

CENTRE FOR INNOVATION AND RESEARCH IN CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH

CIRCY NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2024

A warm welcome back to ever one at
the start of this new academic ear. And
also, a ver warm welcome if this is our

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@Susse CIRCY

Meet Kirst ! Our new research assistant.

We are delighted to introduce Kirst Fraser, an experienced practitioner in the Youth and Community work field, as she embarks on her PhD journey with the Centre for Innovation and Research in Childhood and Youth (CIRCY). With over 15 years of experience in championing the participation and voices of children and young people in various settings, Kirst's work has always focused on amplifying youth voices and ensuring their meaningful engagement in decision-making processes.

Kirst's doctoral research, entitled *Empowering Voices: A Participatory Action Research Approach to Enhancing Children's and Young People's Involvement with Research from Design to Dissemination*, will investigate innovative ways to involve children and young people in research projects. Her work aims to establish a dynamic children and young people's research advisor group, where individuals from diverse backgrounds can actively contribute to academic research at the University of Sussex and beyond.



Kirst Fraser
(circ_admin@sussex.ac.uk)

... and goodbye to Emil !

As Kirst starts with the team, I will be leaving my role with CIRCY, after 6 years at Sussex ! I've loved my time with the team and learnt so much so want to thank everyone who has supported our work and events across the past year, especially the support of Liam, Simon, Perpetua and Eve whilst I've been with the team.

I'll be continuing my venture in education through my work with the Institute of Early Years Education, as a content writer for their membership body. It's a brand new launch that we are incredibly excited to share with you! Do take a look and get in touch if you have any questions. www.instituteofearlyyearseducation.org.uk.

CIRCY Autumn Term Events

CIRCY/CSWIR Thinking-feeling-writing space:

What is 'thinking-feeling' and how can it contribute to research and writing practices?
with Dr Jette Kofoed

3 October / 11-12:30pm / Sissa Room (108), Esse House

Dr Jette Kofoed, Univ of Aarhus, Denmark, has a long-standing interest in care, ethics, methodology and writing practices alongside expertise in researching young people's digital cultures. In this session we will have the opportunity to explore with Jette one of her distinctive papers and to think, feel and write together about generative forms of academic practice that help to create space and time for care and ethical reflection.

Killing Children in British Fiction: Thatcherism to Brexit Book launch with Dominic Dean

22 October / 2-4pm / Arundel 230

In this launch event, Dominic Dean will introduce and explore his new SUNY Press book, *Killing Children in British Fiction: Thatcherism to Brexit*. This book emerged from a simple yet disturbing observation: Contemporary British fiction is full of children killing or being killed.

Considering novels and films alongside actual murder cases and moral panics, the book develops this insight into a unique account of British fiction and cultural history from the Thatcher to Brexit eras, where the child provides a figure for understanding conflicts over the British future. Working within and often challenging existing scholarship in childhood studies, literary studies, and critical and queer theory, *Killing Children* explores how the child, at once materially present and representative of an unsecured future, provokes relentless fantasies, fears, and violence from adults.

The Nuances of Sibling Violence

with Luisa Varona

Date and Time TBC

CIRCY Seminar on Cultural Landscapes of Childhood
With Dr Ben Highmore
Date and Time TBC

Further details about this event will follow later in the term.

Research Visitors

Livia Vana will be joining from the Institute of Education at the University of Zurich from the 28th October until the 15th November. Livia is a member of the WoKidS – Children's well-being in German-speaking Switzerland research project, which is part of the multinational study Children's Understandings of Well-being Global and Local Contexts. As part of the study, Livia is conducting a doctoral research project on sibling relationships and subjective wellbeing. Livia will be presenting her work at a seminar this term, and if you would like to arrange to meet with her during her visit, you can contact her directly via livia.vana@ife.ueh.ch.



The last academic year seems a long time ago but we're excited to share a compiled report of our work and research within CIRCY. Our 2023/24 Annual Report is now available to view and read here: [CIRCY Annual Report 2023/24](#).

Contact Information

We're ready for the new term and you're invited!

Join the CIRCY mailing list for all updates, news and latest events by emailing us at

