

# CeASR Newsletter

APRIL 2021 |

The [Centre for Applied Social Research \(CeASR\)](#) is a Leeds Beckett University Research Centre which orchestrates interdisciplinary research across the social sciences in Leeds School of Social Sciences (LSSS) and School of Health and Community Studies (SHC).

## Highlights

- REF2021
- Publications/  
Accepted in Press
- Good News
- External Funding  
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- Research Student  
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- Let's get to know...

## ■ REF2021

Leeds Beckett University has formally made its submission for the Research Excellence Framework (REF), and I am pleased to report that we are submitting for the first time in Unit 19 (Politics and International Studies) as well as Unit 20 (Social Work and Social Policy). Unit 19 is built around colleagues in the PIR subject group in LSSS, with one from Criminology and one from Sociology. Unit 20 stretches out of LSSS into the School of Health and Community Studies and beyond, and already has a strong history of research and policy impact. Everybody involved – as an author of a paper, or a PhD supervisor, or someone speaking to policy-makers or submitting funding bids - deserves thanks. Well done all!

*Professor Karl Spracklen, Director of Research*



## ■ Publications

**Bamford, T, Ibrahim, J. and Spracklen, K.** (2021). 'Becoming and being goth: how goths remember the scene's transition from the eighties into the nineties'. Punk and Post-Punk. [https://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/intellect/punk/pre-prints/content-punk\\_intellect\\_00088](https://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/intellect/punk/pre-prints/content-punk_intellect_00088)

**Bradley, A. & Davies, B.** (2021). 'Devastation and Innovation: Examining Prison Education During a National Pandemic'. Journal of Criminal Psychology.

**Donnelly-Drummond, A.** (2021) 'LGBTQs and Law's Violence within a Heteronormative Landscape'. Frontiers in Sociology, section Gender, Sex and Sexualities. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fsoc.2021.564028/full>  
(Also features in the [LBU LSSS Blog](#))

**Long LJ.** (2021). 'The ideal victim: A critical race theory (CRT) approach'. *International Review of Victimology*.  
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0269758021993339>

**Persson, S., & Dhingra, K.** (2021). 'Moderating Factors in Culpability Ratings and Rape Proclivity in Stranger and Acquaintance Rape: Validation of Rape Vignettes in a Community Sample'. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260521991294>

**Persson, S., & Dhingra, K.** (2021). 'Attributions of blame in stranger and acquaintance rape: A multilevel meta-analysis and systematic review'. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*. <https://osf.io/ht48j/>

**Shaw, M.** (2021) 'Student sex work during a pandemic.' Covid-19 Special Paper, UCL Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science. [https://www.ucl.ac.uk/jill-dando-institute/sites/jill-dando-institute/files/27\\_student\\_sex\\_work\\_final.pdf](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/jill-dando-institute/sites/jill-dando-institute/files/27_student_sex_work_final.pdf)

Swain, S., Lashua, B. and **Spracklen, K.** (2021). 'Khat-chewing, moral spacing and belonging: Sociological insights into the cultural space of the mafrish in the leisure lives of older and middle-aged British-Somali males'. *International Journal of the Sociology of Leisure*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41978-020-00079-8>

## Accepted/ In Press

### • Funding News

**CeASR held three research funding calls this academic year, accepting bids up to £10k from individuals or teams and providing funding for online conferences. The following have so far been successful in their applications:**

**Dr Alexandria Bradley:** consultancy, playwriting, RA work and Ramadan packs delivered to women's prisons for '*Exploring Muslim Women's Desistance and Resettlement Experiences*' project.

**Dr Chris Till:** RA work and participant incentives for '*Sound health: health, fitness and wellness through streaming services*' project

**Dr Joseph Ibrahim:** RA work for '*Momentum: everyday experiences of activists in a campaign group*' project.

**Dr Laura Davies:** to develop a partnership with third sector organisations in Calderdale and to support training for community researchers to design and develop the qualitative interview phase of participatory research project to explore the experiences of residents during the Covid 19 pandemic.

Bliesemann de Guevara, B., El Refaie, E., Furnari, E., Gameiro, S., **Julian, R.**, & Payson, A. (2021). 'Drawing Out Experiential Conflict Knowledge in Myanmar: Arts-Based Methods in Qualitative Research with Conflict-Affected Communities'. *Journal of Peacebuilding & Development*.

**Cohen, E.** (2021). 'The Psychologisation of Eastern Spiritual Traditions' book. Routledge. <https://www.routledge.com/The-Psychologisation-of-Eastern-Spiritual-Traditions-Colonisation-Translation/Cohen/p/book/9780367375362>

**Craig, J.** (2021). 'Crisis, Advocacy and Renewal: The Development of Civic Education in the United Kingdom' book chapter. *Civic Engagement: International Perspectives*. American Political Science Association.

McLeod, L. & **O'Reilly, M.** (May 2021). 'Feminist Interventions in Critical Peace and Conflict Studies' Edited Volume. Routledge. <https://www.routledge.com/Feminist-Interventions-in-Critical-Peace-and-Conflict-Studies/McLeod-OReilly/p/book/9780367773328>

## ■ Good News

**Dr Alex Bradley** won a bid to co-lead research in collaboration with Dr Madeline Petrillo at The University of Greenwich. The research investigates good practice and working with adult trauma in probation and was commissioned to the value of £28,000 by Her Majesties Inspectorate of Probation.

**Dr Alex Bradley** will be delivering a workshop entitled "Achieving the Working with Trauma Quality Mark" at The One Small Thing Live Conference on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May <https://onesmallthing.org.uk/> as a Trauma Quality Mark Assessor to support organisational understanding of the application and process of achieving the award.

**Dr Mandy Shaw:** books for 'Bullying of School Teachers' project.

**Dr Olayinka Ajala:** RA work for 'Neopatrimonialism and Police reforms in Nigeria' project.

**Professor Rachel Julian:** design and graphics work for training materials for 'Involving the poorest: Equitable partnerships for cross-disciplinary participatory research in East Africa' project.

**Dr Sophia Price:** RA work for 'Microsavings: The intersectional inequalities of Financial Inclusion Strategies' project.

### • Update on recent funded CeASR projects

**Dr Alex Bradley:** 'Exploring Muslim Women's Desistance and Resettlement Experiences'.

This research project and partnership is a collaboration between Leeds Beckett University, Sheffield Hallam University and the Khidmat Centre in Bradford, which specialises in supporting Muslim women in prison in HMP Newhall and HMP Askham Grange. This partnership will develop research opportunities in a hard to reach and marginalised population. It will also bridge the gap between specialist practitioners and academics, to develop community-led impact and academic understanding in an under-researched area.

With the support of Sofia Buncy (pioneering co-founder and National Coordinator of the multi-award-winning Muslim Women in Prison resettlement programme) and CeASR funding, the project delivered over 150 Ramadan Packs to Muslim women across eight national Women's prisons and to local women recently released from prison for this Holy time of Muslim worship in April. Feedback from the women has been incredibly touching. Some women were in tears as it was the first time in many years that they have had access to Zamzam

**Dr Chris Byrne** became co-editor of [British Politics Journal](#) in January 2021.

**Dr Chris Byrne** presented 'Creating Dyslexia- Friendly Higher Education in Politics and International Relations' and contributed on a panel at [PSA's Teaching and Learning Network](#) in March 2021.

**Dr Chris Till** launched the '[Social Theory Podcast](#)' in 2020 in which he introduces the work of social theorists through informal discussions with other academics.

**Professor John Craig** attended the [Political Studies Association Conference](#) in March 2020 and was part of the panel for a Roundtable on the Future of Political Studies; also chairing a panel on the same topic and a panel on 'Twelve Months of Teaching Online: What Works and What Doesn't?'.  
The [Political Studies Association Teaching and Learning Network](#), which is co-chaired by **Professor John Craig**, received a Special Recognition award from the association at the 2021 AGM. The Network has run a series of 14 webinars during the year to support politics and international relations academics in the transition to blended and online learning.

**Professor John Craig** wrote an article for the Yorkshire Evening post in January 2021 '[President Joe Biden's inauguration speech was strong start but tough times ahead](#)'.

**Professor John Craig** was invited to speak on BBC Radio Leeds in November 2020 to discuss the US elections; and on in January 2021 to discuss the attack on the Capitol.

**Dr Jolanta Shields** contributed towards the [NHS voices of COVID-19 Evidence Report](#) with colleagues from University of Manchester in 2020 for the British Academy.

**Dr Maria De Angelis's** CeASR funded 'Asylum in Art' exhibition, hosted by LCI in October 2020, has been published in the [Amplification Project](#). Following this success, The Anglican Diocese Board of Education is starting work on a 2021 Schools of Sanctuary initiative. The resources will go to schools after the Easter 2021 and will feature images and narrative from Asylum in Art as part of the initiative.

**Dr Olayinka Ajala** was interviewed in February 2021 for [BBC World Service - Africa Daily, Why are farmers and herders fighting in Nigeria?](#)

**Dr Olayinka Ajala** was invited by the BBC to analyse the recent security situation in South East Nigeria in April 2021 on [BBC World Service](#)

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**Dr Waqas Tufail's** research with Professor Ella Cockbain of UCL was cited over a dozen times in a review published in December 2020 by the Home Office into CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation). [The accompanying report, with a foreword by Home Secretary Priti Patel](#), received a lot of media attention. Additionally, this research has been cited on multiple occasions at the ongoing [Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse](#), led by Professor Alexis Jay.

We are delighted to welcome **new members to LSSS:**

- **Dr Olayinka Ajala: Lecturer, Politics & International Relations**  
Olayinka's primary research interests lie in the broad field of security and conflict with a focus on Africa. He is currently involved with collaborative research on '[Dryland nature-based solutions for peri-urban settlement upgrading schemes in Africa](#)'. As part of an [interdisciplinary research team](#), he is presenting research findings at the CO26 climate expo next month.

water from a well located within the Masjid al-Haram in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

**Professor Rachel Julian:** *Involving the poorest: Equitable partnerships for cross-disciplinary participatory research in East Africa.*

Leeds Beckett University are helping to build research capacity and partnerships in East Africa with Haart Kenya and members of two other research networks; *Partnerships for Equality and Inclusion*, with University of Leeds, and *Creating Safer Spaces* with Aberystwyth University. **Rachel Julian** was awarded a grant from LBU GCRF funding to enable the community researchers to meet, run workshops and learn skills required to design participatory research projects. As well as sharing knowledge about research methods, the network will look at data security and ethics, and writing for academic journals. They expect to have an impact on research to understand complex and intersecting inequalities and violences, equipping partners with more tools they can use to raise credible evidence.

- **CeASR Hosted Events- My Teams**

- **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April 1400-1500**

[Dr Lisa Long](#)

'The Ideal Victim: A CRT Approach' (Crime, Justice & Society Programme)

<https://ceasrseminardrlisalong290421.eventbrite.co.uk>

- **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 1500-1600**

[Professor Karl Spracklen](#)

'Thinking Knowledge Exchange and Impact: Getting in the Media'

<https://karlspracklenceasrtrainingevent120521.eventbrite.co.uk>

- **Dr Jolanta Shields: Lecturer, Politics & International Relations.** Jolanta's research focuses on the health policy and public service reform in the English NHS. In particular, her research concerns the development of a hybrid form of organisation, Community Interest Company (CIC), within the NHS. Jolanta is interested in exploring how governance and specifically health system governance is affected by the earlier policy choices and shaped by the wider socio-political forces.

## ■ External Funding News

### ■ Narratives research in situations of complex inequalities and violence

**Professor Rachel Julian** has been working with Haart Kenya ([www.haartkenya.org](http://www.haartkenya.org)) on how survivor narratives can influence government policy on Countering Human Trafficking, and received funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) to use a methodology already used in Myanmar with people experiencing violent conflict. From the work in Myanmar (also funded by AHRC), where the participants were in a 4-day arts workshop with local artists, the project produced a booklet of their drawings and remarks about their fears, hopes and experiences of living with violence. As well as providing new insights, they have influenced the way NGOs interact with local communities and will be producing some films, publications and a conference.

### ■ Emerging Women Leaders in Myanmar

Leeds Beckett University supported a meeting of 'Women Building Peace' across Thailand, Myanmar and Philippines through Building International (BIC) in 2019. This meeting was facilitated by our NGO partners, Nonviolent Peaceforce ([www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org](http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org)) and enabled women to share their experiences in leading and facilitating peace in their communities. **Professor Rachel Julian** and the Emerging Women Leaders network in Myanmar joined an international research partnership in 2020, 'Partnerships for Equality and Inclusion', brought together by University of Leeds. Their proposal for a pilot project, in which the women all did some participatory research in their communities, was funded by the network and more experienced women were ready to help them advocate their findings. This project was built on the AHRC funded project using arts based methods to explore the experiences of living with multiple violences. Some of the work was completed before the sad news about the military coup in 2021. The partnership needs to develop new ways to continue to support them in the current restrictions.

### ■ Writing and Researching the Political Economy of Inequality in Africa

**Dr Sophia Price**, Head of PIR, has been awarded British Academy funding to run a programme of online workshops on Writing and Researching the Political Economy of Inequality in Africa <https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/projects/Writing-and-Researching-the-Political-Economy-of-Inequality-in-Africa/>. The aim of the project is to support Early Career Researchers and Postgraduate students working and studying in African DAC countries and to help build research capacity and experience in partner institutions. Sophia will lead a team of colleagues from Leeds Beckett, University of Derby, the National Institute for Democratic and Legislative Studies (Nigeria), University of Johannesburg and University of Leeds. The project will provide six monthly workshops between June and December 2021, culminating in a policy maker/practitioner conference in February 2022. The programme will also produce a MOOC to provide an ongoing and open platform of freely accessible resources to support research in this area. <https://www.waria.org/home>

## Contact CeASR

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The British Academy programme builds on Sophia's existing project funded by the University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES). This funding supports the creation of the Network of Europe and Africa Research (NEAR), which Sophia co-founded and co-leads with Dr Mark Langan (University of Newcastle). NEAR is a global network of research collaboration between academics and policy makers working on EU- Africa relations and hosts a regular programme of workshops.

## ■ Research Student News

Congratulations to:

- **Dennis Thompson**, who was awarded his MRes for 'The Problem of Conceptualising Consciousness' in January 2021 with very positive comments from the examiners. Dennis will now be working with **Professor Karl Spracklen Dr Madeleine Castro** as an Affiliate to turn his work into research outputs.
- **Trevor Bamford** who has had his 1<sup>st</sup> paper published as a PhD student with Professor Karl Spracklen and Dr Joseph Ibrahim (see *Publications*).



We are delighted to welcome new PhD students to LSSS since February 2020 (below with their supervision teams); all the best with your studies:

**Ruth Woolsey:** *Do negative perceptions towards people in poverty soften upon being presented with accurate information on structural barriers to upward social mobility?* Professor Rachel Julian & Dr Paul White.

**Alexandra Platt:** *"I just want Brexit done....If I'm honest, Corbyn scares me a bit": Representations of the 'ordinary voter' in broadcast media news during the 2019 British General Election campaign: the shaping of common sense and media.* Dr Sophia Price & Dr Chris Byrne.

**Charlotte Webster:** *Emancipation: The Role of Masculinity, Femininity and Power Structures in understanding Violent Extremism and Shaping Gender-Sensitive Counter-Terrorism Strategies.* Professor Rachel Julian & Dr Linda Asquith

**Chris Goshomi:** *Sustainability of migrant labour as a human capital asset in subsequent generations of African descent in United Kingdom.* Dr Sophia Price & Dr Laura Davies.

## ■ Let's get to know...

### **Dr Maria O'Reilly – Co-Lead Peace, Conflict and Human Rights programme**

*"I am Senior Lecturer in Politics & International Relations, and Co-Lead for CeASR's Peace, Conflict and Human Rights programme.*

*My research explores questions of gender, justice, and security in conflict and 'post-conflict' contexts. I have worked with female ex-combatants, relatives of missing persons, survivors of wartime violence, to document their experiences of war and peacebuilding interventions. Only by listening to people living in communities affected*

*by armed conflict can peace workers and peace researchers help build more just and durable forms of peace.*

*I am a feminist qualitative researcher, and use a mixture of fieldwork interviews, participant observation, and textual analysis to examine the gender politics of war and peace. I enjoy the challenge of weaving in evidence gathered from different standpoints, to capture the complexity of conflict. A key focus has been to reach out to people who are overlooked by peacebuilding agencies – their knowledge and experience often challenges simplistic narratives about the success of post-war reconstruction.*

*Recently, I worked with Dr Laura McLeod at Manchester University to provide a feminist intervention in the field of Critical Peace and Conflict Studies. Our Special Issue of Peacebuilding '[Critical Peace and Conflict Studies: Feminist Interventions](#)' features articles by feminist researchers from Leeds Beckett, from Europe, the United States and India. It will shortly be published as an [edited volume](#).*

*I previously worked at Goldsmiths and at Queen Mary University of London, where my research was funded by the AHRC/ESRC (Global Challenges Research Fund) and British Academy (Small research grant).*

*I am very happy to offer informal advice to colleagues on getting published, applying for research grants, and/or have a chat about developing research collaborations."*