



Queen's University
Belfast

SCHOOL OF
Sociology, Social Policy
and Social Work

DISABILITY
RESEARCH
NETWORK



Update September 2015

✚ **Upcoming event on the sexual exploitation of children and young people with learning disabilities: Friday 18th September 2015 at 2:30-4:30pm in the Great Hall, QUB.**

The DRN are hosting the launch of findings from a pioneering research project. The research was funded by Comic Relief and conducted by a team of researchers from Coventry University, Paradigm Research and The Children's Society, working in partnership with Barnardo's and the British Institute of Learning Disabilities (BILD). The launch is a chance to discuss the findings and recommendations of the report and share initial thoughts on the opportunities and challenges ahead to ensure this group of young people are better safeguarded in the future. To book a place at this event, please register your interest with Nicole Fasshi at policy@barnardos.org.uk

✚ Members of the Disability Research Network attended a number of conferences:

- Nordic Network for Disability Research Conference, 3-5 May 2015. Presentations from members included:
 - *Voices from the Inside: The Views of Disabled Children Living in Public Care.* Dr Sandra Dowling, Dr Berni Kelly & Dr Karen Winter
 - *Safeguarding Disabled Children: Rights, Risks and Responsibilities.* Dr Berni Kelly & Dr Sandra Dowling
- DOCTRID IV conference, Queen's University Belfast, 27-28 April 2015
 - Bronagh Byrne: *Social Inclusion and Intellectual Disability* (respondent)
- BAPSCAN conference, University of Edinburgh, 12-15 April 2015
 - *Exploring the Intersections of Child Protection and Disability: Messages from research with disabled looked after children.* Dr Berni Kelly, Dr Sandra Dowling & Dr Karen Winter
- Second International Postgraduate Conference in Translation and Interpreting. Territories of Understanding: Conflict and Encounter 4th-5th June 2015

- Sally Gillespie: *“Why don’t I belong? Inability to Assimilate into the Culture into which you are Born: Deaf culture as an indigenous minority”*

✚ In April 2015 Dr Sarah Eardley-Weaver presented a policy briefing concerning arts accessibility to the NI Assembly Knowledge Exchange Seminar Series (see <http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/assembly-business/research-and-information-service-raise/knowledge-exchange/knowledge-exchange-seminar-series-4-2014-2015/improving-arts-accessibility-for-people-with-varying-visual-and-hearing-ability/>) and a press interview on her research (<https://vimeo.com/126894058>[from 22.00]).

✚ Dr Colin Harper discusses the Mental Capacity Bill in an article for Scope (July 2015). The article ‘A Complex Solution to a Simple Problem’ can be accessed at <http://scopeni.nicva.org/article/complex-solution-simple-problem>

✚ On 13 February, 2015, the Lord Mayor of Armagh hosted a civic reception to celebrate the “Achievements of Young People from the Barnardo’s 6th Sense Advocacy Group in Partnership with Queen’s University Belfast”. At the reception, members of the 6th Sense Advocacy Group received certificates from QUB in recognition of their contribution to child and youth disability research at QUB.



✚ Professor Susan Parish from Lurie Institute of Disability Policy, Brandeis University, US visited the DRN in February 2015. Professor Parish presented a seminar on: ‘The Social and Political Landscape of Family Caregiving for Children and Adults with Intellectual Disabilities in the United States’. The presentation examined some of the challenges of family caregiving in the US and discussed the pressing questions that face American policy makers and advocates such as: the needs of aging parent caregivers; the long-term consequences of chronic poverty and deprivation in these caregiving families; and the importance of resources in strengthening family support.

✚ The DRN was delighted to host Professor Michael Schwartz from Syracuse University, New York from January to June 2015. Michael was awarded a Fulbright

Scholarship to undertake research on access to healthcare for deaf people in Northern Ireland. Professor Schwartz, a deaf lawyer, is an associate professor and director of the Disability Rights Clinic, Syracuse law school's civil rights clinic for people with disabilities. Professor Schwartz gave a presentation on 1 June on 'Communication Access for Deaf people in the Healthcare Setting: An Insider's View from the Outside'

- ✚ On 10 June 2015, the DRN welcomed Kate Cameron, Lead Practitioner in Disability Services, South Australia. Kate presented a seminar on: 'When it seems too much: Supporting voluntarily placed looked after children and their families'.
- ✚ Dr Costanza Torri, University of New Brunswick, visited Queen's for the month of June 2015 to carry out research on the experiences of disabled women in Northern Ireland who are self-employed. Dr Torri met with 15 disabled women during her visit.
- ✚ Dr Audrey McKinlay (senior lecturer) will be visiting Queen's in September 2015 as part of a collaboration with Dr Mark Linden of the School of Nursing & Midwifery. Dr McKinlay, who holds positions at the Universities of Melbourne in Australia and Canterbury in New Zealand, will be delivering a workshop on the management of concussion in children and young people.
- ✚ Two special issues of Child Care in Practice on 'Valuing Disabled Children and Young People' have been published. The special issues were guest edited by Berni Kelly and Bronagh Byrne. The first special issue (Vol. 21(1)), published in January 2015 focused on childhood disability in the context of families, communities and service provision. The second special issue (Vol. 21(3)) published in July 2015 examines childhood disability in the context of participation, inclusion and social justice. For more information please visit the [Child Care in Practice journal website](#)
- ✚ The International Paediatric Brain Injury Society (IPBIS) and the International Brain Injury Association (IBIA) will jointly hold the 1st International Conference on Paediatric Acquired Brain Injury on 16-18 September, 2015 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Liverpool, England. This will be the first global event that brings together all those involved in the identification, treatment and prevention of brain injury of children, adolescents, and young adults. The theme of the conference is *Supporting Young People and Their Families to Maximise Good Outcomes and Quality of Life*. The aim of the conference is to explore current and innovative treatments, rehabilitation programmes, support mechanisms, and ways to improve the lives and potential of these young people and their families (Contact: Dr Mark Linden).
- ✚ Members of the DRN are currently involved in the following projects:
 - Audit of assessments for admission under the Mental Health (NI) Order 1986. Funded by the Guidelines and Audit Implementation Network, RQIA. (Contact Gavin Davidson).

- A study to understand current provision of services for people with mental health problems in NI. Funded by Action Mental Health (Contact George Wilson, Gavin Davidson, Stan Houston or Lorna Montgomery).
- PPI and its impact - Monitoring, measuring and evaluating the impact of Personal and Public Involvement in Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland. Funded by the Public Health Agency. (Contact Joe Duffy or Gavin Davidson).
- Reporting on Best Practice in Cross-departmental Working Practices for Children and Young People. Funded by Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People. (Contact Bronagh Byrne).
- Comparing recognition of signed languages in Northern Ireland and Brazil, Santander Mobility Scholarship (Contact Sally Gillespie).
- Addressing the over-representation of disabled children and young people in public care in NI (Contact Berni Kelly).
- Transitions and outcomes for disabled care leavers in NI (Contact Berni Kelly).

✚ Recent publications from members of the Disability Research Network include:

- Eardley-Weaver, Sarah (2015): 'Opera Surtitles for the Deaf and the Hard-of-Hearing' in Díaz Cintas, J. & Neves, J. (eds.) *Audiovisual Translation: Taking Stock*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, pp. 261-272.
- Eardley-Weaver, Sarah (2015): 'Opening eyes to opera: the process of translation for blind and partially-sighted audiences', in Ehrensberger-Bow, M., Englund Dimitrova, B., Hubscher-Davidson, S. & Norberg, U. (eds.) *Describing Cognitive Processes in Translation: Acts and Events*, John Benjamins, pp. 125-145.
- Linden, M.A., Cepeda, I.L., Synnes, A., and Grunau, G.E. (2015). Stress in parents of children born very preterm is predicted by child externalising behaviour and parent coping at age 7 years. *Archives of Disease in Childhood*.
- Linden, M. A. Carol A. Hawley, Bronagh Blackwood, Jonathan Evans, Vicky Anderson. (2015). A systematic review of technology-based interventions for rehabilitating children and adolescents with acquired brain injury. To be presented at the 1st International Paediatric Brain Injury Society Conference. Liverpool, UK 16th-18th September 2015.
- O'Rourke, C. Mark A. Linden, Maria Lohan, Jackie Bastes-Gaston. (2015). Traumatic brain injury in a prison population: a systematic review. To be presented at the 1st International Paediatric Brain Injury Society Conference. Liverpool, UK 16th-18th September 2015.
- McNeilly, P., Macdonald, G. & Kelly, B. (2015): The Participation of Disabled Children and Young People: A Social Justice Perspective. *Child Care in Practice*, DOI: 10.1080/13575279.2015.1014468
- Davidson, G., Kelly, B., Macdonald, G., Rizzo, M., Lombard, L., Abogunrin, O., Clift-Matthews, V. and Martin, A. (2015) Supported decision making: a review of the international literature. *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 38, 61-67.

- Hill, L., Baker, C., Kelly, B. and Dowling, S. (2015) Being counted? Examining the prevalence of looked-after disabled children and young people across the UK. *Child and Family Social Work*. DOI: doi:10.1111/cfs.12239
- ✚ Our website continues to be updated with details of our publications and research projects. For more information see our current research themes at <http://www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/DisabilityResearchNetwork/Themes/>
- ✚ You can follow us on twitter: @QUB_DRN and/or like our page on facebook: Disability Research Network at Queen's University Belfast

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Disability Research Network at
Queen's University Belfast

For more details or to become a member of the DRN, contact:

Disability Research Network
Queen's University Belfast
6 College Park
Belfast, Northern Ireland
BT7 1NN

E: drn@qub.ac.uk
T: +44 (0) 2890 975922
F: +44 (0) 2890 973943
W: <http://go.qub.ac.uk/DisabilityResearchNetwork>