

POLICING PREGNANCY: WHO SHOULD BE A MOTHER?

A collaboration by British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS), the Centre for Parenting Culture Studies (CPCS), Birthrights, and Engaging Sociology at CCCU.

Thursday 18 May 2017, 09.15-16.45

Room Og46 (Old Sessions House), Canterbury Christ Church University, CT11QU



Illustration: Ben Jennings

Programme

09.15-09.50 Registration and refreshments

09.50 Welcome

10.00-11.00 Session 1: 'Ideal pregnancies' and the new family planning

Chair: Ann Furedi, Chief Executive, British Pregnancy Advisory Service

- The 1967 Abortion Act and the 'problem pregnancy'. *Professor Sally Sheldon, School of Law, University of Kent.*
- Constructing the 'perfect pregnancy' today. *Dr Jennie Bristow, School of Psychology, Politics and Sociology, Canterbury Christ Church University.*

11.00-11.15 Break

11.15-12.45 Session 2 (roundtable): Bad bodies, bad choices? Behavioural advice and the pregnant woman

Chair: Dr Julia Carter, School of Psychology, Politics and Sociology, Canterbury Christ Church University.

- Why take the risk? Governing pregnancy through maternal sacrifice. *Dr Pam Lowe, School of Languages and Social Science, Aston University*
- Obesity, pregnancy, and 'fat-shaming'. *Clare Murphy, Director of External Affairs, British Pregnancy Advisory Service*
- Alcohol abstinence advice and the manipulation of evidence. *Dr Ellie Lee, Centre for Parenting Culture Studies, University of Kent*
- Supporting women who are pregnant and addicted to heroin: why specialist health and social care matters. *Dr Sarah Christie, Research Centre for Children, Families and Communities, Canterbury Christ Church University*

12.45-1.30 Lunch

13.30-14.45 Session 3: Pregnancy surveillance and the medical profession

Chair: Dr Jan Macvarish, Centre for Parenting Culture Studies

- Capturing the womb: Pregnancy surveillance in early twentieth-century Britain. *Dr Salim Al-Gailani, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge*
- The social implications of epigenetics. *Sue White, Professor of Social Work, Department of Sociological Studies, University of Sheffield.*

Respondents

- *Rebecca Schiller, Director, Birthrights*

14.45–15.15 Break and refreshments

15.15–16.30 Session 4: Breastfeeding, guilt, and ideals of good motherhood

Chair: Sarah Cant, School of Psychology, Politics and Sociology, Canterbury Christ Church University.

- Breastfeeding across time and place: the construction of cultural norms. *Dr Charlotte Faircloth, Department of Social Sciences, University of Roehampton.*
- The emotional and practical experiences of formula-feeding mothers. *Victoria Fallon, School of Psychology, University of Liverpool*
- Am I harming my baby? The significance of the default in representations of infant feeding. *Dr Fiona Woollard, Department of Philosophy, University of Southampton*

16.30-16.45 Closing remarks