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# PRACTICE LINKS

**Practice Links** is a free publication of the School of Applied Social Studies (social work), UCC. *Practice Links* supports practitioners to keep up-to-date with new publications, online resources, conferences and continuing professional development opportunities.



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*Submissions*

Submissions for publication should be received two weeks prior to the next publication date. Please forward submissions by email to the editor.



# CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## @UCCSOCIALWORK WEBINAR SERIES

7/3/2024, 1-2 pm (Ireland)

**About the speaker:** Brian Taylor is Professor Emeritus of Social Work, and one of the editors of a seminal new edited book on decision making, assessment and risk in social work. Exploring connections between undertaking assessment, making decisions and managing risk is a key strand of the book. The presentation will be of interest to social workers in practice and those in management and regulatory roles.

**About this series:** This free webinar series is run by Kenneth Burns, @UCCsocialwork, University College Cork. The aim of the series is to support front-line practitioners and managers in social work practice, and community & voluntary services in Ireland. All are welcome to attend.

**Register:** Click on the link below to register or scan the QR code. A link to join this webinar will be sent by email a few days before the event.



@UCCsocialwork

## Decision making, assessment and risk in social work

**Professor Brian Taylor**

Ulster University, Northern Ireland

[Click here](#) to register and to watch back previous webinars



# MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW)/PGDSWS

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# SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE TEACHING AT UCC

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*"Student was open and engaging, unafraid of the many challenges"*

*"Brought a well-balanced opinion on topics and was refreshing"*

*"Quickly became a valued and productive member of the MDT"*

*"Brought lots of fresh ideas and enthusiasm to the dept"*

Social workers who engage in practice teaching have continually informed us of the benefits in terms of their own continuing professional development and we have lots to offer. For further details [click here](#)

UCC would like to hear from CORU registered social workers who are interested in supervising a student on placement during 2024 - placement cycles are usually from January – April and September – December

UCC pays a placement fee. For further information please contact [swfieldwork@ucc.ie](mailto:swfieldwork@ucc.ie) or you can register your interest [click here](#)



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## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

### **LAUNCH OF IASW ANTI-RACISM STRATEGY 2024-27: AN ACTIVE AND CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO CHALLENGE AND COMBAT RACISM IN ALL ITS FORMS**

10.00am - 1.30pm, Carmelite Community Centre, 56 Aungier Street, Dublin 2

The IASW is committed to challenge and eradicate racism from social work practice. Therefore, the Anti-Racism Advisory Group of the IASW is launching the IASW Anti Racism Strategy 2024-27. Building on the work of the IASW Anti-Racism Strategy 2021-2023, this second strategy will provide us with the pathways to confront racism in the social work profession. The Anti-Racism Strategy was formed after several reflective practice sessions undertaken with the Black and Minority Ethnic social workers with lived experiences of racism who worked with White colleagues and allies to develop the Strategy. The launch of this strategy is not only timely but vital in promoting anti-racism across all allied care professions, including social work.

Confirmed speakers include Cllr. Uruemu Adejinmi, Dr Prospera Tedam, Hilda Loughran and Colletta Dalikeni.

Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> February

### **RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE IN IRELAND, NORTH AND SOUTH**

8.45am registration, Conference 9.30am - 4.15pm, Fairways Hotel, Dundalk

€30 IASW members/€60 non-members

The first conference of its kind for social work, Responding to Domestic Violence and Abuse in Ireland, North and South, is a unique opportunity to explore and understand the complexities of domestic abuse from an all-island viewpoint. The conference is a collaboration between the IASW and BASW NI. What is not understood cannot be addressed. Responding to Domestic Violence and Abuse in Ireland, North and South will equip attendees with essential knowledge to deliver meaningful improvements in practice and policy, with important learning both for colleagues at the frontline and those working at the strategic level. By connecting policy, practice, and experience, the conference will examine how abuse affects lives and profile insights and learning for all areas of social work.

Social work has a unique line of sight, often pressing to address matters others overlook. The agenda will explore issues which frequently go undiscussed, highlighting the many ways domestic abuse manifests in family relationships. Focus will be given to considering the impacts of intimate partner violence, child to parent violence and work with families, with consideration given to the appropriate social work responses. Confirmed speakers include Helen McEntee TD, Minister for Justice, Professor Stephanie Holt, Head of School of Social Work and Social Policy at Trinity College Dublin and Marcella Leonard, Director of Leonard Consultancy and expert in the areas of psychosexual therapy, child and public protection.

As usual, go to [www.iasw.ie](http://www.iasw.ie) for more details and to book your place.

# CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



On 24 March, PCPSI will welcome Daniel Maté for a day-long in-person event in The Metropole Hotel, Cork City, Ireland. In his first-ever Irish appearance, Daniel will begin by delving into the core themes of the book he co-authored with his renowned father, Dr. Gabor Maté. 'The Myth of Normal', published in 2022, shines a revealing light on the connections between our physical and mental health, our relationships, and the broader societal and political factors shaping our well-being. It's an exploration of how our bodies and minds react to the 'abnormal' demands of our culture. Daniel will offer a comprehensive overview of the book's main insights and engage with the audience, answering your questions. Following this, Daniel will introduce his groundbreaking "mental chiropractic" method. This quick and transformative approach can change your perspective in a single session. PCPSI's first live in-person event of 2024 will be one of enlightenment and personal growth, you won't want to miss it. 6 CPD POINTS/HOURS AWARDED

✓ Day-long LIVE IN-PERSON event in The Metropole Hotel, Cork City, Ireland. ✓ Resource paper from the speaker. ✓ A virtual certificate with 6 CPD points/hours. Sunday 24th March 2024 | The Metropole Hotel, Cork. For your exclusive 10% Practice Links discount please use UCCPL10 when [purchasing here](#).

[Click here](#) to register and to view the keynote speakers



## PCPSI TRAINING



24 CPD POINTS/HOURS AWARDED

Join us as we proudly introduce Michael Mokrus to Cork for a transformative LIVE In-Person Training Workshop. Dive deep into the intricate dynamics of shame and guilt through this immersive experience. Delve into them from cutting-edge angles, be it the neuroscientific intricacies, the ripple effects of development, or the shadows of intergenerational influences. Discover how these profound emotions sculpt adult relationships and trace their roots back to early stressors or traumas. Grasp the essential realisation that oftentimes, shame and guilt arise not from our own shortcomings but from environmental failures. With this workshop, emerge with a more empathetic, self-loving outlook, amplifying your efficacy as a therapist in psychotherapy and somatic therapy. Michael blends theoretical wisdom with hands-on practice, facilitating a deeply introspective journey while equipping you with resources to refine your therapeutic practice.

- ✓ 4 day LIVE IN-PERSON event in The Metropole Hotel, Cork City, Ireland
- ✓ A digital certificate with 24 CPD points/hours

The Metropole Hotel, Cork City

**Day 1** | Thursday, 30 May 2024

**Day 2** | Friday 31 May 2024

**Day 3** | Saturday 1 June 2024

**Day 4** | Sunday 2 June 2024

Exclusive €50 Practice Links discount use PL50Mokrus on this [registration link](#).



## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



### MALLOW COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT IS OFFERING "KNITTING VIA ZOOM", ON MONDAY EVENINGS 7PM - 8 PM, COMMENCING MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

This is a free event, no experience needed.

Tutor guiding the class. Please contact , Pauline: Mallow Community Health Worker: [chp@lecheilefrfc.ie](mailto:chp@lecheilefrfc.ie). OR, Phone: 087-4335047 to register.

### SHEP FREE SHORT COMMUNITY EDUCATION COURSES SPRING 2024

Would you like to build your self-confidence and discover more about yourself?

Our short courses (20hrs over 8 weeks) offer a safe and enjoyable space for people to learn more about themselves and how they relate to others in a safe, friendly and enjoyable environment.

Venue: Le Chéile Family Resource Centre, Fair Street, Mallow

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Introduction to Personal Development (Tutor: Patsy Hannan)

Tuesday January 30<sup>th</sup> - March 26<sup>th</sup> 10.30am-1pm

Explore issues affecting emotional well-being and growth, including the management of feelings, stress, listening, communication and relationships.

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Managing Stress in our Daily Lives (Tutor: Liz McCarthy)

Wednesday January 31<sup>st</sup>-March 27<sup>th</sup> 10.30am-1pm

Understanding the natural processes that give rise to stress, as well as how these can be damaging. Learning skills in the prevention of unnecessary stress and the management of unavoidable stress.

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For more information and an Application Form please contact Norma Roche 085-8619468 or [email Norma here](#)





## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



### 26<sup>TH</sup> LESBIAN LIVES CONFERENCE GLOBAL CONNECTIONS: SOLIDARITIES, COMMUNITIES, NETWORKS AND ACTIVISMS UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON UK 22-23 MARCH 2024

We are delighted to announce our confirmed keynotes by [Professor Niharika Banerjee](#) (O.P. Jindal Global University, India) and [Dr Sita Balani](#) (Queen Mary University of London, UK). We offer a sliding scale of conference tickets to make the conference as accessible as possible. Please [click here](#). To contact the conference team please email: [LesbianLivesConference2024@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:LesbianLivesConference2024@brighton.ac.uk)

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE - CHILD/ YOUTH-FRIENDLY CLIMATE JUSTICE: PROGRESS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Mon 30th September - Tues 1st October 2024,  
University College Cork.



It is an exciting time for children's rights. Children and youth have had leadership roles in efforts to combat the climate crisis, challenging traditional attitudes of children as passive victims. Children have been heard by national governments, parliaments, and others in power. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has produced a general comment on the right of children to a healthy environment, with the involvement of thousands of children all over the world. Most recent climate litigation appears to involve children/youth as litigants or children's rights arguments, in another groundbreaking turn for children's rights. There is much to research in the area. There is also much to be done to bring together practitioners/advocates and those in academia who analyse these occurrences in the framework of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Questions must also be asked about the extent to which climate/environmental justice systems are sufficiently accessible and appropriate for children and youth. Questions on the conference can be addressed to Professor Aoife Daly, School of Law, University College Cork: [aoife.daly@ucc.ie](mailto:aoife.daly@ucc.ie)





# DOMESTIC ABUSE RESEARCH AND CPD



Trinity College Dublin  
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
The University of Dublin

Women's Aid



School of Law  
Scoil an Dlí

## Guardianship, Custody & Access and Domestic Violence & Abuse

**\*\*Unique confidential research opportunity\*\***

**Is there a history of domestic abuse from your children's other parent/guardian?**

**Have you been through the Irish Family Courts to decide Guardianship, Custody and Access since 2015?**

**If so, we want to hear from you!**

The survey is open to all survivors of abuse: every gender, every ethnicity, from every area in Ireland.

To take part in this completely anonymous survey please copy the link below:

[https://tcdecon.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_eslum6KOQ5SoPHw](https://tcdecon.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eslum6KOQ5SoPHw)

Or scan the QR code below:



Thank you!



UCC  
University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

School of Applied Social Studies  
Staidéar Sóisialta Feidhmeach



**Masters in Social Policy and Social Justice (ONLINE)**

**New course starting in September 2024**

[www.ucc.ie/en/msocsj/](http://www.ucc.ie/en/msocsj/)

"I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change. I am changing the things I cannot accept". Angela DAVIS



## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR SCREENING AND BRIEF INTERVENTIONS (SBI) FOR PROBLEM ALCOHOL & DRUG USE

#### One Day Course

This course aims to prepare nurses, midwives, health and social care professionals to implement Screening and Brief Interventions (SBI) for problem substance misuse.

On completion of this course, participants should be able to:

- Apply the theory from the SAOR online module to their practice
- Identify opportunities to conduct a brief intervention
- Demonstrate appropriate brief intervention skills using the SAOR model
- Identify appropriate alcohol and other drugs care pathways

The key course content which emerges from the course learning outcomes is outlined below:

- Evidence for the effectiveness of SBI.
- Alcohol and drug related presentations to health and social care settings.
- Contemporary models of SBI for problem alcohol and drug use.
- Overview of the SAOR model of intervention for problem alcohol and drug use.
- Establishing a supportive working relationship with the service users.
- Asking about alcohol and drug use and screening for alcohol and drug related problems.
- Delivering a structured brief intervention based upon the SAOR model.
- Developing appropriate care pathways for service users and arranging appropriate follow up.
- Accessing useful links and reference materials for further reading and research.

The primary target audience is nurses, midwives and allied health and social care professionals who are in a position to offer Screening and Brief Interventions to service users presenting with problem alcohol and drug use.

Contact Amy Roche for 2023 Training Dates in Cork and Kerry [Amy.Roche@hse.ie](mailto:Amy.Roche@hse.ie)

Contact Nicola Corrigan for other locations nationally [nicola.corrigan@hse.ie](mailto:nicola.corrigan@hse.ie)



## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### YOUR CHANCE TO TAKE PART IN THE BIGGEST GLOBAL STUDY OF CHALLENGING WORKING CONDITIONS OF SOCIAL WORKERS

All social workers are invited to help create the biggest overview of often-challenging working conditions of social workers around the globe. See the links below.

IFSW, in collaboration with Bath Spa University, the European Social Worker Research Association Workforce Research Special Interest Group and other institutions, has been working since 2018 to cast a spotlight on the realities of the working conditions of social workers around the world.

A global survey was initiated to gather objective evidence regarding their working environment. Results suggest that social workers often endure some of the most difficult conditions compared to equivalent professions.

This extensive research employed a mixed-methods approach and involved the distribution of surveys via email and social media to better understand the wellbeing and working conditions of social workers.

Professor Jermaine Ravalier, Professor of Organisational Psychology and Social Justice at Bath Spa University, who is leading the project said: "This is a really important piece of work. Social workers across the world do the most amazing job and work with some of the most vulnerable and deserving of people and populations. We need to know how the job is affecting social workers...and importantly how the role can be improved around the world. It is therefore great to be working closely with social workers to understand their work and working conditions, and the messages we can send at a political level to promote change around the world for the betterment of social workers, and the service users/clients that social workers work with."

#### Invitation to Participate in a New Rollout of the Survey

In light of the importance of this research, we are inviting social workers around the globe to participate in the next phase of the survey. We particularly encourage more participation from the African, Asia-Pacific, as well as Latin America and Caribbean regions, to ensure diverse and comprehensive insights. Your contributions will help shape policies and advocate for better working conditions in the social work profession globally.

#### How to Participate

To contribute your experiences, insights, and to be a part of this global endeavour to better the working conditions for social workers, please visit the survey website. Your voice matters, and together we can make a significant impact.

English: <https://bathspa.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/ifsw-english-2023>

Italian: <https://bathspa.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/ifsw-italian-2023>

Spanish: <https://bathspa.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/ifsw-espana-2023>

Polish: <https://bathspa.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/ifsw-polish-2023>

Latvian: <https://bathspa.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/ifsw-latvian-2023>

French: <https://bathspa.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/ifsw-francais-2023>



## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### CHILD TO PARENT VIOLENCE AND ABUSE (CPVA) AND THE NON-VIOLENT RESISTANCE (NVR)

Rosemary Fox (WISEFOX Consultancy) is running a Zoom training about Child to Parent Violence and Abuse (CPVA) and the Non-Violent Resistance (NVR) model as an intervention on 24th and 25th April 2024 from 9.30am-4.00pm.



A definition of CPVA is "Child to parent violence and abuse is an abuse of power through which children & young people aged 18 years of age and younger coerces, controls or dominates others in the family. It is a pattern of harmful acts through which a child or adolescent gains power and control over family members through threats or use of physical, psychological and/or financial abuse/ violence.

If parents/carers feel they must adapt their behaviour due to threats or abusive/violent behaviour by a child or adolescent, then there is child to parent violence."

Non-Violent Resistance is a systemic approach to ending abusive/violent behaviour of children towards their parents/carers. The model leads to change by focusing on work with parents over a period of 8-9 weeks following assessment.

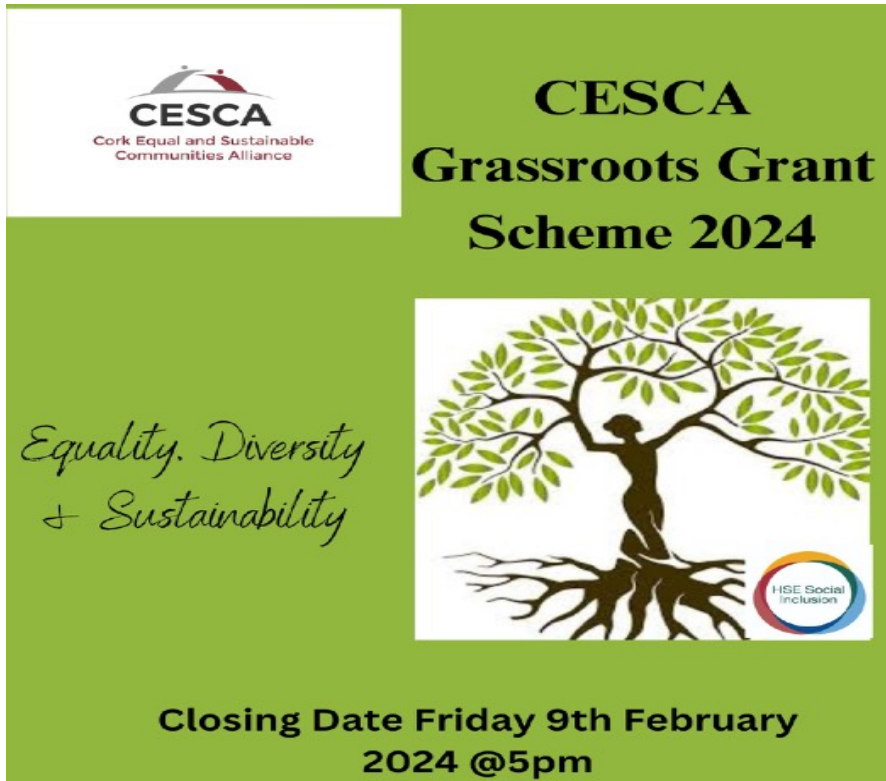
There is a lot of information on the NVR Ireland website (<https://nvrireland.ie>) that will assist re information.

This training is specifically for professionals working directly with families and young people including creche workers, Family Resource Centre workers, justice workers, social workers, teachers, youth workers etc.

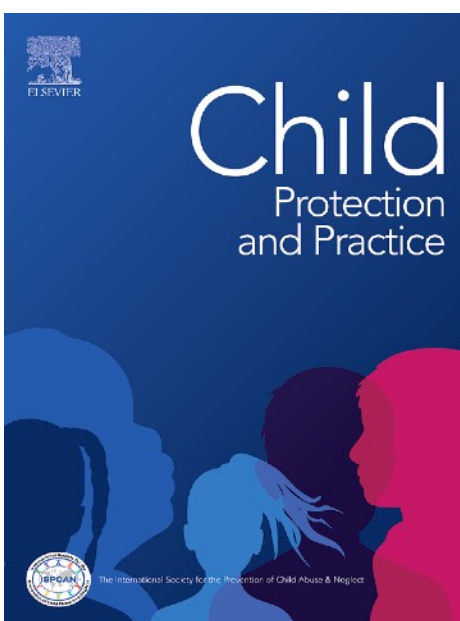
The two-day training for practitioners covers the development of research and theory about child to parent violence and abuse. In the training the group look at what is CPVA as distinct from other behaviours, the NVR model is outlined in detail and the group explore how this model is applied as an intervention.

The training also covers the development of NVR in Ireland and has practical elements included so that those attending practice the skills re assessing and delivering the NVR intervention. This training is focused for young people under 18 years.

To register for the training, please contact Rosemary by email at [wisefoxconsultancy@gmail.com](mailto:wisefoxconsultancy@gmail.com) to book a place before 22nd March 2024. Cost of the training is 160 euros per person.



Click on the image for further details



## NEW INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL - CHILD PROTECTION AND PRACTICE

The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) has launched a new open access journal, *Child protection and practice* - [click here](#)

The co-Editors in Chief are M. Catherine Maternowska (University of Edinburgh) and Christine Wekerle (McMaster University).

The editors encourage unsolicited submissions from academics, policymakers, practitioners as well as from advocates and activists. They welcome outcome-oriented articles that will directly impact child protection research, evidence-generation, and practice, including more traditional research articles, review articles and method articles, as well as debate articles and policy and practice discussions informed by perspectives from the frontline of child protection practice.

It is free to publish in the journal until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 (after which an author processing charge will apply).



# FAMILY SUPPORT CONFERENCE, UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

Follow the conversation at [#familysupportforequality](#)

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

### 11TH BIENNIAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: PROMOTING EQUALITY THROUGH FAMILY SUPPORT

For many families, the environment in which they care for their children is constantly evolving in an era of sustained social, geopolitical and economic uncertainty and volatility. Social exclusion, discrimination, poverty, migration, displacement and the accompanying trauma strongly impact on parenting and family life. In this conference, we consider the critical role family support can play in contributing to the achievement of the sustainable development goals by confronting the forces of inequality and exclusion. The conference will reflect on current debates, challenges and opportunities for promoting and supporting equality, inclusion and fairness for all families and children. Through plenary and workshop sessions we will explore themes related to how family support practices, services and policies can promote equality in the context of gender, sexuality, disability, poverty, migration and participation. This international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary conference will offer cutting-edge thinking, research evidence and innovative practices. It will be of interest to practitioners, service leaders, policymakers and researchers and academics.

This conference committee now welcomes proposals from delegates for presentations in parallel sessions, poster format or interactive workshops. Abstracts are invited from the practice, policy, research and academic communities in relation to the conference theme of promoting equality through family support and specifically in the following areas.

Promoting equality through family support in:

- Individual or group programmatic practice models
- Workforce learning and development
- Service planning and design
- Policy development and implementation
- Research and evaluation

Although we are calling for contributions on these themes, other relevant topics are welcome, but all submissions must reflect the overarching theme of the conference. Abstracts must be submitted by **March 8th 2024** and will only be accepted if completed using the template provided. Further details on presentation types and timelines can be found on the submission [template](#). We are seeking a variety of presentation formats, to include paper presentations, posters and interactive workshops.

Abstracts will undergo a peer-reviewed process with successful applicants notified by April 1st, 2024. Please note that all presenters are required to register for their attendance at the conference. Submit your abstract here. For regular updates and registration [University of Galway website](#).



## SRCC UPDATES

### SLIGO RAPE CRISIS CENTRE UPDATES

#### SRCC Counselling & Support Services

Sligo Rape Crisis Centre provides counselling and support services across Sligo, Leitrim and Cavan for survivors of sexual violence. We work with survivors of all genders over the age of 14. Services include specialist trauma counselling, accompaniment services and groups for clients such as yoga and creative writing. SRCC also has a supporter service available for partners, friends or family members of survivors. There is no charge for SRCC counselling services. For more information, please call 1800 750 780, email [info@srcc.ie](mailto:info@srcc.ie) or visit our website [srcc.ie](http://srcc.ie)

#### Information for Professionals Working with Survivors

As well as supporting survivors of sexual violence and their loved ones, we also provide information and support to professionals who work with survivors as part of their role. If you have any questions or would like to speak to a member of SRCC staff, please contact our helpline on 1800 750 780.

#### Training and Education

SRCC delivers training and educational workshops on issues such as consent and disclosure, with a specific consent programme aimed at Transition Year students. If you are interested in booking a workshop or training, please contact SRCC on 071 9171188 or [info@srcc.ie](mailto:info@srcc.ie)

#### SRCC Podcast - In-depth interviews with healthcare and policing professionals

Would you like to learn more about the services available for survivors of sexual violence? The SRCC Podcast features in-depth interviews with specialist staff from HSE Sexual Assault Treatment Units and An Garda Síochána Divisional Protective Services Units. These interviews give an insight into the reporting process and the medical care available for survivors. For more information, visit our website [srcc.ie/podcasts](http://srcc.ie/podcasts)

#### Sexual Assault Treatment Units

HSE Sexual Assault Treatment Units are safe places where people can go for medical care after rape or sexual assault. Anyone over the age of 14 can attend a SATU for health care and support. SATU staff are also specially trained to carry out forensic examinations. There are six SATUs located across the country. For more information, [\*\*visit this HSE website.\*\*](#)





**Campbell  
Collaboration**

*School-based law enforcement strategies to reduce crime, increase perceptions of safety, and improve learning outcomes in primary and secondary schools: A systematic review*

**BENJAMIN W. FISHER, ANTHONY PETROSINO, HANNAH SUTHERLAND, SARAH GUCKENBURG, TREVOR FRONIUS, IVAN BENITEZ, KEVIN EARL**

1.1 Systematic review evidence supports the criticism that school-based law enforcement criminalises students and schools.

School-based law enforcement (SBLE) includes a variety of forms of sworn law enforcement officers stationed in schools on at least a part-time basis. Although SBLE is intended to maintain school safety, critics claim it is ineffective in this role and has negative consequences for students. The existing literature does not find that SBLE makes schools safer. The evidence suggests that SBLE has detrimental consequences, particularly for exclusionary discipline.

1.2 What is this review about?

The past several decades has witnessed a steady growth of the presence of SBLE around the world. There is no standard definition for SBLE, nor is there a common training, job description, or chain of authority. In the USA, the two most common approaches are to contract officers from a local law enforcement agency to work in the school, and school district police departments, in which the local school or district employs its own sworn police force. There is debate about whether SBLE is effective or harmful.

This study synthesizes the empirical literature that examined the relationship between SBLE presence and school-related outcomes including (a) crime and behavior problems; (b) perceptions of school; and (c) student learning.

What is the aim of this review?

The objective of this Campbell systematic review is to examine the relationship between school-based law enforcement (SBLE) presence and school-related outcomes.

1.3 What studies are included?

This review includes quantitative studies that examine any outcomes related to crime and behavior, perceptions of safety, and learning outcomes. Included studies must have compared outcomes in units

with SBLE to units without SBLE (including different dosages of SBLE, such as increasing SBLE presence).

1.4 What are the main findings of this review?

Contrary to what is intended, schools with SBLE had higher rates of crime and behavior problems than schools without SBLE. This was primarily driven by higher rates of exclusionary discipline, with no detectable improvements to school crime or violence.

We also found that students in schools with SBLE tended to feel safer at school, although this finding is less trustworthy because it is based on very little data.

None of our other analyses showed that SBLE had beneficial effects.

These results suggest that SBLE is an ineffective practice for keeping schools safe, and even has detrimental consequences.

The findings are based on studies that vary in the extent to which we can infer causal relationships between SBLE and the outcomes of interest, so we urge caution in interpreting this as a cause-and-effect relationship. Still, the study's findings are consistent across studies with different methodological characteristics.

1.5 What do the findings of the review mean?

These findings suggest that SBLE is not an effective strategy for maintaining school safety and lead to harm for students in the form of exclusionary discipline. However, limitations in the strength of the evidence affect the ability to claim that these relationships are causal.

1.6 How up-to-date is this review?

The final electronic search for the literature included in this review was carried out on 17 July 2020.

Link to full report [here](#).





*Mindfulness-enhanced parenting programmes for improving the psychosocial outcomes of children (0 to 18 years) and their parents*

**REBECCA FEATHERSTON,  
JANE BARLOW,  
YUNSHAN SONG,  
ZOE HAYSOM,  
BRENDA LOY, LEA  
TUFFORD, ARON  
SHLONSKY**

Mindfulness-enhanced parenting programs for improving outcomes for children and their parents

Key messages

- Mindfulness-enhanced parent training programmes may improve some child and parent outcomes, including child emotional and behavioural adjustment, parenting skills, parental depression or anxiety, parenting stress, and parent mindfulness.
- When mindfulness parent training is combined with a skills-based parent training programme, this may decrease parenting stress.
- The current body of evidence is limited, with more research needed to be confident in our findings.

Children's emotional and behavioural difficulties

Emotional and behavioural difficulties in children are common, and are characterised by a range of externalising and/or internalising behaviours that can be highly stable over time. They are an important cause of functional disability in childhood, and predictive of poor psychosocial, academic, and occupational functioning into adolescence and beyond. The prevalence, stability, and long-term consequences of emotional and behavioural difficulties highlight the importance of intervening in childhood when behavioural patterns are more easily modified.

Why mindfulness-enhanced parent training?

Parenting plays an important role in the development and/or maintenance of emotional and

behavioural difficulties in children. Traditional behavioural or skills-based parent training programmes have been shown to have a positive impact on a range of child and parent outcomes, but they do not work for all parents. One reason for this might be that parents' emotional reactions could prevent them from using parenting skills effectively. Including additional components into parenting training that aim to improve parental emotional responses may enhance the outcomes of these programmes. Recent research shows that mindful parenting interventions may promote positive outcomes for parents and children by improving parents' ability to regulate emotions and stress. Combining mindful parenting approaches with traditional parent training programmes may therefore be beneficial for both parents and their children.

What did we want to find out?

We explored whether behavioural or skills-based parent training programmes with a mindfulness component - 'mindfulness-enhanced' parent training programmes - can improve outcomes for children and their caregivers.

What did we do?

We searched a range of sources for literature that evaluated the effectiveness of mindfulness-enhanced parent training programmes, including electronic databases, trial registries, and organisations and experts in the field.



*Mindfulness-enhanced parenting programmes for improving the psychosocial outcomes of children (0 to 18 years) and their parents*

**REBECCA FEATHERSTON,  
JANE BARLOW,  
YUNSHAN SONG,  
ZOE HAYSOM,  
BRENDA LOY, LEA  
TUFFORD, ARON  
SHLONSKY**

We included studies evaluating these interventions using randomised controlled trials (studies where participants are randomly assigned to one of two or more treatment groups) or quasi-experimental designs (where participants are assigned to different treatment groups using a method that is not truly random). We included studies that assessed child emotional and behavioural adjustment, and/or a range of parent outcomes, including parenting skills, parenting stress, depression or anxiety, mindfulness or self-compassion.

What did we find out?

We included 11 studies and data from 2118 participants in the review. The studies compared the outcomes of children or parents (or both) who participated in a mindfulness-enhanced parent training programme to the outcomes of children or parents (or both) who did not participate in parent training, or who participated in an alternate behavioural or skills-based parent training programme. When we combined the findings from these studies, we found that mindfulness-enhanced parent training, when compared to no intervention, may improve child emotional and behavioural adjustment, parenting skills, parenting stress, parental depression and anxiety, and mindfulness, but we are very uncertain about these results. Evidence for the added value of mindfulness training when included in a skills-based parent training programme suggests that mindfulness training may further promote reductions in parenting

stress, and may also further reduce parental depression or anxiety, but we are uncertain about these results. It is unclear from the current body of evidence whether adding mindfulness training to a skills-based parent training intervention has any further effect on child emotional and behavioural adjustment, parenting skills, or mindfulness. No studies reported adverse effects or measured self-compassion.

What are the limitations of the evidence?

We are not confident in the overall body of evidence. This is primarily because there was a lot of variation across the interventions and the participant groups, as well as how the outcomes were measured. The studies were also usually quite small, and participants were likely to be aware of what intervention they were receiving, which can sometimes influence the results. It is likely that these findings will change as more studies are undertaken in this area of research.

How up-to-date is this evidence?

We searched for and included research up to April 2023.

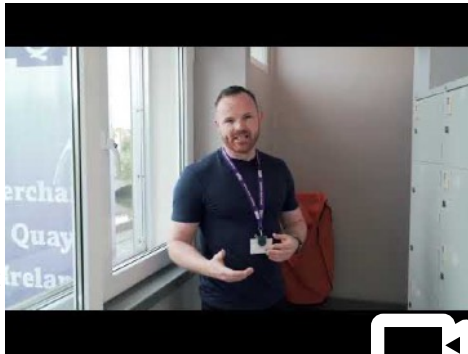
Full report [here](#).

VIDEOS

Dr Julie is a clinical psychologist. Through a series of short videos on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/@DrJulie> - she shares her insights from therapy and psychology research helping you to understand how your mind works and optimise your mental health.



Merchants Quay Ireland - Riverbank Open Access Centre in Dublin 8 supports clients with vital services such as food, showers, clean clothes, harm reduction, health care, mental health support and more.



Marianne's Story

MQI created this short film in collaboration with Axis Ballymun, featuring actor Roxanna Nic Liam reading the testimony of former MQI client 'Marianne'. Marianne\* shares her journey through addiction and recovery, highlighting the need for dedicated female services like Jane's Place.



PODCASTS

Survive & Thrive is a new podcast from Tallaght Local Drugs & Alcohol Task Force (TDATF) which aims to empower and give voice to individuals, families and communities impacted by substance misuse.



Episode 1: A Family Affair - This pilot episode focuses on the impact of substance misuse on the entire family. TDATF Coordinator, Grace Hill, chats with three clients from family support project, WASP (Whitechurch Addiction Support Project). All clients are using anonymous names and the conversation was recorded in the round on location.

[Survive and Thrive Podcast on Near Cast](#)

[Survive and Thrive Podcast on Spotify](#)

Merchants Quay Ireland

In this 11 minute clip from RTE Radio One's Today with Claire Byrne, Eddie Mullins, CEO of Merchants Quay Ireland talks about the first supervised injection centre to open later this year

<https://www.rte.ie/radio/radio1/clips/22341272/>

AUDIOBOOK

Why Has Nobody Told Me This Before?

Written & Narrated by: Julie Smith

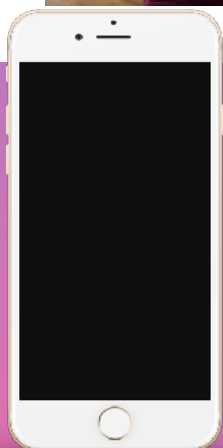
Drawing on years of experience as a clinical psychologist, online sensation Dr Julie Smith shares all the skills you need to get through life's ups and downs. Dr Julie's simple but expert advice and powerful coping techniques will help you stay resilient no matter what life throws your way.

Why Has Nobody Told Me This Before?

DR JULIE SMITH



[Why Has Nobody Told Me This Before on Audible](#)



APPS & SOCIAL MEDIA

## APPS

**My Noise**

Discover a world of immersive and customisable soundscapes that can enhance focus, relaxation, and sleep. Choose from noise generators, nature sounds and ambient music to create your perfect audio environment. Explore our vast library of interactive sound generators and find your audio haven!

<https://mynoise.net/>

**Pomodoro timer app for Mac, iPhone & iPad**

Flow is a minimalistic pomodoro based focus timer. Increase your productivity and reduce stress at the same time.

<https://flowapp.info/>



The **Múscailt Podcast**, which has been developed and presented by Niamh McCrea and Rosie Meade (UCC), is returning for its second series. It kicks off with a taster episode chat with producer Tony Groves about the series.

These long-form interviews will be made available over the coming weeks; initially for subscribers to the TortoiseShack platform, but later each week on Apple, Spotify and wherever else you access your podcasts. (Listeners can access them without payment) [Click here](#) to listen.

**X - The Platform formerly known as TWITTER****Tallaght Drug & Alcohol Task Force**  
**@TallaghtT**

Tallaght Drug & Alcohol Task Force is one of 14 Local Drugs Task Forces set up in 1997 to facilitate a more effective response to the drugs problems in the area

**Coolmine @CoolmineTC**

Coolmine provides community-based and residential drug & alcohol treatment in Ireland. Charity Registration No. CHY5902

**Critical and Radical Social Work****@CRSWjournal**

CRSW is an exciting journal that promotes debate and scholarship around a range of engaged social work themes.

**Merchants Quay Ireland (MQI) @MerchantsQuayIR**

MQI is a registered Irish charity, providing homeless and drug addiction services nationwide.



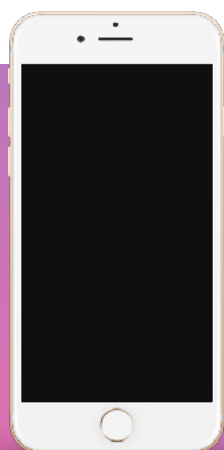
Merchants Quay Ireland

**SW Without Borders****@SocialWorkersWB**

Social work solidarity with migrants, asylum-seekers & refugees. Collaboration// Education // Solidarity.

**Dr Julie Smith @drjuliesmith**

Psychologist | Mental Health & Psychology



# APPS & SOCIAL MEDIA



Irish Times 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## 'IN IRELAND, PEOPLE STRUGGLE MORE TO UNDERSTAND WHEN SOMEONE DOESN'T DRINK'

Geraldine Walsh wrote in the Irish Times on January 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 that according to the Health Research Board in 2022, 15% of the Irish population had an alcohol use disorder. There were 7,241 individuals treated for problem alcohol use with over half of those reporting that they had children. This very often goes unacknowledged as a problem in its own right, including the impact it has on others, families, communities and society as a whole.

Geraldine reported that the CEO of Alcohol Action Ireland Dr Sheila Gilheany is concerned about the 200,000 children in Ireland growing up with a parent or parents that have an alcohol use disorder and how these children experience this as an Adverse Childhood Experience. In addition there are 400,000 adults living with the legacy of this type of developmental trauma.

Family members often experience distress because of the inconsistent behaviour of loved ones active in addiction. They often worry about finances, employment and erratic moods in the home. Very often family members get so preoccupied with the behaviours of the family member drinking or using drugs that they neglect their own needs and their own lives, which in turn become more complicated and unmanageable.

Geraldine also spoke with the CEO of Chrysalis Community Drugs Project in Dublin's inner city, Passerose Mantoy about the social and environmental factors that shape and influence alcohol dependence trajectories in individuals and communities. She described how Irish society has normalised excessive drinking and how unusual and difficult to understand it is when someone reports that they don't drink.

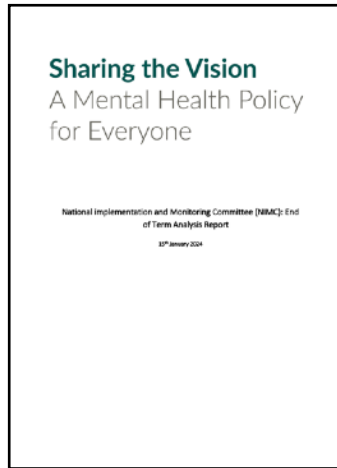
In the article Marion Rackard an addiction counsellor in her own career described the evolution of the concept of an 'alcoholic'. Historically, Irish society perceived that if you inherited a particular gene that meant you were either a social drinker or an alcoholic. In recent years, government and health policy increasingly recognises that the more alcohol one consumes is directly related to the increasing risk for physiological, psychological and social problems. Marion when she worked for the HSE was integral to developing the resources on understanding alcohol at <https://www.askaboutalcohol.ie> She is a founding member and promoter of Silent Voices which aims to break the taboo of talking about the harmful effects and threats that continuously increasing drinking patterns in Ireland have for children and families.

The impacts of alcohol consumption were described in the article - with increasing levels of consumption leading to increased impact on the human organism, including the liver, stomach, pancreas and the nervous system in addition to the negative effects of alcohol consumption on mental health. The article went further to explain in detail the signs, symptoms and effects of alcohol use disorders. Full article - [click here](#).

**Robert O'Driscoll, Practice Links Team**



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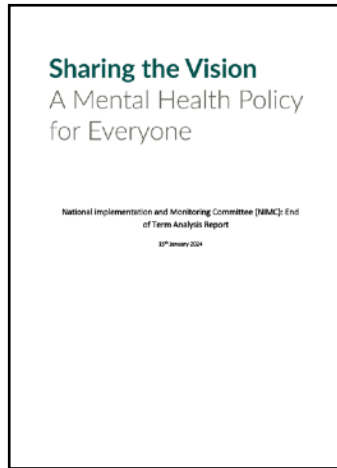
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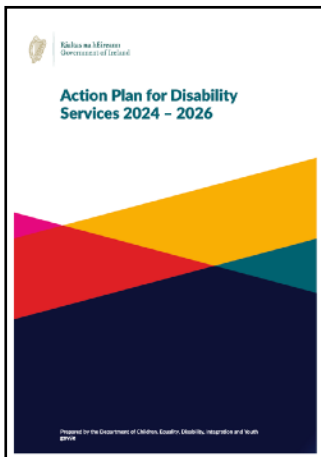
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**Poverty, social inequality and domestic abuse: The impact on children**  
Implications for Social Work Practice



[Click here](#) to read

*Original Research Article*

**The multiple and competing functions of local reviews of serious child abuse cases in England**

**JONATHAN DICKENS**  
*University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK*

**LAURA COOK**  
*University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK*

**JEANETTE COSSAR**  
*University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK*

**CYNTHIA OKPOKIRI**  
*University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK*

**JULIE TAYLOR**  
*University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK*

**JOANNA GARSTANG**  
*University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK*

**Abstract**

When children are killed or seriously harmed from abuse or neglect, there is pressure to 'learn the lessons' to prevent similar events. England has a long-established system of locally-based multi-agency reviews for this, but the recurrence of tragedies and repetitive findings raise questions

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DOI: 10.1177/02610183231218965 [journals.sagepub.com/home/csp](https://journals.sagepub.com/home/csp)



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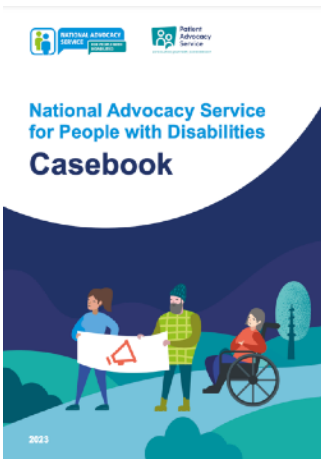
**PEER SUPPORT AND WHY IT MATTERS**

The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (IRISS) in Scotland has published a document on peer support, specifically based on work undertaken in Scotland ‘...to support care survivors [people abused or neglected as children while living in care in Scotland] to lead full, healthy and independent lives, that works with and alongside them.’ In this context, peer support is defined by IRISS as ‘...the positive, protective and empowering relationships that we want, need and choose to have with people a bit like us; the agency we take for ourselves and what we give back.’ For more information [click here.](#)





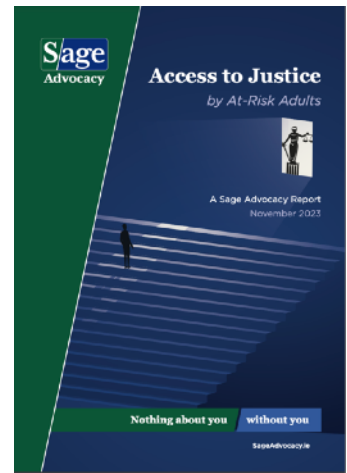
# NEW PUBLICATIONS & REPORTS



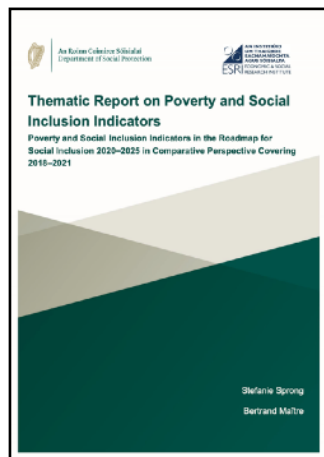
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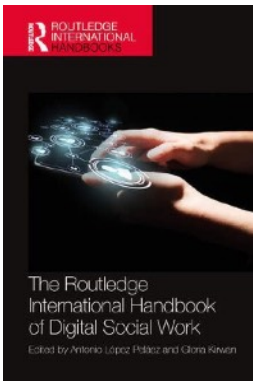


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This handbook provides an authoritative and cutting-edge overview of current research and trends related to the emerging field of digital technology and social work. There are contributions from 17 countries across the world, including a number of authors based across the island of Ireland. The handbook is a useful reference for educators, researchers, students and practitioners because it presents a global overview of the many ways in which social workers are currently using technology in their work, research and professional development.

More details on [this link](#).

University of Edinburgh

School of Law

Research Paper Series

No 2022/07

MENTAL HEALTH POLICIES AND LAWS ON THE ISLAND OF IRELAND

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Peer Support Work

An International Scoping Review  
November 2023



Michael John Norton, Paul Clabby, Belinda Coyle, Julie Cruickshank, Gavin Davidson, Katherine Greer, Martina Kilcommins, Claire McCartan, Emma McGuire, Sinéad McGiloway, Ciaran Mulholland, Mary O'Connell-Gannon, Derek Peppor, Ciaran Shannon, Calvin Swords, Jim Walsh & Paul Webb



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International Journal of Law and Psychiatry

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journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ijawpsy](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ijawpsy)

Research Paper

Comparing mental health and mental capacity law data across borders: Challenges and opportunities

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Mental health law  
Mental capacity law  
Mental health data  
Mental health outcomes

ABSTRACT

The island of Ireland is partitioned into Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. In both jurisdictions, there have been important developments in mental health and mental capacity law, and associated policies and services. This includes an emphasis on developing more comprehensive approaches to collecting data on outcomes and to there is an opportunity to align these processes to enable comparison and shared learning across the border. This article explores: legal and policy developments; international approaches to mental health outcomes; and the type of data that would be helpful to collect to better understand the use of mental health and mental capacity laws. It is argued that an inclusive strategy to developing a comprehensive, integrated and aligned approach to collecting and analysing data would benefit citizens, policy makers and professionals.

1. Introduction

The island of Ireland was partitioned by the Government of Ireland Act 1920, which was implemented in 1921. Northern Ireland, made up of six counties in the North-East of the island, remained part of the United Kingdom, and has a population of approximately 1.9 million. The 26 counties of the Republic of Ireland (often just referred to as Ireland), became independent of British rule, and has a population of approximately 5.1 million. Having two jurisdictions, on a relatively small island with similar geography, population needs and structures for the provision of health and social care, presents opportunities for comparing data that could help understand and inform the development of health and social care law, policy and services. Political conflict, however, especially in Northern Ireland during the period from 1969 until the Good Friday Agreement in 1998, inhibited cooperation and comparison. Over

the last 25 years structures and efforts to build relationships and facilitate cooperation have been developed.<sup>1</sup> It should be acknowledged, from the start, however, that it is important to be cautious about comparison between jurisdictions, sometimes referred to as natural experiments (Medical Research Council, 2011), as there may be many variables involved. Comparison, nonetheless, does have the potential to identify similarities and differences, and so, at the very least, raise questions about what might be causing these patterns.

A specific opportunity for comparison is that there have been important, parallel, recent developments in mental health and mental capacity law in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The use of compulsory or non-consensual interventions under mental health and mental capacity laws facilitates service provision to certain people, but also raises concerns about: infringements of rights; the potentially negative impact of compulsion; possible discriminatory variations in

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E-mail address: [g.davidson@qub.ac.uk](mailto:g.davidson@qub.ac.uk) (G. Davidson).

<sup>1</sup> For example, the current Shared Island Initiative, a partnership between the Irish Government, the British Government and the Northern Ireland Executive, which is supporting research to explore strategic challenges on the island of Ireland.

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*Practice signposts provide links to high-quality, research-informed databases and publications. Some of the databases at a quick glance may seem too medical/health orientated, but contain great resources to support social work and allied professionals' practice.*

## OPEN ACCESS RESEARCH DATABASES:

RIAN - Irish Open Access Research Archive - [click here](#)

Trinity Access Research Archive (TARA) - [click here](#)

Cork Open Research Archive (CORA) - [click here](#)

Galway Open Access Research Archive (ARAN) - [click here](#)

## RESEARCH DATA ARCHIVES:

Irish Qualitative Data Archive - [click here](#)

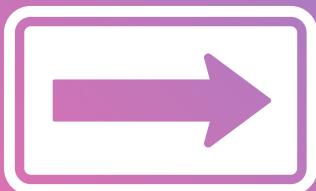
Irish Social Science Data Archive (ISSDA) - [click here](#)

Irish Social Sciences Platform - [click here](#)

## OPEN ACCESS (FREE) JOURNALS

Journal of Early and Intensive Behaviour Intervention; International Journal of Child and Adolescent Resilience (IJCAR); Journal of Global Social Work Practice; International Journal of High Risk Behaviours and Addictions; Journal of Indigenous Social Development; Critical Social Work; International Journal of Child, Youth & Family Studies; The Irish Journal of Applied Social Studies; Comparative Migration Studies; Irish Social Worker.

## SYSTEMATIC REVIEW DATABASES:



***Practice signposts: data sources to support your practice***

## PRACTICE GUIDANCE, DATABASES & PUBLICATIONS:

Addiction Technology Transfer Centre Network (USA) - [click here](#)

CES - Centre for Effective Services - [click here](#)

Child and Family Agency Publications and Reports - [click here](#)

Drug and Alcohol Information and Support (drugs.ie) - [click here](#)

Growing Up in Ireland - national longitudinal study of children. [Click here](#)

HSE Health Promotion Publications - [click here](#)

HSE Publications and Reports - [click here](#)

HRB National Drugs Library - [click here](#)

HUB na nÓg Young: Voices in Decision-Making - [click here](#)

NICE - National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (UK) - [click here](#)

Mindfulness Based Relapse Prevention Resources (free audio tracks) - [click here](#)

North South Child Protection Hub - [click here](#)

Probation Service Publications - [click here](#)

Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) - [click here](#)



# PRACTICE LINKS



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## About us

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