

CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE NEWSLETTER



About the Crime Research Centre

The Crime Research Centre brings people together from a variety of disciplines, focused on research into 'crime' broadly conceived. This includes experts from law, sociology, criminology, politics, psychology, international development, and beyond. The Centre provides a forum for researchers to share ideas and develop collaborations, as well as a platform for influencing external debate and reform.

Crime Research at Sussex

Sussex has a long history and reputation for excellence in criminal law and criminal justice research. The Crime Research Group was extremely active in this area for a number of years, and in August 2016 was awarded the status of University Research Centre. This has reflected a significant expansion of research expertise in areas such as criminal law/ evidence, criminology, new forms of criminality, corruption and socio-legal research, to name but a few.

Crime research at Sussex is multi- and inter-disciplinary, with expertise from law, sociology/ criminology, politics, psychology, neuroscience, business, international development, and beyond. The research expertise within this field ranges from doctrinal analysis (eg criminal law; evidence), theories of crime (eg the structure and limits of crime), criminological theories (eg sociology of violence; victimisation; cultural criminology), psychological insights (understanding of hate crime; secondary victimisation; procedural fairness); neuroscience and law (eg impact of drug addiction; understanding judicial sentencing decisions) and regulation theory (eg alternative approaches to criminalisation and punishment). This inter- and multi-disciplinary motivation is a core feature of crime research at Sussex.

The focus of the Centre is outward-looking. Centre members have developed sustained relationships with academics, policymakers, NGOs, and other stakeholders at a local, national, and international level. Members of the Centre have a history of engagement and knowledge exchange with, for example, the Home Office, Ministry of Justice, National Crime Agency, Cabinet Office, as well as national and international charities.

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OUR MEMBERS

Centre Directors



Dr Hans Crombag

Senior Lecturer (Psychology)
School of Psychology
H.Crombag@sussex.ac.uk

Dr Crombag is a Co-Director of the Crime Research Centre. He is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Psychology. His research interests include:

- addiction and the law
- associative learning
- motivation
- neurology of behaviour
- reward



Dr Lucy Welsh

Senior Lecturer in Law (Law)
School of Law, Politics and
Sociology
L.C.Welsh@sussex.ac.uk

Dr Lucy Welsh is a Senior Lecturer in Law and Co-Director of the Crime Research Centre. Lucy's main research interests are in the area of criminal justice and politics. She has a particular interest in analysing policies which facilitate or hinder access to justice, both in terms of legal representation and legal process, and is interested in the examining the lawyer/client relationship in criminal cases.



Dr Paul McGuinness

Lecturer in Criminology and
Sociology (Sociology)
School of Law, Politics and
Sociology
P.McGuinness@sussex.ac.uk

Paul's research interests focus on punishment, prison and probation. His work utilises critical theory and empirical research methods to better understand the cultures and technologies sustained by the criminal justice system. More broadly, Paul is interested in Film Studies, STS and enriching the life of Vera, his large, unruly dog.

To apply for membership of Crime Research Centre please contact
Dr Hans Crombag at H.Crombag@sussex.ac.uk

Research Papers



Dr Suraj Lakhani

Dr Suraj Lakhani co-authored an article titled, "Prevent duty": empirical reflections on the challenges of addressing far-right extremism within secondary schools and colleges in the UK, published in Volume 14 Issue 1 of *Critical Studies on Terrorism*, on 21/01/2021. Dr Lakhani's other recently published research articles include *Social capital and the enactment of Prevent duty: An empirical case-study of schools and colleges*, published in Volume 13 Issue 4 of *Critical Studies on Terrorism* on 13/09/2020 & *A Snapshot of the Syrian Jihadi Online Ecology: Differential Disruption, Community Strength, and Preferred Other Platforms*, published on 04/01/2021 in *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* on 04/01/2021.



Prof. Dean Wilson

Prof. Dean Wilson authored an article titled, *Predictive policing management: a brief history of patrol automation*, published in No. 98 of *Formations: A Journal of Culture, Theory* on 30/01/2020.



Dr Tanya Palmer

Dr Tanya Palmer authored an article titled *Failing to see the wood for the trees: chronic sexual violation and criminal law*, published in Volume 84 Issue 6 of *Journal of Criminal Law* in year 2020.



Dr Hans Crombag

Dr Hans Crombag had a productive year 2020 with no less than three interesting research articles published in reputed journals worldwide. The articles are co-authored with J.J. Child & G.R. Sullivan of Birmingham Law School. These publications include: *Debating intoxication: response to commentaries*, published in Volume 115 Issue 2 of *Addiction*; *Defending the delusional, the irrational, and the dangerous* published in Volume 4 of *Criminal Law Review* in April 2020 & *Drunk, dangerous and delusional: how legal concept-creep risks overcriminalization*, published in Volume 115 of *Addiction* in 2020.



Dr J.J. Child



Dr Lizzie Seal

Dr Lizzie Seal and Dr Alexa Neale co-authored a couple of articles in 2020 which are: *Racializing Mercy: Capital Punishment and Race in Twentieth-Century England and Wales*, published in Volume 38 Issue 4 of *Law and History Review* & *In his passionate way: emotion, race and gender in cases of partner murder in England and Wales, 1900–39* published in Volume 60 Issue 4 of *British Journal of Criminology*. In 2019 Dr Seal also co-authored an article titled, *Public opinion on crime, punishment and the death penalty in Barbados*, published in Volume 22 Issue 3 of *Punishment and Society*.



Dr Alexa Neale



Dr. Matthew Garrod

In 2019, Dr Matthew Garrod published a research article, *The emergence of "universal jurisdiction" in response to Somali piracy: an empirically informed critique of international law's "paradigmatic" universal jurisdiction crime* in Volume 18 Issue 3 of *Chinese Journal of International Law*. This Article provides the first comprehensive empirical analysis of state practice in response to Somali piracy in a ten-year period since 2006.



Dr John Jupp

In 2019, Dr Matthew Garrod also teamed with Dr John Jupp to publish a co-authored article titled, *Legacies of the troubles: the links between organised crime and terrorism in Northern Ireland*, published in the journal *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*.

Dr Jupp published two more research articles in 2019-2020. The first was *Reform by legal transplantation: Afghanistan's Counter Narcotics Law 2006*, published in Volume 25 of *Comparative Law Review* (2020) & *Strengthening protection and support for victims of terrorism in criminal proceedings in Afghanistan*, published in the journal *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* (2019).

Research Papers



Dr Hannah Mason-Bish

Credit goes to Dr Hannah Mason-Bish for co-authoring three interesting articles in year 2019 : 'Some men deeply hate women, and express that hatred freely': examining victims' experiences and perceptions of gendered hate crime, published in Volume 26 Issue 1 of *International Review of Victimology*. Based on an ethnographic survey the authors (Hannah Mason-Bish & Marian Duggan) explored people's experiences of gender-related victimisation as 'hate crimes'; Misogyny, racism and Islamophobia: street harassment at the intersections, published in Volume 14 Issue 5 of *Feminist Criminology*. The authors (Hannah Mason-Bish & Irene Zempi) analysed the lived experiences of public harassment faced by Muslim women who wear face veil; Introduction to the special issue on the politics of hate: community, societal and global responses, published in Volume 71 Issue 3 of *Crime, Law and Social Change*.



James Rowlands



Ritabrata Roy

Our PhD Scholars have also made extensive contributions in crime research by publishing several engaging research papers on the subject. James Rowlands recently co-authored an article (with Patricia Cullen, Myrna Dawson, & James Price) titled, *Intersectionality and Invisible Victims: Reflections on Data Challenges and Vicarious Trauma in Femicide, Family and Intimate Partner Homicide Research*, published in Volume 36 of *Journal of Family Violence*. The paper critically examines the issues of femicide and intimate partner violence (IPV) in three different countries: United Kingdom, Australia and Canada.

In 2021, Ritabrata Roy co-authored a research article (with Shahzeb Ahmed) titled, *From Parsons to Ethnomethodology: Analysing the Indian Judicial Position on the Question of Gender in the Cases of Honour Crimes*, published in Volume 4 Issue 1 of *International Journal of Law, Management & Humanities*. The authors analysed 10 landmark judgments of Supreme Court of India to determine the trend of 'gender-neutrality' among the judges on the issue.



Dr Stavros Demetriou

Dr Stavros Demetriou authored an article titled, *Crime and anti-social behaviour in England and Wales: an empirical evaluation of the ASBO's successor*, published in Volume 40 Issue 3 of *Legal Studies* in 2020.



Vanessa Long

Vanessa Long has authored an article titled, *Online Courts: Re-Assessing Inequality in the 'Remote' Courtroom*, published in Volume 11, Issue 1 (2021) of *Excursions*.



Dr Shahrzad Fouladvand

Dr Shahrzad Fouladvand & Tony Ward co-authored an article titled *Bodies of knowledge and robes of expertise: expert evidence about drugs, gangs and human trafficking*, published in year 2021 in *Criminal Law Review*.

Books/Chapters



Dr Lucy Welsh

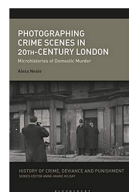


Dr Layla Skinns

In June 2021, Dr Lucy Welsh joined hands with Dr Layla Skinns (University of Sheffield) and Prof. Andrew Sanders (University of Warwick) to pen a book titled, *Sanders & Young's Criminal Justice*, published by Oxford University Press. The book brings together fresh research findings, policy initiatives and relevant legislation to provide a comprehensive overview and critique of the criminal justice system in England and Wales. The authors trace the procedures surrounding the apprehension, investigation and trial of suspected offenders and consider the breadth of research in the field to give a fascinating blend of legal and socio-legal analysis which is authoritative, insightful and thought-provoking.



Dr Alexa Neale



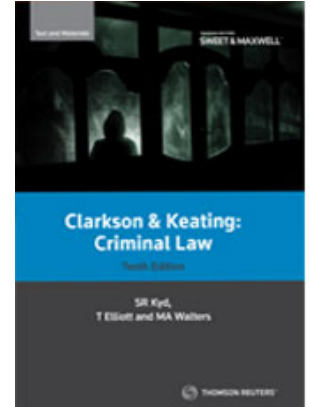
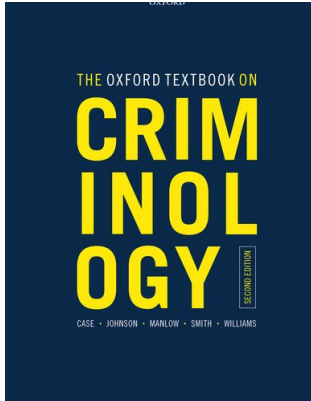
In September 2020, Dr Alexa Neale authored a book titled, *Photographing crime scenes in Twentieth-Century London: microhistories of domestic murder*, published by Bloomsbury, London. This engaging book makes use of the of micro-histories of domestic murder and crime scene photographs made available for the first time to provide a highly original exploration of what crime scenes can tell us about the significance of expectations of domesticity, class, gender, race, privacy and relationships in twentieth-century Britain. With 10 case studies and 30 black and white images, *Photographing Crime Scenes in 20th-Century London* will take you inside the homes that were murder crime scenes to read their geographical and symbolic meanings in the light of the development of crime scene photography, forensic analysis and psychological testing.



Prof. Mark Austin Walters

Prof. Mark Walters has recently co-authored a chapter titled, "Hate Crimes" in Oxford Textbook on Criminology, published in 2021 by Oxford University Press. The book is edited by Steve Case, Phil Johnson, David Manlow, Roger Smith, and Kate Williams.

Credit again goes to Prof. Walters for co-authoring a book titled, Clarkson and Keating: Criminal Law (10th edition) with Prof. Sally Kyd and Dr Tracey Elliott, published by Sweet & Maxwell in August 2020.



Research Grants



Prof. Mark Austin Walters



Dr Jennifer Paterson

Prof. Mark Walters along with Dr Jennifer Paterson (Northumbria University) were successful in being awarded a small research grant from *BA/Leverhulme* to study the impact that Just World Beliefs have on LGBT+ people's reactions (e.g. victim blame, empathy) to other community members' experiences of hate crime. They have completed their first survey and begun disseminating initial findings with LGBT+ organisations who are helping them to frame the next stage of their project in order to ensure the research assists the work of civil society organisations supporting victims of anti-LGBT hate crime.



Dr Suraj Lakhani

Dr Suraj Lakhani received a generous grant of 25,000 GBP from RESOLVE Network (CI) for a research project titled "Analysing the outlinking patterns and online ecology of far-right groups in Europe." The duration of this research was from January 2021 – June 2021.

Dr Lakhani also received a grant of 9,632 GBP from Research England (PI) for conducting a research project titled, "Far-Right Extremism and COVID-19: An investigation of conspiracy theories, misinformation, and online ecology." The duration of this research was from December 2020 – March 2021.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND PHD SUCCESSES



Dr Lucy Welsh



Dr Amy Clarke



Dr Richard Vogler



Dr Liz McDonnelli



Dr Susann Wiedlitzkai

Dr Lucy Welsh along with Dr Amy Clarke, received funding of £1,877 GBP from Research England Strategic Priority Funding to examine the impact of legal aid cuts on expert witnesses in criminal cases. The project involved conducting focus group interviews with seven expert witnesses, across various disciplines. This helped the researchers to study how cuts to legal aid have affected the way in which expert witnesses work. Detailed report available at <https://legalaidandrepresentatives.wordpress.com/2021/06/07/additional-research-on-legal-aid-cuts-and-expert-witnesses-report-out-now/>. This project was a spin off from a project on the impact of legal aid cuts on legal representatives who assist clients with applications to the Criminal Cases Review Commission, which was financially supported by the Sussex Research Development Fund and the Economic and Social Research Council (Grant number ES/R008515/1). That work was conducted by Prof Richard Vogler, Dr Lucy Welsh, Dr Amy Clarke, Dr Liz McDonnell and Dr Susann Wiedlitzka. Full information about that project can be found on the project website: <https://legalaidandrepresentatives.wordpress.com>

Recent PhD Successes



Cassandra Wiener

Cassandra Wiener successfully defended her thesis on April 22nd. Dr Wiener's thesis was entitled, "It's Not Enough to Plug the Gap: Coercive Control and the Criminal Law". Her examiners were really impressed with the breadth of the research and Cassandra's robust approach to legal analysis. Cassandra's research is already having a direct impact on policy and law, leading to an amendment to the Domestic Abuse Bill to include ex-partners within the definition of coercive control.



Rosalchen Whitecross

Rosalchen Whitecross successfully defended her thesis on April 22nd. Dr Whitecross's thesis was entitled "Wallflowers have eyes too – a critical engagement with women writing in prison and their narratives of lived experience". The examiners held up Dr. Whitecross's work as brave in its methodological and theoretical ambition and beautiful in its construction. The project also produced an exquisite anthology of its participants writing entitled "How Bleak is the Crow's Nest" which may be purchased at www.muscaliet.co.uk and proceeds will be donated to INQUEST.



Ioana Dulcu

Ioana's PhD looked into the automatism doctrine and the voluntariness requirement within criminal law. Specifically, the thesis analysed whether insights from philosophy and neuroscience could help reshape the way in which defendants committing crimes in a state of impaired control could be attributed liability. Here, hypnosis was utilised as a case study. She has submitted her thesis and is awaiting her viva.

Spotlight on PhD research on crime

At Sussex we are committed to producing a wide range of critical research on various inter-disciplinary issues concerning crime, gender, culture and society under the supervision of highly acclaimed supervisors. Following are the examples of some of such on-going research conducted by some of our PGR community:



Ritabrata Roy

Our PGR student Ritabrata Roy is working on a thesis titled, “No more on the periphery”: Hearing voices of the male victims of honour crimes in India”. The thesis explores the issue of male victims of honour crimes in lights of the ‘Black Feminist’ theory of intersectionality. His thesis is being supervised by Dr Maria Moscati and Prof. Nuno Ferreira at the School of Law.



Ahmed Hasson

Ahmed is developing a thesis titled, “Socio-Legal study of the failure of criminal justice system of Pakistan in the Pashtun society of Baluchistan” His thesis is supervised by Dr Ahmad Ghouri and Dr Georgia Baldi at the School of Law.

To apply for PhD at University of Sussex, please visit: <https://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/phd/apply>

Recent Studentship Successes



Ilepele Mapemba

Ilepele is the recipient of a I+3 SeNSS ESRC studentship which will enable her to her research into the experiences of carers of disability hate crime. She will start the +1 of her studentship in September. Ilepele will be supervised by Prof. Mark Walters and Dr Hannah Mason-Bish.



Vanessa Long

Vanessa received an AHRC studentship to undertake her doctoral research on how socio-economic status plays out in magistrates’ court proceedings. She began he studies in Sept 2020 and is supervised by Dr Lucy Welsh, Dr Kenneth Veitch and Prof Mark Walters.

EVENTS



Dr Lucy Welsh



Dr Tanya Palmer

Criminal Law Reform Now Conference will be organised by Criminal Law Reform Now Network (CLRNN) on 3rd September 2021 from 3-8 pm. Distinguished speakers at the conference include Mr Paul Jarvis (Barrister and CLRNN Committee Member), Dr Tanya Palmer (University of Sussex), Prof Jeremy Holder (London School of Economics) and Dr Lucy Welsh (University of Sussex) among others. The conference will be an online event, with 'live' presentations streamed on CLRNN conference website. There is no requirement of pre-registration to attend the event. Details about the event are available at: <http://www.clrnn.co.uk/clrn-network/clrnn-events/>. Any further queries regarding the event are to be sent to Dr John Child at J.J.Child@bham.ac.uk.

Journalism@Newcastle – the journalism department at Newcastle University, UK – and Ethical Space invite papers for a global conference: Investigating True Crime & The Media. Submissions are welcome which explore its rise in popularity in recent years, shifting perceptions and receptions, changing platforms, new understandings. To be held at Newcastle University and online, June 23, 2022. Authors are also invited to submit their papers to peer review to feature in a subsequent winter 2022 special double edition of Ethical Space. Submissions are open to researchers, PhD students, and practitioners working in the field, and parity of esteem will be afforded to both theoretically-driven and practice-related papers. Deadlines:

Please submit abstracts of 500 words plus a 50-word biography to Ms. Barbara Henderson at Barbara.henderson@newcastle.ac.uk by Friday 29 October 2021. Authors will be notified of the outcome by 19 January 2022. PowerPoint presentations will be acceptable for the conference on 23 June 2022, but full papers (5,000 words including references) for publication in Ethical Space Winter 2022 should be submitted by 31 August 2022.

More details at: <https://cstonline.net/cfp-conference-investigating-true-crime-the-media-june-23-2022-newcastle-university-uk-deadline-oct-29-2021/>



Ed Johnston at UWE Bristol has released a call for chapters for an edited collection entitled Covid-19 and the Crisis in Criminal Justice. The proposed collection will be submitted to Routledge. The call for papers is open until mid-late August 2021. For further details, please contact edward2.johnston@uwe.ac.uk.



Dr. Paul McGuinness is putting out an open call (*awhoo!*) to all staff and students who might be interested in attending and/or contributing to the Interdisciplinary Film Club, a community-oriented, para-academic, intellectually-homeopathic good time. For more information contact Paul at p.mcguinness@sussex.ac.uk... if you dare.



David James Smith

The Annual CRC Public Lecture took place on July 28th, 2021 at the University of Sussex. This year's lecture was given by David James Smith, journalist for The Sunday Times magazine; author of books including about the infamous James Bulger case; and former Commissioner at The Criminal Cases Review Commission. The lecture was 'blended', taking place in person and online, and attendees describe the lecture as 'thoughtful' and 'great'. We are most grateful to David for sharing his insights with us.

If you were not able to attend the lecture, a recording and script are available on the CRC website: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/crime/newsandevents>

For more information about David James Smith's work, see <http://www.davidjamesmith.net/>



Dr Paul McGuinness