

Women Offenders Conference 2016

*Improving the lives of women
and girls in the criminal justice
system - what works?*

Hallam Centre for Community Justice,
Sheffield Hallam University

9.30am - 4pm

Tuesday 8th March 2016

Novotel, Sheffield

Conference Programme

Chairs: Professor Jacqueline Stevenson & Kevin Wong

9.30 - 10.00	Registration/Refreshments		
10.00 - 10.15	Welcome		
10.15 - 10.40	A review of what works with women offenders		
	<i>Professor Loraine Gelsthorpe</i>		
10.40 - 11.05	Effective approaches to working with girls in the criminal justice system		
	<i>Dr Gilly Sharpe</i>		
11.05 - 11.30	Q&A		
11.30 - 11.45	Break/Refreshments		
11.45 - 12.45	Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3
	Working with women offenders - key features of effective practice	Listening to girls and young women: the impact of age, race, culture and gender	Enhancing care for childbearing women in prison
	<i>Linda Meadows & Hannah Morowa</i>	<i>Jackie Lowthian, Tebussum Rashid & Max Rutherford</i>	<i>Caroline O'Keeffe & Lesley Dixon</i>
12:45 - 13.30	Lunch		
13.30 - 13.50	Feedback from workshops		
13.50 - 14.20	The economic failure of prisons for women offenders		
	<i>Vicky Pryce</i>		
14.20 - 14.30	Break/Refreshments		
14.30- 14.55	A Whole System Approach for women offenders - rhetoric or reality?		
	<i>Caroline O'Keeffe & Jackie Lowthian</i>		
14.55 - 15.20	Women in prison - using evidence to inform practice		
	<i>Mahala McGuffie</i>		
15.20 - 15.45	Q&A		
15.45 - 16.00	Closing plenary		

Presentations

Conference presentations will be available for download at the following link:

<http://www.shu.ac.uk/research/hccj/>

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Speakers

Chair: Professor Jacqueline Stevenson is Head of Research in the Sheffield Institute of Education, Sheffield Hallam University. She is a sociologist of education and has researched extensively with refugees and asylum seekers, offenders and ex-offenders, and other groups and individuals seeking to access and be successful in education. Her research is rooted in a critical analysis of the origins, structures, and consequences of inequalities, and in the policies and practices which might affect change.

Chair: Kevin Wong is the Acting Director for the Hallam Centre for Community Justice. He has extensive experience of leading multi-site process and impact evaluations across the criminal justice system involving adult and young women offenders commissioned by the Ministry of Justice and National Offender Management Service including: the National evaluation of the Intensive Alternatives to Custody (IAC) pilot programme; and Youth Justice Custody Reinvestment Pathfinder. Previously as an Assistant Director at Nacro, the principal crime reduction charity in the UK, he had extensive experience of working with local criminal justice agencies, VCS and statutory agencies to develop support services for women offenders and women victims including: a street sex workers support and exiting project; a domestic violence helpline; and a domestic violence awareness raising campaign.

Lesley Dixon is Practice Development Manager for [Action for Prisoners' and Offenders' Families](#), part of [Family Lives](#). She leads on the development and delivery of APOF's national training programme for professionals, Hidden Sentence. Lesley also works across the country to develop APOF's networks and ensure the voice of families of prisoners and offenders is understood and represented.

Lorraine Gelsthorpe is Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge, and also Director of the Centre for Community, Gender and Social Justice. She has written extensively on women, crime, and criminal justice over the years and has taken a particular interest in 'what works' with women and provision for women in the community. She is a trustee of Women's BreakOut - the national network of

women's community centres. Recent publications include: 'Gender and crime in Europe' (with Elena Larrauri) in *The Routledge Handbook of European Criminology* (2014), *Women and Sentencing: Challenges and Choices'* (with Gilly Sharpe) in J. Roberts (ed) *Exploring Sentencing Practice in England and Wales* (2015), 'Girls, Crime and Justice' (Sharpe and Gelsthorpe) in B. Goldson and John Muncie (eds) *Youth, Crime & Justice* (2015) and 'Diversity, the Voluntary Sector's Vision in Criminal Justice' (with Jane Dominey) in A. Hucklesby and M. Corcoran (eds) *The Voluntary Sector and Criminal Justice* (2016). She has also written on women and human trafficking.

Jackie Lowthian After 24 years with Nacro, the crime reduction charity, most recently as Interim Director of Policy, Jackie formed her own consultancy company, Social Justice Solutions, providing strategic and business development advice, and capacity building support to voluntary and community sector organizations working with offenders. The company also offers research and evaluation services and training and staff development resources. At Nacro, Jackie developed extensive expertise in the field of prisoner resettlement and reducing reoffending. This expertise derives from roles that included: managing and developing resettlement services nationally; acting as Nacro's National Policy Lead on Women; and leading Nacro's National Policy Team. Jackie's commitment to reducing imprisonment for women goes back to 1989 when she ran the Nacro Women Prisoners' Resource Centre. She then developed a range of services for women prisoners nationally before taking up the role of Prison Development Manager for Women, working closely with the (then) Women's Policy Group at Prison Service Headquarters to shape new approaches, including a National Resettlement Strategy for women.

Mahala McGuffie is the Governor at HMP and YOI Styal, which offers a variety of activities that focus on addressing offender behaviour and equipping women to deal with the challenges of life outside prison. Mahala has extensive experience of working in prisons since joining HMPS after graduating from Birmingham University in 1999. She has worked across a spectrum of prisons including institutions housing female offenders and young offenders: Brixton, Belmarsh, New Hall and Thorn Cross. Prior to joining HMP and YOI Styal in July 2015, she was the Governor of HMP Lindholme in South Yorkshire.

Linda Meadows is a Senior Research Manager at the Hallam Centre for Community Justice, Sheffield Hallam University. She has led and participated in a range of national and local evaluation and research projects across the criminal justice sector. These have included research in prisons, probation and VCS providers. Many of these have included specific elements around women offenders. Currently, she is the project manager for the evaluation of the Transitions to Adulthood Programme with one project having a specific focus on diverting young adult women from the criminal justice system. She has also led on a rapid evidence assessment of gender responsive work with women offenders as part of the evaluation of a gender responsive programme for at risk women. Her other research interests include restorative justice including: developing a toolkit to support the development of Pre-sentence post-conviction victim-offender conferencing; mapping restorative justice provision across England and Wales; and undertaking an impact, process and economic evaluation of the South Yorkshire Restorative Justice Programme.

Hannah Morowa has worked for [Women in Prison](#) for 5 years, and has managed their Manchester projects including [WomenMATTA](#), an innovative women's community project, since 2014. Hannah's entire career has focused on supporting and promoting the rights of women, including in domestic and sexual abuse settings, and housing and homelessness services. Hannah has a bachelor's degree in Psychology and Sociology and a Master's in Social Work.

Caroline O'Keeffe is Senior Research Manager at the Hallam Centre for Community Justice, Sheffield Hallam University. She has over 17 years' experience conducting criminal justice research with a particular emphasis on women offenders. Most recently she has completed a study into Enhancing care for childbearing women and babies in prison and co-authored the

Interim evaluation report for the Whole system approach for Women Offenders in Greater Manchester. She will be presenting the findings from both reports at the conference. Previous research projects include: evaluating the European Social Fund (ESF) financed Women into Work programme which successfully adopted a peer research methodology to identify barriers to employment, training and education for women offenders; a research collaboration with the Mother and Infant Research Unit at the University of York exploring the needs of childbearing women in prison; and a rapid evidence assessment of gender responsive work with women offenders for at risk women.

Vicky Pryce is an economist and commentator. Following a number of positions in the banking and oil sectors, she worked as partner and chief economist at KPMG; was director general for economics at the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills; and was the joint head of the UK Government Economic Service. In 2000 she co-founded the Good Corporation to promote corporate social responsibility. She then worked as senior managing director at FTI Consulting and is currently chief economic adviser at the Centre for Economic and Business Research. Pryce holds a number of visiting professorships, including most recently at Birmingham City University and Aston University. She is the author of several publications, including 'Greeconomics' and 'Prisonomics', and co-author of 'It's the Economy, Stupid: Economics for Voters'. She was also the first female Master of the Worshipful Company of Management Consultants. She lives in south London and has five children.

Tebussum Rashid is Head of Volunteering and Innovation at BTEG ([Black Training and Enterprise Group](#)). She has over 20 years' experience of working with the voluntary and community sector, not only assisting with organisational development issues, funding and fundraising but also helping create and develop new organisations and projects. Tebussum trains in a wide variety of subjects, including fundraising skills, business planning, partnership working, understanding tendering, contracting and procurement, managing volunteers, monitoring and evaluation, chairing a voluntary organisation, mentoring, using volunteers, event planning as well as personal development and coaching - especially of BME women. She has recently been involved in high profile projects including the Mayor's Mentoring Programme in London, and pan-European project on entrepreneurship and in carrying out a review of the T2A Alliance in relation to race equality and improving outcomes for BME young people.

Max Rutherford is Criminal Justice Programme Manager at the [Barrow Cadbury Trust](#). His primary responsibilities are the Trust's criminal justice policy and research work, supporting related grant-making activities, and developing and implementing the work and recommendations of the Trust's Transition to Adulthood (T2A) programme. He has worked at the Trust since 2010. He previously worked in policy and research roles related to criminal justice and mental health, both in the voluntary sector and within central government. He serves on a number of boards and committees, including as a member of the Reducing Reoffending Third Sector Leadership Board (RR3). He is a trustee of a small brain injury rehabilitation charity.

Gilly Sharpe is a Lecturer in Criminology in the School of Law at the University of Sheffield. Gilly's research interests and publications span youth crime, justice and punishment - in particular criminalised young women - women lawbreakers, desistance from crime, young people's transitions into adulthood and qualitative longitudinal research. Prior to her academic career, Gilly worked in the voluntary sector with 'disadvantaged' young people and adults with disabilities, and as a social worker in a Youth Offending Team. She is currently working on her third book, 'Women, Stigma, and Desistance from Crime: Precarious Identities in the Transition to Adulthood', which is a follow-up study of a cohort of youth justice system-involved girls published as 'Offending Girls: Young Women and Youth Justice' (Routledge, 2011).