

CENTRE FOR FAMILY RESEARCH

University of Cambridge

Current Research 1994



The garden in Free School Lane stands on the site of part of the original University Botanic Garden. This moved to its present site when the Cavendish Laboratory was built. The garden is maintained by Martin Richards and is currently recovering from being covered with scaffolding during renovation work on the building.

April 1994

CENTRE FOR FAMILY RESEARCH

(formerly Child Care and Development Group)

Introduction

The Centre, which is part of the Social and Political Sciences Faculty, exists to carry out research on family life and parent-child relations. While the University provides working space, equipment and other support, the main funding for research comes from outside bodies. Currently the level of funding from these sources is running at about £400,000 per year.

This booklet is intended to provide a brief description of the Centre and its work. Readers wishing to know more about a particular research project should contact the person listed in the description of the research.

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Margaret Lowenfeld Library

The library of the Institute of Child Psychology is housed in our premises. This came to us through the Lowenfeld Trustees. We also have been given some archival material relating to Dr Lowenfeld and the Institute of Child Psychology. Anybody wishing to consult this should contact Sally Roberts, our Honorary Librarian. The library also houses books given by Professor Harry Highkin following the death of his wife Elspeth, who was a research student in the Group at the time of her death.

Contacts

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A brief history of the Centre

The history of the Centre for Family Research began in 1966 when I was given a grant by the Nuffield Foundation to set up an observational follow-up study of Cambridge infants and their parents. I was offered a home for this project in the Unit for Research on the Medical Applications of Psychology, which was housed in a building in Salisbury Villas in Station Road. This Unit had been set up by the then Professor of Experimental Psychology, Oliver Zangwill, with the support of the Regius Professor of Physic as an embryo psychiatry department and to accommodate work on psychopathology. Judy Dunn joined me to work on the longitudinal project and soon others, also interested in developmental research, came to the Unit. Among the early researchers were Joanna Ryan, who set up a project on language acquisition in subnormal children and her graduate student, Elena Lieven; Frances Barnes, Paul Light and Barbara Antonis, who came to work on the continuation of the longitudinal project. The developmental research grew as the psychopathologists moved their work to buildings with better laboratory facilities and we simplified the name to the Medical Psychology Unit. In 1972 the lease of the building expired (it became a language school) and we moved to our present premises on the top floor of the Old Cavendish Laboratory. This became vacant when the physicists moved to a new building on Madingley Road. We were later joined in the building by Social and Political Sciences Committee (now Faculty). In the early days of the Group the administrative links were with the Experimental Psychology Laboratory and the, then, Postgraduate Medical School. With the setting up the Clinical School and its Department of Paediatrics, that became our medical link and, indeed, has proved a valuable source of research collaboration and support. With my appointment to a teaching post in Social and Political Sciences and our close proximity to them - geographical and intellectual - that became our other link and we are now a part of the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences. In 1992 we changed our name to the Centre for Family Research.

While the group has never had a narrow definition of its area of interest, this has always, directly or indirectly, concerned parents, children and families. Projects have ranged from fetal life through all the years of childhood onto marriage and childbearing. We have always been a multidisciplinary group and among our number we have people who began their careers and continue to teach in psychology, sociology, social anthropology, history, medicine and zoology. In professional terms, as well as links with Paediatrics, we have close connections with psychotherapy, social work, counselling, midwifery, the education system, divorce mediation, child and adult psychiatry, clinical genetics and adoption and fostering. Because in our work we have always tried to place the development of children and the lives of their parents in a social context, many of our studies have concerned the role of professionals as well as parents, in such settings as labour wards, secondary schools, neonatal units, divorce courts and child abuse case conferences.

The University provides us with the fundamentals of working space, equipment, support for part of a secretarial post, and an administrative structure and all other research funds come from outside bodies. Funding sources range from Government departments, the Research Councils, to private foundations and industry. In the early years the Nuffield Foundation played a particularly important part in our support. Today

our grant income is approximately £400,000 per year. The bodies currently providing our funding are listed under the individual projects. As with most social science research the bulk of the projects are funded on a relatively short-term basis, of which the major part is salaries. Some postgraduate students are attached to the Centre, and, when space permits, visitors needing space to work for a short time or on sabbatical leave are also accommodated.

Our weekly research seminars (see p.34) have been a feature of the Centre since the earliest days. These we have used to widen our horizons by asking people outside the Centre to come and talk about their work, as well as for discussion of our own projects. We are pleased to welcome a very diverse audience at these meetings. The meetings have always been held at lunchtime, and in the Station Road era in the summer we often met in the garden under an old pear tree. Today we have a seminar room which affords excellent views of Kings College Chapel and some of the older parts of Cambridge. This room also houses a small library which has grown from an original collection of books from the Institute of Child Psychology, a gift of the Lowenfeld Trustees. The central themes of the collection are the interrelationship of child psychology and psychotherapy, and child care manuals for parents. We also hold the Lowenfeld Archive. This has many papers and letters by and related to Margaret Lowenfeld as well as her test materials and other records of the activity of the Institute of Child Psychology. We also have an archival collection of papers and research reports produced by members of the Centre.

Martin Richards

CENDIF (Centro de Investigaciones para La Infancia y La Familia) Metropolitana University, Caracas, Venezuela

We maintain an academic link with CENDIF, a group engaged in both research and intervention projects with poor families. The latter are run in partnership with members of the poor communities - mostly in the barrios of Caracas - and have a strong element of 'basismo' or grass roots organisation as well as a grounding in developmental psychology and other relevant social sciences. The link with CENDIF is funded by the British Council.

Carlos Leighton

It is with great regret we record the tragic death of Carlos Leighton in a car accident in Caracas in July 1992. Carlos completed a Ph.D. with us. After his return to his post at the Metropolitana University he set up CENDIF which carries out intervention projects and research in the poor communities of Caracas. He published many papers about the work with poor families and their children.

CENDIF was very much Carlos's creation but its work continues as will the Link with Cambridge. All who knew Carlos miss his warmth, tireless energy and, above all, his commitment to improve the lot of the children of poor families. CENDIF is now directed by Maria Angelica Sepulveda de Leighton.

DIRECTOR OF CENTRE

Martin P.M. Richards

First degree (Zoology, 1962) and a Ph.D. (1965), working on maternal behaviour in the golden hamster) from University of Cambridge. After a period working at Princeton University and the Centre for Cognitive Studies at Harvard I returned to do research in the Centre for Family Research. In 1970 I became a University lecturer in Social Psychology and in 1989 Reader in Human Development. Main research interest has been in parent-child relations and family life - especially marriage and divorce and more recently, in social and psychological effects of the new genetics.

Parental divorce and children

For the past decade I have carried out a series of studies of the effects of parental divorce on children and the ways in which the legal system and related activities in the voluntary sector cope with divorce. These have ranged from interviews with parents to the analysis of court judgements. Later this work was extended into a more general consideration of the interconnections of parent-child relationships and those between parents.

An early overview of the research related to divorce may be found in J. Burgoyne, R. Ormrod and M.P.M. Richards, 'Divorce Matters', Penguin Books, 1987.

We have recently completed an investigation of the longer term effects of parental divorce for children using existing data from large scale longitudinal studies. The work was carried out in collaboration with Jane Elliott and was funded by the Health Promotion Research Trust (p. 31). Some of this work is continuing as part of the Transitions to Adulthood project. I am also analysing longitudinal data related to divorce with colleagues from the Dunedin (New Zealand) Multidisciplinary Health and Development Research Unit.

On a more practical level I have been concerned with the development of divorce mediation in Cambridge and am a Trustee of the Cambridge Family and Divorce Centre:

Richards, M.P.M. (1990) Divorce Cambridge Style, Family Law, November.

Richards, M.P.M. (1991) Divorce Research Today, Family Law, February.

Reibstein, J. and Richards, M.P.M. (1992) Sexual Arrangements: Marriage and Affairs. Heinemann. Mandarin 1993, Scribners 1993.

Richards, M.P.M. (1987) Children, parents and families: developmental psychology and the re-ordering of relationships at divorce. International Journal of Law and the Family, 1: 295-317.

Richards, M.P.M. and Elliott, B.J. (1991) Sex and marriage in the 1960s and 1970s. In D. Clark (ed.) Marriage, Social Change and Domestic Life. Essays in honour of Jackie Burgoyne. Routledge.

Richards, M.P.M. and Elliott, B.J. (1992) Children and divorce; educational performance and behaviour before and after parental separation. Int.J. of Law and the Family, 5: 258-278.

- Richards, M.P.M. (1993) Private worlds and public intentions. The role of the State at divorce. In A. Bainham and D. Pearl Frontiers of Family Law. Chancery Lane Publishing.
- Richards, M.P.M. (1993) Learning from divorce. Chapter in C. Clulow (ed) Does Marriage Matter? Karnac Books.
- Tasker, F.L. and Richards, M.P.M. (1994) Adolescents' attitudes to marriage and marital prospects after parental divorce. J. Adolescent Research, in press.

I recently wrote a leaflet for parents 'Divorce: What about the Children' which is being distributed nationally from the HPRT.

Neonatal care

A considerable part of my work in the recent past has been related to the provision of specialised care for sick and term infants and the ways in which this care may influence the infants relationships with their parents. A major concern has been the effects of separation on this relationship and ways in which such effects may be ameliorated. In the last few years with growing attention being paid within neonatal units to the support of parental relationships, my attention has turned to an examination of decision making about the provision of care and related ethical issues. I am currently engaged with Dr. Janet Rennie of the Department of Paediatrics and Dr. Joanna Hawthorne Amick in developing a project on parents experience of receiving a diagnosis of a kidney problem for their baby in pregnancy.

Overviews of our research related to neonatal care may be found in J.A. Davis, M.P.M. Richards and N.R.C. Roberton (eds) Infant-Parent Attachment in Premature Infants, Croom Helm (1983); and M.P.M. Richards 'Psychological aspects of neonatal care' in N.R.C. Roberton (ed.) Textbook of Neonatology, Edinburgh, Churchill Livingstone (1st ed. 1986, 2nd ed. 1992).

Social and psychological aspects of the new genetics

Growing out of earlier work on prenatal screening and diagnosis we have developed a series of projects on the social and family aspects of the new genetics (application of recombinant DNA techniques).

This work covers a wide range of questions related to the new genetics including a project concerned with families who carry neurofibromatosis and others with hereditary ovarian or breast cancer which has been funded by the MRC (see p.13)

A major focus of this work is lay beliefs about inheritance and the ways in which family members may communicate about inherited conditions.

In 1992, together with Jo Green, I edited a special issue of the Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology on fetal diagnosis and the new genetics which appeared in January 1993. This issue contains several papers from the Centre as well as those from elsewhere.

- Richards, M.P.M. (1989) Social and ethical problems of fetal diagnosis and screening. J. Reprod. Infant Psychol., 71, 671-85.
- Richards, M.P.M. and Green, J.M. Screening for fetal abnormality - some social and psychological consequences. To appear in Proceedings of a Fulbright Colloquium on The Social Consequences of Life and Death under High Technology Medicine. Life and Death under High Technology Medicine edited by I. Robinson. Manchester University Press, 1994.
- Richards, M.P.M. The new genetics: some issues for social scientists. Sociology of Health and Illness, 1993. 15, 567-586.
- Richards, M.P.M. and Green, J.M. Genetic screening, counselling, consent and family life. Paper for a Symposium on Genetic screening, Centre of Medical Law and Ethics. Nuffield Foundation, 1994.
- Richards, M.P.M. It runs in the family; beliefs about inheritance in families who carry certain dominantly inherited conditions. Paper for Conference 'Culture, Kinship and Genes'. Abergavenny, March 1994.

The family ties of prisoners

A study of the extent to which male and female prisoners, both British and foreign nationals, are able to retain their links with family and children has been completed (see p. 28). Results of the project have been reported to the Home Office who funded the research and will we hope soon be cleared for publication.

- Richards, M.P.M. (1991) The separation of children and parents; some issues and problems. In R.Shaw (ed.) Prisoners' Children. What are the issues? Routledge.

Transitions to adulthood

Work has recently begun on a new project with Ginny Morrow which examines transitions of young people from their families of origin into adult relationships, households and the world of work. The initial phase of the work will include the analysis of some existing data sets and a major review of published research. Some of the work is carried out in collaboration with Katherine Kiernan (LSE) and Patrick West (MRC Medical Sociology Unit, Glasgow). The project is funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (see p. 24).

Recent books:

- The Politics of Maternity Care, edited with J. Garcia, R. Kilpatrick. Oxford University Press, 1989.
- Infancy: The World of the Newborn. Harper and Row, 1980. Also available in a number of foreign language editions.
- Children in Social Worlds: Development in a Social Context. (edited with P. Light) Polity Press/Harvard University Press, 1986
- Obstetrics for the 1990s. Current Controversies. (edited with T.Chard) MacKeith Press, 1992
- Sexual Arrangements: Marriage and Affairs (with J. Reibstein) Heinemann, 1992.
- Benefits and Hazards of the New Genetics (editor with T. Marteau) Cambridge University Press, in preparation.

MATERNITY SERVICES/PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS OF GENETICS

The Maternity Services Research Group was established in 1985 with grants from the Health Promotion Research Trust and the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust. The most recent projects carried out by the MSRSG have been concerned with the impact of screening for fetal abnormality. From here it has been a short step to examining the wider issues of genetic screening and other psychosocial aspects of genetics.

Social and psychological aspects of prenatal diagnosis

March 1989 to August 1992.

Research team: Josephine Green, Helen Statham, Claire Snowdon,
Merry France-Dawson

Grant holders: Martin Richards, Josephine Green, Martin Bobrow (Guy's Hospital) and Ann Oakley (Social Science Research Unit, Institute of Education, London)

Funded by the Health Promotion Research Trust

Screening for fetal abnormalities has become an integral part of antenatal care for most women. The majority will now expect to have at least one ultrasound scan during the course of their pregnancy, and blood tests to measure the level of alpha foeto-protein are also the norm in many hospitals. Women who are identified as being at high risk on the basis of these screening tests, or on the basis of their age, race or previous history, are likely to be offered amniocentesis which can offer a more definitive diagnosis.

This study examined the experiences of an unselected group of women at nine hospitals with different screening policies. Women completed four postal questionnaires: prior to booking, at 22 weeks, at 36 weeks and six weeks after the birth. Some women and their partners were also interviewed.

The questionnaires monitored changes in women's knowledge and attitudes with regard to screening during pregnancy. These have been considered relative to other aspects of their lives including:

- age, education,
- reproductive history,
- experiences during this pregnancy,
- perception of their own risk of fetal abnormality,
- attitudes towards abortion,
- the desire to obtain information,
- hospital practice.

Anxiety about fetal abnormality has been examined in the context of other sources of anxiety and the woman's predisposition to being anxious. 1824 women were recruited to the study.

Two additional projects supplemented the main study:

The sickle cell study

This study replicated the methodology of the main study with a sample of women from 2 hospitals in the West Midlands. The sample contained a high proportion of women of Afro-Caribbean origin who are at increased risk of having sickle cell trait (i.e. being a carrier). We have examined differences between Afro-Caribbean and non-Afro-Caribbean women within this sample, and differences between these groups and the main sample. The study was carried out by Merry France-Dawson, and was funded by the HPRT.

Ultrasound observation

With a grant from the Marie Stopes Research Fund, we pursued some of the issues arising from the main study concerning ultrasound scanning. We visited three of the main study hospitals and approached women waiting for their scan. We gave them information about the research and ask whether we might accompany them during their examination. At this time we collected some information about the woman's background, her previous experiences of scanning and her attitude to the pregnancy. We observed the scan and afterwards talked to the woman about her understanding of what had happened and her feelings about it. We interviewed 30 women in each hospital at the time of their routine scan at 18-20 weeks.

Screening for Down's syndrome

Serum screening for Down's syndrome was introduced into a number of districts in Britain with little consideration of the psychological and social aspects of the test. Twenty women who had contacted Support After Termination For Abnormality about their experiences of receiving a positive result following serum-screening for Down's syndrome were interviewed. The initial impetus for the interviews was the need to present data, rather than anecdote and conjecture, to a meeting on the implementation of Down's syndrome serum screening called by the King's Fund in July 1992. This was followed by publication in the British Medical Journal.

The politics of prenatal screening: a look at recent history

January - September 1993

Staff: Josephine Green

Funding: Institute for Social Studies in Medical Care

This project explored the recent political history of prenatal screening, both by examining published material and by repeating a survey of consultant obstetricians carried out by Wendy Farrant in 1980. Of particular interest has been the dearth of policy statements from professional bodies. The consultants' survey obtained a 70% response rate and showed striking similarities, as well as some notable differences, when compared with the earlier survey. Since 1980 there have been changes in the law regarding abortion on grounds of fetal abnormality. These changes are only partially reflected in consultants'

responses, either because they are ignorant of the law or because they are unwilling to implement it. The survey also showed that by the summer of 1993, some form of serum screening for Down's syndrome was being offered by all but 6% of respondents.

Publications

- Green, J.M. (1990) Calming or Harming? A critical review of psychological effects of fetal diagnosis on pregnant women. Galton Institute, Occasional papers, Second Series, No.2.
- Green, J.M. (1990) Commentary: Prenatal screening and diagnosis: some psychological and social issues. Brit.J. Obs. & Gynae, 97: 1074-6.
- Green, J.M. (1993) Ethics and late termination of pregnancy. Lancet, 342: 1179.
- Green, J.M. (in press) Women's experiences of prenatal screening and diagnosis In: Abramsky, L & Chapple, J (Eds) The Human side of Prenatal Diagnosis, London: Chapman & Hall
- Green, J.M. & France-Dawson, M. (1993) Women's experiences of routine screening during pregnancy: the sickle cell study. Proceedings of a symposium entitled "Targetting health promotion: reaching those in need", Kings Fund Centre, London, 24th June 1992.
- Green, J.M. and Murray, D. (in press) The use of the EPDS in research to explore the relationship between antenatal and postnatal dysphoria. In J.L. Cox and J. Holden (eds) Prevention of depression after childbirth: use and misuse of the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale. London, Gaskell Press.
- Green, J. & Statham, H. (1993) Testing for fetal abnormality in routine antenatal care. Midwifery, 9, 124-135.
- Green, J.M., Snowdon, C. and Statham, H. (1993) Pregnant women's attitudes to abortion and prenatal screening. Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology, 11(1), 31-39.
- Green, J.M., Statham, H. and Snowdon, C. (1991) EPDS by post. British Journal Psychiatry, 158, 865.
- Green, J.M., Statham, H. and Snowdon, C. (1992) Screening for fetal abnormality: attitudes and experiences. In T. Chard and M.P.M. Richards (eds), Obstetrics in the 1990s: Current Controversies. Mackeith Press.
- Green, J.M., Statham, H. and Snowdon, C. (1993) Women's knowledge of prenatal screening tests. I: Relationships with hospital screening policy and demographic factors. Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology, 11(1), 11-20.
- Green, J.M., Statham, H. and Snowdon, C. (1993) Pregnancy: A testing time. Report of the Cambridge Prenatal Screening Study. Centre for Family Research, University of Cambridge.
- Maternity Services Research Group: Memoranda submitted to the House of Commons Maternity Services Inquiry, March 1991, published in Vol. III of the Inquiry's Second Report (1992).
- Richards, M.P.M. and Green, J.M. (1993) Attitudes toward prenatal screening for fetal abnormality and detection of carriers of genetic disease: a discussion paper. J Reproductive and Infant Psychology 1993; 11: 49-56.

- Richards, M.P.M. and Green, J.M. (in press) Screening for fetal abnormality: some social and psychological consequences. Paper for the proceedings of a Fulbright Colloquium (December 1991) on 'The Social Consequences of Life and Death under High Technology Medicine'.
- Statham, H. (1992) Professional understanding and parents experience of termination. In D.J. Brock, C.H. Rodeck and M.A. Ferguson Smith (eds) Prenatal Screening and Diagnosis, pp. 697-702. London: Churchill Livingstone.
- Statham, H. (in press) Women's experiences of termination of pregnancy for fetal abnormality. In: Abramsky, L & Chapple, J (Eds) The Human side of Prenatal Diagnosis, London: Chapman & Hall.
- Statham H. & Dimavicius, J. (1992) How do you give the bad news to parents? Birth, 19: 103-104.
- Statham, H. & Green, J. (1993) Issues raised by serum screening for Down's syndrome: some women's experiences. British Medical Journal, 307, 174-6.
- Statham, H. & Green, J. (in press) The effects of miscarriage and other 'unsuccessful' pregnancies on feelings early in a subsequent pregnancy. J Reproductive and Infant Psychology.
- Statham, H., Green, J. and Snowdon, C. (1991) When is a fetus a dead baby? Lancet, 6th April, 1991.
- Statham, H., Green, J. and Snowdon, C. (1992) Psychological and social aspects of screening for fetal abnormality during routine antenatal care. In Proceedings of 'Research and the Midwife', November 1992.
- Statham, H., Green, J. and Snowdon, C. (1993) Mothers' consent to screening newborn babies for disease. British Medical Journal, 306, 858-9.
- Statham, H., Green, J., Snowdon, C. & France-Dawson, M. (1993) Choice of baby's sex. Lancet, 341, 564-5.

Publications from earlier Maternity Services Research Group studies

Implications of medical staffing structures for midwives and doctors on the labour ward.

Research Team: Josephine Green, Vanessa Coupland, Jenny Kitinger

Publications

- Coupland, V., Green, J., Kitinger, J. and Richards, M. (1987) Obstetricians on the Labour Ward: Implications of medical staffing structures. Brit.Med.J., 295: 1077-1079.
- Green, J., Coupland, V., Kitinger, J., Harvey, J. and Hare, M.J. (1989) Observations on Obstetric Staffing: The Myth of the 3-tier norm. J. Obstetrics & Gynaecology, 9: 289-292.
- Green, J., Kitinger, J. and Coupland, V. (1986) The Division of Labour: Implications of medical staffing structures for midwives and doctors on the labour ward. Child Care and Development Group, Cambridge.
- Green, J., Kitinger, J. and Coupland, V. (1993) Midwives' responsibilities, medical staffing structures and women's choice in childbirth. In S. Robinson and A. Thomson (eds.) Midwives, Research and Childbirth, Vol.III. Routledge, Chapman and Hall, London.

- Kitzinger, J., Green, J. and Coupland, V. (1990) Labour Relations: Doctor and Midwives on the labour ward. In J. Garcia, R. Kilpatrick and M. Richards (eds) The Politics of Maternity Care. Oxford University Press.
- Kitzinger, J.V., Green, J.M. and Coupland, V.A. (1993) Labour Relations: Doctors and Midwives on the labour ward. In J. Walmsley, J. Reynolds, P. Shakespeare and R. Woolfe (eds) Health, Welfare and Practice: Reflecting on roles and Relationships. London, Sage.

Women's expectations and experiences of childbirth

Research Team: Josephine Green, Vanessa Coupland, Jenny Kitzinger

Publications

- Green, J.M. (1990) Who is unhappy after childbirth?: Antenatal and intrapartum correlates from a prospective study. J.Reprod. & Infant Psych. 8, 175-83.
- Green, J.M. (1993) Expectations and experiences of pain in labor: Findings from a large prospective study. Birth, 20 (2) 65-72.
- Green, J., Coupland, V. and Kitzinger, J. (1988) Great Expectations: A prospective study of women's expectations and experiences of childbirth. Child Care and Development Group, Cambridge.
- Green, J., Coupland, V. and Kitzinger, J. (1990) Expectations, experiences and psychological outcomes of childbirth: a prospective study of 825 women. Birth 17:1, 15-24.
- Green, J.M., Kitzinger, J.V. and Coupland, V.A. (1990) Stereotypes of childbearing women: a look at some evidence. Midwifery, 6, 1-8.
- Green, J., Kitzinger, J. and Coupland, V. (1993) Midwives responsibilities, medical staffing structures and women's choice in childbirth. In S. Robinson and A. Thomson (eds) Midwives. Research and Childbirth, vol. III. Routledge, Chapman and Hall, London.
- Green, J., Richards, M., Kitzinger, J. and Coupland, V. (1991) Mothers' perceptions of their 6-week-old babies: Relationship with antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal actors. Irish Journal of Psychology, 12, 133-144.

PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS OF GENETICS

Attitudes to genetic screening

Two hundred couples who had taken part in our prenatal screening study and who intended to have another child, were sent a questionnaire about attitudes towards genetic screening. The second part of the questionnaire focussed on cystic fibrosis carrier screening, while the first section was concerned with more general attitudes.

Publications

- Green, J.M. (1992) Principles and practicalities of carrier screening: attitudes of recent parents. J.Med.Genet. 29: 313-319.
- Richards, M.P.M. and Green, J.M. (1990) Cystic fibrosis carrier screening: Issues and questions for research. Presented to the MRC Health Services Research Committee, 17th December 1990.
- Richards, M.P.M. and Green, J.M. (1993) Attitudes towards prenatal screening for fetal abnormality and detection of carriers of genetic disease: a discussion paper. Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology, 11(1), 49-56.

Duchenne muscular dystrophy: families' responses to diagnosis and genetic counselling

January 1990 - December 1992

Researchers: Josephine Green, Frances Murton

Grant holders: Martin Richards, Josephine Green, Martin Bobrow (Guy's Hospital).

Funded by the Muscular Dystrophy Group of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The last few years have seen major changes for potential carriers of Duchenne muscular dystrophy, both in the diagnostic information that can be given and in styles of genetic counselling. This study was designed primarily to examine families' responses to diagnosis and genetic counselling. Data was collected from 158 families using specially designed postal questionnaires and interviews. The final report looks in detail at the process of obtaining the diagnosis, culminating in the consultation at which this information was given, including who was there; what was said; whether parents were able to obtain the information that they wanted; and their overall satisfaction with the consultation. The major determinant of satisfaction was the nature of the dialogue. Subsequent reproductive decisions were unrelated to the mother's carrier status or to the parents' beliefs about the likelihood of having another affected child. Over one quarter of the mothers said that they would not be prepared to terminate a pregnancy on grounds of Duchenne, even though over one half of these would consider termination of pregnancy for other reasons. The report also looks in some detail at the day-to-day issues that arise for these families and the effects on relationships.

Publications

- Green, J.M. & Murton, F. (1992) Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy: families responses to diagnosis and genetic counselling. Paper presented to the Third European Meeting on Psychosocial aspects of Genetics, University of Nottingham, 21-23 September, 1992.
- Green, J.M. & Murton, F.E. (1993) Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy: The Experiences of 158 Families. Centre for Family Research, University of Cambridge.

Social and psychological implications of identifying women with a family history of ovarian cancer

December 1991 to February 1992.

Researchers: Josephine Green, Frances Murton, Helen Statham.

Grant holders: Josephine Green, Maggie Ponder (CRC Human Cancer Genetics Group)

Funded by Cancer Research Campaign

Purpose of the study

The long-term aim was to investigate the social and psychological implications of identifying women with a family history of ovarian cancer. The CRC funded a 3 month pilot study to carry out interviews with 20 women. The main questions of interest concerned:

- Prior assumptions about risk
- Understanding of risk
- Knowledge of the disease
- Coping with the knowledge of high personal risk
- Experience of screening for ovarian cancer.

These issues are now being pursued as part of our MRC funded study on Families and Genetic Disorders (see below).

Publications:

Green, J., Murton, F. & Statham, H. (1993) Psychosocial issues raised by a familial ovarian cancer register. Journal of Medical Genetics, 30, 101-105.

New reproductive technologies: attitudes and experience of carriers of recessive disorders

1st October 1992 - 31 January 1994

Researchers: Josephine Green, Claire Snowdon.

Grant holders: Josephine Green, Claire Snowdon, Christine Barnes (Genetic Counsellor SE Thames Regional Genetics Centre)

Funded by Medical Research Council.

The rapid development of reproductive technologies in recent years has created new choices for known carriers of genetic disorders. Prenatal diagnosis gives the option of selective termination of pregnancy, while pre-implantation diagnosis and gamete donation can provide the opportunity to avoid the conception of an affected fetus.

The use of such techniques is not, however, without problems, such as the psychological sequelae of termination for fetal abnormality or the physical and emotional stresses inherent in assisted conception. Furthermore, for some carriers the situation remains unchanged: prenatal diagnosis is not available for all conditions, and long

waiting lists or prohibitive costs may make assisted conception impractical. In addition, personal convictions may render these techniques unacceptable.

Many assumptions are made about carriers' attitudes toward these techniques. However there is virtually no evidence available on the view of those for whose benefit these technologies have been devised. Such information is needed for appropriate service provision. The attitudes and expectations of approximately 150 couples of reproductive age who carry a deleterious recessive gene are being examined.

Families and Genetic Disorders

1st March 1993 - 30th September 1996

Researchers: Josephine Green, Helen Statham, Frances Murton, Martin Richards, Nina Hallowell

Research Student: Claudia Downing

Grantholders: Josephine Green, Martin Richards

Funded by Medical Research Council.

The 'new genetics' has implications for whole families, yet there is almost no psychosocial research on genetic disease from a family perspective. This study has three aims: (1) to investigate family members' knowledge of their genetic disorder, how they communicate about it and cope with its consequences, (2) to describe lay beliefs about heredity and health, (3) to investigate how knowledge and beliefs influence demands for genetic and other health services. Data will be collected mainly via in-depth interviews. The study focuses on two dominantly inherited disorders: hereditary ovarian/breast cancer and neurofibromatosis (NF1). We will be comparing families where NF has arisen as a new mutation with those with a family history, and people who have, or believe that they have, a familial disorder with those who do not. The project incorporates a self-contained longitudinal study of the process of genetic counselling in a late onset condition with a high degree of uncertainty and a study of the service implications of media publicity about genetic risk. The study will yield unique information on the interaction between beliefs and service demand, and of how service demand is influenced by family communication.

Initial funding (March - September 1993) was to develop appropriate methodologies for this research. The main study started in October 1993. We have also been awarded an MRC Research Studentship for work in this area.

Publications

Richards, M.P.M. (1993) The new genetics: some issues for social scientists. Soc. of Health and Illness 15(5), 567-586.

Green, J., Murton, F & Statham, H. (1993) Families and Genetic Disorders: Some methodological issues. Paper presented to the Behavioural Science and Genetics Group meeting, London, 13th Dec 1993.

Richards, M.P.M. & Green, J.M. (1994) Genetic screening, counselling, consent and family life. Paper for Symposium on Genetic Screening, Centre of Medical Law & Ethics - Nuffield Council on Bioethics. London.

It runs in the family: Beliefs about heredity and susceptibility to health risks among young people and their parents

15th September 1993 - 14th March 1995

Grant holders: Josephine Green & Martin Richards

Researchers: Maggie Ponder, Joanna Lee

Funded by the Health Promotion Research Trust.

Over the years, health promotion has urged people to take control and be responsible for their own health. The message has been that the causes of ill-health can be under the individual's control. Alongside this there have been developments in molecular genetics which are not only telling clinicians more about what have long been known to be 'genetic disorders', but also increasingly revealing genetic bases to other common disorders not previously thought of as 'genetic' (e.g. breast cancer). These divergent messages: on the one hand that good health is the reward for healthy living, and on the other that it is preordained by our genes and thus beyond our control, are going to pose an increasing challenge to health educators.

Contrary to the emphasis which health promotion has placed on lifestyle factors, we hypothesise that people are only receptive to these messages if they see themselves as susceptible, and that their judgement of their own susceptibility is heavily influenced by their family history, including a negative family history. Thus, in order to understand the ways in which people may respond to conflicting health messages, we need first to know what beliefs they hold about heredity and health.

We will be investigating these issues in interviews with a sample of 16-17 year olds and their parents.

Researchers working on the 'New Genetics' Projects

Josephine Green

I graduated in Psychology at the University of Sheffield, 1970 and went on to a Ph.D. at the Hester Adrian Research Centre, University of Manchester in 1973. I joined the Child Care and Development Group (as it then was) in 1985 as a founder member of the Maternity Services Research Group. Prior to that my research ranged from problems of numeracy (or otherwise) amongst Arts graduates to the problems of families of handicapped children and adults, and the support that they receive from both statutory and voluntary bodies. All of these areas have been brought together in more recent work on screening, genetic counselling and understanding of risk.

Helen Statham

After graduating from the University of Durham in 1972 with a degree in Zoology, I undertook research on frog muscle physiology (University of Liverpool, 1972-76) and on human cultured muscle cells (Royal Post Graduate Medical School, 1976-83). The human muscle work was funded by the Muscular Dystrophy Group, and although employed as a cell biologist, my interests increasingly tended towards genetics and the implications for families of prenatal diagnosis.

Before joining the Child Care and Development Group as a Research Associate on the prenatal screening project, I spent 2 years researching women's experiences of termination of pregnancy following the detection of fetal abnormality and this remains an area of active interest.

Claire Snowdon

I graduated in 1987 and worked as a research assistant in the Dept. of Community Medicine at St Thomas' Hospital, London. The greater part of my time there was spent working on a study to assess the impact of family care officers on families affected by neuromuscular disease.

I joined the Child Care and Development Group as a Research Associate in 1989 and completed an MA in Women's Studies in 1991. The focus of my dissertation was the meaning of genetic ties in egg donation and host surrogacy, based on interviews with 13 women with experience of these situations.

Frances Murton

I graduated from the London School of Economics and subsequently worked for the Government Social Survey and as a Research Officer for the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong. I obtained a postgraduate social work qualification and was employed as a local authority social worker until March 1987. Since then I have undertaken adoption and fostering assessments for Cambridge Social Services, and I am currently a mediator with the Cambridge Family and Divorce Centre. I was appointed as a Research Associate in January 1991 to work for one year on the Duchenne Families

Research Project. This has since been extended. I have also carried out interviews on the pilot study of the Familial Ovarian Cancer project.

Claudia Downing - (see Graduate Student research, p.27)

Maggie Ponder

I qualified as a nurse in 1969 at St. Thomas' Hospital in London and graduated from the Open University in 1977. For the past 10 years I have worked as a research assistant and family interviewer for the CRC Human Cancer Research Group. I have been working with families who have an inherited predisposition to various cancers and with families with neurofibromatosis type 1. I joined the Centre in September 1993.

Joanna Lee

I graduated in Social Studies from Trinity College, Dublin in 1972, obtaining a Diploma in Applied Social Studies from Goldsmith's College, London in 1974. I worked for eight years in Social Services Departments as a social worker and study supervisor, then six years as an independent Guardian ad Litem representing children in care and allied proceedings in the Juvenile Court. For the past four years I have worked as a social worker at Addenbrooke's Hospital, where I still work half-time. I joined the Centre as a Research Associate in January 1994.

Nina Hallowell

I graduated in psychology at the University of Stirling in 1984, and then went to Oxford to do graduate research in linguistics. In 1988 I joined the Department of Experimental Psychology at Cambridge University to work on a project which investigated conceptual development in young children. In 1991 I was appointed as Lecturer in Psychology in the Department of Human Communication at De Montfort University Leicester. I joined the Centre as a Research Associate in January 1994.

FERTILITY/INFERTILITY AND THE HUMAN EMBRYO

Coordinator for the Social Science Group:

Frances Price

Date started: January 1993 - (Completion date December 1995)

Funding source: European Commission (grant held by the Centre for Philosophy and Health Care, University of Swansea)

This project brings together a group of social scientists, a group of lawyers, a group of philosophers and a group of clinicians and scientists recruited from the member states. The group meets and corresponds regularly and has to date produced individual and collective papers for discussion and presentation at an annual plenary of all project members.

Recent Publications

- Price, F. (1987) The social and economic consequences of a higher order multiple birth. J. Obstetrics and Gynaecology, 8, 81-84.
- Richards, M.P.M. and Price, F. (1987) Licensing work on IVF and related procedures. Lancet (letter) i, 1373-1374.
- Macfarlane, A., Price, F., Daw, E.G. and Botting, B. (1987) Multiple pregnancy and assisted reproduction, Lancet (letter) ii, 1090.
- Price, F. (1988) The Risk of High Multiparity with IVF/ET. Birth 15, 157-163.
- Price, F. (1988) Establishing guidelines: regulation and the clinical management of infertility. In R. Lee and D. Morgan (eds.) Birthrights: Law and ethics at the beginnings of life, pp. 37-53. London: Routledge.
- Price, F. (1989) Multiple pregnancy: ethical questions and policy debates. In E.V. van Hall and W. Everaerd The Free Woman: Women's Health in the 1990s. Carnforth, Lancs: Parthenon.
- Price, F. (1990) The management of uncertainty in obstetric practice: diagnostic obstetric ultrasound and in vitro fertilization and embryo transfer. In M. McNeill, I. Varcoe and S. Yearley (eds.) The New Reproductive Technologies. London: Macmillan, p. 123-153.
- Botting, B., Macfarlane, A., Price, F. (1990) Three, Four and More: A National Study of Triplets and Higher Order Births. London: HMSO.
- Price, F. (1990) Too much of a good thing. New Scientist, 18 August 1990, 29-30.
- (Joint) (1990) Multiple problems with the stomp of tiny feet. Health Service Journal, 1208.
- (Joint) (1990) The study of triplet and higher order births. Population Trends, 62, 26-28.
- (Joint) (1991) The National Study of Triplets and Higher Order Births in The Sixth Report of the Interim Licensing Authority for Human In Vitro Fertilisation and Embryology. London, ILA.
- Price, F. (1991) Asking questions about egg donation. Les Sociologues dans le Debat Social en Europe. Volume of conference proceedings. (Vol.4. Les Sociologues et les pratiques bio-medicales) CNRS/IRESO Paris.
- Price, F. (1991) Extraordinary circumstances: caring for triplets, quads and more. In D. Harvey (ed) The Stress of Multiple Births. Multiple Birth Foundation.

- Price, F. (1991) How Many is Too Many? Triplets, Quadruplets and More. 1991 Medical and Health Annual. Encyclopaedia Britannica.
- Price, F. (1992) 'Isn't she coping well?': providing for mothers of triplets, quadruplets and quintuplets. In H. Roberts (ed.) Women's Health Matters. London: Routledge.
- Price, F. (1992) Assisting fertilisation: clinical practices and public concerns. In T. Chard and M.P.M. Richards (eds.) Obstetrics for the 1990s. Current Controversies. MacKeith Press.
- Price, F. (1992) Having triplets, quads or quins: whose responsibility? In M. Stacey (ed.) Changing Human Reproduction: Social Science Perspectives. Sage.
- Edwards, J., Franklin S., Hirsh, E., Price, F. and Strathern, M. (1993) Technologies of Procreation: Kinship in the Age of Assisted Conception. Manchester: Manchester University Press.
- Price, F. (1993) The Prospect of Triplets and Quads. A Booklet for Women and Men Attending Infertility Clinics. ISBN 09521549.
- Price, F. (1994) Tailoring multiparity: the dilemmas surrounding death by selective reduction of pregnancy. In R. Lee and D. Morgan (eds), Death Rites: Law and Ethics at the End of Life. London: Routledge.
- Price, F. (1994) Now you see it, now you don't: mediating science and managing uncertainty in reproductive medicine. In A. Irwin and B. Wynne (eds.) Misunderstanding Science. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Price, F. Beyond clinical expertise: social and legal concerns in assisted conception. Journal of Child Law. forthcoming, April 1994.

Completed research

National study of triplets and higher order births: the parents study

Researcher: Frances V. Price

Funding source: Department of Health. Final report completed 1989.

A book which I co-authored Three, Four and More: The National Study of Triplets and Higher Order Births was published by HMSO in 1990.

Frameworks for Understanding Public Interpretations of Science and Technology: Diagnostic Obstetric Ultrasound and In Vitro Fertilization

Associate Director/Consultant: Frances Price

Funding source: ESRC. Final Report completed 1990.

This project was part of the ESRC Initiative 'Public Understanding of Science'. A book Misunderstanding Science to which I am a contributor, edited by Alan Irwin and Brian Wynne, is to be published in 1994 by Cambridge University Press.

The Prospect of Triplets and Quads

Researchers: Frances Price, Ruth Bush, Julie Tucker.

Funding source: Department of Health. Final report completed July 1991.

This research project, funded by the Department of Health, followed from the recently completed Parents Study of the National Study of Triplets and Higher Order Births (see above). The main objective was to develop and pretest written material about the prospect of triplets and quads for women and men attending infertility clinics in the UK.

The Representation of Kinship in the Context of the New Reproductive Technologies

Consultant: Frances Price.

Funding source: ESRC. Final report completed December 1991.

Consultant to ESRC funded project directed by Professor Marilyn Strathern, then at the University of Manchester now Professor of Social Anthropology at Cambridge University.

A book which I co-authored Technologies of Procreation: Kinship in the Age of Assisted Conception was published in 1993 by Manchester University Press.

Frances Price

I joined the Centre as a Senior Research Associate in 1985 after I had completed my PhD. Previously I had been employed as a university lecturer in sociology, latterly at the University of Lancaster. I am currently involved in a three year European Commission research project 'Fertility, Infertility and the Human Embryo' as the coordinator for the Social Sciences and am working on the first phase of a research project on the recruitment and screening of gamete donors. This research aims to investigate the communication of risk and the cultural constructs and social and psychological constraints associated with practices in this expanding field of medicine.

HISTORY OF CHILD GUIDANCE

Researcher: Deborah Thom

Currently seeking funding for research project entitled Records of Child Guidance. I am writing up the last project on maladjustment in context in articles and book form.

Selected Recent Publications

- Thom, D. (1985) The 1944 Education Act - the 'act of the possible'? In H. Smith (ed.) War and Social Change, Manchester University Press.
- Thom, D. (1987) 'Girls and the 11+'. In F. Hunt (ed.) The Upbringing of Daughters. Blackwells.
- Thom, D. (1988) 'Women's employment in Britain. In J. Winter and W. Wall (eds.) The Upheaval of War. Cambridge University Press.
- Thom, D. (1989) 'Freed from chains'. In G. Stedman Jones and D. Feldman, Metropolis. Routledge Kegan Paul.
- Thom, D. (1989) 'Nice girls and rude girls': women workers in the Woolwich Arsenal. In R. Samuel (ed.) Patriotism and the Making of the National Identity. Routledge, 1989.
- Thom, D. (1992) Wishes, fears and dreams; Child Guidance in Britain. In R. Cooter (ed) In the Name of the Child. Routledge.
- Thom, D. (1992) Feminist history or women's history - a lopsided view? In K. Campbell (ed) Critical Feminisms. Special issue, Ideas in Production.

Deborah Thom

My first degree was in history after which I trained as a teacher and taught in a London comprehensive for two years. I then reentered higher education at Warwick University with an MA in Comparative Labour History followed by a variety of part-time teaching jobs in higher education for 6 years while I had my first 2 children. I did my Ph.D. on women's employment and the First World War part-time at my main place of work, Thames Polytechnic. In January 1982 I began a 3 year research project on the history of intelligence testing at the Department of Education, Cambridge and followed this by a second ESRC project at the Centre for Family Research. I am Director of Studies in Social and Political Science at Robinson College and a Fellow of Robinson. I lecture in the History and SPS Faculties. I am interested in the history of social regulation, particularly of women and children, and hope to extend the child guidance project into the 1980s.

With Dr L. Ashby I am continuing a research project on the case note records of the Cambridge clinic for which we are using SPSSX for bulk data assessment. I continue to collect and encourage the preservation of records of clinics.

TRANSITIONS TO ADULTHOOD

Ginny Morrow

I have a BA in Oriental Studies and Social Anthropology and I completed my PhD in the Social and Political Sciences Faculty in 1992. My research consisted of a sociological study of British secondary school children's involvement in 'work' outside school in the form of part-time paid employment, working in family businesses and domestic labour, and I am interested in the general field of the sociology of childhood.

I now work as a Research Associate with Martin Richards on the 'Transitions to Adulthood' project, carrying out a wide-ranging literature review and conceptual overview. This is a two year project funded by the Rowntree Foundation. In addition to the literature review being carried out in Cambridge the work involves analysis of National Child Development Study age 33 sweep (Dr Kath Kiernan, LSE) and the Twenty-07 Study (Dr Patrick West, MRC Medical Sociology Unit, Glasgow).

Publications:

- Morrow, V. (1989) Only connect: the mechanics and ethics of networking with development agencies for children. In E. Verhellen and F. Spiesschaert (eds) Ombudswork for Children. A way of improving the position of children in society. Acco, Leven/Amersfoort, Belgium.
- Dunne, G., Hodge, I., Monk, S. and Morrow, V. (1992) Rural labour markets: a literature review. Anglia Polytechnic University/Department of the Environment.
- Morrow, V. (1992) Family values: accounting for children's contribution to the domestic economy. Working Paper Series of University of Cambridge Sociological Research Group.
- Morrow, V. (1992) Memorandum on children's employment. In Minutes of Evidence, Child Labour, House of Commons Employment Committee, May. Cmnd 454-i.

THE RELATIONAL WORLDS OF YOUNG WOMEN

Carol Gilligan

Carol Gilligan who is a Professor at Harvard Graduate School of Education is teaching part-time in the Social and Political Sciences Faculty and is associated with the Centre. Her books include:

1982. In a Different Voice: Psychological Theory and Women's Development. Harvard University Press.
- 1990 (edited with N. Lyons, T. Hanmer) Making Connections: The Relational Worlds of Adolescent Girls at Emma Willard School. Harvard University Press.
1992. With L. Brown. Meeting at the Crossroads: Women's Psychology and Girls Development. Harvard University Press.

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

URBAN MIDDLE CLASS MARRIAGES IN POST-REVOLUTIONARY IRAN: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

Marjaneh Halati. I am working on intra-familial relations between two groups of urban middle-class families in Iran: the "Westernised" families (those who embrace Western ideology) and the traditional families. I am interested in how marriage have been affected by the Islamic Revolution and whether the abolition of the Family Protection Act of 1967 has in any way changed the status of women within marriage/household. The study is also concerned with intra-familial relations across generations. Interviewing began in Iran in the summer of 1991.

I joined the Centre in January 1989, having obtained my MSc degree in Social Psychology from the London School of Economics.

INTERMARRIAGES AND INTEGRATION OF TURKISH IMMIGRANTS

Sultan Kocaoluk. I joined the Centre as a graduate student in April 1989. I studied sociology at the University of Istanbul and also did my M.A. degree at the same university. My Ph.D. examines the relationship between inter-marriage and integration process of Turkish migrants in Britain. By conducting semi-structured interviews I am comparing Turkish-British couples with Turkish-Turkish couples and exploring the differences in marriage and integration processes between these two types of couples.

This work is supported by a studentship from the Ministry of Education of the Turkish Government.

WOMEN'S DIFFERING EXPERIENCES OF EARLY MOTHERHOOD

Natasha Mauthner. I graduated in 1989, with a degree in Experimental Psychology, and joined the Centre in October 1990. My study examines women's emotional well-being across the transition to motherhood, and in particular how this might be affected by a woman's employment status, her relationship with her partner, and her social support system. I have recently completed interviewing 40 mothers and 23 of their partners, all of varying socio-economic backgrounds. I am currently in the process of analysing the transcripts.

This work is supported by a studentship from the Medical Research Council.

CHOICES ABOUT WORK AND REPRODUCTION FOR YOUNG WOMEN IN POOR COMMUNITIES IN VENEZUELA

Myra Hunt. In conjunction with the 'Centro de Investigaciones Para la Infancia y la familia' in Caracas, I am researching the lives of young women growing up in the shanty towns. I am interested in education, sexuality, family structure and ideologies about family life and motherhood. I have spent 14 months undertaking fieldwork in Caracas, and am mainly funded by the Simon Population Trust and Lucy Cavendish College.

GENDER IDENTITIES AND RELATIONS IN ADOLESCENCE

Jane Ireland. I am a third year Ph.D. student who is looking at men and women in non-traditional occupations. I am focusing on men in nursing and women in the engineering trades. The research is basically asking four main questions about women and men who enter non-traditional areas of work.

1) What resources and experiences do men and women making non-traditional choices draw on in choosing and then making the transition into non-traditional work?

2) How have families, friends and places of education influenced and helped to ease such transitions?

3) What are the day-to-day experiences of men and women in non-traditional areas of work?

4) How do they view their own skills and abilities in relation to the dominant definitions of skill and ability the professions they have entered have traditionally embodied?

THE EFFECTS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Kelly Lindwall. I came to the Centre in October 1991 as a graduate student. I graduated from Wellesley College, Boston in May 1991 with a degree in Psychology. The goal of my research is to discover any significant differences in the longterm effects of child sexual abuse with regard to gender. Since males and females have different perceptions of the world and their experiences, I believe that it is unlikely that boys and girls will share the same interpretations and reactions to the traumatic experience of sexual abuse.

ARMY WELFARE AND DIVORCE IN BRITAIN, 1939-1945

Ruth Jamieson. My research interest is in the relationship between gender, law and the state. My work explores this relationship through an analysis of a specific instance of state intervention - that of Army welfare into the matrimonial problems of soldiers - at a particular historical moment (1939-1945).

I completed an M.Phil in Criminology in 1988 on leave of absence from the Department of Justice, Canada prior to joining the Centre in 1991. My research is being supervised by Deborah Thom and has been supported by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission.

LONE MOTHERS AND CHILD SUPPORT

Lucy Allcock. My research considers the effects of the 1991 Child Support Act on lone mothers who receive state benefits. I am interested in the impact of enforced maintenance on the mother's concept of self and her perceptions of dependence and independence. I am currently interviewing lone mothers and examining self-images and negative stereotyping, the role of an absent parent and the practices mothers employ to resolve conflicts between the need to be seen as 'deserving' the management of scarce resources and the desire to be a 'good' parent. I will address the question of whether Child Support Act will provide a work incentive, examine concepts of responsible parenting and explore the possible effects of enforced payments on the quality of parenting relationships.

I joined the Centre in October 1993 having obtained a BA in Social and Political Science and an M.Phil in Social and Political Theory.

LATE ONSET GENETIC DISORDERS AND CHOICES ABOUT REPRODUCTION

Claudia Downing. Funded by a Medical Research Council Postgraduate Studentship.
(See Page 16).

After graduating from Birkbeck College, London University, in 1993 with a degree in psychology, I was awarded a Medical Research Council studentship to join the group working in the Centre on the social and psychological implications of the new genetics. My study will look at people at risk from a late onset dominant and one hundred percent penetrant disorder, Huntington's disease. The identification of the gene in 1993 means that it is now possible to know whether you have the gene and will therefore go on to develop the disorder at a later age. This can be established at any stage of life, including prenatally. One question I want to investigate is what effect this will have on reproductive decision making by people themselves at risk. As part of the study I would like to compare the experiences of people growing up in an affected family and those marrying into one.

RECENTLY COMPLETED RESEARCH

IMPRISONMENT AND FAMILY TIES

October 1990 - January 1994

Research team: Martin Richards, Brenda McWilliams and Jill Enterkin.

Grantholder: Martin Richards.

Funded by the Home Office.

The research aims to evaluate the extent to which male and female prisoners are able to maintain relationships with their families, especially their children. The research has evaluated the provision in Prison Department establishments for fostering family ties, and for promoting family stability. It set out to examine whether there is a relationship between the provision of facilities at prisons, the maintenance of family ties and the rehabilitation of the prisoner. The research involved interviewing prisoners before and after their discharge as well as members of their families. The study included subsamples of women and men who are not UK subjects.

A report has been prepared by Dr Pat Owens for the Home Office on Visitor Centres and provision for visiting in prisons. This is available as an Occasional Paper, price £4 including postage.

Richards, M.P.M. (1991) The separation of children and parents: some issues and problems. In R. Shaw (ed.) Prisoners' Children. What are the issues? Routledge.

McWilliams, B. 'Imprisonment and family ties' pp 256-60 in Conference Proceedings: Prison Service Psychology Conference. (Scarborough, 16-18 October 1991). London: HM Prison Service, Home Office.

Further reports have been submitted to the Home Office and are awaiting clearance for publication.

Jill Enterkin has now left the Centre to do a PhD in the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge.

Brenda McWilliams now carries out research for the Regional Health Authority on homeless people.

GIRLS AND THE TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL: HEALTH IMPLICATIONS OF GIRLS' ADJUSTMENT TO MENSTRUATION

April 1989 - June 1992 (Dissemination until December 1992)

Researcher: Shirley Prendergast

Funded by the Health Promotion Research Trust

Menarche and the early experience of menstruation are pivotal events in the process of young women's understanding of, and coming to terms with, themselves as adult. The experience not only organises their knowledge of the body, both cognitively

and psychologically, but operates as a powerful symbolic marker of the ways in which this new female identity is socially valued. Although seen as private and personal, and rarely openly discussed, menarche and menstruation are, like other experiences of the body, as Turner demonstrates, nevertheless shaped by the social contexts in which they occur. For young women school is the first major public setting in which such new identities will be learned about and made manifest, through which these values will be lived, and where the experience must be emotionally and practically dealt with. For most girls these events occur in parallel with the early years of transition from primary to secondary school, a time when the curriculum and educational achievement become more polarised in relation to gender.

Although these are important issues, with potential long term consequences for education and health, we know very little about them, particularly in relation to the experiences of girls themselves. The research combines ethnographic and quantitative methodologies, working through four LEA's to provide data on both girls' knowledge and experience of these events, and the setting - the secondary schools, the curriculum, the attitudes of teachers and the actual lessons, in which they take place. The findings of the study are now available as a book (Prendergast 1992). In addition the findings and their implications have been summarised in a booklet for governors, teachers and parents (Prendergast 1992a). They have also contributed to a teachers resource pack on menstruation for use in schools and further education (Alvarado and Power 1993). A number of articles are also available (Prendergast 1989, 1991, 1992b, Kingman 1992). A paperback book for girls themselves is planned for 1993.

- Prendergast, S. (1989) 'Girls' Experience of Menstruation in School'. In L. Holly (ed.) Girls and Sexuality. OU Press, Milton Keynes.
- Prendergast, S. (1991) 'Teaching and Learning About the Body in School'. In Young People. Behaviours and Opportunities. Health Promotion Research Trust.
- Prendergast, S. (1992) 'This Is The Time To Grow Up': Girls' experience of menstruation in school'. Cambridge, Health Promotion Research Trust.
- Prendergast, S. (1992a) Helping Girls To Cope With Menstruation In School. A booklet for governors, teachers and parents. Available free from The Health Promotion Research Trust, 49 Regent Street, Cambridge.
- Kingman, S. (1992) Periods of Anxiety (a summary of the findings of the research) Health Education, May 1992.
- Prendergast, S. (1992b) Becoming a woman. Promoting menstrual health in school. Primary Health Care (forthcoming).
- Prendergast, S. (1993) 'Gender and Sex Education'. In D. Massey (ed) Sex Education. Theory and Practice. Falmer Press (forthcoming 1992/3).
- Alvarado, S. Power, P. (1993) Teaching Pack on Menstruation. Cambridge, Learning Development Aids (forthcoming January 1993).
- Prendergast, S. (1992) 'School, Sex and Gender: Learning the Body in the Mind'. Submitted to The Sociology of Health and Illness.

Shirley Prendergast is now working in the Department of Sociology, Anglia Polytechnic University.

DIVORCE AND KINSHIP

Date Ph.D. Started: January 1988. Degree awarded 1993.

Finished: Sept 1991

Researcher: Christina Sinclair

Funded by Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund, Canada, and ORS Award

My research explores the connections between extended family relationships and the attitudes and decision-making of couples in such areas as courtship and marriage, management of conflict and parenting. Through interviews and questionnaires I am comparing both across generation (parents and grandparents) and within generation (parents and their siblings). I am using a sample of Cambridge families which includes married, common-law, divorced and re-married households.

I graduated BA (Psych) 1973, University of Tasmania, Australia and MSc (Psychopathology) 1976, University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada. I am a clinical/counselling psychologist and divorce mediator. I am a partner in a group practice in Calgary which offers assessment and therapy for individuals, couples and families, primarily in the areas of relationships, stress and substance abuse. I am involved in the divorce conciliation movement in the UK and provide seminars and case consultation.

MARRIAGE AND EXTRAMARITAL RELATIONSHIPS

Researchers: Janet Reibstein and Martin Richards

While it is generally agreed that many, if not most, married men and women have some extra marital sexual experience, very little is known about the phenomena. Without better knowledge many kinds of support and help for married people are less effective than they could be. The presence of HIV virus in the community both changes the significance of extra marital sex and makes better knowledge of it more pressing. Our book sets out to analyse extra-marital relationships in the context of beliefs and expectations of present day marriage. We trace both the historical development of these beliefs and of marriage patterns and the aspects of individual development which underlie adult patterns of behaviour. Our study is illustrated by a series of case studies.

Reibstein, J. and Richards, M.P.M. (1992) Sexual Arrangements: Marriage and Affairs.
William Heinemann.

Janet Reibstein

I qualified as a psychotherapist with a special training and interest in therapy with couples and families. I received my Ph.D. in Human Development (Psychology) from the University of Chicago (1981) and post-graduate psychotherapy and clinical training certificates from the University of Chicago Department of Behavioral Sciences, Michael Reese Hospital, Dept. of Psychiatry (1983) and Northwestern University Medical School/Family Institute of Chicago (1984).

My previous work and research interests have been on therapeutic change, particularly in groups; on change through important life cycle transitions; on psychotherapy with families; and on marriage and their changes at important life cycle events. Present work includes teaching and training people to do psychotherapy with couples and families as well as continuing to do psychotherapy with individuals, couples and families.

Reibstein, J. (1988) Family therapy, sex role development throughout the life cycle: A useful concept. J.Family Therapy, 10, 153-166.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF DIVORCE FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Date started: April 1989

Date finished: July 1992

Researcher: B. Jane Elliott

Grant holder: M.P.M.Richards

Funded by the Health Promotion Research Trust

I began work in April 1989 with Martin Richards on a three year project investigating some of the consequences of divorce for adults and children, particularly those related to health. The first two years of the project have been spent analysing the Health and Lifestyle Survey, and the 1958 National Child Development Survey. Results suggest that men tend to be more adversely affected by divorce than women, when the health and psychological wellbeing of divorcing adults who have never had children is examined. One possible explanation for this may be that women tend to initiate divorce more than men do (this is certainly the case in strictly legal terms). A small scale qualitative interview study was completed which examined in more detail some of the emotional dynamics of ending marital relationships.

Analyses of the National Child Development Survey (1958 Birth Cohort) show that children whose parents are divorced show more signs of disturbed behaviour and under-achievement at school than children whose parents remain married. A rather more surprising result, however, is that these differences in educational performance and behaviour are detectable prior to the separation/divorce of the parents. Other analyses have traced the differences in the groups of children into young adulthood.

B. Jane Elliott

I graduated in 1987. The Cambridge Tripos system allowed me to do Part IA of my degree in Mathematics and Part II in Social and Political Science. After finishing my degree I helped several members of the Centre for Family Research with the analysis of their data. I also worked for a year in the Department of Psychiatry analysing data from the Health and Lifestyle Survey as research assistant to Dr Felicia Huppert, and for six months I worked at the Department of Applied Economics in Cambridge analysing some of the data produced by the Social Change in Economic Life initiative.

Now a Fellow of Newnham College and Director of Studies in Social and Political Sciences.

Publications related to the project

- Elliott, B.J., Ochiltree, G., Richards, M.P.M., Sinclair, C. and Tasker, F. (1990) Divorce and Children: A British challenge to the Wallerstein view. Family Law, 20, 309-310.
- Elliott, B.J. (1991) Demographic trends in domestic life 1945-1990. In D. Clark (ed.) Marriage, Domestic Life and Social Change: Essays in Honour of Jackie Burgoyne. Routledge.
- Richards, M.P.M. and Elliott, B.J. (1991) Sex and marriage in the 1960s and 1970. In D. Clark (ed.) Marriage, Domestic Life and Social Change: Essays in Honour of Jackie Burgoyne. Routledge.
- Elliott, B.J. Divorce and adult health: the mediating effect of gender. (Submitted to Social Science and Medicine).
- Elliott, B.J. and Richards, M.P.M. (1991) Children and divorce: educational performance, and behaviour, before and after parental separation. Int. J. Law and the Family, 5, 258-278.
- Elliott, B.J. and Richards, M.P.M. (1991) Effects of parental divorce on children. Annotation. Archives of Diseases in Childhood, 66, 915-916.
- Elliott, B.J. and Richards, M.P.M. (1991) Parental divorce and the life chances of their children. Family Law.
- Elliott, B.J. and Richards, M.P.M. (1991) Adolescents and parental divorce. Presented at a Symposium at the Int. Society for the Study of Behavioural Development, Minneapolis, USA.
- Richards, M.P.M. (1989) Joint custody revisited. Family Law, p.83-85.
- Richards, M.P.M. (1990) Divorce Cambridge style. Family Law, November.
- Richards, M.P.M. (1991) Private words and public intentions. The role of the State at divorce. Family, Politics and the Law, edited by M. Maclean. Oxford University Press.
- Richards, M.P.M. (1991) Children and parents after divorce. Paper presented at 7th World Conference of the Int.Society on Family Law. Opatija, Croatia. To appear in Proceedings edited by J. Eekelaar and P. Sarcovia. Martinus Nijhoff.
- Richards, M.P.M. (1991) Divorce research today. Family Law, February.
- Richards, M.P.M. 1993. Learning from divorce. Chapter in C. Clulow (ed) Does Marriage Matter? Karnac Books.

NIGHT WAKING IN BABIES

A project carried out with Gordon Scott and funded by the Health Promotion Research Trust was completed in 1989.

Scott, G. & Richards, M.P.M. Night Waking in Infants. 1988. Report to the Health Promotion Research Trust, Cambridge.

Scott, G. & Richards, M.P.M. Night waking in infants: effects of providing advice and support for parents J. Child Psychology and Psychiatry, 31, 551-567, 1989.

Richards, M.P.M. and Scott, G. Patterns of sleeping and waking in one year old children. 1990. *Child, Health, Care and Development*, 16, 283-302.

Messer, D. & Richards, M.P.M. The development of sleeping difficulties. In *Infant Crying, Feeding and Sleeping*. In I. St. James-Roberts, G. Harris & D. Messer (eds) Harvester Wheatsheaf. 1993.

Recent Visitors to the Centre

John Morss

John Morss was a visitor in the Centre from January 1993 for one year. He was on leave from the Department of Education, University of Otago, New Zealand. John is a psychologist with strong interests in theoretical issues related to the notion of developing. His 'The Biologising of Childhood: Developmental Psychology and the Darwinian Myth' was published by Lawrence Erlbaum in 1990. He is currently working on a new book, 'Lifestories: towards an anti-developmental psychology' for the Routledge Critical Psychology Series.

Delila Amir

Delila Amir visited the Centre from September 1993 to February 1994. Professor Amir is a sociologist from the University of Tel-Aviv and has wide interests in the study of social aspects of reproduction and the position of women in society.

CENTRE FOR FAMILY RESEARCH
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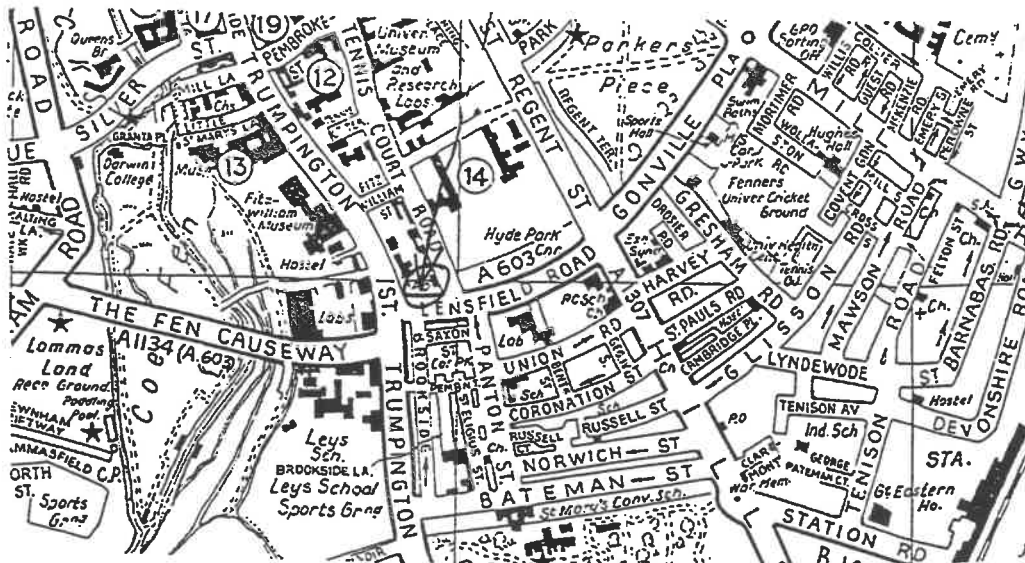
Lunchtime Seminars - Easter Term 1993

(Meetings held at 12.30 on Tuesdays
at 2, Bene't Place, Lensfield Road)

- 20 April Judy Dunn (Penn State University)
'From pre-school to adolescence: A ten-year follow up of siblings in Cambridge'
- 27 April Wendy Chan (Department of Criminology, University of Cambridge)
'Battered women who kill their partners'
- 4 May Half-term - No seminar
- 11 May Ann Wetherall (Department of Psychology, Lancaster University)
'Gender and language: talk about Coronation Street'
- 18 May Ruth Jamieson (Social & Political Sciences Faculty, University of Cambridge)
'Army welfare and divorce in Britain 1939-1945'
- 25 May Natasha Mauthner (Centre for Family Research, University of Cambridge)
'Listening to women's voices: mothers' accounts of "post-natal depression"'

PLEASE NOTE TEMPORARY LOCATION:

2, BENE'T PLACE, LENSFIELD ROAD
(opposite the turning to Brookside)
TEL NO: (as before) (0223) 334510



CENTRE FOR FAMILY RESEARCH
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Lunchtime Seminars - Michaelmas Term 1993

Meetings held at 12.30 on Tuesdays in Room 606

- 12th October Bronwen Walter (Department of Geography, Anglia Polytechnic University, Cambridge)
'Bridie and Norah: the identity of Irish women in Britain'
- 19th October Jo Green (Centre for Family Research, Cambridge)
'Obstetricians views of prenatal screening and diagnosis: a recent survey'
- 26th October Half-term: Possible seminar, to be announced
- 2nd November Erica Burman (Department of Psychology and Speech Pathology, Manchester Metropolitan University)
'Developing children and development policy'
- 9th November Simon Szreter, (History Faculty, University of Cambridge)
'Birth control in Britain before 1930 - how did they do it?'
- 16th November Rosalind Edwards (Social Sciences Research Centre, South Bank University, London)
'"Education has the power": the effects of studying on mature women students' relationships'
- 23rd November Miri Song (Social Science & Administration, London School of Economics)
'Family and family labour participation in ethnic migrant businesses in Britain'
- 30th November Cordelia Moyses, Newnham College, Cambridge
'Was divorce reform a women's issue? 1910-1937'
- 6th December Rex & Wendy Stainton Rogers, (University of Reading & Open University)
'Stories of childhood: shifting agendas of child concern'

If you wish to come to a seminar, please arrive on time, so we may begin promptly at 12.30 pm.

*Centre for Family Research
University of Cambridge
Free School Lane, Cambridge CB2 3RF
Tel: Cambridge (0223) 334510*

CENTRE FOR FAMILY RESEARCH
(formerly Child Care & Development Group)
Lunchtime Seminars - Lent Term 1994

Meetings held at 12.30 on Tuesdays
at the Centre for Family Research
University of Cambridge
Free School Lane, Cambridge
Tel: Cambridge (0223) 334510

- 11 January Delila Amir, Institute for Social Research, Tel Aviv University
'"Educating Lena": Addressing the issue of cultural conflict and normative boundaries'
- 18 January Dale Hay, Faculty of Social & Political Sciences, University of Cambridge
'Sibling interaction when the mother is depressed'
- 25 January Martin Richards, Centre for Family Research, University of Cambridge
'The social effects of the new genetics'
- 1 February Lyliane Rosetta, National Centre for Scientific Research, Paris
'Fertility and lifestyle: some evidence for inter-population variability in hormonal profile'
- 8 February Jessica Gress-Wright, Visiting Scholar, Newnham College
'Is there a future for the post-modern family?'
- 15 February Jane Ireland, Faculty of Social & Political Sciences, University of Cambridge
'Gender identity and work: a comparison of men and women in nursing and the engineering trades'
- 22 February Eilidh Garrett, History of Population and Social Structure
'Life as we are shown it: a view of family life in England and Wales from the censuses of 1891-1921'
- 1 March Gesine Schmucker, Institute of Psychiatry, London
'An investigation of the affect expressed in a mother-child interaction'
- 8 March Jackie Barry, Dept. of Sociology, University of Bristol
'Care in the context of older people's lives'

If you wish to come to a seminar, please arrive on time, so we may begin promptly at 12.30 pm

Occasional Papers

Available from the Centre Secretary (please make cheques payable to 'University of Cambridge')

- Green, J.M. (1990) Calming or Harming? A critical review of psychological effects of fetal diagnosis on pregnant women. Galton Institute, Occasional papers, Second Series, No.2. Price £5 incl. P & P.
- Green, J.M. & Murton, F.E. (1993) Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy: The Experiences of 158 Families. Centre for Family Research, University of Cambridge. Price £10 incl. P & P.
- Green, J., Coupland, V. and Kitzinger, J. (1988) Great Expectations: A prospective study of women's expectations and experiences of childbirth. Child Care and Development Group, Cambridge. Price Volume 1 only £7.50 plus £2.15 postage, Volumes 1 and 2 plus appendices £15 plus £4.45 postage within the UK.
- Green, J., Kitzinger, J. and Coupland, V. (1986) The Division of Labour: Implications of medical staffing structures for midwives and doctors on the labour ward. Child Care and Development Group, Cambridge. Price £5 incl. P & P.
- Owens, P. (1991) Visiting Prisoners. An Interim Report from the Cambridge Research Project on Imprisonment and Family Ties. Price £4 including P & P.
- Price, F. (1993) The Prospect of Triplets and Quads. A Booklet for Women and Men Attending Infertility Clinics. ISBN 09521549. Price £1 incl. P & P.



Line drawings by Shirley Prendergast