated or in other (community) youth justice settings. The research questions focused on the impact of Authentic Inquiry on learners in custodial or youth justice settings and the impact of the methodology on educators and their pedagogy. Quantitative data (from 82 educators and 73 young people), collected via an online pre-and-post self-report survey against 8 dimensions of learning power demonstrated that the young people could be re-engaged with education and learning as evidenced in the change in their learning power profiles. The qualitative data (from 16 educators and 14 young people) also show the greatest impact to be on the emotional component of engagement which is essential for accessing learning. The Authentic Inquiry methodology also had an impact on the educators as learners by an improved learning power profile and on their pedagogical approach. Implications for practice are discussed and ways in which to embed such an approach into the educational offer for children and young people in youth justice setting in the different country contexts are discussed.

## **2. Using Sports and Active Games to develop social and emotional competencies in children and young people in custodial and youth justice settings in seven countries across Europe**

Adeela Shafi and Jordan Wintle

The literature demonstrates that children and young people in conflict with the law have not had the opportunities to develop many of the social and emotional competencies taken for granted for other children. Sport and physical activity have a long history of being beneficial for the personal development of young people (Bailey, 2006; Côté, et al., 2016; Morgan, et al., 2020) and the Active Games for Change (AG4C) Erasmus project over 3 years developed and implemented an innovative framework of active games aimed to develop a range of social and emotional competencies in our target population with ten partners in seven countries across Europe.

This paper presents the rationale linked to our state-of-the-art analysis (Shafi, et al., 2019) which identifies the benefits of using sport and active games as a tool for personal development. It then outlines the development of the tools (active games) and pedagogical framework that sits beneath the delivery. The teaching approaches within AG4C are based on several well researched pedagogical approaches; Teaching Personal and Social Responsibility (Hellison, 2010), Positive Youth Development (Lerner, 2004) and Adventure Based Learning (Sutherland, et al., 2016). These approaches have been shown to have a positive impact on personal growth of young people in a range of settings.

The project has been tested by partners with the project team, completing the full programme with 321 young people in custodial settings across seven countries in Europe. Quantitative and qualitative results demonstrate a clear positive impact on the social and emotional competencies of your target populations and these will be further explored within the presentation.

## **3. Skills for Life as education for young people in custodial settings: Developing the Innovative Curriculum**

Adeela Shafi and Dan Clark

As many young people entering custodial sentences have been out of school for some time, many have missed the opportunities of the life skills that may be covered at school. This includes, for example, personal development, job-seeking skills such as writing CVs, filling in application forms or financial management skills such as opening a bank account or obtaining housing. More specific work needs to be done whilst these young people are incarcerated in order to enable their successful transition into society.

The SkillsforLife (S4L) Project is a 26-month EU funded project with 4 countries in Europe aiming to develop a comprehensive and bespoke curriculum that includes personal development (informed by Active Games for Change) and empowerment and the other essential components for successful reintegration, both practical and personal. The curriculum is currently under development and will be piloted in secure settings in each of the partner countries later this year. Uniquely, the curriculum is informed by interview data from 80 young people, half of whom are in custodial



settings preparing for release and half who have recently exited custodial settings. In doing so, the curriculum is informed by the experiences and needs of young people themselves. The challenge will be in developing a curriculum that can be successfully delivered to a cohort with different levels of educational experiences and capabilities coupled with transitory group compositions of different ages and abilities. The purpose of the presentation is to gather the views of colleagues in youth justice on how some of these may be overcome to develop a curriculum that can be successful in a challenging secure environment with the diversity and transitional nature of participants and indeed the differing skills levels of prison educators.

### **Secondary victims of sexual crimes: Predictable, yet distinct trauma experiences for different groups of secondary victims**

Nadia Wager, Teeside University, Rachel Armitage, University of Huddersfield, Lara Hudspith, University of Huddersfield, and Grace Carter, Coventry University

Findings from four studies exploring the experiences of different groups of secondary victims of sexual offences will be discussed. These studies focus on the non-offending family members supporting child and adult victims who engaged with the criminal justice system (CJS) during Covid-19, jurors who served on sexual assault trials, families of people apprehended for online child sexual abuse (CSA), and gender-based violence researchers. Thus, the groups include individuals directly connected to victims and/or offenders, others who encounter descriptions of sexual violence unexpectedly when undertaking civic duties and those who knowingly delve into the issue and interact with unknown affected individuals. The nature of the potential traumas, while unique to the individuals, vary by group, highlighting how the experience of secondary victimisation is nuanced. The families of individuals apprehended for online CSA experience continuous on-going traumas and a sense of bereavement coupled with disenfranchised grief due to courtesy stigma. Family members supporting victims through the CJS can experience ongoing uncertainty, tension and distress as they navigate their supporting role whilst receiving very little or no support. Jurors on sexual assault trials can experience vicarious trauma and feel overwhelmed by the enormity of their decision-making role. Finally, researchers can experience vicarious or secondary traumatisation, powerlessness and hopelessness. While the experiences and needs differ for all four groups, we can predict the potential for trauma and thus have the power to deploy strategies to mitigate their impact. In the interactive part of this session, we will invite discussion of possible pre-emptive mitigating strategies.

### iii) Roundtables

#### **Roundtable on reforms to the parole system of England and Wales**

Harry Annison, University of Southampton, Nicola Padfield, Cambridge University, Jasmina Arnež, Oxford University, Mojca Plesničar, University of Ljubljana, Saori Toda, University of Nottingham, Thomas Guiney, University of Nottingham and Tyrone Steele, JUSTICE

This session brings together a range of stakeholders – including people with lived experience, legal practitioners, academics, parole board members, and others – to discuss possible reforms to the parole system of England and Wales. This is an opportunity to explore the principles that should underpin the parole system, as well as specific proposals made in the JUSTICE report ‘A Parole System Fit for Purpose’ and the Ministry of Justice’s ‘Root and Branch Review of the Parole System’, both published earlier this year.

#### **How can we preserve the value of human expertise and interpretation in an increasingly process-driven justice system?**

Anne-Marie Elliot, Reece Thomas Watson, Ruth Morgan, UCL, and Karyn Mannix, Mannix Psychology Ltd

The first presentation will address our question from a scientific perspective offering an empirical view of human expertise and decision-making and their role in process-driven systems in the criminal justice system. She will advocate for the importance of incorporating both technological advances and human expertise when seeking to identify, interpret and communicate the meaning of science evidence in investigations and in court.

The second will look at how expert witnesses combine human expertise and clinical processes to draw conclusions in relation to risk assessment. She will offer a view on how these can be applied subjectively/objectively depending on the approach taken – is the focus on process-driven tests or interpretation by a human expert and which is more accurate and/ or predictive of future risk?

The third will address questions of practical application in the mental health and criminal justice systems: how clients can be dehumanised by process-driven systems which lose sight of the human needs and individual requirements. She will consider examples of mental health patients transferred from prison but still under MOJ restrictions and mentally disordered prisoners remaining in prison but without recourse to adequate healthcare or mental health provision.

Discussants will draw the discussion to a close with conclusions relating to conference themes, in particular: equality and inclusion; health and wellbeing of those in the criminal justice system; and future focus in relation to the original question above.

### **Tensions and protections: frameworks for educators within the carceral state**

Ashley Lipscomb, Rutgers Graduate School of Education, Ajua Kouadio, Rutgers Graduate School of Education, Xenia Cox, Rutgers Graduate School of Education, and Chijindu Obiofuma, Law for Black Lives, Chris Etienne, Princeton University

The significant role a high quality education plays in the life outcomes of incarcerated youth and young adults is well documented (Esthappan and Lee, 2018; Howard League for Penal Reform, 2022). This reality presents a conundrum for highly effective abolitionist educators. The tension between these educators' work within and against penal institutions, particularly those where youth are caged, is worthy of further exploration. The insights of educators who organize for the elimination of carceral apparatus while teaching within jails, prisons, and detention centers are crucial to the movement to reimagine systems of safety, care, and restoration. What are the frameworks and guiding principles that enable abolitionist educators to engage with the same institutions they seek to dismantle while providing the much needed educational resources to those surviving the inhumane conditions within these facilities? What can scholars, policymakers, and penal reformers learn from system-impacted educators? This panel centers the voices and work of abolitionists, educational practitioners, and system-impacted scholars. Together they will explore three concepts: school abolition (Stovall, 2018), learning as maroonage (Patel, 2016), and courageous experimentation (Kaba, 2021), all as means to better understand and support this unique group of educators. This panel will call us all to move beyond theory and be ignited toward organizing with and for incarcerated young people.

### **Addicted to prison as punishment: Do we know how to stop imprisoning women?**

Shona Minson, University of Oxford, Emily Farley, Head of Criminal Justice, Centre for Social Justice, Jodie Beck, advocate and campaigner, Fergus McNeill, University of Glasgow, and Fiona Deacon, Greater Manchester Probation Strategic Lead for Women

A wealth of evidence demonstrates the futility of imprisoning women as punishment. Reoffending rates are higher after imprisonment than after a community penalty. Many women remanded to prison are not convicted or receive a non-custodial sentence. 75% of women in prison are sentenced to less than six months. Imprisonment is not reserved as punishment for the most serious and dangerous crimes or people.

Discussants with wide expertise on this topic will open the session before a facilitated conversation between all attendees on the realities of breaking the prison addiction. Anyone with an interest in women in the justice system, sentencing, alternatives to imprisonment, punishment and reimagining the current structures, is invited to contribute.

#### iv) Workshops, creative and participatory sessions

##### **Workshop: A restorative response to youth justice**

Lucy Jaffe (Why Me?), Why Me?

Restorative Justice (RJ) enables us to address painful conflict. We have an endogenous creative capacity to resolve conflict. This experiential workshop which will use restorative circles to discuss the key concepts of RJ, explore how to support people to participate and discuss the implementation of RJ in youth justice today and in the future.

All societies have justice systems - we inherit them. Most systems are retributive and punitive. If we don't agree then we are called naive and derided as being unrealistic. Restorative Justice has the promise of a different justice - to enable us to become conscious of the justice systems we choose and then decide whether or how to relate to conflict.

RJ is increasingly an adjunct to the criminal justice rules-based system. The solution is to centre restorative practices. The more distant from structural power the stronger it is. Important to make rules and power visible by naming them.

Why me? Director Lucy Jaffé will facilitate working in circle(s) to address the following questions:

- How can we come to an agreement with children who are harmed and harming about how to respond restoratively to the conflict?
- What is a place in which a restorative space can occur? Over what time period? What role is occupied by the facilitator and who are they? and who chooses?
- What support is required for the person(s) in the facilitator role?
- How can we ensure that children, their carers and professionals know about restorative practice and how to access them?
- How can restorative justice be initiated by the people involved?

##### **Maren – a performance by Clean Break**

Performance by Sarah Jane Dent followed by Q&A with Anna Herrmann, Clean Break

Written by Chloë Moss and Sarah Jane Dent, performed by Sarah-Jane Dent  
This monologue was co-created during the pandemic when Clean Break commissioned partnerships between its Members and Artists to explore what collaboration looked like in a digital context. Maren then formed part of our return to presenting live theatre when we welcomed audiences to our centre in North London where we presented them along four other pieces – Birthday Message, Blank Pages, Carry Me Home and Step 9 in a production entitled Through This Mist.

This performance discusses topics of imprisonment, violence, abuse and substance misuse, which some audiences might find disturbing. If you were affected by these

themes, you can find our full list of specialist support organisations here:  
<https://bit.ly/3xAujlz>

### **Howard Journal of Crime and Justice publishing workshop**

Professor Ian Loader, University of Oxford, Howard Journal Editor-in-Chief, Anita Dockley, Research Director, Howard League for Penal Reform, and Anna Savage, Journals Publishing Assistant, General Social Sciences and Humanities, Wiley Publishers

At this workshop the Howard Journal of Crime and Justice's editor-in-chief, managing editor and the publisher will provide an insight into how decisions are made, the treatment of submissions and process for getting a peer review journal article published. It will also focus on factors particular to the Howard Journal of Crime and Justice, especially its policies on author care and maximising promotional opportunities using video abstracts and the Policy Insights blog

### **Restorative listening circles**

The Mint House, Oxford, with Rosie Chadwick, Pete Wallis, Joy Bettles, Kathryn Rowsell and Myra Blyth

The Mint House (Oxford Centre for Restorative Practice) is a local organisation promoting restorative practice in and around Oxford and (with the increased use of online technology) nationally and internationally. The team has considerable experience in restorative justice with youth and adults and restorative practice in a range of contexts including health, schools, organisations and communities. A registered training provider with the Restorative Justice Council, the centre arranges events, promotes and delivers restorative resolutions to address conflict in diverse settings, including with the student community.

The Mint House team would like to offer a restorative process during the Howard League's conference. We feel in tune with the issues that the conference is raising, as the restorative community is increasingly aware of the suffering, uncertainty and difficulties that face humanity in the shadow of the pandemic, war in Ukraine and existential threat posed by the climate emergency. It seems inevitable that these issues will lead to increasing conflict, also impacting restorative practitioners in their own lives.

The team will facilitate a listening circle for conference attendees. We aim to create an open and safe space for people to share their thoughts and feelings about the challenges humanity is facing, explore their own stories and needs, and consider the future of restorative justice and practice in times of conflict and uncertainty. We were inspired by the work of Joanna Macy with her Despair and Empowerment workshops which create an opportunity for deep listening and hopeful sharing.

## v) Posters

### **Time for Change - Understanding of acquired brain injury in police custody suites**

Gemma Buckland, Do it Justice Ltd and Karene Taylor, United Kingdom Acquired Brain Injury Forum

The UK Acquired Brain Injury Forum has recently completed FOI requests on how the police deal with young adults with the condition in their custody suites. TBI leads to impairments in memory, cognitive ability, social communication, and the regulation of emotion and behaviour. It has been consistently linked with earlier, more frequent, and more violent offending. Both those affected and criminal justice practitioners can find TBI challenging to manage as it can hinder capacity to engage effectively with criminal justice agencies, including rehabilitation. UKABIF found that if the government wishes to meet its recent commitment to improving the treatment of people with neurodiversity in the criminal justice system in England and Wales, there is significant work to do to improve awareness of ABI within police forces and to develop clear pathways for people affected by it.

### **Correcting legal and factual flaws in the indictment: The fine line between a Kafkaesque process and a fair trial**

Lora Briški, University of Ljubljana

Evidence presented at trial may show the criminal offence in a different light to that described in the indictment: the facts may appear to be different from what the prosecution claimed when pressing charges or while remaining the same the facts require a different legal qualification. There are two possible solutions to this problem: 1) to consider the prosecution to have lost the case or 2) to allow the charges to be amended.

The latter option, granting a wide margin for changes is particularly characteristic for the (continental) systems adhering to the *iura novit curia* principle: courts in such systems are not bound by the prosecutor's legal characterization but only by the historical event (the facts) described in the indictment. Moreover, some criminal law systems, including the Slovenian one, which is the basis for this research, allow the prosecution and even the court to intervene in the prosecution's description of the offence.

We want to explore how the broad possibilities to amend the charges impact 1) the burden of proof, 2) the dynamics between the court and the prosecutor, 3) the judicial efficiency and, 4) above all, the position of the defendant.

For that reason, we have examined more than 300 Supreme Court judgments. After establishing the extent to which dispute subject changes occur in practice, we answer whether the broad scope for change meets the fair trial standards set by the European Court of Human Rights. Finally, we consider options for reform that would improve the defendant's position.

## **An exploration of the experiences of children in care with child criminal exploitation (CCE).**

Danica Darley, University of Sheffield

Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) is said to occur when an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child under the age of 18. One type of CCE that has received particular attention recently is 'county lines' drug trafficking. The National Crime Agency states that county lines present a 'significant threat' in the UK, it involves criminal gangs recruiting children perceived to be vulnerable to sell drugs into provincial areas as well as neighbouring boroughs and market towns. This phenomenon has impacted local drug markets, increasing criminal activity and violence. Children in care are more likely to be exploited as a consequence of the feelings of rejection, resentment, and isolation that come from being care-experienced. Additionally, the culture in children's residential care homes alongside destabilising placement movements, multiple social workers and other professionals all combine to create a perfect toxic storm for children considered to be society's most 'vulnerable'. Importantly, when children go missing from care, a particular risk in children's residential care homes, they run a greater risk of becoming involved in criminal activity as well as being criminally exploited. Consequently, exploitation can turn into criminalisation as authorities focus on offending over and above the victim status of the children involved.

My poster will examine participatory work with care experienced adults who were victims of child criminal exploitation by criminal gangs which can inform and create change for children who are criminally exploited.

## **The legitimacy of irritant spray in prisons**

Jeanette Hall, Royal Holloway University

Prisons should provide a safe environment for both staff and prisoners. Concern about high levels of violence in prisons has led to most prison officers being issued with a handheld canister of irritant spray, to incapacitate violent prisoners. Early evidence suggests that some staff and prisoners now feel safer, but others are more cautious, fearing unintended effects. A literature review revealed potential for irritant spray to undermine prisoners' perceptions of legitimacy – the extent to which individuals feel they have an obligation to obey authorities. Three key concerns were identified: the risk that the new tool will cause in a net increase in the use of force and possible decrease in verbal de-escalation tactics; the possibility of prisoners experiencing negative psychological effects from being sprayed; and the likelihood of irritant spray being used disproportionately against minority ethnic prisoners. Prisons suffer an inherent legitimacy deficit which arises from the use of force to detain, and which means prisoners may not feel an obligation to obey prison staff. Yet, when prisoners feel that the conditions of their detention are legitimate, they generally fare better in terms of well-being in prison and desistance on release. Understanding the effects of irritant spray on legitimacy is therefore an important mission.

## **Wrongly convicted- a social injustice. The impact of austerity and the Covid-19 pandemic on the integrity of the English adversarial justice systems handling of pre- and post-conviction disclosure post 2010**

Jamie Heslop, University of Portsmouth

Due to the rise of austerity post 2010 and the increasing pressure of the Covid-19 pandemic over the past two years, access to fair due process within the criminal justice system has been significantly impacted due to funding. The government have created an era where obtaining legal representation is a luxury of the wealthy. At present in relation to legal aid, there is a cut-off point of 6000 pages of documentation a defence barrister is being paid to read impacting defendants on remand and convicted appellants appeal process. This austerity impact reduces the ability for legal representation to investigate disclosure material effectively as they are not being paid for the work possibly leading to an inadequate defence and inadequate post-trial investigation, infringing human rights while increasing the prison population creating a possible miscarriage of justice. Disclosure may possibly be the difference between a person being found guilty or not guilty. Furthermore, Henneberg (2019) states many incarcerated appellants rely on legal aid to pay for the barrister's pre-emptive work post-conviction when making a case to the CCRC or appeal to the Court of Appeal Criminal Division.

Similarly, Covid-19 has also significantly impacted pre- and post-conviction disclosure on the basis that legal representation has found it difficult to access the incarcerated during the pandemic. Legal representatives are having to wait up to 8 weeks to speak with incarcerated clients to discuss a defence or an appeal (BBC Parliament, 2018). Such detrimental impact questions the integrity of the adversarial systems handling of the incarcerated. Furthermore, injustice coincides with austerity and the pandemic, where spending on criminal legal aid decreased significantly from £563 million in 2020/21 compared to £838 million in 2019-20 pre-pandemic. Furthermore, during the pandemic, the ability to conduct Crown Court trials have dropped by 75% which means an inability to investigate disclosure effectively and more people incarcerated are still awaiting trial if they are remanded within custody impacting the penal system creating inequality and social injustice allowing more incarcerated individuals to be held in prison for longer periods.

### **Who am I? An exploration of identity through bodymaps produced by men convicted of murder using joint enterprise**

Susie Hulley, University of Cambridge and Tara Young, University of Kent

Being convicted of murder can shatter an individual's sense of identity, as they question who they are if they are capable of 'this' and struggle to weave the offence into the fabric of their life story. This psychological tumult occurs against a cultural backdrop in which the label 'murderer' 'obliterate[s] all other dimensions of the person' (May 2005: 205). The process of reconciling a murder conviction with one's sense of self is more complicated for those who have been convicted of murder using joint enterprise, as they have rarely inflicted the fatal blow. Two life size artworks will be provided for display at the conference – bodymaps produced by men currently serving long life sentences for murder, in which their conviction involved the legal doctrine of joint enterprise. Body maps are life-size images that 'visually represent' the artist's life experiences. They are 'a way of telling stories, much like totems that contain symbols with different meanings, but whose significance can only be understood in relation to the creator's overall story and experience' (Gastaldo et



al 2012: 5). The bodymaps explore the men's self-identity prior to conviction and the identity imposed on them by the criminal justice process, revealing a distinction between their own sense of ethical 'goodness' and the stigma and stain they experienced at the hands of criminal justice practitioners. The bodymaps illustrate the ways in which the label of 'murderer' sticks, often serving to overshadow all other aspects of the self.

### **Investigating the policing practices associated with civil preventive orders and notices and the 'preventive street-level bureaucrat'**

Zoe Rodgers, Sheffield Hallam University

This mixed methods study will seek to understand the policing practices and established procedural safeguards associated with civil preventive orders and notices used in England and Wales to address sub-criminal (Anti-Social Behaviour) and criminal behaviour (Modern Slavery). The research provides a significant empirical and theoretical contribution to knowledge by exploring policing practice and developing a 'preventive street-level bureaucrat' within the risk society framework. This development is essential given that civil preventive orders and notices are increasingly becoming a key instrument in criminal justice. Following a two-step legal model, these hybrid powers have become a standard feature of policing because of the procedural advantages offered over criminal law, despite significant gaps in knowledge concerning their operation, perceived effectiveness, and legal and moral limits. This research will use a case study design to provide the environmental context required and facilitate the investigation into these under-explored practices. The study components consist of ride-along observations, semi-structured interviews and secondary data from police statistics and force policies. Qualitative data from coded field notes, interview transcripts and guidance documents will be analysed using thematic analysis to generate themes. The quantitative secondary data will be analysed using statistical techniques. The findings will be disseminated within academic papers, books and policy briefing papers for frontline practitioners, alongside contributions to the policing apprenticeships and degree courses at Sheffield Hallam University.

### **Gambling and crime: An exploration of gambling availability and culture in a UK prison.**

Lauren Smith, University of Lincoln

The literature on gambling in UK prisons is limited, with current estimates of gambling in prison ranging from 12% to 40%. The current research sought to explore the prevalence of gambling, the type of gambling and the reasons for gambling, within a UK prison. 282 volunteer participants completed a questionnaire which included the Problem Gambling Severity Index. The findings include the prevalence of gambling and gambling risk category prior to prison, the prevalence of reported gambling in the prison, the perception of gambling as a normal part of prison life, the reasons people gambled in prison, the type of gambling reported in prison and the currency used for gambling. Findings related to borrowing from others in order to gamble in prison will also be highlighted. The implications of this for prisons will be discussed.

## **An exploration into primary prevention measures to address the root causes for engaging in modern slavery offences**

Sophie Wilkinson, University of Southampton

There is a global and national 4 P framework to respond to modern slavery, or human trafficking, dependent on which country is responding (Clinton, 2009, Home Office, 2014). These are: pursue, prevent, protect, and partnership. National and international documents about prevention include preventing people from engaging in modern slavery. Despite this, the UK has limited strategies aiming to prevent people from engaging in these offences in the first place. Influenced by the public health prevention model, the research sought to explore whether primary prevention measures could address the root causes for engaging in modern slavery offences. Eighteen semi-structured interviews with anti-slavery professionals gathered data on 91 modern slavery cases, some of which included UK nationals, and were analysed using thematic analysis. The research found those engaged in these offences had experienced one or more of four instabilities (economic, family, environmental, and emotional). Categorising the four instabilities as possible root causes, the research indicated the existing UK infrastructure could address these root causes through primary prevention measures. However, there is a need for systems change within the anti-slavery sector and the current political landscape. The research offers a unique understanding of the root causes for engaging in these offences, which can help develop primary prevention measures in response to modern slavery in the UK.