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A word from the Chair

Dear GCYFRG members,

For all their shortcomings, New Labour Governments did invest a lot of money in various child-related programmes (apart from within mainstream education). These included various play-related initiatives delivered by Play England

(www.playengland.org.uk) such as Play Rangers, an ongoing project through which parks and open spaces are staffed with qualified play workers who support children's outdoor play. Moreover, through the Lottery Heritage Fund, £55 million was deployed through Play England to develop mainly outdoor play opportunities in the areas of greatest need, such as staffed adventure playgrounds and better designed play areas.



Inevitably, with the change in Government, the 'fiscal crisis', the amount of lottery money being spent on the 2012 London Olympics, and the general wane in political interest in play and children beyond mainstream education, funding is being cut and programmes are being ended. Indeed, Play England itself is shrinking, with 15 central job losses, and its core funding being cut from £1.4 million to £500,000. Funding is also being cut from a range of other programmes delivered by non-government organisations, such as outreach and welfare initiatives which focus on Traveller children in the UK. When the economic chips are down, services focused on children's play and wellbeing will be on the frontline of cuts.



Quite possibly, funding for child-focused academic research will go the same way as the Research Councils retreat to strategically important (STEM) subjects, and research topics such as economic regeneration and knowledge exchange. It is thus beholden of academics concerned with children and childhood to re-double their efforts to keep children's issues to the fore, not just in academic research, but in terms of the

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'public/political eye'. As the academic and non-academic funding climate changes, it might be the case that collaborations between academic researchers and organisations like Play England and the Children's Society (www.childrenssociety.org.uk) emerge in an effort to find new ways of researching, raise public/political awareness of, and intervene in childhood-related issues. There also remains the fundamental questions of the extent to which children are a priority (or not), and how they fit into public life and space.



As David Lammy put it in 2007¹: "In particular, we need to ask ourselves how much our public spaces offer for children. The Children's Play Council has estimated that children today have, on average, just a ninth of the outdoor space in which to play compared to just a generation ago, and yet in every survey children tell us that they would much rather play outside than indoors. For every acre of land occupied by playgrounds in England, there are more than 80 acres for golf. Many town centres are cut off by ring roads, and on residential streets, children are being dwarfed by cars that get bigger and bigger. Not all new town squares created in the past decade seem open to them... they invite people to 'live, work and play' in the city, but often this implies adults' play: the evening economy. It is, of course, the poorest neighbourhoods that offer the worst, most crowded, most polluted and most dangerous public environments: where children are among the most badly affected."

Owain Jones, University of Gloucestershire

¹ <http://www.davidlammy.co.uk/sitedata/Misc/David-Lammy-MP-MakingSpaceforChildren.pdf> (accessed 16/07/2011).

Information about membership

The Geographies of Children, Youth and Families Research Group (GCYFRG) was formed in 2009, building upon the successes of the former similarly titled Working Group which had been established in 2006. The GCYFRG group's aim is to promote and support research and teaching regarding the geographies of children, youth and families within academic geography and beyond. In doing this, it provides different channels to explore the meanings, implications and new directions in the geographies of children, youth and families and stimulates and develops critical debate about the geographies of children, youth and families within academic geography and in cognate disciplines.

Becoming a member of the group enables you to take part in and help develop the exciting, innovative work that the group engages in. Participation in activities developed and supported by the group (for example in the numerous sessions sponsored at the annual RGS-IBG Annual Conferences or our sponsorship of international conferences including the 'Geographies of Education', Loughborough University, September 2009) are excellent ways to disseminate research findings and develop new research ideas in a supportive and friendly group environment. Many have found these activities particularly useful in enabling new and established researchers to develop routes to publication, for example within journal special issues and edited book collections developed through the work of the group.

The group has a website detailing its work: www.gcyf.org.uk.

The group also has an email list whereby announcements are made to education and research communities about the group's workshops, conferences and publications. It also provides a forum for the discussion and debate of issues of interest to the group. The list currently has in excess of 190 subscribers. To join this email list, please go to:

www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?SUBED1=GEO-CHILDREN-YOUTH-FAMILIES&A=1

John Barker, Brunel University

GCYFRG contacts: (continued)

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Geographies of Children, Youth and Families Research Group Undergraduate Dissertation Award update

Two prizes, part sponsored by Routledge, Taylor and Francis, are available for innovative and high quality undergraduate dissertations on any issue related to the geographies of children, youth and families (first prize: £50 and a year's subscription to Children's Geographies; second prize: £25 and a year's subscription to Children's Geographies). The dissertations should be approximately 10,000 words in length. Please send a copy of the dissertation, a copy of the appropriate departmental dissertation regulations, and a (post-September) contact address for the student to:

Dr Ruth Evans
Department of Geography and
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School of Human and
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(r.evans@reading.ac.uk)

A department may not submit more than one entry. Deadline: 31st July 2011

Ruth Evans, University of Reading

Research Group news

Nominations for the positions of Treasurer and Conference Officer

The Treasurer (Peter Kraftl) and the Conference Officer (Naomi Tyrrell) of the committee will be stepping down from their roles at the Annual General Meeting of the Group in September 2011.

We seek nominations to fill these positions.

Nominations for the positions of Treasurer and Conference Officer are invited from anyone with a commitment to taking forward the work of the Research Group. Nominees must be Fellows or Ordinary members of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG). Nominations will be accepted up until the beginning of the Annual General Meeting. Nominations must be in writing (please contact the Secretary, john.barker@brunel.ac.uk) and must include the name of the proposer and seconder.

Elections to the committee will be held at the GCYFRG Annual General Meeting at the 2011 RGS-IBG Annual International Conference (Friday 1st September, 1330-1425. The venue is to be confirmed).

John Barker, Brunel University

Recent conference and workshop reports

(1) "Community Youth Work and Social Research: Opportunities for Collaboration"

This half-day mini-conference brought together speakers coming from both academic and practitioner backgrounds in order to reflect on the existing spaces of engagement, and to explore new opportunities for collaboration between community-based youth workers and social researchers. Three main papers examined conceptual, methodological, practical, political and policy-related dimensions of such a collaboration, as well as the challenges and impact it could have on vulnerable young people and children.



The keynote speakers developed the theme in relation to research on child poverty in Scotland (John McKendrick, Glasgow Caledonian University), detached youth work with young people in the UK and elsewhere in Europe (Graeme Tiffany, Federation for Detached Youth Work), and the embodied positionalities, engagements and detachments in the academic/practitioner collaboration interface (Matej Blazek, University of Dundee; Petra Hraová, CA

Ulita; Miroslava Lemešová, Comenius University). The event was concluded with comments from the discussant (Lorraine van Blerk, University of Dundee), who reflected on key opportunities for collaboration between researchers and practitioners based on their individual agendas, professional skills and abilities, and examined the challenges of different academic and practitioner routines/ time-scales.

(2) "Understanding Transitions Through Methodological Innovations"

This one-day workshop brought together PhD students and early career researchers who have explored the nature of transition(s) with children, youth and families, in a setting which specifically focused on the methodological issues of working with the expansive concept of transition(s).

In the opening keynote talk, Dr Anoop Nayak (Newcastle University) addressed concerns central to ethnographic fieldwork. Noting the

Date: 16th February 2011
Venue: University of Dundee

Organisers:
Matej Blazek (University of Dundee)
Fiona M. Smith (University of Dundee)

Sponsored by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

Date: 25th February 2011
Venue: University of Leicester

Organisers:
Rebecca Collins (University College London)
Adefemi Adekunle (University College London)

with additional support from:
Peter Kraftl (University of Leicester),
GCYFRG and the Department of Geography at the University of Leicester

danger of 'freezing' research participants in the course of ethnographic interviews and photography, Nayak drew on geographies of emotion to heighten awareness of the fact that places are always in the making.



Five early career researchers presented papers on recent or current research projects. Dr Sarah Mills (University of Leicester) drew on her research into the history of the Scouting movement to consider how to bring alive historical geographies of young people. By demonstrating the power of reanimating lives through archival materials and oral histories, Mills demonstrated how historical geographical research might be brought into contact with contemporary policy concerns about youth engagement and diversity. Joanne Hill (Loughborough University) explored the use of photo-elicitation to capture images of young people's ideas about healthy and valued bodies in a project that considered how certain bodily appearances are constructed as 'valued' by young people, and how these perspectives change in the transition from girl- to young womanhood. Matthew Callender (University of Northampton) discussed the closely entwined relationship between his participants' journey from Poland to the UK and from adolescence to adulthood. Callender employed a narrative interview-based biographical approach to reveal the ways in which some participants made sense of their migratory experiences in the present in relation to past decisions and/or perceived future pathways. Dr Abby Day (University of Sussex) spoke on the subject of strategies for returning to the field after a significant period of time has elapsed between first engagement with research participants. She emphasised the importance of acknowledging transition when returning to the field to continue participants' stories and, in doing so, casting off previous attempts to theorise and crystallise versions of participants' experiences. Craig Owen (University of Bath), in discussing elements of his PhD research into the performance of masculinities in Latin and ballroom dancing, brought some live action and audience engagement into the final paper session in order to recreate the vibrancy of his multimedia ethnography.



Following a period of informal discussion led by Dr Nicola Ansell and Dr John Barker around some conceptual and ethical considerations when working with notions of transition(s), the workshop welcomed two speakers from the policy domain for a panel discussion chaired by

Dr Owain Jones (GCYFRG Chair). Dr David N. Jones (Independent Chair, Leicester Local Children Safeguarding Board) and Ivana Lavallo (Director of Research, Evidence and Evaluation, National Children's Bureau) agreed that there are increasing opportunities for academic and policy researchers to collaborate for mutual benefit, and particularly around evaluative projects.

More information about this workshop is available on the GCYFRG website (www.gcyf.org.uk).

(3) "Youth In Motion: Spatializing Youth Movement(s) in the Social Sciences"

The University College London (UCL) Youth Geographies Research Group (YGRG) recently convened a workshop for social scientists conducting research on and with youth. The workshop attracted an international audience with participants from institutions in France, Finland, Italy, Canada and Australia, as well as all around the UK.

The workshop opened with a panel discussion featuring short presentations from guest speakers Dr Nicola Ansell (Brunel University), Dr Peter Hopkins (Newcastle University), and Dr Robert Vanderbeck (University of Leeds). Dr Claire Dwyer (University College London) acted as discussant.



Dr Ansell spoke about her work in Southern Africa on topics including: questioning how migration is defined and how the movement(s) of migration should be studied; the spatialities and power dynamics of student activism; the place of marriage in

contemporary theorisations of life transitions; as well as work on British students' changing sense of identity in response to gap year projects in developing countries. Dr Hopkins suggested that researchers of youth need to be clearer about the conceptual tools that are being used to structure and define research, and that there would be benefit in uniting comparable approaches. Noting that youth geographers have commonly drawn on the distinct yet closely linked fields of childhood studies and youth studies, he argued that it might be useful to think beyond these to consider what other schools of thought have influenced current approaches within social geography. Dr Vanderbeck continued this line of discussion by emphasising the importance of sensitivity to the transition from childhood to youth. Drawing on his own work with young people aged 10-16, he suggested

Date: 16th June 2011

Venue: University College London

Organisers:

Caitlin O'Neill Gutierrez, James Esson, Rebecca Collins and Adefemi Adekunle (University College London)



that in some contexts it may be more helpful to not draw too firm a line between childhood and youth studies. The place of adult subjective relations was also highlighted as an important consideration in youth research, particularly around questions of assumed power in adult-youth encounters.

Taking a very different format from the standard conference arrangement, in the remainder of the workshop participants gave short position papers outlining some of the conceptual or empirical questions that define their current work. Discussions were then grouped around the broad themes presented. The final session of the day aimed to map some of the key concerns that are emerging from social science research with youth, and contribute to setting an agenda for future investigation. The key concerns included:

- The extent to which information technologies have made investigations of place more complex. What is the relationship between virtual and material space?
- Questions of temporality – the rhythm of young people's lives; the impacts of seasonality; whether spaces have ages; as well as the temporality of the research process itself.
- Forms of youth marginalisation that are not characterised by disempowerment.
- Differences between the experiences of youth in the global north and south – Youth in the global north are facing exposure to challenges experienced by youth in the global south for some time. How can this be explored and theorised in such a way as to be sensitive to the unique contexts of each?
- How might policy-focused interests in the social, physical and emotional wellbeing of young people be reconciled with academic conceptual and methodological interests?
- How are family-based generational relations being affected by the changing economic climate?

Further information about the workshop, including a full write-up of the workshop outputs, can be found at youthinmotion.blogspot.com.

(4) "Young People's Identities"

This one day interdisciplinary conference was arranged to bring researchers of young people's identities together to discuss their current research and provide networking opportunities. Participants were from a range of disciplinary backgrounds, including: languages, socio-linguistics, childhood studies and geography. The day was divided into three paper sessions, focused on: understandings of young people's identities, young people's identities in Majority World contexts, and young people's identities in higher education.



Seven very interesting papers were presented by current PhD students and established academics (complete programme available from the organiser). In addition, Dr Nicola Ansell, from the Centre for Human Geography at Brunel University, presented a fascinating keynote paper on the relationality and materiality in the making of young southern Africans in the context of marriage decisions.



The conference also allowed an opportunity for the launch of a recently published book on the experiences of migrant young people, *Childhood and Migration in Europe: Portraits of Mobility, Identity and Belonging in Contemporary Ireland*, by Caitriona

Ní Laoire, Fina Carpena-Mendez, Naomi Tyrrell and Allen White (also see page 24).

The organiser would like to thank all the participants for sharing their research findings and insights throughout the day, and a special thank you to the GCYFRG for funding a number of postgraduate travel bursaries.

Date: 4th July 2011

Venue: University of Plymouth

Organiser:

Naomi Tyrrell (University of Plymouth)

Co-sponsored by GCYFRG and the School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Plymouth

Convenors: Katherine Gough (Loughborough University), Thilde Langevang (Copenhagen Business School)

Date: Wednesday 31st August 2011

Time: 9:00am-10.40am

Chair: Thilde Langevang (Copenhagen Business School)

Date: Wednesday 31st August 2011

Time: 11:10am-12:50pm

Chair: Katherine Gough (Loughborough University)

Sessions sponsored by the GCYFRG at the RGS-IBG Annual Conference 2011, London, 31 August - 2 September

(1) "Youth in the global South: imagining better futures"

Co-sponsored by the Developing Areas Research Group

Session 1: "Key institutions in youth transitions"

Tamlynn Fleetwood (Durham University): *Imagining a future South Africa: young people's reflections on a country in transition*

Caroline Day (University of Reading): *Imagining the future in the global South: the transition to adulthood and future hopes and aspirations of young people caring for parents and relatives in Zambia*

Sarah Holloway (Loughborough University), Helena Pimlott-Wilson (Loughborough University), Sarah O'Hara (University of Nottigham): *Educational capital and gendered transitions to work and family life in a post-transitional economy*

Fazeeha Azmi (University of Peradeniya), Cathrine Brun (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Ragnhild Lund (Norwegian University of Science and Technology): *Inclusive citizenship and gendered participation – perceptions of youth in Eastern Sri Lanka*

Nicola Ansell (Brunel University): *Discussant*

Session 2: "Pathways to youth employment"

Dorte Thorsen (University of Reading): *The path away from farming: Rural boys' informal apprenticeships in Burkina Faso*

Robert L. Afutu-Kotey (University of Ghana): *Youth livelihoods within the mobile telephony sector in the city of Accra, Ghana*

Thilde Langevang (Copenhagen Business School): *Fashioning careers: Young entrepreneurs in Africa's emerging fashion industry*

Valeria Izzì (University of Pisa): *Youth employment and peacebuilding: Unpacking assumptions*

Tracey Skelton (National University of Singapore): *Discussant*

RGS-IBG AC 2011 sponsored sessions

Session 3: "Youth trajectories"

Linda Helgesson (Umea University): *Still getting ready for life? Tracer study of youth from a small town in Tanzania, five years later*

Katherine Gough (Loughborough University): *Growing up in Lusaka: analysing the disjuncture between young people's imagined and real futures*

Lorraine Van Blerk (University of Dundee): *Pathways from the street?: The prison and the shelter as vital conjunctures in Cape Town street youth's lives*

Elizabeth Richardson (Durham University): *Participatory video and youth aspirations: a case study from Durban*

(2) "Young people and alternative futures: imagining, hoping, transforming, persisting"

Session 1:

Shanene Ditton (Griffith University): *Creating Waves: Cultural youth networks on Australia's Gold Coast*

Silvia Tomaskova (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill): *In the heart, there's nothing: Unruly youth and the future of territory in Leh, Ladakh*

Nick Crane (Ohio State University): *Beyond State Space: Young people, commemorating the past and prefiguring the future in Mexico City*

Douglas Lonie (Youth Music), Luke Dickens (Youth Music): *Your Agenda or My Agenda? Music, Subversion and Active Citizenship*

Maria Rodó-de-Zárate (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), Mireia Baylina (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona): *Young girls and the creation of alternative spaces*

Date: Wednesday 31st August 2011

Time: 2:40pm-4:20pm

Chair: Thilde Langevang
(Copenhagen Business School)

Convenors: Peter Kraftl (University of Leicester), Á. Clotilde Houchon (University of Utah)

Date: Wednesday 31st August 2011

Time: 2:40pm-4:20pm

Chair: Peter Kraftl (University of Leicester)

Date: Wednesday 31st August 2011
 Time: 4:50pm-6:30pm
 Chair: Peter Kraftl (University of Leicester)

Convenors: Matej Blazek (University of Dundee), Morgan Windram-Geddes (University of Dundee)

Date: Thursday 1st September 2011
 Time: 9:00am-10:40am
 Chair: Morgan Windram-Geddes (University of Dundee)

RGS-IBG AC 2011 sponsored sessions

Session 2:

Karin Schwiter (University of Zurich): *Individualised imaginations: how the discourse of individualisation shapes young people's imagination of alternative futures and social transformations*

Sarah Meys (The Katholieke Universiteit Leuven): *Young Fleming's geographies of the Other*

Maria O'Sullivan (University of Salford): *Children's and parent's perspectives of a supportive street environment for walking and cycling to school*

Á. Clotilde Houchon (University of Utah), Michael Bitz (Centre for Educational Pathways), Antoine Toniolo (Distance Education Centre of Victoria), Kyle, Muhamed and Jackson (Transmigrant youth, Center for Educational Pathways), Jess and Tara (Transmigrant youth, Distance Education Centre of Victoria): *We're here! From the streets to your screens: Australian and American youth doing collective transnational comics research (e)merge with the academy*

(3) "Researching and (re)imagining children's emotions in geography"

Session 1: "Conceptualisations"

Owain Jones (University of the West of England): *Black Rain and Fireflies: Filmic depictions of children's' emotional and affective geographies within adult structured worlds*

Francis Barton (University of Gloucestershire): *Conceptualising the emotions of play as voluntary partial concession of control*

Matej Blazek (University of Dundee): *Emotions as practice: Anna Freud's child psychoanalysis and geographies of emotions*

Bronwyn Wood (Victoria University of Wellington): *Exploring belonging and participation in communities with New Zealand young people*

Sarah Meys (The Katholieke Universiteit Leuven): *Studying young people's feelings towards the Other*

RGS-IBG AC 2011 sponsored sessions

Session 2: "Methodologies"

Douglas Lonie (Youth Music), Luke Dickens (Youth Music): *Music, lyrics and young people's emotions: working with those in challenging circumstances*

Morgan Windram-Geddes (University of Dundee): *"Nope, I'm not made for it (running)": employing kinetic focus groups to reveal primary school girls' experiences of physical activity*

Lisa Procter (University of Sheffield): *Interpreting the social: drawing upon the researcher's emotional experiences during fieldwork*

Lesley Murray (University of Brighton): *Researching mobile emotions*

Joanna Tsoni (University of Amsterdam): *Reflections on the implications of unpredictable and emotionally saturated fieldwork settings*

Sophie Hadfield-Hill (University of Northampton): *Everyday lives, new urban spaces and emotion: reflections of an ethnographic Geographer*

(4) "Geographies of Friendships"

Co-sponsored by the Women and Geography Study Group and the Social and Cultural Geography Research Group

Session 1: "Starting points"

Tracey Skelton (National University of Singapore): *Geographies of friendships: starting points*

Susie Weller (London South Bank University): *Identities and the place of friendship in young people's lives*

Jane Dyson (-): *Geographies of Friendship: Youth and Work in the Indian Himalayas*

Sumi Hollingworth (London Metropolitan University): *Urban youth and 'social mixing': friendship as a productive force in the making of social class*

Date: Thursday 1st September 2011

Time: 11:10am-12:50pm

Chair: Morgan Windram-Geddes
(University of Dundee)

Convenors: Tim Bunnell (National University of Singapore), Tracey Skelton (National University of Singapore)

Date: Thursday 1st September 2011

Time: 9:00am-10:40am

Chair: Tim Bunnell (National University of Singapore)

Date: Thursday 1st September 2011
 Time: 11:10am-12:50pm
 Chair: Tracey Skelton (National University of Singapore)

Date: Thursday 1st September 2011
 Time: 2:40pm-4:20pm
 Chair: Tim Bunnell (National University of Singapore)

RGS-IBG AC 2011 sponsored sessions

Session 2: "Transboundary friendships"

Nick Clarke (University of Southampton): *Interurban friendship*

Ruth Craggs (St Mary's University College): *Commonwealth lives and international friendship*

Bruno Machado (University of Lisbon): *From colonial Africa to postcolonial Europe: the role of friendship networks in the identity and integration of the Portuguese retornados*

Ravi Bhoothalingam (Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies): *Exploration, travel and pilgrimage in High Asia: Transformation through Travel*

Session 3: "Friendships, mobilities and institutions"

Sallie Yea (National University of Singapore): *Friends in Low Places: Entertainers Return from Trafficking and Intimate Networks in the Philippines*

Darya Malyutina (University College London): *Friendship in the Russian-speaking community of London*

Dianna Looker (Mount Saint Vincent University): *The intersections of friendships: the impact of friendship on mobility for males and females in rural and urban locales.*

Kirsty Finn (Teeside University): *Fancy That: Imagining Friend Relationships during the move to University*

Eleanor Jupp (The Open University): *A Home from Home? Friendships and carescapes in a Sure Start Children's Centre*

RGS-IBG AC 2011 sponsored sessions

Session 4: "Friendship, collaboration and support"

Anna Ortiz (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), Maria Prats Ferrat (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), Mireia Baylina (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona): *Friendship as a place: social and cultural practices of Barcelona's teenagers*

Elen-Maarja Trell (University of Groningen, The Netherlands): *'It's a place where all friends meet': youth places of friendship in rural Estonia*

Sarah de Leeuw (University of Victoria): *Friendship, Indigenous Geographies, and New Possibilities for Socially-Just Research*

Ragnhild Lund (Norwegian University of Science and Technology): *Being mothers, being scholars: Emotional linkages and professional support through friendship among researchers in a globalised world*

(5) "Diversity in transitions to adulthood and implications for residential mobility"

Co-sponsored by the Population Geography Research Group

Session 1: "'Ordinary' residential mobility in young adulthood and implications of international migration"

Emma Rawlins (University of Edinburgh): *Young adults' anticipated futures as partners and parents: what role does housing mobility play?*

Matthew Callender (University of Northampton): *Understanding the impacts of migratory experiences for young Polish migrants social networks*

Dorothea Mueller (University of Sussex): *They just don't understand how I can live like this: Migration as an escape route from conventional lifecourses*

Catherine Locke (University of East Anglia), Dolf Linteló (Institute of Development Studies): *'Squeezing' Themselves In: Residential Mobility and Vital Conjectures in Transitions to Adulthood in Zambia*

Date: Thursday 1st September 2011

Time: 4:50pm-6:30pm

Chair: Tracey Skelton (National University of Singapore)

Convenors: Nissa Finney (University of Manchester), Naomi Tyrrell (University of Plymouth)

Date: Thursday 1st September 2011

Time: 2:40pm-4:20pm

Chair: Nissa Finney (University of Manchester)

Date: Thursday 1st September 2011
 Time: 4:50pm-6:30pm
 Chair: Naomi Tyrrell (University of Plymouth)

Convenors: Lynne Wyness
 (University of Exeter)

Date: Friday 2nd September 2011
 Time: 9:00am-10:40am
 Chair: Nicola Thomas (University of Exeter)

RGS-IBG AC 2011 sponsored sessions

Session 2: "Socio-economic and cultural explanations for residential decisions in young adulthood"

Juliet Stone (University of Southampton), Ann Berrington (University of Southampton), Jane Falkingham (University of Southampton): *A multi-level analysis of leaving home in Britain 1991-2007: the role of individual, family and local area factors*

Therese Lützelberger (European University Institute): *The cultural meanings of residential independence in the transition to adulthood in comparative perspective*

Aslan Zorlu (University of Amsterdam), Claartje Mulder (University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands): *Location choices of migrant nest-leavers: spatial assimilation or continued segregation?*

Nissa Finney (University of Manchester): *A lifecourse perspective on the role of ethnicity in internal migration in young adulthood*

(6) "Development (and) education: producing, maintaining, disrupting the geographical imagination of global others?"

Co-sponsored by the Developing Areas Research Group

Lynne Wyness (University of Exeter): *When development meets education: traversing the messy narratives of global school partnerships*

Alan Pagden (University of East Anglia): *Virtual Schoolbags Unpacked: drawing geographies in the classroom*

Kristina Diprose (University of Leeds): *Development education as praxis: politicising participation in international voluntary service*

Matt Baillie-Smith (Northumbria University): *Where does Development Education go? Cosmopolitanism, social solidarity and development*

Nina Laurie (Newcastle University): *Discussant*

RGS-IBG AC 2011 sponsored sessions

(7) "Geography with Vulnerable People"

Session 1: "Ethics"

Kathy Reilly (Dublin City University), Valerie Ledwith (National University of Ireland): *'Doing ethical research' with migrant families: negotiating the gap between institutional expectation and (unpredictable) fieldwork*

Lorraine Van Blerk (University of Dundee): *Researching street youth's life paths in Cape Town, South Africa: offering a therapeutically designed self-improvement response to address any potential resurfacing of past traumatic experiences*

Morgan Windram-Geddes (University of Dundee): *Geography with vulnerable people: ethics, methods and practice*

Dallas Rogers (University of Western Sydney): *Research, practice and the space between: Reflexive ethics as method*

Jackie Parkes (University of Northampton), Michelle Pyer (University of Northampton): *Working with 'vulnerable' groups: Supporting 'vulnerable' researchers*

Session 2: "Methods and Practice"

Ann Hockey (Anglia Ruskin University): *Undertaking Research with Older People in the Built Environment*

Kirsten Owen (University of Sheffield): *'Where are they all?': The unimagined reality of researching with vulnerable young people*

Andrew Williams (University of Exeter): *Faith-based reflexivity in the field: reflections on 'doing' research in faith-based substance abuse programmes*

Natascha Klocker (University of Wollongong): *Conducting sensitive research in the present and past tense: recounting the stories of current and former child domestic workers*

Douglas Lonie (Youth Music), Luke Dickens (Youth Music): *Economising the Lived Experiences of Vulnerable Young People: Research Perspectives from the Third Sector*

Convenors: Nadia von Benzon (University of Manchester), Michael Bulthuis (University of Ottawa)

Date: Friday 2nd September 2011

Time: 9:00am-10:40am

Chair: Nadia von Benzon (University of Manchester), Michael Bulthuis (University of Ottawa)

Date: Friday 2nd September 2011

Time: 11:10am-12:50pm

Chair: Nadia von Benzon (University of Manchester), Michael Bulthuis (University of Ottawa)

Convenors: Darren Smith
(Loughborough University), Patrick
Rerat (University of Neuchâtel),
Joanna Sage (University of
Southampton)

Date: Friday 2nd September 2011

Time: 9:00am-10:40am

Chair: Patrick Rerat (University of
Neuchâtel)

Date: Friday 2nd September 2011

Time: 11:10am-12:50pm

Chair: Darren Smith (Loughborough
University)

RGS-IBG AC 2011 sponsored sessions

(8) "Youth Migration and Mobilities"

Co-sponsored by the Population Geography Research Group

Session 1:

Francis Collins (National University of Singapore): *Cultural Travelers or Economic Migrants? Changing economic conditions and the journeys of foreign English teachers*

Michelle Foong (National University of Singapore): *Cosmopolitan contact zones in globalizing universities- A comparative study of international students in Singapore and Japan*

Fiona Smith (University of Dundee): *Cosmopolitan transnational mobilities? Young people and international migration in higher education*

Michael Weichbrodt (Universität Münster): *Intercultural exchange and mobility biographies*

Mandy Curtis (University of Brighton): *Student migrants in new higher educational contexts*

Session 2:

Patrick Rerat (University of Neuchâtel): *Migration patterns of young graduates: flows and counterflows in a peripheral region of Switzerland*

Tara Duncan (University of Otago): *A Global 'Gap Year'? New Zealand Perspectives*

Tialda Haartsen (University of Groningen): *Return migration and senses of belonging of young people in the Netherlands*

Alina Potrykowska (Central Statistics Office of Poland): *Youth International Migration in Poland*

RGS-IBG AC 2011 sponsored sessions

Session 3:

Meghan Cope (University of Vermont): *We're Losing Our Young People: Place narratives of youth out-migration*

Naomi Tyrrell (University of Plymouth): *Young People's Narratives of Migration in the 'New' European Union*

Joanna Sage (University of Southampton), Darren Smith (Loughborough University), Phil Hubbard (University of Kent): *The new geographies of young adult internal migration in the UK*

(9) "New family population geographies"

Co-sponsored by the Population Geography Research Group

Roona Simpson (University of Edinburgh): *Family and Place in the Residential Choices of Working Age Adults Living Alone*

John Watters (National University of Ireland): *The Geographical Imagination and Family: A case for a landscape imaginary*

Helen Jarvis (Newcastle University): *Connecting diverse 'post-individualist' families: addressing social isolation via Danish 'living togetherness'*

Darren Smith (Loughborough University): *Uneven family geographies*

Jenna Truder (University of Reading): *Families on the margins*

Date: Friday 2nd September 2011

Time: 2:40pm-4:20pm

Chair: Joanna Sage (University of Southampton)

Convenors: Darren Smith (Loughborough University), Helen Jarvis (Newcastle University)

Date: Friday 2nd September 2011

Time: 4:50pm-6:30pm

Chair: Darren Smith (Loughborough University), Helen Jarvis (Newcastle University)

Date: 8th September 2011
 Venue: University of Northampton
 Organiser: John Horton
 (john.horton@northampton.ac.uk)

Date: 11th-13th July 2012
 Venue: National University of Singapore
 More information: Louise Holt
 (L.Holt@lboro.ac.uk)

Future events

(1) "Children, young people and 'sustainability': perspectives from research, planning and practice"

This one-day conference will bring together researchers, planners and practitioners who have worked with children and young people in the contexts of environmental, social or economic 'sustainability'.

We hope to include contributors from diverse backgrounds, and invite short spoken papers or presentations exploring the following topics:

- Findings from research about childhood, youth and sustainability.
- Experiences and outcomes of planning processes which have engaged children and young people in the creation of 'sustainable' communities or spaces.
- Experiences of practitioners working with children and young people in diverse contexts relating to sustainability, sustainable education, behaviour change, or environmental and community action.
- Reflections on contemporary agendas relating to children, young people and diverse notions of sustainability.

Abstracts (200 words) should be sent to the organiser by the 8th August 2011.

John Horton, University of Northampton

(2) "The Third International Conference on Geographies of Children, Youth and Families"

The Third International Conference on Geographies of Children, Youth and Families will take place at the National University of Singapore on the 11th-13th July 2012 (provisional dates).

The event will be hosted by Professor Tracey Skelton and colleagues from the Family, Children and Youth Research Cluster at the National University of Singapore.

Further details and the call for papers will be announced shortly and advertised on the website and mailing list of the RGS-IBG GCYF Research Group.

Recently completed PhD theses

(1) "Be Prepared: The Cultural Politics of the Scout Movement in Britain"

This research explores the histories and geographies of 'citizenship training' through the case study of the Scout Movement in Britain. The thesis focuses on the cultural politics of scouting over the last century and is based on extensive and original archival research. It considers the ways in which the Scout Movement constructed and maintained a model of citizenship for young people to emulate and how this 'ideal scouting citizen' has been negotiated and 'stretched' over time through various aspects of social and cultural difference. Youth movements, as popular informal learning environments that emerged in late nineteenth and early twentieth century Britain, can provide a 'lens' through which to examine broader ideas on citizenship and nationhood in civil society. Through their philosophies and practices, youth movements project and embody a particular vision of what they want (future) British youth to be. I explore some of the tensions and opportunities that have emerged when diverse individuals and social groups – including communist youth, female youth and religious minorities – have participated in scouting and directly challenged those (adult) visions and questions over 'who belongs'. I therefore use scouting as an illustration of the emergence and transformation of particular political-cultural formations associated with British youth – to ask how social difference has contested the notion of British citizenship, as well as the manner in which these issues have been played out in everyday spaces and performances relating to expected behaviours and allegiances. I argue that these examples can be seen as 'moments' in the emergence of a complex, tension-ridden movement. Indeed, rather than assume the organisation as a coherent container within which individuals play out identities, or as a hegemonic entity that produces resistance, I have unpacked the movement as a shifting ensemble of people, objects and knowledges that work to produce particular subjectivities around citizenship.

Sarah Mills
(sm599@le.ac.uk)

Institute of Geography and Earth
Sciences, Aberystwyth University,
2011

Bronwyn E. Wood
(bronwyn.wood@vuw.ac.nz)

Faculty of Education, Victoria
University of Wellington, 2011

(2) "Citizenship in our place: Exploring New Zealand young people's everyday, place-based perspectives on participation in society"

Developing more active citizens has been a feature of policies in many nations in recent years. Educational curricula in particular have been viewed as an important way to deliver this goal. The revised New Zealand Curriculum (2007) is an example of this, with a vision to develop young people who will be confident, connected, actively involved, lifelong learners who will themselves "participate and take action as critical, informed, and responsible citizens" (p. 17). In this thesis, I explore how New Zealand young people are currently participating as citizens by examining their conceptions and practices of social action alongside those of their teachers. My approach draws attention to spatial and relational aspects of young people's everyday, place-based perspectives on participation in society.

The conceptual and theoretical framework underpinning this research is developed through Bourdieu's analytical concepts of habitus, field and capital, and Mills' (1959) "sociological imagination". Participants in this research included 122 social studies students aged between 14 and 18 years old, and their teachers (n=27) from four diverse secondary schools in New Zealand. Data collection included café-style focus groups with young people, as well as visual data generated by participation in Photovoice research. More traditional focus groups were also undertaken with social studies teachers at each of the four schools.

Taking an everyday, place-based approach to youth participation opened up new and relatively unexplored landscapes of participation. Young people provided many examples of how they were "taking action" through formal opportunities (provided by their teachers, schools and communities), as well as informal ways, such as standing up against a bully, or reducing water usage. Through their identification of social issues that needed addressing, it was possible to see their citizenship imaginations at play. Social studies teachers played a significant role in shaping young people's awareness of social issues as well as providing them with opportunities to take action on these issues. The findings revealed the enduring importance of young people's everyday experiences of inclusion/exclusion within places, as well as the contribution of the participatory capital of their teachers, families and communities, in shaping their citizenship perceptions, imaginations and actions.

Recent publications of interest

(1) "Family Geographies: The Spatiality of Families and Family Life"

Family Geographies: The Spatiality of Families and Family Life is a contributed text that explores the role of geography in shaping the experience and practice of family life. Through diverse, stimulating, and current studies, Canadian and American authors apply geographical concepts of space, place, and distance to family relationships across the life course from childbirth to elder-care. From the zoo, to family vehicles, to retirement communities, the authors draw on a wide range of contextual primary research to explore the everyday spaces that shape, and are in turn shaped by, family life. Integrating case studies, interviews, surveys, and personal accounts with theoretical analysis and existing literature, this text offers a unique contribution to an emerging research area and field of study.

Primarily aimed at geography courses that focus on issues of gender, families, and space, the books interdisciplinary approach will also appeal to any family-focused social science course.

(2) "Student Mobilities, Migration and the Internationalization of Higher Education"

The last ten years have seen the deepening and expansion of the process of internationalization in relation to higher education. This process is multi-faceted and has included the development of education 'brands' as governments and educational institutions become increasingly entrepreneurial in their approach to higher education. The number of students who chose to study abroad has also increased considerably.

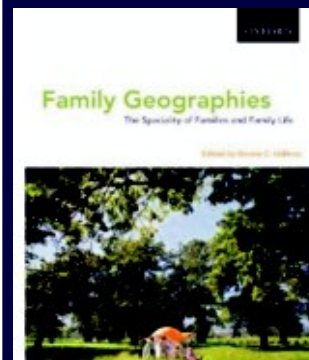
Although there is a growing academic literature on the internationalization of higher education, students' own perspectives - on their motivations, objectives and experiences - are sorely lacking. Student Mobilities, Migration and the Internationalization of Higher Education is intended to address this gap. Its strong empirical focus, drawing on case studies of mobile students from East Asia, mainland Europe and the UK, helps to develop an in-depth understanding of both the commonalities and differences in the experiences of students from different parts of the world who choose to move abroad to pursue a higher education. It discusses the implications of their movement for contemporary higher education and for our understanding of migration more generally.

Bonnie C. Hallman (ed.)

256 pages

2011

Oxford University Press



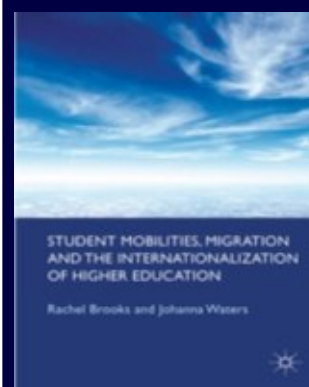
Rachel Brooks

Johanna Waters

208 pages

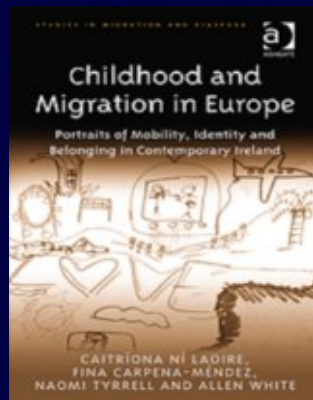
2011

Palgrave



Caitríona Ní Laoire
Fina Carpena-Mendez
Naomi Tyrrell
Allen White

212 pages
2011
Ashgate



Merike Darmody
Naomi Tyrrell
Steve Song (eds)

288 pages
2011
Sense Publishers



(3) "Childhood and Migration in Europe: Portraits of Mobility, Identity and Belonging in Contemporary Ireland"

Childhood and Migration in Europe explores the under-researched and often misunderstood worlds of migrant children and young people, drawing on extensive empirical research with children and young people from diverse migrant backgrounds living in a rapidly changing European society. Through in-depth exploration and analysis of the experiences of children who moved to Ireland in the first decade of the 21st century, it addresses the tendency of migration research and policy to overlook the presence of children in migratory flows.

Challenging dominant adult-centric perspectives on contemporary global migration flows and presenting understandings of the lives of migrant children and young people from their own experiences, this book presents a detailed exploration of children's lives in four different migrant populations in Ireland. With a unique comparative perspective, Childhood and Migration in Europe advances upon current conceptualisations of migration and integration by interrogating accepted views of migrant children and focusing on children's own voices and experiences. It challenges the prevailing assimilationist discourses underlying much existing research and policy, which often construct migrant children as deficient in different ways and in need of 'being integrated'.

(4) "The Changing Faces of Ireland: Exploring the Lives of Immigrant and Ethnic Minority Children"

Before the economic boom of the 1990s, Ireland was known as a nation of emigrants. The past fifteen years, however, have seen the transformation of Ireland from a country of net emigration to one of net immigration, on a scale and at a pace unprecedented in comparative contexts. As a result, Irish society has become more diverse in terms of nationality, language, ethnicity and religious affiliation; and these changes are now clearly reflected in the composition of both primary and secondary schools, presenting these with challenges as well as opportunities. Despite the increased number of ethnically-diverse immigrant children and young people in Ireland, currently there is a paucity of information about aspects of their lives in Ireland. This book is aimed at contributing to this gap in knowledge.

Journal publications of interest

Documents d'Anàlisi Geogràfica 2011 (57/1): "Geografies de la infància, la joventut i les famílies"

(A special issue on "Geographies of children, youth and families")

In July 2009, the Second International Conference on Geographies of Children, Youth and Families was hosted by the Geography and Gender Research Group at the Department of Geography, Autonomous University of Barcelona (in collaboration with the GCYFRG). A special issue of the journal Documents d'Anàlisi Geogràfica was published in early 2011 edited by Maria Prats Ferret and Mireia Baylina Ferré (both Autonomous University of Barcelona). The volume collects five papers presented at the conference (including papers from two keynote speakers, Lia Karsten and Cindi Katz) and three papers written in addition by Catalan authors who reflect on the state of art in various strands of research on geographies of children, youth and families.

The published papers cover a broad range of issues central to geographies of children, youth and families, from the mundane facets of younger people's everyday life, to the impacts of broader social and economic processes at the regional or global level. The volume connects explicitly with the main aim of the conference - to explore "diverse childhoods in international contexts". This has been reflected in the range of geographical areas explored in the empirical studies (including three European countries, sub-Saharan Africa and North America), the institutional backgrounds of the authors (who are based in six different countries), but also in the inclusion of papers that directly challenge the existing productions of geographical knowledge on children, youth and families in the dominant disciplinary discourses and major academic journals.

Documents d'Anàlisi Geogràfica is an open-access journal and the special issue is freely available at <http://ddd.uab.cat/record/14>.

Other journals of interest

Children's Geographies

"Advancing interdisciplinary understanding of younger people's lives"

Editor: Hugh Matthews
(University of Northampton)
hugh.matthews@northampton.ac.uk

www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/14733285.asp

Children, Youth and Environments

"The leading online publication for the latest research and news on children, youth and their environment"

Editors: Louise Chawla and Willem van Vliet
(University of Colorado)
cye@colorado.edu

<http://www.colorado.edu/journals/cye>

A word from the editors

In this volume of the GCYFRG newsletter, we have created new sections for recently completed PhD theses, relevant workshops and conferences, and publications of interest. These are sections we would like to expand in future volumes, so any comments or suggestions for improvement would be welcomed. In the next few months we will start to collate entries for the third volume which will be published in winter 2011. We are particularly interested in hearing about postgraduate activity, such as advertising or providing feedback from a conference or workshop, an announcement of a book, or an abstract from a recently completed PhD. We will also be looking to collate reports from the 2011 RGS-IBG Annual Conference sessions that the GCYFRG is (co)sponsoring. If you are interested in submitting an entry for the winter 2011 newsletter, please get in touch!

Gary Downing, University of Reading (g.e.downing@pgr.reading.ac.uk),
Matej Blazek, University of Dundee (m.blazek@dundee.ac.uk)