



# SEVENTH ANNUAL GRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENT CONFERENCE

Department of Social Policy and Intervention



100 years of social enquiry

## **Acknowledgements**

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We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the following people, without whom this event would not have been possible.

**Dr Stuart Basten, GRS Convenor 2013-2014 and Panel Chair**  
**The Other Panel Chairs: Prof Robert Walker, Dr. Mark Boyes, and Jenny Allsopp**  
**The 2012-2013 GRS Student Convenors: Sean Grant and Franziska Meinck**  
**Prof Martin Seeleib-Kaiser**  
**Prof Paul Montgomery**  
**Dr Georg Picot**  
**Gail Stevens**  
**Bryony Groves**  
**Gemma Sheppard**  
**Sarah Bryant**

In addition, the conference committee would like to thank all of the presenters, the staff of the Department of Social Policy and Intervention, and the faculty.

## **General Information**

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### **Facilities**

There are single restrooms on the basement level of Barnett House. Additionally, there is a female restroom next to the stairs on the first floor and a male restroom next to the stairs on the second floor.

### **Mobile Phones**

So as to not disturb the presentations, please turn off the sound on your mobile.

## Message from the Student Co-Conveners

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Thank you for being here; it is our sincere pleasure to welcome you to the 2013 Graduate Research Student Conference at Department of Social Policy and Intervention. Now in its seventh year, the conference is becoming a flagship academic event for the department.

Our goal is to offer you the opportunity to engage with current, original research from promising graduate students. All the research centers on questions of social policy and intervention but varies in perspectives and methods. We have a great deal to learn from each other, and we hope this conference will facilitate a space for ideas, intellectual friendships, and finding solutions to social problems. It is our privilege to be here today with these keynote speakers, graduate student speakers, chairs, and attendees.

We would like to extend our thanks to the students, faculty, and staff who have contributed to making this conference possible. Your time, assistance, and support are greatly appreciated and have made this wonderful event possible again this year.

Enjoy the day and the debates that will inevitably ensue. Please ask questions, reach out, challenge assumptions, and appreciate your peers' work: take full advantage of this experience!

*Ellie Ott, Amanda Shriwise, and Aase Villadsen*  
*Student Co-Conveners*

## Conference Schedule

31 OCTOBER 2013

Time	Event	Location
9:00 – 9:15AM	<b>Registration and Tea/Coffee with Small Pastries</b> <i>Ellie Ott, Amanda Shriwise, and Aase Villadsen</i>	Violet Butler Room
9:15 – 9:30AM	<b>Welcome from Head of Department</b> <i>Prof. Martin Seeleib-Kaiser</i>	Violet Butler Room
9:30 – 10:45AM	<b>Panel 1: Demographic and Social Change</b> <i>Chair: Dr. Stuart Basten</i>  <b>Changes in Social Mobility of East and West German Men – Developments Before, During and After the German Unification</b> <i>Pia Blossfeld</i>  <b>Culture, Work and Childcare in Europe</b> <i>Noah Carl</i>  <b>Lengthening Birth Intervals and the Fertility Transition in Urban and Rural Eastern Africa</b> <i>Catriona Towriss</i>	Violet Butler Room
10:45 – 11:00AM	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>	Common Room
11:00 – 12:15PM	<b>Panel 2: Qualitative Research and Methods</b> <i>Chair: Prof. Robert Walker</i>  <b>Youth Employment Interventions in Sierra Leone: The Dangers of the Single Story</b> <i>Luisa Enria</i>  <b>SMART Subsidies, Smarter People: Policy-Making and Aid Dependence in Malawi's Agriculture Sector</b> <i>Alexandra Lowe</i>  <b>Systematic review and critical appraisal of qualitative metasyntheses to develop a snapshot and taxonomy of practice</b> <i>G.J. Melendez-Torres</i>	Violet Butler Room
12:15 – 1:15PM	<b>Keynote: Prof. James Thomas</b> <b>Trans-disciplinary systematic reviews to inform public-policy: methodological challenges and (some) solutions</b> <i>Introduction: Prof. Paul Montgomery</i>	Violet Butler Room
1:15 – 2:00PM	<b>Lunch</b>	Common Room

2:00 – 3:00PM	<p><b>Panel 3: Children in Developing Countries</b>  <i>Chair: Dr. Mark Boyes</i></p> <p><b>Household chronic illness and orphanhood as risk factors for child abuse victimization in South Africa</b>  <i>Franziska Meinck</i></p> <p><b>Factors Associated with Take-up of the Foster Child Grant in KwaZulu-Natal, a High HIV Prevalence Region of South Africa</b>  <i>Melissa Pancoast</i></p>	Violet Butler Room
3:00 – 3:15PM	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>	Common Room
3:15 – 4:15PM	<p><b>Panel 4: Social Policy and intervention in the UK Context</b>  <i>Chair: Jenny Allsopp</i></p> <p><b>Exploring everyday diversity: new migrants' place making in a super-diverse UK urban area</b>  <i>Rachel Humphris</i></p> <p><b>Class Cleavages and Employment Insecurity – Explaining apartisanship and support for far right parties in the UK</b>  <i>Chauncey Glass</i></p>	Violet Butler Room
4:15 – 5:00PM	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>	Common Room
5:00 – 6:30PM	<p><b>Centenary Lecture: Prof. Jose Harris</b>  <b>The “tin can” versus the “golden staircase” models of social reform: some new light on the making of the Beveridge Plan of 1942</b>  <i>Introduction: Dr. Georg Picot</i></p>	Violet Butler Room
6:30 – 7:00PM	<b>Closing Reception</b>	Common Room

## **Keynote Speaker Profile**

**Professor James Thomas**

***Assistant Director Social Science Research Unit***

***Associate Director Evidence for Policy and Practice Information and  
Co-ordinating Centre (EPPI-Centre)***

***Professor of Social Research and Policy***

***Assistant Director for Health and Wellbeing, Institute of Education***

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Professor James Thomas is Director of the EPPI-Centre's Reviews Facility for the Department of Health, England, which undertakes systematic reviews across a range of policy areas to support the department. Professor Thomas specialises in developing methods for research synthesis, in particular for qualitative and mixed methods reviews and in using emerging information technologies such as text mining in research. He leads a module on synthesis and critical appraisal on the EPPI-Centre's MSc in Research for Public Policy and Practice and development on the Centre's in-house reviewing software, EPPI-Reviewer.

He is also Assistant Director for Health & Wellbeing at the Institute of Education, a job shared with Mark Newman. In this role, they aim to support the Institute's activities relating to health and wellbeing, linking us at an institutional level with other HEI and 3rd sector organisations, and making relevant 'links' between different sections of the Institute.

## **Keynote Speaker Profile – Centenary Lecture**

**Professor Jose Harris**

***Emeritus Professor of Modern History***

***Faculty of History, University of Oxford***

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Professor Harris has published extensively on the history of social policy, and on nineteenth- and twentieth-century intellectual history. She is Beveridge's biographer and is an emeritus Professor of Modern History at St Catherine's College, Oxford. Jose Harris is the author of *William Beveridge: a biography* (1977, second edn. 1997) and of numerous other works on the history of social thought and social policy including *Civil Society in British History: ideas, institutions, identities* (2003). She is currently researching on intellectuals during the Second World War.

## Panel I: Demographic and Social Change

**CHAIR: Dr. Stuart Basten**

*ESRC Research Fellow in Demography and Social Policy*

*Department of Social Policy and Intervention*

Stuart Basten's work straddles the three core research fields of the Department – namely population research, social policy and evidence-based social intervention. His primary research interest lies in the future of global fertility patterns and the uncertainty surrounding population projections. His work has a strong regional focus on Eastern Asia in general, and Taiwan, Hong Kong SAR and the People's Republic of China in particular.

His socio-demographic work seeks to explore the reasons for low fertility in this important region of the world and identify possible future trajectories. Using these different trajectories, he examines possible consequences regarding ageing, economic sustainability and the future of social welfare. In 2012, Dr. Basten received a grant from the UK Economic and Social Research Council under the 'Future Research Leaders Scheme' for a project entitled: *The gap between fertility ideals and reality in East Asia: a mixed-method comparative study of Beijing Municipality and Taiwan*. My research explicitly feeds into a policy framework. I work closely with academics, policymakers and other stakeholders across East Asia to explore the role which the state and the private sector can play in directly affecting fertility and, crucially, in the context that surrounds the conditions of low fertility. I am especially interested in the role of gender equity and shifting attitudes towards the role of women in the domestic sphere.

Finally, he is developing some work surrounding interventions in East Asia, especially concerning the implementation of policies which foster a 'family friendly' environment such as in-house corporate childcare and breastfeeding/baby changing facilities.

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**Pia Blossfeld**

*DPhil in Sociology*

*Department of Sociology*

### **Changes in Social Mobility of East and West German Men – Developments Before, During and After the German Unification**

In Germany inter- and intra-generational social mobility has changed a lot in recent decades. However, there are partly contradicting developments in the labour market which make it difficult to decide at first glance who are the winners and losers of these structural changes. On the one hand, there has been an increasing flexibilization of employment relationships in Germany, especially enforced by the opening clauses (Öffnungsklauseln) and the Employment Promotion Act (Beschäftigungs-förderungsgesetz) introduced in 1985. On the other hand, during the 40 years of separation in Germany until 1990, both parts of Germany differed markedly in their political systems, policies and ideologies which are supposed to have different effects for social mobility in both Germanies – before and even after German reunification. Using new longitudinal data from the National Educational Panel Study in Germany and discrete event history models, I analyze upward, downward and lateral mobility rates of German men, their mobility rates between different labour market segments and their transitions from fixed-term to tenured positions. My results demonstrate that there still exist differences in career opportunities for East and West German men. East German men are still disadvantaged. In addition, for the younger labour market entry cohorts fixed-term

employment increased dramatically. However, education is a good predictor, whether men are able to move out of these uncertain employment forms.

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**Noah Carl**

*DPhil Sociology*

*Department of Sociology*

### **Culture, Work and Childcare in Europe**

Fertility varies substantially across developed countries. Over the last two decades, it has been consistently higher in North-Western Europe and the Anglo-Saxon countries than in Southern, Central and Eastern Europe, and the East-Asian Tigers. Following McDonald (2000a,b) and Aassve et al. (2012), I argue that these differences are attributable, at least in part, to differences in gender attitudes and social trust. In particular, women who have higher social trust and more egalitarian gender attitudes are more likely to outsource childcare, which allows them to reconcile childbearing with paid work. Using data from the second wave of the European Social Survey, I examine two hypotheses: first, that social trust is correlated with childcare outsourcing and female employment; and second, that egalitarian gender attitudes are correlated with childcare outsourcing and female employment. I test these hypotheses at the country-level, the region-level and the individual-level. Overall, I document moderate support for the first hypothesis, and strong support for the second hypothesis. My results are robust to a variety of checks including alternative methods of estimation, additional control variables, and outlier dummies.

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**Catriona Towriss**

*PhD Population Studies*

*Department of Population Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine*

### **Lengthening Birth Intervals and the Fertility Transition in Urban and Rural Eastern Africa**

There has been concern about the progress of fertility transition in Sub-Saharan Africa: in many parts of the continent family sizes continue to be large. However, examining fertility rates by rural and urban area reveals that the decline is well underway in some populations. Birth spacing practices which served to delay births were an important element of fertility dynamics in many traditional African communities. Current research shows that birth spacing continues to be an important feature of fertility, and in a number of countries intervals have lengthened to five years or more. This research seeks to examine the extent to which lengthening birth intervals are a feature of fertility change in rural and urban East Africa.

Regression models were used to analyse birth interval length by rural and urban area in four East African countries. We show that, overall, intervals are very long and are lengthening rapidly in urban areas. We find large differentials by contraceptive use. Examining birth interval length by residence and contraceptive use we see a strong independent effect of urban living. These trends are indicative of 'birth postponement' which has been proposed as an important fertility control strategy, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. Women who postpone a birth are simply avoiding a birth at the present moment. They are substantively different to women who seek to space a birth and to women seeking to limit their family size. We argue that the high levels of social and economic uncertainty in towns and cities in the region largely explain birth postponement and the emergence of long birth intervals.



## Panel II: Qualitative Research and Methods

**CHAIR: Prof Robert Walker**

***Professor of Social Policy and Deputy Head of Department  
Department of Social Policy and Intervention***

Robert Walker joined the Department as Professor of Social Policy in April 2006 when he also became a Fellow of what is now Green Templeton College. He was formerly Professor of Social Policy at the University Nottingham and before that Professor of Social Policy Research, Loughborough University where he was Director of the Centre for Research in Social Policy. He is a Research Affiliate of the National Poverty Centre, University of Michigan and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. He was a member of the statutory UK Social Security Advisory Committee for 10 years until 2012 and chaired the Academic Advisory Committee during the design and launch of the ESRC UK Household Longitudinal Study. He is currently a member of the Expert Advisory Group for the evaluation of Universal Credit.

He is keen that high quality research should be used to inform the political process and to improve policy with the goal of enhancing all our lives. To this end, he undertakes research relevant to the development of welfare policies in Britain and other societies, and engages in dialogue with policy makers and anyone else wanting to use or support research to bring about positive change. Particular research interests include poverty, social exclusion, family dynamics and budgeting strategies, children's aspirations and employment instability and progression. Policy concerns embrace social security and social assistance, welfare to work and labour market policies, policy evaluation and policy transfer - that is the process of learning from experiences in other jurisdictions. He has published 19 books.

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**Luisa Enria**

*DPhil in International Development  
Department of International Development*

### **Youth Employment Interventions in Sierra Leone: The Dangers of the Single Story**

As Sierra Leone emerged from a ten-year civil war in 2002, the country, together with its international partners embarked on a process of soul-searching to understand the causes of conflict. In an international policy context whereby development has been increasingly securitised, policy-makers identified youth unemployment as a key threat to sustainable peace. This relies on economic theories of conflict that posit a fairly reductive link between labour market status and patterns of political mobilisation. The employment of young men and women therefore has become a key peacebuilding priority and several projects have been established using the unemployment-violence nexus as justification.

This presentation looks at United Nations and World Bank programming relating to youth employment in Sierra Leone. It firstly analyses how the particular programming narratives have relied on a simplistic "single story" about unemployed youth in Sierra Leone, highlighting the unintended consequences that this has had in practice. This is done through a contrast between programming narratives and the views and experiences of the unemployed youth who populate Freetown's informal economy. Secondly, the presentation reflects on the ways in which the internal organisational dynamics of project donors and implementers has given rise to inertia in approaches to the employment crisis, and how this has undermined efforts to solve the problem.

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**Alexandra Lowe**

*DPhil in International Development*

*Department of International Development*

**SMART Subsidies, Smarter People: Policy-Making and Aid Dependence in Malawi's Agriculture Sector"**

Following its decision to implement a near-universal fertilizer subsidy against donor advice in 2005, Malawi's agricultural policy has received much attention as an example of a "SMART" fertilizer subsidy that seeks to avoid the pitfalls of universal subsidies, such as dependence on the state and undermining private sector activity (Minot and Benson, 2009). My presentation discusses the findings of my DPhil research, outlining the evolution of this particular fertilizer subsidy, especially the influence that the donor community has wielded over the subsidy programme since its inception. I argue that donor pressures have resulted in a policy that better suits the ideological and technocratic approach of the donor community than the smallholder farmers it was intended to serve. Of particular note is the donor community's focus on ensuring the subsidy is targeted, resulting in a policy that does not correspond to the social and economic realities of smallholder maize production. As a result, smallholder farmers resort to sharing the subsidised inputs they receive equally among all households, regardless of poverty levels. Thus, the Farm Input Subsidy Programme has evolved into a safety-net programme that allows farming households to achieve food self-sufficiency, rather than a package that stimulates agricultural productivity and growth.

Finally, I discuss the 'policy feedback' created by this particular incarnation of Malawi's current fertilizer subsidy and the political imperatives thus created by donor-imposed policies (Juma and Clark, 1995). Here I argue that the political expectations created by the decision of smallholder farmers to subvert the policy and the political elites' inability to respond to these has resulted in an unstable fertilizer and agricultural policy environment. This, in turn, has ultimately undermined the potential of the Farm Input Subsidy Programme to engender meaningful rural development, as well as undermining Malawi's efforts at improved governance within the sector and the country as a whole.

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**G.J. Melendez-Torres**

*DPhil in Social Intervention*

*Department Lecturer in Evidence-Based Social Intervention*

*Department of Social Policy and Intervention*

**Systematic review and critical appraisal of qualitative metasyntheses to develop a snapshot and taxonomy of practice**

Introduction. Qualitative metasyntheses--or the 'meta-analysis' of qualitative studies to develop new understandings--have grown in popularity as social scientists seek to develop practice-relevant evidence from qualitative reports. A surfeit of metasynthesis methods currently exists, with differences between them poorly understood. Moreover, though reflective of systematic reviewing methodology, metasyntheses might inadequately report search and retrieval of studies. To understand current research practice--both in searching for and in analysing studies--qualitative metasyntheses published in 2012 and indexed on three major databases were systematically reviewed, their reporting assessed, and their methods analysed.

**Methods.** On 20 February 2013, MEDLINE, Embase, and PsycINFO were searched. Articles were included if they were a) full reports of metasyntheses of qualitative reports b) appearing in a peer-reviewed journal in English, c) with discernible methods and findings. Articles were screened and assessed for inclusion based on full-text reports. Data on search and metasynthetic methods were extracted from each included metasynthesis.

**Results.** 101 deduplicated records yielded 56 included metasyntheses, of which 54 included study searches and only 19 reported PRISMA-compliant search strategies. Seven metasyntheses did not report any critical appraisal of included studies. 11 metasyntheses excluded studies on the basis of appraisal. Methods used in qualitative metasyntheses could be understood along two axes: one addressing the method by which authors achieved the metasynthesis (visual metaphor, data reduction and thematic extraction, key paper integration, and line-by-line coding) and one addressing the continuum between aggregation and interpretation in analysis and expression of the metasynthesis.

**Discussion.** This systematic review presents an update on methods and reporting currently used in qualitative metasynthesis, and goes beyond the proliferation of approaches to offer a parsimonious approach to understanding metasynthetic methods. Limitations include inadequate indexing of articles and the lack of independent verification of this taxonomy, both of which will be addressed in future research.

## Panel III: Children in Developing Countries

**CHAIR: Dr. Mark Boyes**

**Research Officer**

**Department of Social Policy and Intervention**

Dr Mark Boyes joined the department as a Research Officer in November 2009. His research interests span the domains of health, clinical, and developmental psychology, with the overarching aim of understanding how both individual difference and social/community variables are related to psychological, educational and health-related outcomes across the life-span.

Since moving to Oxford Mark has been working with Dr Lucie Cluver on the 'Young Carers' project ([www.youngcarers.org.za](http://www.youngcarers.org.za)), a collaboration between the University of Oxford, the South African Government, and various NGOs. The 'Young Carers' project aims to examine the impact of being a young carer of a parent or guardian with HIV/AIDS on physical and mental health, social development, and educational outcomes. Mark is a Junior Research Fellow of Wolfson College.

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**Franziska Meinck**

*DPhil in Social Intervention*

*Department of Social Policy and Intervention*

### **Household chronic illness and orphanhood as risk factors for child abuse victimization in South Africa**

Little is known about risk and protective factors for physical, emotional and sexual abuse victimization amongst vulnerable youth in South Africa. Previous research has relied on university or high-school student's child abuse recollections and data from official records, which may all be subject to bias. Some of these identify household illness and orphanhood as risk factors for child abuse victimization. This is South Africa's first prospective study which aimed to establish whether household illness and orphanhood are factors associated with abuse victimization of vulnerable youth.

Confidential self-report questionnaires were completed by youth aged 10-17 (n=3516, 57% female). Participants were randomly sampled from communities with at least 30% HIV-prevalence and followed-up a year later (n=3401, 97% retention). Standardized measures of abuse, risk factors, and socio-demographic variables were used where possible.

Prevalence rates of last year abuse at follow-up were 16% for physical and 20% for emotional abuse and 5.9% of respondents reported contact sexual abuse. Household AIDS-sickness, but not other sickness, at baseline was found to be a predictor of physical (OR 1.59) and emotional abuse (OR 2.47) in boys. Household AIDS-sickness was also predictive of physical (OR 1.66) and emotional (OR 1.76) in girls. AIDS-orphanhood, but not other orphanhood at baseline, was predictive of physical abuse in girls (OR 1.53). Household AIDS-sickness and AIDS-orphanhood were not associated with sexual child abuse victimization.

Youth in deprived areas of South Africa experience high levels of abuse victimization. Youth in families affected by AIDS experience higher risks of child abuse victimization. This finding has the potential to influence policy making for vulnerable youth in South Africa. This study identifies important targets for future prevention and intervention efforts.

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**Melissa Pancoast**

*MSc in Evidence-Based Social Intervention (2012-2013) and Research Assistant  
Department of Social Policy and Intervention*

### **Factors Associated with Take-up of the Foster Child Grant in KwaZulu-Natal, a High HIV Prevalence Region of South Africa**

Background: South Africa's orphaned and vulnerable children are at increased risk of negative outcomes, and those orphaned by AIDS are especially vulnerable. One mechanism of social protection for children orphaned in South Africa is the Foster Child Grant. Evidence to date reflects low take-up of the Foster Child Grant, but no estimation of eligibility nor evidence of the factors associated with take-up of the grant.

Objectives: (i) determine the proportion of households and caregiver-child dyads eligible for the Foster Child Grant in a high HIV prevalence region of South Africa (ii) determine the take-up rate amongst eligible caregiver-child dyads, and (iii) evaluate factors associated with take-up of the FCG.

Methods: Secondary analysis of a cross-sectional study of caregivers (N=2477), in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. For each caregiver, a randomly selected child under their care was also interviewed, creating dyads. Information about grant access, socio-demographic factors, physical and mental health, parenting quality, and social support was collected by caregiver and child report. A literature review informed the construction of eligible subgroups and of a hypothesized social ecological model of factors associated with FCG take-up. The proportion of the total sample and subgroup sample (dyads) eligible for the FCG and the take-up rate in each group was calculated. The model was tested using multivariate logistic regression in a forward stepwise process.

Results: Of the total sample (N=2477), 514 households (20.8%) met the criteria for at least one eligible child, and in 10.9% of households, an eligible caregiver-child dyad was interviewed (n=271 dyads). Of eligible households in the total sample (Nh=514), 32.24% of households (nh=176) received the FCG. Of the eligible, caregiver-child dyads (Nd=271), 31.7% (nd=86) accessed the grant. Factors independently associated with Foster Child Grant take-up include: Caregiver sick with AIDS ( $\chi^2=4.103$ ,  $p<.05$ ), child's status as a double-orphan ( $\chi^2=12.814$ ,  $p<.000$ ), a biological relationship between the caregiver and child ( $\chi^2=4.214$ ,  $p<.05$ ), household poverty ( $\beta=.161$ ,  $p<.05$ ), household receipt of the Child Support Grant ( $\chi^2=13.425$ ,  $p<.05$ ). Caregiver knowledge of child eligibility and attempt toward access were also associated ( $\chi^2=38.95$ ,  $p<.000$  and  $\chi^2=5.837$ ,  $p<.05$  respectively). The hypothesized social ecological model demonstrated a good fit to the data (GOF  $p>.05$ ) and predictive power (68.2%) in multivariate logistic regression. Three factors remained significant above and beyond all other factors in the model: double-orphanhood ( $\beta=0.915$ , OR=2.496,  $p<.01$ ; 95% CI 1.403 -4.439), biological relationship ( $\beta=-1.063$ , OR=0.345,  $p<.01$ ; 95% CI 0.155-0.771), and household receipt of the Child Support Grant ( $\beta=0.936$ , OR=0.392,  $p<.01$ ; 95% CI 0.216-0.713).

Conclusion: Results indicate that approximately 21 % of the sample is eligible for the FCG and that only 32% of eligible households take it up. Results further show that double-orphanhood is the greatest predictor of FCG take-up and that children who are biologically related to their caregiver, or who live in homes which access the Child Support Grant are only one-third as likely to take-up the Foster Child Grant.

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## Panel IV: Social Policy and Intervention in the UK Context

**CHAIR: Jenny Allsopp**

*Research Assistant*

*Department of Social Policy and Intervention*

Jenny Allsopp is currently working with Dr Elaine Chase and Professor Robert Walker (Department of Social Policy and Intervention) and Dr Nando Sigona (University of Birmingham) on the research project 'In protracted limbo: transitions to adulthood and life trajectories of former unaccompanied migrant children in Europe'. Her recent research, an RSC Working Paper, focused on the politics of protection and criminalisation of solidarity with irregular migrants in France. Her broader research interests include: citizenship, identity and belonging, the politics of protection in France, child and youth migration and European asylum policy.

Prior to joining the Department of Social Policy and Intervention, Jenny worked for the national charity Student Action for Refugees, during which time she advocated for educational rights for asylum seekers and refugees and for the reform of policies that leave asylum seekers in destitution. She has worked with asylum seekers and refugees across a range of settings, including as a youth work volunteer at Asylum Welcome and a coordinator for writing workshops with migrants in detention.

Jenny is a regular contributor to openDemocracy 50.50 and a Commissioning Editor for the site's migration dialogue, People on the Move. She is also a Commissioning Editor for French-speaking authors for the Our Africa dialogue. She holds an MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies and an MA in Modern Languages from the University of Oxford.

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**Rachel Humphris**

*DPhil in Anthropology*

*Department of Anthropology*

### **Exploring everyday diversity: new migrants' place making in a super-diverse UK urban area**

Based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted with new migrants, NGO workers and volunteers, local politicians and city councillors, civil servants and social workers in Luton, this project will develop a theoretical understanding of the complex interplay between discourses, policies and practices which contribute to the governance of a highly (and purportedly increasingly) diverse urban area. The project focuses on encounters with the everyday lives of new migrants and local welfare state providers. It addresses how local authorities understand their role in order to respond to increasing diversity, and cuts in welfare provision.

Primarily it will do this through examining the notion of 'super-diversity'. Luton is examined as a super-diverse social context (urban areas which are undergoing a process of diversification of diversity) and how the notion of super-diversity and related concepts are used within bureaucratic discourse, policy and practice. Secondly it examines super-diversity as a set of inter-related variables (migrants are becoming increasingly diverse and are able to utilise these affiliations in different ways according to different family strategies).

As such it will offer a detailed analysis of the working and multiple dimensions of 'super-diversity' and locate strategies of local government and settlement patterns of new residents within this framework. It provides a detailed exploration of the lived experiences of conviviality, sharing and trust as well as of difference, exclusion and tension in a super-diverse urban area.

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**Chauncey Glass**

*DPhil in Social Policy*

*Department of Social Policy and Intervention*

**Class Cleavages and Employment Insecurity – Explaining apartisanship and support for far right parties in the UK**

Recent literature on class cleavages and voter preferences suggests the class-party connection is weakening in the UK. Furthermore, that political strategy – ‘New’ Labour’s movement towards the centre to appeal to the middle classes, for example – has contributed to this decline. Most of these studies examine the voters of the two main political parties – Labour and the Conservative – occasionally including the Lib Dems in the analysis. However, over the past few decades, the UK has seen an increase in support for smaller non-mainstream parties, notably parties on the far right, as well as an increase in apartisanship. My research hopes to address this gap in the literature.

While my overall DPhil project looks more closely at the policy reasons for rise of far right parties in the UK, the policy preferences of those who support these parties, and the implications thereof, my first empirical chapter is much broader and more foundational. This chapter builds on previous literature on class cleavages and predicting party support, but includes a wider variety of parties in the analysis, and also takes into account recent social policy research on the preferences of labour market insiders and outsiders. It asks whether occupational class is useful to help explain apartisanship or voting for non-mainstream parties (particularly those on the far right), or whether these changes can perhaps be better explained by employment insecurity. My research will answer these questions by means of quantitative methods – multinomial logistic regression – based on seven pooled waves of the British Social Attitudes survey (2004-2010).

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