



# CIRCY Summer Newsletter 2023

We hope that our members and friends had time for rest and relaxation over the spring break and are now enjoying the brighter weather and flowers springing up!

In this newsletter, we set out our programme of events for the summer term 2023 and let you know about arrangements for collecting materials for this year's Annual Report.

We've included some brief information at the end of this newsletter about what

being a member of CIRCY involves, and we encourage you to share it with new members of staff, doctoral researchers, and any other colleagues or students who you think might be interested in CIRCY and our activities.

We've recently been updating [our website](#), so do take a look - particularly at [the research pages](#). And don't forget to let us know if you'd like us to add or update anything by emailing Bronte McDonald: [bm333@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:bm333@sussex.ac.uk).





## SUMMER TERM EVENTS

**We are delighted to invite you to the activities and events we will host this term, which will be delivered online, in-person and also hybrid (both).**

- **CIRCY COFFEE & COLLABORATION**

Thursday 4 May 2023 / 1-2.30pm /  
The Conolly Room, Ground Floor, Essex House  
+ Zoom (*link shared by email*)

In this termly CCC meeting, Charlene Rumsby, Mary Wickenden, Ali Lacey and Noëmi van Oordt will each make a short presentation on an aspect of their research relating to children, childhood or youth. Plus questions and discussion.

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- **CSWIR/CIRCY OPEN RESEARCH SEMINAR**  
**presented by Dr Gozde Burger, recent Social Work PhD graduate, University of Bristol**

Tuesday 16 May 2023 / 4-5.15pm /  
Remote participation via Zoom

**Young People's Experiences of Parental Divorce in Turkey and England: A creative exploration**

Based on the research conducted for Gozde's PhD in Social Work, this presentation is underpinned by the sociology of childhood and a children's rights-based perspective. Gozde's research emphasises young people's voices through semi-structured interviews and creative methods (postcards, timeline and eco-map) in two different societal contexts.

[\*\*REGISTER\*\*](#)

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- **CIRCY DOCTORAL RESEARCHER'S NETWORK**

Thursday 8 June 2023 / 1-2pm

This Network meets approximately twice a term to share knowledge and support. Discussion is facilitated by the CIRCY team and topics have included the ethical and practical issues to bear in mind when undertaking fieldwork with children and young people, participatory research with children and young people, and researching in COVID-19 times.

This term we will be looking at  
linking text and visual data.

To join the Network, email Bronte McDonald:  
bm333@sussex.ac.uk. Network members are provided with the link for online participation to events.

## GET IN TOUCH!

If you're interested in taking part in any of our upcoming members events or other activities, or just want to find out more about CIRCY, contact Brontë McDonald:  
bm333@sussex.ac.uk.

And please let us know if you have any ideas for members' events or seminars, or need any support with developing research bids, or other research-related activities, such as networking events or conference attendance.

## IDEAS IN ACTION

'Ideas In Action' are regular CIRCY events at which colleagues present new ideas for interdisciplinary feedback and suggestions - for example a new or reworked bid, book proposals, or plans for knowledge exchange/ impact generation.

Let us know if you would like to present your work this term, or if you would like one of the CIRCY team to review a bid or advise on other work in progress. We are happy to respond at short notice!



## THE CIRCY ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

### Expressions of interest are invited for research 'Spotlights' for CIRCY's next Annual Report!

Every summer, CIRCY publishes an Annual Report which features a number of 'Spotlights on Research and Knowledge Exchange' features offering in-depth details of methodologies, challenges, innovations and new ideas in research and knowledge exchange associated with CIRCY-related research projects or activities.

We are looking to academic colleagues and doctoral researchers to provide 'Spotlight' features for this summer's report which will be published in August. Please consider submitting! Your Spotlight might be on any issue with relevance to those researching children, childhood and youth. Each Spotlight feature should be approximately 6-700 words and written in the first person in engaging language comprehensible to non-academics and those from different disciplines. Images are particularly welcomed.

An outline or draft Spotlight feature will need to be submitted to CIRCY by 25 May. If you have an item you would like to submit but can't meet that deadline, please get in touch to let us know - with an idea of when you can submit. We'll review and provide feedback or suggested amendments, and then ask for a final version of your feature by 13 June.

If you feel you have - or could have - an item for submission, please complete our [Expression of Interest digital form](#). Contributions should include full references of studies, funders, collaborators, and/or linked publications, including relevant web links.

**Thank you!**

### DETAILS OF UPDATES, ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS ALSO NEEDED FOR CIRCY ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

When pulling together our next Annual Report, we want to make sure that we reflect all relevant details from you - our friends and members - to showcase in the report.

This is a chance to highlight and celebrate all your hard work, including details about any research (grants, developing policy and services, imaginative methodologies), knowledge exchange, public engagement and partnerships (policy and practice connections, international links, awards and recognition), publications (articles, books, book chapters, research reports) ... and/or anything else you would like to share with CIRCY colleagues.

**[Please submit via our online form.](#)**



## WHO'S WHO IN CIRCY?

### CIRCY Leadership Team

**Director:**

Michelle Lefevre (Social Work & Social Care)  
E: M.Lefevre@sussex.ac.uk

**Co-Director:**

Liam Berriman (Social Work & Social Care)  
E: L.J.Berriman@sussex.ac.uk

**Postgraduate Research Assistant:**

Brontë McDonald (Psychology)  
E: bm333@sussex.ac.uk



### CIRCY Steering Group

Our Steering group meets termly to guide and facilitate the work of CIRCY.

- [Robin Banerjee](#) (Psychology)
- [Janet Boddy](#) (Education)
- [Hannah Field](#) (English)
- Simon Flack (Law)
- [Kathryn Lester](#) (Psychology)
- [Jo Moran-Ellis](#) (Sociology)
- Kirsty Pattrick (Mass Observation Project)
- [Dorte Thorsen](#) (Geography)
- [Rebecca Webb](#) (Education)

If your research has the rights, concerns and/or perspective of children and young people at its heart, and you are interested in joining our Steering Group, please contact [Michelle](#). The minimum commitment is to attend a termly Steering Group meeting, and to attend or help facilitate at least one CIRCY event per term.

## WANT TO BECOME A CIRCY MEMBER?

### WHAT IS CIRCY?

The Centre for Innovation and Research in Childhood and Youth (CIRCY) is a pan-university research centre at the University of Sussex, with a membership that spans social sciences, arts, humanities and professional fields including social work, law, education and health.

CIRCY's research is interdisciplinary and international in scope, united by a critical engagement with children and young people's lives in time, and a focus on the rights, voice and welfare of the child or young person at the centre of inquiry.

### WHO CAN JOIN CIRCY?

CIRCY encourages academics, doctoral researchers and others across the university who write and research in these fields to become members.

### WHAT DOES MEMBERSHIP INVOLVE?

CIRCY holds lots of events through the year which members can attend. These include seminars, reading groups, methodology workshops, writing retreats, and work in progress workshops where members can get feedback on research or writing ideas.

## TWEET TIME!

Don't forget to follow us on twitter.

When you tweet about your research, tag **@SussexCIRCY** and we'll re-tweet you to enhance your visibility!