



The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 310, 29 September 2020

Events

Events have been added to the Courses & Events pages on The Network website – see: <http://www.seapn.org.uk/courses>.

Black Lives Matter

The Black community and Human Rights

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/jt5801/jtselect/jtrights/correspondence/The-Black-Community-Human-Rights-Report.pdf>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 673, 14 Sep 2020)

Important new report – which also makes grim reading:

“ClearView Research were commissioned by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights to support the Committee with its aim to better understand the views, attitudes and perceptions of people from the black community in the UK, in relation to their human rights.

Given that there is no strong evidence base to confidently answer the questions that the Committee were interested in asking, this research is the first of its kind in the UK.” [p7]

“The Fog of Implicit Bias”

https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=the-fog-of-implicit-bias&utm_source=Marketing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=september22LJXpress

(Source: LJXpress – Library Journal, 22 Sep 2020)

Article in the *Library Journal* “BackTalk” column, which looks at implicit bias:

“How can librarians determine when their implicit bias has guided them into viewing Black patron behavior as dangerous, and hence guided them to call 911, and when a situation is actually dangerous and requires a police response?”

The article also links to a previous one in *American Libraries Magazine*, “When Not to Call the Cops: A plea to protect Black patrons”,

<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2020/07/08/rethinking-when-to-call-the-cops/>.

Supporting the wellbeing and mental health of People of Colour and Black people in the workplace

<https://www.managers.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/MHFA-Guidance.pdf>

(Source: email from the Chartered Management Institute, 22 Sep 2020)
Excellent new practical guidance produced by Mental Health First Aid England as part of their “My Whole Self”^{*} stream.

* My Whole Self:

“In 2020 we shouldn't have to leave parts of our identity behind – be that our cultural or ethnic background, sexuality, or health – when we work.”

See: <https://mhfaengland.org/my-whole-self/>.

Funding & Opportunities

Press release: “£80 million boost to towns”

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/80-million-boost-to-towns?utm_source=b005be3d-66a2-4b8d-a1d2-3ad52d16cc0c&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

“Over 100 towns in England will be given up to £1 million to kick start regeneration projects and give areas a boost [...]”

A list of the ‘accelerated funding’ by town is at:

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5f7204c0d3bf7f47a558776b/towns-fund-accelerated-funding-grants.pdf>.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Press release: “274 councils set to receive housing support for vulnerable people”

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/274-councils-set-to-receive-housing-support-for-vulnerable-people?utm_source=27bbdb0a-f9b1-4fb0-ba2a-ffd5d60ca49e&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

(Source: email from Jo Ward, 18 Sep 2020)

“274 local councils will share £91.5 million of government funding to ensure interim accommodation and support for the most vulnerable people, including by helping people into the private rented sector, secure interim accommodation such as supported housing, and assess the wider support these people need in order to rebuild their lives. An additional £13.5 million fund will be used to enable local authorities to tackle new or emerging challenges.”

The long shadow of deprivation: differences in opportunities across England – research report

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/917278/The_long_shadow_of_deprivation_-_differences_in_opportunities_across_England.pdf

(Source: *Equally Ours* Newsletter, 24 Sep 2020)

New report from the Social Mobility Commission.

Key findings include:

- “Where you grow up matters – social mobility in England is a postcode lottery, with large differences across areas in both the adult pay of disadvantaged sons and the size of the pay gap for sons from deprived families, relative to those from affluent families.
- In areas with the highest social mobility, disadvantaged individuals aged around 28 earn more than twice as much as their counterparts in the lowest-mobility areas (over £20,000 compared with under £10,000).
- In areas with low social mobility, pay gaps between deprived and affluent sons are 2.5 times bigger than in areas of high social mobility.
- In areas of high social mobility, educational achievement accounts for almost all the earnings difference between individuals from deprived and affluent families.
- In areas of low social mobility, it is far harder for someone from a deprived background to escape deprivation. Up to 33% of the pay gap is driven by non-educational factors.
- Fifty English local authorities (one in six of those analysed) have both low adult pay for disadvantaged sons and large pay gaps between those from deprived and affluent families.
- Localities with low life chances include Bolton, Bradford, Chiltern, Hyndburn and Thanet. They typically have fewer professional and managerial occupations, fewer 'Outstanding' schools, more areas of deprivation and moderate population density.
- To equalise opportunities across the country, government must consider what support can be targeted on these local authorities to improve overall social mobility outcomes.” [p9]

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

Lockdown, lifelines and the long haul ahead: the impact of Covid-19 on food banks in the Trussell Trust network

Full report: <https://www.trusselltrust.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/09/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-food-banks-report.pdf>

Executive summary: <https://www.trusselltrust.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/09/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-food-banks-executive-summary.pdf>

Additional info + links to technical papers: <https://www.trusselltrust.org/what-we-do/research-advocacy/>

(Source: JRF *Weekly round-up*, 18 Sep 2020)

New research from the Trussell Trust:

1. “Well before Covid-19 hit the UK, food banks in the Trussell Trust network had been seeing year-on-year increases in levels of need, with 1.9 million emergency food parcels given out in 2019/20. Previous research has found that the overwhelming majority of people using food banks in the Trussell Trust network are destitute and, even before the pandemic, the number of people struggling to make ends meet was increasing. This crisis has landed after years of stagnant wages and

frozen, capped working age benefits - leaving those on the lowest incomes vulnerable to income shocks [...]

5. The findings show that there is likely to be a significant rise in levels of destitution in the UK by the end of the year, and at least an extra 300,000 emergency food parcels are likely to be distributed by food banks in the Trussell Trust network in the last quarter of 2020 – an increase of 61% compared to the previous year.” [pp5-6, Full report]

“Anti-Bullying Week 2020: United Against Bullying”

http://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week?mc_cid=669d7f9bb9&mc_eid=b1c1881164

Anti-Bullying Week 2020 runs from 16-20 Nov. Resources and further info available from above weblink.

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

CYPMHC annual report 2020

https://cypmhc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/CYPMHC_AnnualReport.pdf

(Source: Children & Young People Now *Update*, 24 Sep 2020)

Report from the Children and Young People’s Mental Health Coalition.

“In this inaugural annual report, produced to mark the Children and Young People’s Mental Health Coalition’s tenth birthday, we reflect on how mental health support for infants, children, young people and their families has changed in recent years. While there has been demonstrable progress in this time, our evidence suggests there is still so much to do to improve outcomes for children and young people and to create a world around them where they can flourish and thrive.

It is estimated that around one in eight 5 to 19 year olds experience a mental health problem, such as depression or anxiety [...] making children and young people’s mental health one of the key health issues of our time. Furthermore, half of all lifetime mental health problems are established by the age of 14 [...] We know from wide-ranging research that mental health problems in adolescence affect people negatively well into adulthood.” [p10]

Migration issues – Other Agencies

Access denied: the human impact of the hostile environment

<https://www.ippr.org/files/2020-09/access-denied-hostile-environment-sept20.pdf>

(Source: MEMO [*Minority Ethnic Matters Overview*], 672, 7 Sep 2020)

New report from IPPR.

“In this report, we assess the impacts of the hostile environment on individuals and communities. The report draws on new analysis of government data and interviews with a range of stakeholders, including people with direct experience of the hostile environment, charities and NGOs, immigration lawyers, and former government officials.

We find that the hostile environment has contributed to forcing many people into destitution, has helped to foster racism and discrimination, and has erroneously affected people with the legal right to live and work in the UK.” [p3]

LGBTQ+ issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

"Library books are still being censored over LGBT+ content on a horrifying scale. Oh, and Harry Potter"

<https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2020/09/28/banned-books-week-lgbt-american-library-association-tango-makes-three-beyond-magenta/>

(Source: *PinkNews*, 28 Sep 2020)

News-story focusing on Banned Books Week in the US:

“The American Library Association’s Office for Intellectual Freedom collates an annual list of the books that face the most censorship attempts, celebrating them for Banned Books Week (27 September – 3 October) [...]

The list for 2019 shows that the censorship faced by LGBT+ books becomes even more notable – with eight of the top ten books censored for addressing LGBT+ themes.”

The list is available at:

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/top10>.

LGBTQ+ issues – Other Agencies

How to support bisexual youth: ways to care for young people who are attracted to more than one gender

<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/How-to-Support-Bisexual-Youth.pdf>

(Source: *PinkNews*, 17 Sep 2020)

Important new resource from the US-based Trevor Project:

“While all LGBTQ young people are at a higher risk of experiencing negative mental health outcomes than their heterosexual and cisgender peers, it’s worth noting that bisexual youth statistically face more challenges than lesbian and gay youth as well.” [p5]

“What does the UK Government announcement on the Gender Recognition Act mean?”

https://www.stonewall.org.uk/what-does-uk-government-announcement-gender-recognition-act-mean?mc_cid=08df3029c9&mc_eid=bf9d438cb

(Source: *Stonewall Supporter Newsletter*, 23 Sep 2020)

Useful brief summary from Stonewall; as they say:

“The UK Government has committed to making small, administrative improvements to the process of legal recognition. The fee will be reduced to a nominal amount, and it will move online.

However, this means the process won’t be de-medicalised, and a self-determination process – as is already in place in countries like the Republic of Ireland, Norway and Argentina – will not be introduced. Legal recognition will also not be extended to non-binary people and under 18s.”

The LGBT Foundation is “incredibly disappointed” by the announced reforms – see: <http://www.lgbt.foundation/news/lgbt-foundation-responds-to-reforms-of-the-gender-recognition-act/387>.

LGBT in Britain: Bi report

https://www.stonewall.org.uk/system/files/lgbt_in_britain_bi.pdf

(Source: *Stonewall Supporter Newsletter*, 23 Sep 2020)

This is the last in Stonewall’s series of reports that draw on their “LGBT in Britain” survey.

‘Headlines’ include:

“[The report] reveals that bi people are three times less likely than gay men and lesbians to be out to all of their family (20 per cent compared to 63 per cent). While one third of bi people (33 per cent) aren’t open about their sexual orientation with any of their family.

The research also found that while two in five gay and lesbian people (44 per cent) are out to everyone at their educational institution, only one in five bi people say the same (23 per cent). Meanwhile, two in five bi people (42 per cent) have hidden or disguised that they were bi at work for fear of discrimination.” [Taken from:

https://www.stonewall.org.uk/about-us/news/new-research-bi-people-less-likely-be-out?mc_cid=08df3029c9&mc_eid=bfb9d438cb]