

Prisons Research Centre

Institute of Criminology

University of Cambridge

Annual Report

October 2014



PRISONS RESEARCH CENTRE ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The Cambridge Institute of Criminology Prisons Research Centre (PRC) was established under the Directorship of Alison Liebling in 2000, with a modest budget. It is now well established and attracts funding from NOMS, research councils (for example, the ESRC, Leverhulme and the Nuffield Foundation) and from other organisations. Its members include Professor Alison Liebling, Dr Ben Crewe (Deputy Director), and six Research Associates: Dr Susie Hulley, Dr Ruth Armstrong, Dr Katherine Auty, Dr Richard Bramwell, Dr Ryan Williams and Ms Serena Wright. There are also currently 11 PhD students conducting individual research projects, often linked to other research going on in the Centre. Giulia Conto acts as Centre Administrator. Associate Members include Helen Arnold (a past Research Associate), Dr Adrian Grounds, Dr Joel Harvey (a former PhD student and Research Associate), Dr John Rynne, and Dr Charles Elliott. The centre hosts Visiting Scholars from time to time, and is provided with intellectual support and guidance by Professor Sir Anthony Bottoms, and other colleagues in the department. Further contributions are made by members of our steering group.¹

The Research Centre aims to provide a stimulating research environment in which a coherent and cumulative strategy of high quality prison research can be pursued, and integration between funded and non-funded, and applied and theoretical projects can be facilitated. Our vision is of methodologically rigorous and theoretically relevant field-based studies addressing problems of human and social values, punishment practices and the organisation and effects of prison life. We strive to consolidate and enhance the

Cambridge Institute of Criminology's strengths in prisons research, forging links with research in the broader fields of criminology and sociology, and our capacity to collaborate with others.

This Report provides summaries of on-going projects, including PhD theses, as well as a summary of new or recently funded research. The Annual Research Day and Steering Group Meeting, at which we present selected findings from our recent research projects, took place on Thursday October 23rd 2014, in the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge.

¹ Current members include: Professor Anthony Bottoms, Professor Richard Sparks, Professor Shadd Maruna, Professor Fergus McNeill, Juliet Lyon, Ian Poree, Michael Spurr and Jo Bailey.

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A. RECENT AND ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

Locating trust in a climate of fear:

Religion, moral status, prisoner leadership, and risk in maximum security prisons

Alison Liebling, Ruth Armstrong, Ryan Williams and Richard Bramwell

Institute of Criminology and Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge

Alison Liebling, Ruth Armstrong and Ryan Williams were pleased to be selected in March 2013 through a novel competitive 'pitch to peers' procedure, for a research award from the ESRC under a *Transforming Social Science* scheme. The 18 month project, which started in October 2013, explores how trust, risk, faith identities and prisoner leadership interact in two maximum security prisons. The team proposed that contemporary prison sociology – which has always explored prisoner sub-cultures, hierarchies and leadership – needs to seriously engage with faith and develop an understanding of the complex role of religion and religious identity in the lives of individuals and communities in prison. Ryan Williams, from the Faculty of Divinity, adds theological expertise to the study, and Richard Bramwell, formerly of LSE, brings sociological expertise in the fields of 'race', ethnicity and contemporary black British culture. We argued that the bringing together of the disciplines of religious studies, ethnography and prison sociology could transform and humanise our understanding of the prison in ways that are also of deep significance to our fractured inner city communities.

Our methodology is *ethnography-led measurement*. In practice this depends on slow entry into the field and the use of Appreciative Inquiry. Our methods are creatively aimed at building trust, soliciting peak experiences, and capturing what is there

(so where is respect or trust found) rather than just what is missing. We create spaces for participant observation and dialogue through running classes where prisoners can be students. We arrange structured conversation around relevant readings on agreed topics and organise workshops in which prisoners explore their identities and reflect on their experiences through sociological literature, poetry readings and rap performances. We observe and participate in important areas of the prison: in group activities such as chaplaincy services, art classes, music rooms, association times and employment venues, and also in important individual aspects of imprisonment such as annual sentence plan review meetings, individual adjudications, and behaviour monitoring meetings. This immersion and participation in prison activities opens up opportunities for longer and more meaningful interviews with staff and prisoners, as well as providing sources of insight in their own right.

The research includes administration of a revised version of the MQPL survey, combining appreciative inquiry with ethnography-led measurement of key dimensions of the prison experience in an attempt to explore where and how trust might develop and 'work' even in a risk-dominated climate. Alongside this, we have adapted a novel socio-metric technique, the Social Field Generator, to help us to identify what sort of leaders emerge in what kind of moral climates, providing a psychological or 'moral geography' of prison wings. We are testing the hypothesis that faith and cultural identities and networks take on different characters in different moral climates. Our hypothesis is that trust is necessary for positive religious and character development. Where trust is low, identities are constrained, and faith identities in particular become an outlet for resistance, power, and protection. Where some trust flows, however guarded and careful, faith and cultural practices can be part of a positive change trajectory through meaning-making, personal growth and community.

Some of the questions we hope to address include: where is trust found and how is it built in high security settings? What opportunities are prisoners given to demonstrate trustworthiness, and do these differ between prisons? What role does 'race' have on prisoners' experiences? What meanings do faith identities have for prisoners? Where else do prisoners find hope, recognition and meaning? Which prisoners are considered influential, why, and what opportunities do they offer for encouraging pro-social group identities? Most important, are the kinds of influential leaders who emerge related to properties of the prison environment?

The main fieldwork has taken place in two contrasting high security prisons (Full Sutton and Frankland). In each we have explored whether and how levels of trust (and a broader theoretical framework related to order and legitimacy) are related to ethnic identities, faith practices, other searches for meaning and power, types of prisoner leadership, and the types of change trajectories that prisoners are on. We have introduced a new measure of 'political charge', that is, anger, disaffection, and perceived lack of legitimacy, to explore whether this differs systematically according to levels of 'intelligent trust' in each prison. We also carried out an MQPL + exercise in a third prison (Long Lartin) in March 2014. Our argument is that, even in a high security prison, efforts at recognition and intelligent trust, undertaken clear-headedly, could improve opportunities for control and order, public safety, and prisoner rehabilitation.

We are part of an evolving dialogue in this area, with others, following on-going work arising from the recent Whitemoor study, regular meetings with prison chaplaincy and other interested parties, and several seminars with policy and operational leads in the high security estate. We hope to complete fieldwork in the second prison by the end of November and to complete the project by May 2015. We plan to write a book, called '*Prisons and the Problem of Trust*', in due course.

Publications

Liebling, A (2013) 'Legitimacy under pressure' in high security prisons, in J Tankebe and A Liebling (eds) *Legitimacy and Criminal Justice: An International Exploration* Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp.206-226

Liebling, A (2014) 'Moral and Philosophical Problems of Long-Term Imprisonment', *Studies in Christian Ethics* 27: 258-69.

Armstrong, R (2014) 'Trusting the Untrustworthy: The Theology, Practice and Implications of Faith-based Volunteers work with ex-prisoners', *Studies in Christian Ethics* 27: 299-309.

Experiencing very long-term imprisonment from young adulthood: identity, adaptation and penal legitimacy

Ben Crewe, Susie Hulley and Serena Wright

Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, this two year study is being conducted by Ben Crewe, Susie Hulley and Serena Wright. Focussing on prisoners serving life sentences with tariffs of fifteen years or more, given to them when aged twenty-five or under, the study focuses on three main areas: first, how do these prisoners cope psychologically with such lengthy sentences (e.g. how do they think about time and the future? How do they manage their identities?); second, how do they build a world for themselves while in prison (e.g. what relationships do they form with other prisoners and staff? How do they maintain external relationships?); and, third, to what degree do they comply with the regime and feel that their sentences are (or are not) legitimate? The context for the study includes increasingly long sentences for murder and concerns among senior practitioners about the potential impact of these sentences on the stability of the prison system.

The main period of data collection has now been completed. In-depth interviews have been undertaken with 125 male prisoners in sixteen establishments, including Young Offender Institutions and prisons of all security categories. Interviewees have been deliberately sampled in order to represent three sentence stages: 'early', 'mid' and 'late'. In addition, surveys have been collected from 295 or the 800 prisoners who meet the study's overall criteria.

The survey data show that the primary problems among our sample are relatively similar to those surveyed in England and the US in previous decades. In particular, these include concerns about family members outside prison and about one's life being wasted. Many of the other most prominent problems relate to sentence conditions and sentence length, while issues of safety, irritation with other prisoners, staff 'making life difficult', and psychological integrity are considered considerably less problematic. Early-stage prisoners experience a range of problems more acutely than those who are further into their prison terms, in particular those that relate to 'missing' elements of the outside world. The interview findings suggest that early-stage prisoners initially experience forms of 'entry-shock' and 'temporal vertigo', and struggle to find ways of managing time or their sense of the future. The most common adaptive patterns involve forms of psychological denial (about their sentence, about their crime, or about their future), retreatism (i.e. use of drugs) and pro-activism (i.e. appealing the sentence or the conviction). Prisoners who are further into their sentences find means of coping with their predicament, by minimising the locus of power that they seek out, and through activities (such as religious practice, use of the gym) that help them control and transcend time. Their orientations are shaped significantly by the offence that they committed, and by their moral and existential reflections on what it means both to take a life and to lose one. Those further into their sentences report feeling more mature, respectful and

emotionally stable than those in earlier phases, and feel less loyal towards their peers. Such findings have important implications for prison sociology, but do not suggest that these sentences should be considered 'constructive'. Indeed, our findings suggest that 'mature coping' within prison might be highly maladaptive for life post-release.

Emerging findings have been presented at the European Society of Criminology conference, 2014, and at a dedicated steering group meeting, attended by a mixture of academics and practitioners. Articles are currently being prepared on 'The problems of very long-term imprisonment', 'Early stage experiences and adaptations among very long-term prisoners', and 'Shame, existential reflection and 'mature coping' during very long-term sentences'.

Meanwhile, funding worth over £70,000 has been secured from the Newton Trust and the Institute of Criminology to extend the study by interviewing the 27 female prisoners who meet the study's criteria in England and Wales, and to develop a research proposal which would extend the research to three related populations: prisoners meeting the study criteria in another jurisdiction (e.g. Scotland or one of the Nordic nations); prisoners sentenced to equivalent sentences when aged 55 or over; and men and women meeting the criteria who have been transferred to secure hospitals. In coming years, the aim is to obtain further funding to enable follow-up interviews with the original research participants at five year intervals, as a way of providing a longitudinal perspective on their experiences and adaptations, within prison and on release.

The role of the governing governor

Ben Crewe and Alison Liebling

In November 2013, Dr Ben Crewe and Professor Alison Liebling were commissioned by NOMS to undertake a small study of 'The role of the governing governor', involving interviews with around 30 senior practitioners in England and Wales. The study forms part of a wider NOMS project, prompted in part by significant changes in the nature of prison governance, and builds on 90 interviews that Dr Crewe and Professor Liebling conducted several years ago as part of a study of values among managers working in public and private sector prisons. This study identified a typology of governing styles, from 'entrepreneurs' to 'highly operationally skilled', 'moral dualists' and 'new liberals'. Interviews have so far been undertaken with around 20 governors, revealing themes including: having to govern differently in a new context; an outstanding commitment to 'decency' and organisational success; high levels of energy, competence and emotional commitment; an intensification of the demands of the role; the acute difficulties and personal toll of the job within current circumstances, resulting in some 'soul-searching' among many morally-driven governors; problems of governance caused by a breach of 'psychological contract' between the state and frontline staff; a yearning for values-driven goals, and authentic and emotionally supportive leadership; a widespread feeling among governors of not being trusted as a result of benchmarking processes experienced as 'one-size-fits-all', and tightening operational grip; enduring concerns about pockets of machismo or sexual harassment within the organisation; recognition of the need for 'creative compliance', but dismay at the persistence of 'gaming' or 'the performance of good performance'. While most governors report very high levels of admiration for and loyalty to NOMS board members, there are some

signs that levels of trust are strained, as a result of a perceived dissonance between organisational values and action. Getting the balance right in the organisation between 'trust' and 'scrutiny', and between 'creativity' and proscription, was important.

Further findings will be reported to governing governors in Spring 2015, and in a range of academic publications.

'MQPL +': Analyses of Quality, Culture and Values in Individual Prisons

Alison Liebling, Ben Crewe, Katherine Auty, Thomas Akoensi, Amy Ludlow, Bethany Schmidt, Deborah Kant, Alice Ievins, Ruth Armstrong

During 2011, the PRC team developed a methodology referred to as 'MQPL +'. This arose in response to an increasing number of requests from individual establishments for a 'cultural and quality' diagnosis, often at short notice. The methodology reflects the way in which we tend to conduct an MQPL survey if we are doing this as part of a larger research project, with added qualitative components.

MQPL+ is an in-depth, intensively-conducted, descriptive analysis of the social environment for staff and prisoners in a prison establishment, using the conceptually validated version of the Measuring the Quality of Prison Life (MQPL) and Staff Quality of Life (SQL) surveys (also in use by NOMS), alongside detailed observation, and sensitive, appreciative interviews with staff and prisoners. The research exercise is conducted by a highly experienced team of at least six members of the research centre, who spend at least 70 person days conducting the work. Data analysis is carried out collaboratively, with data from many other prisons in mind, so that any cultural diagnosis of the prison is well informed and fully contextual. The empirical data and the written report provide senior

managers with a thorough basis for understanding and improvement, and an assessment of effectiveness and progress. Each study is treated in a cumulative way, adding to our developing expertise in understanding and assessing prison quality and culture. In the last two years, we have conducted MQPL+ exercises at Brinsford, Birmingham (three times), Aylesbury (three times), Full Sutton (twice), Long Lartin, Frankland, and Oakwood.

Establishment Governors/Directors often request feedback meetings, as well as return visits one year later. These exercises are helping us to understand how prisons change over time, the relationship between staff and prisoner quality of life, the relative strengths and weakness of public and private sector prisons, and the distinctive characteristics of (for example) high-security prisons and young offender institutions. An increasing number of requests have come to us from international jurisdictions wanting to use or adapt the MQPL survey (e.g. in Spain, Canada, Australia, Sweden, and Belgium). We try to support these requests wherever possible.

Analysis of the results is on-going (reports have been written for and distributed to each establishment) and a first Analytic Report on the longitudinal study of Birmingham prison is under review. This study found that, after an initial decline in quality of life scores, particularly for staff, during the transition, the prison showed signs of positive progression by 2013. Seven prisoner quality of life dimensions improved significantly from 2011 to 2013. These improvements were accomplished against a low baseline. A great deal of work had been done by the Director and senior management team to reach this point. Significant challenges in the delivery of a constructive regime remained.

Publications

A book chapter which describes the initial and on-going development of the MQPL surveys was published in 2011 in *The Sage Handbook of Criminological Research Methods*:

Liebling, A., Hulley, S. and Crewe, B. (2011), 'Conceptualising and Measuring the Quality of Prison Life', in Gadd, D., Karstedt, S. and Messner, S. (eds.) *The Sage Handbook of Criminological Research Methods*. London: Sage.

Alison Liebling, Bethany Schmidt, Ben Crewe, Katherine Auty, Ruth Armstrong, Thomas Akoensi, Deborah Kant, Amy Ludlow and Alice Ievins (under review) *Birmingham prison: the transition from public to private sector and its impact on staff and prisoner quality of life - a three-year study*. MOJ.

Self-Inflicted Deaths in Custody Amongst 18-24 year olds: Staff experience, knowledge and views (with RAND Europe)

Amy Ludlow, Bethany Schmidt, Thomas Akoensi and Alison Liebling With Alex Sutherland and Chris Giacomantonio from RAND

Prison staff have an essential role in the prevention of suicide in prison, through their attitudes and values towards self-harm, and their skills in managing suicide risk (Liebling 2008). An evaluation of the Safer Locals Programme in 2005 showed that staff culture impacted upon the implementation of suicide prevention strategies, and on levels of distress among prisoners, which was correlated with average suicide rates. In a 'traditional' staff culture (characterised by distant and unapproachable relationships between staff and prisoners) staff identify prisoners at risk of suicide as 'attention seeking' or 'manipulative' rather than vulnerable, reducing opportunities for monitoring suicide risk factors (Liebling et al 2005; Liebling 2008). Even when staff have expertise, some lack confidence in their abilities to identify suicide risk (Birmingham 1999) and there are concerns that feelings of individual accountability can lead to mechanistic compliance with procedures even if this does

not safeguard individual prisoners (see e.g. Liebling, 1992; Liebling and Krarup, 1993). As such, understanding staff approaches to, and experiences of, suicide is essential in understanding how suicide can best be prevented in prisons. This interview-based study is based upon fieldwork from 4 establishments, some of which have high rates of self-inflicted death. 40-50 prison staff of all grades and from several disciplinary backgrounds have been interviewed. The interviews explore individuals' understandings of 'risk', risk identification and management processes, levels and value of training available (including gaps in provision), levels of support for prisoners, their families and prison staff, and issues or lessons to be learned. The results of this study will be disseminated by way of a report for the Harris Review by the end of this year.

B. POST-DOCTORAL AND OTHER RESEARCHERS

Between October 2013 and August 2014, the PRC hosted **Dr Tomer Einat** from the Department of Criminology, Bar-Ilan University, Israel as a Visiting Scholar.

Dr Thomas Akoensi successfully defended his PhD entitled "A tougher beat? The work, stress and well-being of prison officers in Ghana" in Spring 2014. Since then, he has been undertaking fieldwork in Ghana with Dr. Amy Nivette (University of Oxford) on a project on Criminal justice legitimacy and informal social control in Accra, Ghana. The project is funded by the University of Oxford's John Fell Fund and employs experimental vignettes to explore attitudes to, and perceptions and experiences of both formal and informal justice institutions among residents of four communities in Accra.

Thomas is also involved in conducting fieldwork with the Self-Inflicted Deaths (SID) in custody among young adults (18-24 year olds) project, a research collaboration between the Prisons Research Centre, the

Faculty of Law and RAND Europe. This project falls under the umbrella of the Lord Harris Inquiry into SID in custody and aims at informing best practices in SID preventions and interventions in custody.

In addition to these activities, Thomas assists the Prisons Research Centre in conducting MQPL and SQL surveys and focus groups, and has provided supervision on quantitative analysis for MSt students. He is converting his PhD into various articles.

Publications

Akoensi, T. (2014) Governance through power sharing in Ghanaian prisons: a symbiotic relationship between officers and inmates. *Prison Service Journal* 212, 33-38.

Akoensi, T. D., Koehler, J. A., Lösel, F., & Humphreys, D. K. (2013) 'Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programs in Europe, Part II: A Systematic Review of the State of Evidence'. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology* 57, 1206-25.

Koehler, J. A., Humphreys, D. K., **Akoensi, T. D.,** Sánchez de Ribera, O., & Lösel, F. (2013) 'A systematic review and meta-analysis on the effects of European drug treatment programmes on reoffending'. *Psychology, Crime & Law* 9, 19-43.

Koehler, J., Lösel, F., **Akoensi, T. D.,** & Humphreys, D. K. (2013) 'A systematic review and meta-analysis on the effects of young offender treatment programs in Europe'. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, 9, 19-43.

Dr Ruth Armstrong was awarded her PhD in 2013, entitled '*Life After Prison in America's Bible Belt: An ethnography of release from a faith-based prison programme*'. The thesis examined the lives of 48 men released over a six month period from a faith-based prison programme in the USA. Drawing on desistance theory, it analysed participants' experiences in their first year post-release and described the social contexts and interactions

that shaped their lives in four areas: parole supervision, involvement in churches, support from faith-based aftercare services, and interactions with volunteers. Comparing participants' experiences across re-offending outcomes showed how ex-prisoners' internalisation of the need to take individual responsibility, combined with the debilitating effects of a prison mentality, inhibited the most needy (who are often the most at risk of reoffending) from seeking and getting the help they needed. The thesis concluded that the proactive and responsive virtues demonstrated by volunteers could help to promote desistance because ex-prisoners coped responsibly where they were helped responsively.

This year Ruth was named joint winner of the Nigel Walker Prize, awarded for an outstanding written contribution (usually a Ph.D.) to the field of Criminology by a member of the University of Cambridge. She has also been awarded one of five highly competitive grants under the 'Cambridge Shorts' scheme, for early career researchers to make short films communicating the findings of their doctoral studies to a broader audience. The film focuses on the role of trust in the desistance process through looking at the work of volunteer mentors with ex-prisoners. It will be premiered at the Cambridge Festival of Ideas on October 20th, 2014 and later will be freely available for use as an educational tool on the Institute of Criminology website.

Ruth is currently working on the ESRC-funded study 'Locating trust in a climate of fear: Religion, moral status, prisoner leadership, and risk in maximum security prisons'. Alongside this work she has given several presentations drawing on and developing themes from her Ph.D.

Presentations

'Can Prisons be Agents of Social Justice' – Howard League Conference, University of Oxford, September 2013.

"'They stereotype me all my life, even when I choose to do what's right': Being the Church to ex-prisoners' – Faith Inside and Out Conference, HMP Grendon, December 2013.

'Trusting the Untrustworthy: The Theology, Practice and Implications of Faith Based Volunteers' work with Ex-Prisoners' – Community Chaplaincy Conference, Newbold Revold, March 2014.

Publications

Armstrong, R., (2014) 'Trusting the Untrustworthy: The Theology, Practice and Implications of Faith Based Volunteers' work with Ex-Prisoners', *Studies in Christian Ethics*, 27:3.

Armstrong, R. (Forthcoming, Nov 2014) 'Transforming Rehabilitation: Can Faith Communities Help to Reduce Reoffending?' *Prison Service Journal*,

Armstrong, R., Gelsthorpe, L. and Crewe, B., (Sept 2014) 'From Paper Ethics to Real World Research: Supervising Ethical Reflexivity when taking Risks in Research with 'the Risky'' in K. Lumsden and A. Winter (eds.) *Reflexivity in Criminological Research: Experiences with the Powerful and Powerless*, London: Palgrave.

Dr Katherine Auty joined the Prisons Research Centre as Research Associate in 2012. She was previously a PhD student in Forensic Psychiatry at Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary, University of London, where she examined the intergenerational transmission of psychopathy, personality disorders and criminal offending.

During her time at the PRC, Katherine has been producing quantitative analysis of MQPL and SQL data to complement the qualitative findings, and has been helping to organise and support the centre's extended MQPL and SQL exercises. This work has included examining the psychometric properties of the MQPL by looking at its factor structure in different samples of prisoners. It has also involved

looking at measurement invariance across male and female prisoner groups, to see if the MQPL captures the same quality of life dimensions in male and female prisoners. More recently, Katherine has been examining the relationships between the MQPL dimension mean scores and proven reoffending rates for every prison in which the MQPL survey is conducted. The results will be presented at the American Society of Criminology conference in San Francisco this November.

In April, Katherine attended a British Council and FAPESP, Brazil funded conference 'Psychiatry meets Criminology', where she produced a poster presentation of her research, met with other prison researchers from Brazil and visited a male prison in São Paulo.

Katherine has also been conducting the first systematic review and meta-analysis of the positive effects of yoga and mindfulness mediation in prisons on psychological well-being and behavioural functioning. 18 studies have been identified as being suitable for the review. The analysis was presented at the European Society of Criminology conference in Prague this Autumn. The findings suggest that yoga and meditation have positive effects on both the psychological and behavioural functioning of prisoners. The review also recommends that future studies need to employ larger samples, treatment as usual or control groups and follow-up study participants over longer time periods.

Publications:

Auty, K., Farrington, D .P. and Coid, J. W. (in press) Intergenerational transmission of psychopathy and mediation via psychosocial risk factors. *British Journal of Psychiatry*

Farrington, D., **Auty, K.**, Coid, J., Turner, R. (2013). Self-Reported and Official Offending from Age 10 to Age 56. *European Journal on Criminal Policy and Research*. 19(2):135-151.

Glaser, D., Prior, V., **Auty, K.**, Tilki, S. (2012). Does Training and Consultation in a Systematic Approach to Emotional Abuse

(FRAMEA) Improve the Quality of Children's Services? (The Emotional Abuse Recognition Training Evaluation Study). In: Davies C, Ward H, eds. *Safeguarding Children Across Services: Messages from Research*. London: Jessica Kingsley, 179-180.

Piquero, A.R., Farrington, D.P., Shepherd, J.P., **Auty, K.** (2011). Offending and Early Death in the Cambridge Study in Delinquent Development. *Justice Quarterly*.

Dr Richard Bramwell is a Research Associate, on the ESRC funded project 'Locating trust in a climate of fear: Religion, moral status, prisoner leadership, and risk in maximum security prisons'. Richard is a specialist in the sociology of culture, with a focus on black-British and African-American literary and vernacular cultures. He has taught undergraduate and Master's courses on race, ethnicity and postcolonial studies at Brunel University and Birkbeck. Richard was awarded his PhD (Sociology) by the London School of Economics.

Richard's forthcoming book, *UK Hip-Hop, Grime and the City*, will be published by Routledge. The book examines the aesthetic, cultural and commercial practices of black and white, working-class youths in London. Through a combination of interviews, ethnography and close textual analysis, this interdisciplinary study considers how young men and women use rap to accommodate themselves to their position in the city and investigates how inter-racial identifications are produced through their collective work.

Richard has also contributed a chapter on UK Hip-Hop to the forthcoming Cambridge Companion to Hip-Hop.

Dr Amy Ludlow successfully defended her PhD in law at the University of Cambridge last year. Her thesis, entitled 'Does Public Procurement Deliver? A Prison Privatisation Case Study', was supervised partly by Alison Liebling alongside two colleagues (Nicola

Padfield and Catherine Barnard) in the Faculty of Law. Amy was appointed in September last year as a Fellow in Law of Gonville and Caius College, and as an Affiliated Lecturer at the Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge.

Amy's thesis will be published with Hart in January 2015 as *Privatising Public Prisons: Labour Law and the Public Procurement Process*. Her book explores the use of contestability (through market testing and competitive tendering) in prisons and its impacts upon social rights, values and identities. It combines public source data collection with a case study at HMP Birmingham, the first operational public sector prison in the UK to be transferred into private management. Amy followed the competition at Birmingham for a year, through its transition period to the prison's transfer to G4S in October 2011. The research describes and evaluates procurement processes in prisons against labour law and human resources values. In drawing upon the experiences of Birmingham prison staff, Amy questions whether the law provides an adequate and effective framework within which employment rights can be safeguarded and the promises of competition (such as value for money and innovation) can be fulfilled. The study explores and articulates the tensions between contestability / privatisation in the prison sector and good employment law and practice. It reflects upon what these new practices might mean for the occupational identity, role and future of prison staff. Its purpose is to connect law and the criminological literature on prisons and prison staff to the story of the people in and behind the competition processes in the sector.

Alongside her work on competition in prisons, Amy is developing an interest in NOMS' ongoing attempts to restructure the delivery of probation services. She contributed an article to the special issue of the *European Journal of Probation on Transforming Rehabilitation*. Amy also continues to be interested in empirical methodology. Over the last year, she has hosted socio-legal lunchtime

seminars at the Law Faculty and, in April, she co-organised a conference in Cambridge that explored empirical methodology in a labour law context. She is currently co-editing a collection of papers from this conference, forthcoming with Hart in 2015 as *New Frontiers in Empirical Labour Law Research*. Amy was recently successful in applying for funding with a Law Faculty colleague (Catherine Barnard) for a new empirical project that explores how European migrant workers understand, engage with, and enforce, their labour rights. Fieldwork (a combination of quantitative analysis of employment tribunal cases, surveys, interviews and focus groups) began at the start of July and will conclude in October. Amy intends to apply for further funding next year for a new exploratory project on the role, values and impacts of Independent Monitoring Boards in public and private prisons. She intends to continue her work on public procurement and social value by exploring how commissioners and procurers are engaging with the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 and the new EU procurement directives (2014/23/EU, 2014/24/EU and 2014/25/EU OJ L 94 28.03.2014 1-374).

Publications

Ludlow, A. (2014) *Privatising Public Prisons: Labour Law and the Public Procurement Process* Oxford: Hart

Ludlow, A. and Blackham, A. (forthcoming) (eds) *New Frontiers in Empirical Labour Law Research*. Oxford: Hart.

Ludlow, A. (2014) 'The Public Procurement Rules in Action: An Empirical Exploration of Social Impact and Ideology' in Armstrong *et al* (eds) *Cambridge Yearbook of European Legal Studies 2013-14*. Oxford: Hart.

Ludlow, A. (2014) 'The Right to Strike: A Jurisprudential Gulf between the CJEU and ECtHR' in K. Dzehtsiarou, T. Konstadinides, T. Lock and N. O'Meara (eds), *The EU and the*

ECHR: Influence, Overlaps and Contradictions. London: Routledge.

Ludlow, A. (2014) "Transforming Rehabilitation": What Lessons Might Be Learned From Prison Privatisation?' 6(1) *European Journal of Probation* 67-81.

Ludlow, A. and Liebling, A. (forthcoming) 'Privatising prisons: theory, law and practice'.

Dr Serena Wright joined the PRC in October 2012 as a Research Assistant on the project 'Experiencing very long term imprisonment from young adulthood: identity, adaptation and penal legitimacy' (see above), with a particular interest on the early years and patterns of adaptation adopted by young men facing extraordinarily long sentences.

Serena was recently awarded her doctorate, based on her PhD entitled 'Women's 'persistent' and 'prolific' offending across the life-course: Chronic recidivism and frustrated desistance'. The PhD was an empirical examination of the lived experience of women's 'life-course persistent' offending and – for some – the episodes of 'prolific' offending which pockmarked it. Based on in-depth, life history research conducted with twelve incarcerated women, and sixteen criminal justice professionals and practitioners in England and Wales, it investigated factors central to the 'how' and 'why' of women's enduring recidivism within the context of the individual life course, as well as seeking to understand the impact of various criminal justice interventions – including the Prolific and other Priority Offender initiative – in shaping their offending trajectories over the life-course. The overall research findings drew attention to the centrality of addiction in the 'criminal careers' of female persistent and prolific offenders, the roots of these addictions in women's acute trauma histories, and the subsequent adoption of substance use as a coping strategy. The biographical accounts provided by the women also suggested that the language of 'persistence' may serve to obscure the lived realities of

repeat criminalisation for substance-addicted women, and the ways in which criminal justice interventions can serve to perpetuate the cycle of recovery, relapse, recidivism, and re-incarceration. The concept of *frustrated desistance* was drawn upon to provide an alternative leitmotif for interpreting re-offending within this context.

Serena has presented on her thesis at a number of major criminological conferences (British Society of Criminology, European Society of Criminology, and American Society of Criminology), and has most recently presented at the BSC conference in 2014, both to promote the launch of the BSC *Women, Crime & Criminal Justice Network's* Oral History Project, and the *Handbook of Prison Ethnography*..

Serena is currently co-authoring a number of book chapters. The first, with Dr Jenifer Sloan of Sheffield Hallam University, is for the forthcoming *Handbook of Prison Ethnography*, and focuses on the experience of the novice prison researcher. The second, with Professor Yvonne Jewkes of the University of Leicester, is for the second edition of the *Handbook on Prisons*, and looks to the experience of 'doing' prisons research. The third, co-written with Professor Loraine Gelsthorpe of the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge, will be published in *Women and Justice: Theory and Practice since Corston*, and gives an overview of female offending and criminal justice.

Publications

Golsteijn, C. and **Wright, S.** (2013). Using Narrative Research and Portraiture to Inform Design Research. In *Human-Computer Interaction—INTERACT 2013* (pp. 298-315). Springer Berlin Heidelberg.

Wright, S. (2012). "Being set up to fail?" The role of the CJS in perpetuating cycles of repeat criminalisation for substance-addicted women' *The Howard League Early Career Network Bulletin*, 18: 18-25.

Dr Ryan J. Williams is a Research Associate specializing in the sociology of religion and religious studies. Ryan completed his PhD at Cambridge in the Faculty of Divinity with a Doctoral Fellowship from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, where he explored the role of grassroots religious leadership for encouraging open-mindedness within communities of young British Muslims. He is currently working with Prof. Alison Liebling on the ESRC-funded study, 'Locating trust in a climate of fear: Religion, moral status, prisoner leadership, and risk in maximum security prisons'. In this project he is employing his expertise in religion and network analysis to evaluate the prominent but complex role that religion plays in prisoners' experiences of incarceration and in offender management procedures in two maximum security prisons.

Ryan's concurrent research in the Faculty of Divinity continues an innovative research programme that seeks to develop relational and network sociology for the study of contemporary religion. His programme has contributed to understanding religious leadership, authority, and interfaith relations, while forging interdisciplinary ties with theology, psychology, criminology and penology. His research interests also include: understanding the Islamic revival in prisons, exploring its role in rehabilitation and resistance; understanding of the construction of risk and dangerousness within a post-secular, post-9/11 and 7/7 security climate; and measures and methods for risk assessment related to extremism and radicalization. Ryan is active in achieving high-impact research, having informed policy and research on the national and international level through advising the Home Office, NATO, and the Taabah Foundation in the United Arab Emirates on issues related to the human sciences, security, and religious leadership and Muslim youth.

Recent publications

Williams, R J. and Ruparell, T. (2014) On being in the middle: Interreligious dialogue and

network centrality. *Journal of Contemporary Religion*. 29(3).

Williams, R J. and Watts, F.N. (2014) Attributions in a spiritual healing context: an archival analysis of a 1920s healing movement. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 53(1): 90-108.

Williams, R J. (2013) Network hubs and opportunity for complex thinking among young British Muslims. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 52(3): 573-595.

C. PHD RESEARCH

Marie Hutton - *A Case for Change?: Family Contact in Prisons and Article 8*

Currently Marie is writing up her PhD, conducted under the supervision of Professor Alison Liebling. The research is socio-legal and aims to elicit knowledge as to how the right to a private and family life, under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, is understood and operates in practice. Adopting a combined ethnographic and phenomenological methodology, Marie spent nine months in two local male category B/C prisons observing each stage of the visiting process and undertook semi-structured interviews with prisoners, their visitors and visits staff.

Marie is now working as a post-doctoral research fellow on the 'Breaking the Cycle: Prison Visitation and Recidivism in the UK' project at the University of Birmingham. This ESRC-funded research project is led by carceral geographer Dominique Moran and forensic psychologist Louise Dixon (both University of Birmingham, UK). This three year interdisciplinary project will provide a new perspective on prison visitation and its relationship to the highly topical issue of recidivism. Macro-level statistical analysis in parallel with innovative mixed-methods research into visiting facilities will identify the nature of this relationship and its socio-spatial context, informing policy towards visitation and the design of visiting spaces. Marie is also

a visiting lecturer at the University of Birmingham Law School, a guest lecturer at Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and part of the Children of Prisoners Champion Scheme in conjunction with Birmingham City Council, a project that aims to raise awareness of prisoners' children and their specific needs. She is an advisor to the Barnardo's I-HOP research and workforce development taskforce on the topic of prison visits. She has recently presented her research during conferences at the British Society of Criminology, the Royal Geographical Society, the European Society of Criminology and University of Birmingham Arts and Science Festival. She is currently developing a number of articles based on her PhD research ('Fatherhood during Imprisonment: Right or Privilege?', 'Doing the Rights Thing: Prison Visits and Human Rights and Power', and 'The prison and the 'allegedly free'').

Dr Barbara Cooke - *Bad to the bone? The effects of dog-training programs on factors related to desistance*

Barbara Cooke has recently been awarded her PhD, on the effects of dog-training programs on factors related to desistance. Dog-training programmes use prisoners or at-risk youths to train dogs either to become service animals or, in the case of shelter dogs, to increase their chances of being adopted. In the United States, these programmes have become increasingly popular and have been implemented in over 270 prisons. Despite their popularity, they have been poorly researched and thus very little is known about how dog-training programmes affect the participants and the institutions in which they are held.

Existing literature on animal-assisted therapy/interventions, altruism as correctional treatment, and dog-training programmes all suggest that contact with dogs as well as the act of training them should have an impact on the psychological and physiological well-being of prisoners. However, much of this literature is anecdotal

or based on animal-assisted therapies in hospital settings and schools. Furthermore, the studies on dog-training programmes are primarily small-scale. Dog-training programmes vary widely in implementation and practice, so it is important that practitioners understand how this variance might affect programme outcomes, hence the need for a larger scale study.

In an effort to fill this research gap, Barbara evaluated the effects of five American prison-based dog-training programmes on specific risk and protective factors for desistance versus persistence: impulsivity, empathy, emotional intelligence, self-efficacy, and criminal thinking styles. The evaluation employed a mixed-methods approach, using both survey and interview data to measure the effects of programme participation. Barbara also monitored recidivism for the evaluation participants who were released during the research period.

In addition to the dog-training programme evaluation, Barbara conducted two meta-analyses of dog-training programme evaluations on externalizing (e.g., recidivism, behaviour infractions) and internalizing (e.g., depression, self-efficacy) outcomes and several cost-benefit analyses.

Barbara is also the team leader of a group of researchers from the Institute of Criminology that is conducting an independent evaluation of Spark Inside, a programme that pairs young offenders with life coaches. Along with Kirstine Szifris, another member of the PCR, she will be expanding this evaluation to include a new joint venture between Spark Inside and NOMS. In the autumn, Barbara will also be starting as an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Texas A&M University Kingsville.

Publications

Cooke, B.J. and Farrington, D.P. (in press) 'The effects of dog-training programs: experiences of incarcerated females'. *Women and Criminal Justice*, 25(2)

Cooke, B.J. (2014) 'An Evaluation of Prison-Based Dog-Training Programs in Two US States Using a Mixed-Methods Approach',. In *SAGE Research Methods Cases*. London, United Kingdom: SAGE Publications, Ltd.

Cooke, B.J. and Farrington, D.P. (forthcoming) "The perceived effects of dog-training programmes in correctional settings". *The Journal of Forensic Practice*.

Deborah Kant – *Under threat? A social and occupational history of prison officers*

Deborah is a third year PhD student, whose research investigates the life and professional narratives of prison officers working in England and Wales from the 1970s onwards in order to describe uniformed staff within the social and historical context of organisational change experienced by the Prison Service.

The Prison Service of England and Wales has undergone rapid change over the last half century, as have the backgrounds, orientations and organisational roles of the prison officers themselves. Since the 1970s, the Service has experienced a remarkable change in its ethical value system, its recruitment patterns and its social perceptions: it has undergone periods of union-driven conflict, the so-called Fresh Start reorganisation of working lives and conditions, major disturbances, a security crisis, a decency agenda, competition, some 'professionalisation', an IT and audit revolution, and most recently, a period of uncertainty and cut-backs. The current shifting political climate, changing prisoner population, and institutionalisation of privatisation have all contributed to a sense of uncertainty among prison officers – about their role, the future, and their place in it. A proper understanding of the prison depends upon an analysis of the occupational orientation of the prison officer. This, in turn, requires a 'history of the present' (Garland 2001).

Previous research (for example Liebling 2008; Crawley 2004) has shown that prison officers share certain traits such as a sense of camaraderie and social cohesion, appreciation of humour and 'straight talk', as well as a cynical outlook, sense of nostalgia for a shared past, and mistrust of people outside their group. However, research has also shown that there are distinct schools of officers, whose philosophies affect their approaches to care, punishment, management, etc (for example, Tait 2008). Deborah's research focuses on this distinction, addressing the following questions:

- Are there distinct eras of the Prison Service? What external social and internal institutional characteristics mark each era?
- Are there distinct generations of prison officers? What differentiates the generations from one another? What are their strengths, weaknesses, and orientation to power?
- How is the role, status and professional orientation of the prison officer changing?

Employing a mixture of semi-ethnographic and biographical research methods, Deborah aims to answer the question of whether there is an 'essential prison officer', or whether their professional role and self-definition can be shown to develop with changing ideologies of punishment. She is currently at the fieldwork stage of her research in HMP Pentonville.

Bethany Schmidt - *Democratizing democracy: re-imagining prisoners as citizens through participatory governance*

Bethany is in the third year of her PhD, which explores the work of the innovative non-profit organization *User Voice* and its ex-offender-led prison deliberative democratic council model. Her research employs both qualitative and quantitative methods to examine and understand the processes at work when a

prison-based council, which aims to give a voice to prisoners in order to facilitate collaborative problem-solving with staff, is established in the prison environment. Three English prisons with *User Voice* councils were selected for observation and Bethany has continued her fieldwork within them, including the collection and analysis of MQPL and SQL data. Her current focus is on the impact of democratic participation on institutional life, staff and prisoners' perceptions of procedural justice, legitimacy, and how these intersect with humane care, decency, and order.

This research is producing important evidence in support of a prison-based cooperative and co-producing council model that assists prisoners in developing civil dispositions through democratic engagement. The data suggest that fostering democratic principles in the prison setting has the potential to 'civilize' individuals and institutional practices, and more closely align them with democratic virtues that endorse community, trust, and dialogical work towards collectivist objectives. This study illustrates how the de-civilizing process of incarceration can, in some ways, be diminished or mitigated, through the establishment of a normative pattern of civic reciprocity through responsibility and inclusion. For prisoners, council participation promotes civic skills, positive identity transformation, and encourages responsibility within their 'community'. This in turn strengthens penal legitimacy through fair proceedings and justifiable decision-making. Re-enfranchising prisoners through forms of participatory governance and agential engagement could therefore lessen exclusion and marginalization and in turn, possibly strengthen civic culture and democratic character.

In addition to her PhD, Bethany, along with colleagues from the University of Strathclyde and Queen's University Belfast, have recently been awarded a £70,000 contract to evaluate *User Voice's* Through-the-Prison-Gate Custody to Community Council project. The study uses both quantitative and qualitative methods to

assess the implementation, operation, and short-term outcomes of a pilot study of six prison-based and six probation-based user councils across England, adopting the *User Voice* through-the-gate council model of prisoner/service user participation and integration.

Bethany continues to present at academic conferences and university symposiums in England and internationally, and has a lead role in the development and implementation of the PRC's Measuring the Quality of Prison Life research.

Publications

Schmidt, B.E. (2013) 'User Voice and the Prison Council Model: A Summary of Key Findings from an Ethnographic Exploration of Participatory Governance in Three English Prisons' *Prison Service Journal* 209: 12-17.

Schmidt, B.E. (under review) 'Imprisonment and Civility: The Development of Democratic Character Despite Disenfranchisement'.

Schmidt, B.E. (in progress) 'Democratic Agency and Productive Resistance in the Prison Setting: How Prisoners Create Meaning and Change through Participatory Governance'.

Schmidt, B.E. and Liebling, A. (in progress) 'Organizational Differences and 'Quality of Life': A Three-Year Comparative Study of Public and Private Sector Prison Change Trajectories'.

Warr, J. and **Schmidt, B.E.** (in progress) 'Our voices challenge the prison...and ourselves': Explorations in Epistemological Research, Institutional Hegemony, and Participatory Governance in Prison'.

Kirstine Szifris - *Exploring the impact and relevance of engaging prisoners in philosophical dialogue*

Kirstine is a third year PhD student looking at the impact and relevance of engaging prisoners in philosophical dialogue in an educational capacity. The philosophy sessions are based on the principles of Socratic Dialogue. Their aim is to develop a community of philosophical inquiry which provides a safe, non-adversarial environment in which participants can collaboratively explore their thoughts and opinions.

Significant progress towards the PhD has been made in 2013/14. Data collection began in Low Moss Prison, Scotland where Kirstine undertook a small-scale evaluation of an established and popular Philosophy course. Preliminary findings indicate that the philosophy sessions are relevant to well-being, learning, self-understanding and empathy. The findings from this research will be disseminated to the Scottish Prison Service in the coming months and will form the foundation for the next stage in data collection. Thus far, findings have been disseminated at the Prison Learning Alliance Conference 2014 at a workshop entitled *“I think and feel therefore I am’: Reading, imaginative capital and critical thinking skills”* and at the Art of Doing Criminology Institute of Criminology Symposium. Further to this, a paper on the findings was presented at the European Society of Criminology Conference 2014.

The next stage of research involves Kirstine developing and delivering a 12 week course at HMP Grendon and HMP Full Sutton during autumn 2014. Interviews and questionnaires pre and post participation in the course, as well as systematic observations of the lessons, will constitute the primary data collection tools.

Alongside her PhD, Kirstine has also undertaken a part-time internship at the Centre for Science and Policy. She has worked as an assistant to Dr Moira Faul, the Policy Challenges Co-ordinator, on the Policy Challenge: Behavioural insights into emergency planning and response. The aim of the Challenges is to bring together senior academics and key stakeholders from

government, business and the community to provide new insights into high-priority public policy issues. The Behavioural insights challenge looked at how knowledge from the behavioural sciences can assist policy-makers to improve practice in dealing with emergency situations. Kirstine’s role involved general administration, identifying and liaising with senior academics and policy makers, and assisting with the development and delivery of workshop materials. She also played a key role in the design and content of the final project; a policy briefing disseminated to participating institutions and widely across government departments including the Government Office for Science and the Department for Business Innovation and Skills.

Kirstine has also worked as a research assistant on a small-scale evaluation project of a life-coaching charity called Spark Inside. Following on from this, along with Barbara Cook, she has secured funding from NOMS to evaluate a new stage in their programme. This evaluation will look specifically at impact of a life-coaching programme in reducing institutional violence.

Finally, Kirstine has also acted as Project Leader for Cambridge’s Hub Social Innovations Programme. The project involved Kirstine leading a small team in investigating how a newly formed Charity could effectively and efficiently communicate with its members.

Fabio Tartarini – *The role of self-empowerment in the process of human flourishing in prison*

Fabio is a third year PhD student, looking at the process of human flourishing in prison and the role of self-empowerment in this process. Human flourishing is defined as the experience of life going well, and is the combination of feeling emotionally positive and functioning effectively in psychological and social terms. Self-empowerment is the result of positive thinking, hopefulness, internal locus of control (that is, the

perception of being in control of one's own life), and self-efficacy (the belief in one's capabilities to organize and execute the course of action required to produce given attainments). Laws and Ward (2011) indicate that where offenders are able to live a satisfactory and fulfilling life, they are less likely to reoffend.

This research investigates what human flourishing 'looks like' in prison: the definition that prisoners adopt, and how they might capitalise on the prison experience and achieve personal growth and human flourishing. The underlying hypothesis is that self-empowered individuals are more likely to flourish as they are more motivated and capable of circumventing the obstacles that tend to prevent personal growth in prisons. To test this, a small group of prisoners (N=16) will take part in a workshop which provides practical tools to increase self-empowerment and resilience. Participants will be assessed (both via interview and a questionnaire) before and after the workshop, and will be compared to a control group (N=16). This research represents the first longitudinal and systematic exploration of the process of human flourishing in prison, and it is the first application of Bruscatelli and Gheno's (2000) model of self-empowerment to a British sample of prisoners.

Fabio is also working as research assistant for a scoping study on restorative justice by Restorative Solutions, in collaboration with various English PCCs. This project aims to identify the current levels of provision across different criminal justice agencies, scope the future demands for restorative practices, identify current gaps and develop good practice guidelines. Fabio's work involves research design, conducting interviews and focus groups with CJS practitioners, and writing a guidance document for practitioners adopting restorative justice. This research follows from the increased support of the Ministry of Justice towards the development and delivery of restorative justice services in England and Wales.

Daniel Packham - *The experience of imprisonment amongst serving and former military service personnel*

Daniel is conducting his PhD part-time while working full-time as a Research Officer at the Ministry of Justice. His research seeks to explore the experience of imprisonment amongst serving and former military service personnel through use of qualitative interviews with staff, prisoners and detainees.

During the year, Daniel has been developing his research design and preparing for his research fieldwork which is anticipated to begin next year. The study will seek to compare the experience of imprisonment of ex-military persons in a civilian prison with that of serving military personnel in detention at the Military Corrective Training Centre (MCTC) in Colchester. The MCTC is where serving members of the UK military are detained on remand or under sentence after committing an offence under military law. Daniel will focus on how concepts of identity and culture shape detainees' and prisoners' experiences within these institutions and how military identities can persist into civilian imprisonment.

Publications

Packham, D. (2014). *Soldier, Sailor, Beggarman, Thief: Crime and the Armed Forces since 1914* by Emsley, C. (2013) – book review

Alice Ivins - *The Social Experiences of Sex Offenders in Prison: A Comparative Analysis*

Alice is a second year PhD student, exploring the social experiences of prisoners convicted of sexual offences. The study builds on Alice's MPhil research, which was based at HMP Whatton and found significant differences between the ways in which mainstream prisoners and sex offenders experience imprisonment. In particular, sex offenders

struggled with an acute form of moral stigmatisation: their conviction for a sexual offence was experienced as an assault on their moral character. Prisoners therefore engaged in individual and collective attempts to manage their identities and construct themselves as 'good' people.

This qualitative study will develop these findings by comparing two different institutions, one with a high sex offender population and a high provision of sex offender treatment, and one with a high sex offender population and a low provision of sex offender treatment. It will explore how prisoners manage their identities against the pressure of their stigmatisation and shame. It will also consider forms of social relationships among prisoners, in particular focusing on the extent to which they judge each other as sex offenders, and how this interacts with their personal processes of identity management. Finally, it will consider how institutional differences affect prisoners' experience. This study will explore the experiences of a significant and growing population within the prison estate. It will also suggest potential connections between prisoners' prison experiences, their engagement in treatment and, crucially, the desistance process.

Presentations

'Prison: what's it for, who goes and what happens when you get there' – talk given to sixth form students interested in studying law, organised by the Villiers Park Trust

'Sex offenders' experiences of imprisonment' talk to be given at Durham Cathedral as part of a symposium in the Church of England's Prisons Week

Publications

Ivins, A. and Crewe, B. (under review) "Nobody's better than you, nobody's worse than you": Moral community among prisoners convicted of sexual offences', *Punishment and Society*

Ivins, A. (forthcoming) 'Living among sex offenders: Identity, safety and relationships at

HMP Whatton', *The Howard League for Penal Reform*.

Dev Maitra - Faith, race, gangs and 'the street' in prison: an inductive analysis

Dev is a second year PhD student, whose research builds on his MPhil dissertation, 'Street gangs behind bars – fact or fiction?', which examined the interaction between Manchester's street gangs and gangs active in the city's high-security prison. As part of this study, Dev interviewed gang members at HMP Manchester, and spent time in the local community. His research findings were distributed widely throughout the prison, including to the Prison Governor and Senior Management Team. Dev has also conducted preparatory research for his PhD, spending a week at HMP Manchester as part of the Prison Research Centre's MQPL team. His PhD will be based on an ethnographic study, extending the research he began as a Masters student. As part of this research, he hopes to interview Manchester's gang-affiliated prisoners, uniformed staff, prison management and members of the local community. Using Manchester Prison as a case study, Dev hopes to conduct an in-depth analysis of English prison gangs' daily activities, their effects on levels of prison violence and their impact on non-gang affiliated prisoners. Dev also intends to explore wider topics during his doctoral research, including the links between the changing cultural composition of Britain and the prison environment. What are the effects of these changes on the power flow within prisons and on prison gangs more generally? What roles do racial and religious identities play in the lives of gang members?

During his two years at the Institute of Criminology, Dev has also spent time with Greater Manchester Police, looking at the operational response to organised crime groups in the city. In addition to his research activities, Dev has delivered guest lectures at University Centre, Peterborough, and is currently an ESRC Scholarship student. Dev hopes to begin publishing the findings of his

Masters research throughout the forthcoming year, as well as disseminating his results within academic and public bodies.

D. INCOMING PhD STUDENTS

Ben Laws - *Emotion management and emotional expression in prisons*

Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, and supervised by Dr. Ben Crewe, Ben Laws's research will seek to understand the nature of emotional expression and regulation under conditions of close confinement. While most studies state that prisons are emotionally sterile environments, often characterized by violence and aggression, more recent research has challenged such arguments by describing the 'spatially differentiated' emotion zones that exist in prisons, where a broader range of emotions seem to be allowed and expressed (Crewe et al., 2013). To explore these issues, Ben will use a combination of research methods including semi-structured interviews, prisoner shadowing and a survey. He aims to secure to a medium security men's prison (Category-C) and a closed female prison.

E. OTHER ACTIVITIES

Alison Liebling and Ben Crewe continue to maintain strong relations with practitioners, including senior figures within NOMS with whom they regularly discuss their research findings, on topics including high-security prisons, prison governors, the use of authority in prisons, public and private sector imprisonment, and prison staff.

In 2014, Alison Liebling gave Invited lectures to the 19th Council of Europe Conference of the Directors of Prison and Probation Services, Helsinki, 'Prison quality, moral performance and outcomes' 17 June 2014; to KRUS (the National Training Academy for prison officers in Norway), Oslo, 4 June 2014, 'Prisons and the problems of prison officers'; to the National Prison Governor's conference, training college, Scottish Prison Service 19

December 2013; and to the London Probation Trust, "Can trust and risk co-exist? Faith identities, personhood and growth in high security prisons", 15 January 2014.

She was invited to participate in a consultation exercise with prison staff and managers on professional development and training, held at Shotts prison, 21 November 2013 and in a seminar on 'setting standards' with new Scottish Inspectorate of Prisons 20 November 2013.

She was a member of a British Academy Policy Review study on the use of imprisonment 2012-14

In October 2013, Ben Crewe gave a presentation at the Prison Service Governing Governors forum on 'The role of the governor'

In September 2014, Ben Crewe gave verbal evidence in Parliament to the Justice Committee's follow-up inquiry on Joint Enterprise sentencing.

Ben has also given presentations during the last twelve months to the senior management team of HMP Rochester and the NOMS Health, Wellbeing & Substance Misuse Co-commissioning Team.

F. APPOINTMENTS

Dr Thomas Akoensi has been appointed as a Lecturer in Criminology at the University of Kent, from December 2014

Dr Esther van Ginneken is now a Lecturer in Criminology at Liverpool Hope University

Jason Warr has been appointed as a Lecturer in Criminology at the University of Lincoln

Marie Hutton has been appointed as a post-doctoral Research Fellow at the University of Birmingham

G. MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

Crewe, B., Liebling, A., and Hulley, S. (2014) 'Staff-prisoner relationships, staff professionalism and the use of authority in public and private sector prisons', *Law and Social Inquiry*,

Crewe, B., Liebling, A. and Hulley, S. (2014) 'Heavy-light, absent-present: Re-thinking the 'weight' of imprisonment', *British Journal of Sociology* 65 (3), p387-410

Crewe, B. (2014) 'Not looking hard enough: masculinity, emotion and prison research', *Qualitative Inquiry*, April 2014, 20(4), 426-437

Crewe, B., Warr, J., Bennett, P., and Smith, A. (2014) 'The emotional geography of prison life', *Theoretical Criminology* 18(1), 1 56-74

Crewe, B. and Liebling, A. (in press) 'Quality, professionalism, and the distribution of power in public and private sector prisons', in Hucklesby, A. and Lister, S. (eds) *The Private Sector and Criminal Justice*

Liebling, A (2014) 'Moral and Philosophical Problems of Long-Term Imprisonment', *Studies in Christian Ethics* 27: 258-69

Liebling, A (in press) 'Appreciative inquiry, generative theory, and the 'failed state' prison', in J. Miller and W. Palacios, (eds) *Advances in Criminological Theory*.

Liebling, A. and Crewe, B. (2014) 'Staff-prisoner relationships, moral performance, and privatisation', in Durnescu, I. and McNeill, F. *Understanding Penal Practice*. New York: Routledge, pp. 153-166.

Tankebe, J. and Liebling, A. (2013) (eds.) *Legitimacy and Criminal Justice: International Explorations*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp.384.

Liebling, A. (2013) 'Postscript: Integrity and Emotion in Prisons Research', in Y Jewkes (ed) *Qualitative Inquiry: Doing Prison Research Differently*, in press.