



CENTRE FOR FAMILY RESEARCH

University of Cambridge

Current Research 1996



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.

January 1996

CENTRE FOR FAMILY RESEARCH

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.

Current Members of the Centre

Jill Brown, Centre Secretary

Sally Roberts, Data Manager and Librarian

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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 Centre at the time of her death.

Childwatch International

The Centre is a key institution of Childwatch International.

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 psycho-pathology. 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, 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 genetic counselling clinics.

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 posts and activities are supported by research funds that come from outside bodies. But from April 1996 the University will also be funding a senior research post in the Centre. Our sources of outside funding 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 total 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.38) 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 oldest 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 in poor communities. The latter are run in partnership with members of these 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. Projects focus on maternal and child well being and, most recently, adolescents who are at risk of becoming street children and mothers with children in prison. 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

After a first degree in zoology, I completed a Ph.D. (Cambridge, 1965), working on maternal behaviour in the golden hamster. I then worked at Princeton University and the Centre for Cognitive Studies at Harvard before returning to Cambridge. In 1970 I became a University lecturer in Social Psychology and in 1989 Reader in Human Development. I will be Chair of the Faculty Board of the Social and Political Sciences Faculty and Head of Department 1997-1999. My main research interests have been in parent-child relations and family life - especially marriage and divorce - and in social and psychological aspects of medical technologies, recently the effects of the new human 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 the voluntary sector deal with divorce. These have ranged from interviews with parents to the analysis of court judgements. 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 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. Some of this work was continued as part of the Transitions to Adulthood project which is funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (see p.30).

Recently a study has begun in collaboration with Dr Felicia Huppert and Wendy Solomon of the Department of Psychiatry on the effects of earlier divorce for the social networks and well-being of the elderly.

On a practical level I continue to be concerned with the development of divorce mediation in Cambridge and am a Trustee of the Cambridge Family and Divorce Centre. I have been involved in setting up a child counselling service as part of the Centre. Recently I have been involved in consulting on parts of the Family Law Bill which is currently before Parliament.

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

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.

Elliott, B.J. and Richards, M.P.M. (1991) 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, 9, 340-362.

I wrote a leaflet for parents 'Divorce: What about the Children' which is now distributed nationally by Relate.

Richards, M.P.M. The interests of children at divorce. Invited address at an International Conference, Families & Justice. Brussels. July 1994 and to appear in Proceedings 1996. Editions Bruylant (Brussels) & Libraire Generale de Droit et de Jurisprudence (Paris).

Richards, M.P.M. (1994) Divorcing children: roles for parents & the State. Chapter for Families, Politics & the Law: Perspectives for East and West Europe. Edited by M. Maclean and J. Kurczewski, Oxford University Press.

Richards, M.P.M. (1994) Children: Giving a voice or addressing needs? Family Mediation, 3, 13.

Day-Sclater, S. and Richards, M.P.M. (1995) How adults cope with divorce. Family Law, 143-147.

Richards, M.P.M. (1995) What about the children? Some reflections on the divorce White Paper. J. Child Law, 7, 223-227.

Richards, M.P.M. (1996) Children and divorce. Chapter in J. Kurczewski and M. Maclean (eds) Family Law and Social Policy in the New Europe. The Onati Series, in press.

Richards, M.P.M. (1996) Divorce numbers and divorce legislation. Family Law, March.

Richards, M.P.M. (1996) The needs of children at separation and divorce. In the Report of the BT Forum: Family Law Consultation. Leeds Castle, January.

Family Life

Elliott, B.J and Richards, M.P.M. (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.

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

Richards, M.P.M. (1995) Changing family life. Chapter in M. Hill, R. Kirk and D. Part (eds) Supporting Families. Edinburgh. HMSO.

Richards, M.P.M. (1995) Family Relations. In a special issue of The Psychologist on Personal Relationships. February.

Richards, M.P.M. (1995) International Year of the Family: Researching Families. The Psychologist, Jan. 214-217.

Richards, M.P.M. (1996) The childhood environment and the development of sexuality. In C.J.K. Henry and S.J. Ulijaszek (eds) Long Term Consequences of Early Environment. Cambridge University Press, in press.

Social and psychological aspects of the new human genetics

Growing out of earlier work on prenatal screening and diagnosis we have developed a programme of research on the social and family aspects of the new human genetics (applications of recombinant DNA techniques).

This research covers a wide range of questions related to these techniques, including an MRC funded project concerned with families who carry neurofibromatosis and others with hereditary ovarian or breast cancer. A major focus of this work is lay knowledge about inheritance, the ways in which family members may communicate about inherited conditions that run in their families and their use of services, including genetic counselling. A recent extension of this work has been a study of knowledge of genetics, inheritance and attitudes to the use of new genetic techniques which have been carried out, in collaboration with Maggie Ponder, with Women's Institute members and students. These studies have led to an hypothesis about notions of kinship and conflicts between lay knowledge of inheritance and Mendelian explanations which it is hoped to test with a study of secondary school children. Some of these issues are also being pursued in an ethnographic study of English kinship which is being planned with Dr Frances Pine of the Social Anthropology Department in Cambridge.

I have completed work on an edited book with Theresa Marteau, The Troubled Helix, on social and psychological aspects of the new human genetics which will appear in March 1996.

- 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. & Green, J. (1992) Attitudes toward prenatal screening for fetal abnormality and the detection of carriers of genetic disease: a discussion paper. J. Reproductive and Infant Psychology, 11, 49-56 [Special issue on prenatal screening and the new genetics edited by J. Green and M.P.M. Richards].
- Richards, M.P.M. (1993) The new genetics: some issues for social scientists. Sociology of Health and Illness, 15, 567-586.
- Richards M.P.M. and Green, J.M. (1994) Screening for fetal abnormality - some social and psychological consequences. In Life and Death under High Technology Medicine edited by I. Robinson. Manchester University Press.
- Richards, M.P.M., Hallowell, N., Green, J.M., Murton, F. and Statham, H. (1995) Counseling families with hereditary breast and ovarian cancer: a psychosocial perspective. J. Genetic Counseling, 4, 219-233.
- Richards, M.P.M. and Green, J.M. (1996) Genetic screening, counselling consent and family life. Paper for the Symposium on Genetic Screening, Centre for Medical Law and Ethics and the Nuffield Council on Bioethics. London. 22nd March, 1994 and to be published in the proceedings of the meeting.
- Richards, M.P.M. (1996) It runs in the family; lay knowledge about inheritance. In A. Clark (ed) Culture, Kinship and Genes. Macmillan Press, in press.
- Richards, M.P.M. (1996) Lay and professional knowledge of genetics and inheritance. Public Understanding of Science. Submitted.
- Hallowell, N. and Richards, M.P.M. (1996) Understanding life's lottery: an evaluation of studies of genetic risk awareness. Submitted.

- Richards, M.P.M. (1996) Lay knowledge of inheritance and genetic risk. A review and hypothesis. Health Care Analysis, in press.
- Ponder, M., Lee, J., Green, J. and Richards, M. (1996) Family history and perceived vulnerability to some common diseases. A study of young people and their parents. J. Medical Genetics, in press.
- Marteau, T. & Richards, M.P.M. (eds.) (1996) The Troubled Helix: Social and Psychological Implications of the New Human Genetics. Cambridge University Press.
- Richards, M.P.M. (1996) Families, Kinship and Genetics. Chapter in The Troubled Helix, see above.

Neonatal care

I have been concerned with 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 issue has been the effects of separation on these relationships and ways in which such effects may be ameliorated.

Overviews of the 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, a 3rd edition is now in preparation).

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.35)

- 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.
- Richards, M.P.M., McWilliams, B., Batten, N., Cameron, C., & Cutler, J. Foreign nationals in UK prisons: I. Family Ties and their Maintenance. II. Some Policy Issues. Howard Journal of Criminal Justice, 34, 158-175 and 195-208, 1995.
- Richards, M.P.M., McWilliams, B., Enterkin, J. The Family Ties of English Prisoners. Report to the Home Office, 1994. A summary of this report is in the Home Office Research Bulletin, No. 38, 1995. This report is also available as an Occasional Paper, see the back page.

Transitions to adulthood

Work has recently been completed on a 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 work included the analysis of some existing data sets and a major review

of published research. Some of the work was carried out in collaboration with Katherine Kiernan (LSE) and Patrick West (MRC Medical Sociology Unit, Glasgow). The project was funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (see p.30).

Morrow, V. and Richards, M.P.M. (1996) Transitions to Adulthood: A Family Matter: in press.

Selected books:

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

The Politics of Maternity Care, edited with J. Garcia, R. Kilpatrick. Oxford University Press, 1989.

Obstetrics for the 1990s. Current Controversies. (edited with T.Chard) MacKeith Press, 1992

Sexual Arrangements: Marriage and Affairs (with J. Reibstein) Heinemann, 1992, Mandarin, 1993; Scribners, 1993.

The Troubled Helix: social and psychological implications of the new genetics. (editor with T. Marteau) Cambridge University Press, 1996.

PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS OF GENETICS & PRENATAL TESTING

Families and Genetic Disorders

1st March 1993 - 30th September 1996

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

Research Student: Claudia Downing

Grantholders: Josephine Green, Martin Richards

Funded by the 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 knowledge about heredity and health, (3) to investigate how knowledge and beliefs influence demands for genetic and other health services. Data is being 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 (see Claudia Downing p.34).

Psychosocial aspects of adolescent testing for adult onset disease: familial adenomatous polyposis as a paradigm.

John Burn and Pam Chapman (Human Genetics, University of Newcastle), Martin Richards and Josephine Green. Preliminary study funded by the Northern Regional Health Authority.

Familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) is a dominantly inherited condition in which young adults develop polyps in the colon. Without intervention there is a very high risk of malignancy. Direct genetic testing for the FAP mutation is now available. Adolescent gene carriers have the opportunity of being enrolled in a Europe wide study of preventive measures which is organised by our colleagues in Newcastle. Together with the Newcastle group, we are developing a study which will assess the effect for young people being told of carrier status for a severe late onset genetic disease (FAP) on self-image and aspirations for the future. It is planned to use data from the Glasgow Twenty-07 Study as one source of comparison data for young people, as well as a best friend comparison.

RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS

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

September 1993 - May 1995

Researchers: Maggie Ponder, Joanna Lee

Grant holders: Josephine Green & Martin Richards

Funded by the Health Promotion Research Trust.

During the last two decades, health promotion has concentrated on lifestyle factors. However, recent research in genetics has shown that inherited susceptibility may be important in many common conditions. This raises questions about how these two different messages are integrated into people's beliefs about their own susceptibility. We interviewed 58 young people, who had all recently completed the National Curriculum Science course including basic human genetics, and 54 of their parents. We aimed to examine the extent to which people take account of family history when considering their susceptibility to health risks, with comparisons being made between generations, gender and between different diseases. Family health histories were compared between generations and the relationship between reported family history and perceived vulnerability was examined. Our initial analysis has concentrated on the common disorders, heart disease, cancer and diabetes, which have all been included in recent health service reports on the impact of genetics in common disease. Family health history was seen as more relevant for a perceived vulnerability to heart disease and diabetes than cancer while actions and behaviour were seen as important in determining the chance of developing heart disease and cancer but less so for diabetes. Chance was seen as an important factor in the risk of cancer and diabetes, but was barely mentioned in connection with heart disease. Nearly half of those who reported affected family members with heart disease or cancer did not perceive this to have any effect on their own susceptibility. Notably women were much more likely than men to see the presence or absence of affected relatives as being relevant to the chances of developing cancer.

Differences were found between generations in the reporting of the family tree and in knowledge of health of family members. Although words such as genes, chromosomes and DNA were used by both generations there was no evidence of any understanding of the process of inheritance in scientific terms. This has implications for the way in which genetics is taught and how it is discussed in genetic clinics.

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.

A number of smaller 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.

Attitudes to genetic screening

Two hundred couples who had taken part in the main 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.

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.

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.

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 the 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 above).

The politics of prenatal screening: a look at recent history

January 1993 - September 1993

Researcher & Grant holder: Josephine Green

Funded by the 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.

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

1st October 1992 - 31 January 1994

Researchers: Claire Snowdon, Josephine Green

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

Funded by the 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 study examined the attitudes and expectations of approximately 150 couples of reproductive age who carry a deleterious recessive gene mutation.

Publications on prenatal screening and psychosocial aspects of genetics

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- 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.
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- Richards, M.P.M. (in press) Lay knowledge of inheritance and genetic risk. A review and hypothesis. Health Care Analysis.
- Ponder, M., Lee, J., Green, J. & Richards, M. (in press) Family history and perceived vulnerability to some common diseases: a study of young people and their parents. Journal of Medical Genetics.

- Ponder, M. & Green, J.M. BRCA1 testing: some issues in moving from research to service. Psycho-oncology. (submitted)
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- Snowdon, C. & Green, J.M. Recall of risk: what does this mean for carriers of recessive disorders? (submitted).
- Hallowell, N. and Richards, M.P.M. Understanding life's lottery: an evaluation of studies of genetic risk awareness. (submitted)
- Green, J.M., Statham, H. and Snowdon, C. (in preparation) Pregnancy: A testing time. Report of the Cambridge Prenatal Screening Study. Centre for Family Research, University of Cambridge.
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THE MATERNITY SERVICES RESEARCH GROUP

The Maternity Services Research Group was established in 1985 with grants from the Health Promotion Research Trust and the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust. The earliest projects were concerned with the implications of medical staffing structures and with women's expectations of labour and delivery. The most recent projects carried out by the MSRGR have been concerned with the impact of screening for fetal abnormality (described above) and this forms the link with the subsequent work on psychosocial aspects of genetics.

Exploring Differences in Women's Experiences of Pregnancy & Early Motherhood

March 1995 - September 1996

Grant holder: Josephine Green

Research Assistant: Kostas Kafetios

Funded by the Health Promotion Research Trust

There are many questions about the inter-relationships between demographic, attitudinal and experiential factors in pregnancy and early motherhood that are unanswered. Our experience to date suggests that the answers may not be as expected. This has implications for practice - for example our paper 'Stereotypes of childbearing women' is now standard teaching material on a number of midwifery training courses. Most studies that have attempted to address these issues have been based on samples which are far too small to be more than speculative. Our research in this area has been unusual in that it successfully used the large-scale techniques of postal questionnaires to collect high-quality data about feelings and attitudes as well as about events. As a result we have three data sets, covering between them over 3,000 women which, with further analysis, could yield unique information about these issues. This project will therefore use our existing data to explore some of these associations, for example:

- a follow up of women with previous unsuccessful pregnancies;
- factors associated with the establishment of breastfeeding;
- sub-clinical depression before and after childbirth;
- ethnic differences;
- age, education and parity differences in the experiences of early motherhood.

Infant weaning: lay and professional accounts of the weaning process

September 1996- November 1998

Grant holder: Josephine Green

Research Associate: Gail Ewing

Funded by the Oxford & Anglia Regional Health Authority

The purpose of the study is to examine the social context within which mothers decide to introduce solids into their babies diets, and to compare the lay and professional accounts of the weaning process. The study will have two phases. In the first, focus groups will be conducted with mothers and with Health Visitors to establish the issues that each see as being relevant. In the second phase of the study, 40 mothers will be followed through from late pregnancy until their infants are 6 months old. This will permit further investigation of themes which emerged from the first stage of data collection while the mothers pass through the experience of weaning. Semi-structured in-depth interviews at home will be conducted with each mother on 3 occasions, in late pregnancy, six weeks after birth and when the infant starts solids. In addition, following the second in-depth interview at home, further data collection will be by telephone interviews, conducted every 2 weeks until the infant is 6 months in order to provide a detailed account of the process of weaning. In all the interviews data will be collected not just on experiences of feeding, but also on sleeping and crying behaviours.

Maternity Services Research Group publications

(excluding those on prenatal diagnosis, which are listed above)

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- 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.
- 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.
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- Statham, H. & Green, J.M. (1994) The effects of miscarriage and other 'unsuccessful' pregnancies on feelings early in a subsequent pregnancy. J. Reprod. and Infant Psych., 12, 45-54.
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- Green, J.M., Kafetsios, K., Statham H & Snowdon, C. (in preparation) What do pregnant women worry about? Validity and Reliability of the Cambridge Worry Scale.

Researchers working on the 'New Genetics' and Maternity 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.

Martin Richards (see p.6)

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 Centre for Family Research 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.

I joined the Centre for Family Research as a Research Associate in 1989 and worked on the prenatal screening project until 1992. I completed an MA in Women's Studies in 1991 and the focus of my dissertation was the meaning of genetic ties in egg donation and host surrogacy. This work and our research on prenatal screening led to a study of the attitudes of carriers of recessive disorders to new reproductive technologies. I am now on the staff of the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit, Oxford looking at the views of parents involved in a clinical trial of treatment for critically ill neonates (UK Collaborative ECMO trial), but continue to be based in the Centre.

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 on the Duchenne Families Research Project and have subsequently worked on studies of families with ovarian cancer and Neurofibromatosis (Type 1).

Claudia Downing - (see Graduate Student research, p.34)

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.

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.

Kostas Kafetsios

Having studied and carried out research in Social Psychology at the Aristotelian University in Greece (BA in Philosophy Education and Psychology) and Bristol University, I joined the Centre in June 1995 at the last stages of a PhD on emotional communication and attachment in close relationships (Lancaster University). My role in the Centre is to analyse a large amount of information gathered from three studies on women's experiences and expectations from pregnancy described above. In the shadow of multivariate statistics, my interests include: attachment in adult close relationships, affect and emotion and interpersonal communication.

Kafetsios, K. The Affective Basis of Adult Attachment Working Models. (Submitted for publication, Journal of Social and Personal Relationships).

**COLLABORATIVE CONCEPTIONS:
THE SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF EGG DONATION**

Current research

Researcher: Frances Price

Date started: June 1995

Funding sources: Nuffield Foundation, Isaac Newton Trust

An infertile woman first became pregnant after receiving another woman's egg, fertilised in vitro, in 1983. This extension of in vitro fertilisation (IVF) stimulated demand for 'egg donors', and in Britain more than a thousand women - single, married, with or without children - have now donated at least once, at some risk to themselves and with no financial inducement. Yet supply does not meet demand, and clinicians actively seek volunteers to donate anonymously to other women. At the same time, and with the clinics' agreement, women are increasingly 'making their own arrangements', recruiting their sisters, other relatives or friends to act as their personal egg donors. Thus unlike sperm donation, in which men donate anonymously for payment, egg donation now takes place in a wide variety of relational contexts, without payment (although this is under review), and with or without anonymity or secrecy.

The two year project examines the cultural, institutional and personal dimensions of this new area of contemporary life. Egg donation is often presented as another form of organ donation, motivated by individual altruism and competently managed by medical professionals. Yet unlike blood or kidneys, human eggs establish a genetic link with a new generation. Thus the practice has ramifications that extend far beyond the confines of the clinic: it impinges upon ideas about identity and kinship, and forges novel social and legal relationships between those 'collaborating' in such medically mediated conceptions.

Completed Research

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

Researcher: Frances Price

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

The tasks of tending, nurturing and caring for triplets, quadruplets, quintuplets or sextuplets - higher order multiple birth children - place extraordinary demands on their caretakers, at first in hospital and later at home. The National Study of Triplets and Higher Order Births, of which the parents study is an integral part, was the first population based study of the problems faced by those responsible for the care of these children. The main objective of the study of parents was to obtain information about their sources of assistance, advice and material benefit and their specific needs and problems. Parents' own views about the resources, need and nature and timing of the practical help and support required were central to the study.

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 by Cambridge University Press.

The Prospect of Triplets and Quads

Researchers: Frances Price (with the assistance of Ruth Bush and 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 previous page). 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. A booklet The Prospect of Triplets and Quads was produced for the Department of Health to provide to all 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.

This ESRC funded project was 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.

Fertility/Infertility and the Human Embryo

Coordinator for the Social Science Group: **Frances Price**

Date started: January 1993 - March 1995
Funding source: European Commission (grant held by the Centre for Philosophy and Health Care, University of Swansea)

This project brought 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

met and corresponded regularly and produced individual and collective papers for discussion and presentation at an annual plenary of all project members.

Relevant 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.
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- Botting, B., Macfarlane, A., Price, F. (1990) Three, Four and More: A National Study of Triplets and Higher Order Births. London: HMSO.
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- 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/IRESKO 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) Beyond clinical expertise: social and legal concerns in assisted conception. Journal of Child Law, 6, 68-74.
- Price, F. and Cook, R. (1995) The donor, the recipient and the child - human egg donation in UK licensed centres. Child and Family Law Quarterly, 7, 145-151.
- Price, F. (1994) Conceiving relations: egg and sperm donation in assisted procreation. In Pearl D. and Pickford R. New Frontiers in Family Law II. Chancery.
- Price, F. (1995) 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. (1996) Match-making in the clinic: gamete donation and the management of difference. In A. Clarke and E. Parsons (eds) Culture, Kinship and Genes. London: Macmillan.

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. My current research focuses on gamete donation. Gamete donation in reproductive medicine constitutes a major arena in which medical practice mediates scientific advances in genetics, embryology and human reproduction. 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

Selected 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) '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.
- Thom, D. and Jennings, M. (1996) Human pedigree and the 'best stock' from eugenics to genetics? In T. Marteau and M.P.M. Richards (eds) The Troubled Helix: social and psychological implications of the New Human Genetics, Cambridge University Press.
- Thom, D. (1995) A revolution in women's work? Women's work on munitions 1914-1918. In M. Schrover (ed) Women's Work and Technological Change.
- Thom, D. (1995) Mental deficiency. In G. Berios and R. Porter (eds) The History of Clinical Psychiatry. Athlone.

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 and Admissions Tutor at Robinson. I lecture in the History and Philosophy of Science 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.

I am currently researching corporal punishment in the criminal justice system and planning a research project on boys, physical culture and national service. The book on educational psychology arising from my major research projects is almost finished, another on children and war is to be finished this summer.

CHILDREN'S ACCOUNTS OF FAMILY AND KINSHIP

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 joined the Centre in 1993 to work as a Research Associate with Martin Richards on the 'Transitions to Adulthood' project (see below). I began a 3 year project in October 1995 'Attending to the child's voice: children's accounts of family and kinship', funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. This project examines how children perceive and make sense of the concepts of family and kinship in the context of contemporary patterns of family life, from a sociological and anthropological point of view. The project includes

(i) a review of previous research carried out with children and a comparison of Norway/Sweden and UK experiences of researching children and implementation of children's rights in family matters;

(ii) a review of ethical guidelines for research with children;

(iii) an empirical study of four-age groups of children (6-15) using and evaluating a range of qualitative methodologies.

(iv) an analysis of how 'the family' is represented to children in school curricula and other media that children encounter.

The research aims to provide baseline measures for elaborating social policy relating to how 'the child's voice' is being taken into account following the Children Act 1989 and the implementation of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child.

Publications:

1989 "Only connect": the mechanics and ethics of networking with development agencies for children', in E.Verhellen & F.Spiesschaert (eds) Ombudswork for children. A way of improving the position of children in society Leuven/Amsfoort, Acco.

1990 Memorandum to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Employment. Session on Child Labour published in Minutes of Evidence, Appendix 1, House of Commons Session 1990-91, Cd.454-i.

1992 'Family values: accounting for children's contribution to the domestic economy' Working Paper No 10, Sociological Research Group, SPS Faculty, University of Cambridge.

1994 'Responsible children? Aspects of children's work and employment outside school in contemporary UK' in Mayall, B (ed) Children's Childhoods. Observed and Experienced London, Falmer Press.

1994 (with Judith Ennew) 'Out of the Mouths of Babes', in Verhellen E. and Spiesschaert, F. (eds) Children's Rights: Monitoring Issues. Gent, Belgium: Mys and Breesch.

1995 'Invisible children? Towards a reconceptualisation of childhood dependency and responsibility' in Sociological Studies of Children Vol 7, 207-230.

1996 'Rethinking childhood dependency: children's contribution to the domestic economy' in The Sociological Review 44, 1, 58-77.

1996 (forthcoming) (with Martin Richards) 'Transitions to Adulthood: A Family Matter', in press.

Completed research

Transitions to adulthood

This was a two year project funded by the Rowntree Foundation. In addition to the literature review carried out in Cambridge the work involved analysis of National Child Development Study age 33 sweep (Dr Kath Kiernan, London School of Economics) and the Twenty-07 Study (Dr Patrick West and Helen Sweeting, MRC Medical Sociology Unit, Glasgow).

NON-MARRIED FATHERS, FATHERHOOD AND THE LAW

Ros Pickford

I came to the Centre as a Research Associate in 1994. Since graduating in law from Cambridge in 1986, my interest has been in family law and socio-legal theory. Prior to joining the Centre I was a lecturer at the University of East Anglia, Norwich. I am currently working on a two year research project, funded by the Rowntree Foundation, which is looking at the experiences of non-married fathers and their perceptions of their legal status.

Publications

Pickford, R. (1992) The Gaskin Case and confidential personal information - whose secret? Journal of Child Law 33-38.

Pickford, R. (1992) Promoting Natural Links. Journal of Child Law 138-141.

Pickford, R. (1993) Truth and the interests of the child. Journal of Child Law 138-141.

Bainham, A., Pearl, D. and Pickford, R. (eds) (1995) Frontiers of Family Law. Wiley.

PRENATAL ULTRASOUND SCREENING FOR RENAL ABNORMALITIES

Joanna Hawthorne

I was a Ph.D. student in the Centre from 1975-1979. I carried out an intervention study in the special care baby unit in which I changed hospital routines so that parents could take part in the care of their babies while they were in incubators. I used the Brazelton Neonatal Behavioural Assessment Scale in this intervention study and I am a BNBAS Trainer.

After 14 years in Chicago where I worked in developmental assessment and qualified as an Infant Specialist, I have returned to the CFR and set up a pilot study on maternal anxiety in

the antenatal clinic when the baby has a renal abnormality or choroid plexus cysts on the 19 week antenatal scan. This study is carried out jointly with colleagues at the Rosie Maternity Hospital. We hope to do a larger study later in order to determine the false negative rate of significant renal abnormalities in the Cambridge population, as well as the effects of a supportive intervention.

My other interests include early intervention with babies and toddlers, infancy, parenting issues, counselling and maternal anxiety in pregnancy and its effect on the mother's relationship with her baby.

References

Hawthorne, J.T. (1990) The effects of different routines in a special care baby unit on the mother-infant relationship. Chapter in The Cultural Context of Infancy. J. Kevin Nugent, Barry M. Lester and T. Berry Brazelton (eds) New York: Ablex Press.

INDICATORS FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

At the request of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, a two year project has been designed by Childwatch International to meet the basic requirements for indicators for children's rights in national reports to the Committee. The coordination of country case studies involving national research teams and contributing to capacity building in child research in the participating countries is based in this Centre. It is likely that case studies will take place in Senegal, Vietnam, Thailand, Zimbabwe, Nicaragua, Belgium, Ukraine and Venezuela. The indicators will be based on collection and re-analysis of existing data to provide child-centred information with high degrees of disaggregation for both baseline and monitoring purposes. The aim is not to seek a single universal set of indicators but rather a core set appropriate to identifiable bio-psychological aspects of child development, together with a process and a framework that can be used to develop specific, culturally and nationally appropriate indicators for children's rights.

Judith Ennew

I have a degree in social anthropology from the University of Cambridge. I have been researching and teaching in the field of childhood studies since 1979, concentrating on street and working children and children's rights. My main areas for field research on these topics have been Jamaica and Peru, but I have also worked in most other Latin American countries, India, several African countries and parts of the former Soviet block. I am a consultant for UNICEF, WHO, ILO and an advisor for several international non-governmental organisations for child welfare.

Recent publications include:

'Parentless Friends: a cross-cultural examination of networks among street children and street youth', in Hurrellmann K. & Nestmann F. (eds) Social Support in Childhood and Adolescence. (1994)

- 'Time for Children or Time for Adults?' In Qvortrup J., Bardy, M., Sgritta, G. & Wintersberger, H. (eds) Childhood Matters. Avebury and European Centre, Vienna. (1994)
- Childhood as a Social Phenomenon: Country Report. England and Wales, Eurosocial Report 36/17. (1994)
- (With Virginia Morrow) 'Out of the Mouths of Babes', in Verhellen E. and Spiesschaert, F. (eds) Children's Rights: Monitoring Issues. Mys and Breesch. (1994)
- Street and Working Children: a Guide to Planning, Save the Children (UK) Development Manual Series No 4. (1994)
- 'Outside Childhood: Street Children's Rights', in Franklin B. (ed) Children's Rights: A Handbook of Comparative Policies and Practice. Routledge. (1995)

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

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

Marjaneh Halati. I joined the Centre in January 1989, having obtained my MSc degree in Social Psychology from the London School of Economics. 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 took place in Iran in the summer of 1991.

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.

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 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. In 1994, I interviewed lone mothers receiving state benefits to consider some of the effects of the 1991 Child Support Act. The research focused on the impact of enforced maintenance on the mother's concept of self and perceptions of dependence and independence.

In October 1994 I was awarded a research studentship in the Institute of Public Health to evaluate the Papworth Trust's new rehabilitation programme for people with acquired physical disability. This evaluation will consider the quality of the service by asking the people who take part in rehabilitation programmes if the service is effective and appropriate and if it has enabled them to gain access to their chosen vocational, residential and lifestyle options. The research aims to be collaborative and during 1995 all of the people on rehabilitation programmes contributed to the development of a set of quality standards which have now been adopted by the Papworth Trust's rehabilitation staff.

REPRODUCTIVE DECISION MAKING IN TWO GENERATIONS OF FAMILIES AT RISK FOR HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE (HD)

Claudia Downing 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 on the social and psychological implications of the new genetics (see p.11). My research is concerned with reproductive decisions made by members of families at risk for Huntington's Disease (HD). This is a late onset degenerative neurological disorder, which is untreatable and eventually fatal. Those at risk previously had to live with uncertainty about their own health (and ability therefore to sustain a parenting role), and uncertainty about the future health of any children that they had. Cloning of the gene in 1993 introduced new choices as it is now possible to undergo a single test at any stage of life from conception to ascertain exactly who has the gene. Over the last year I have conducted in depth interviews with several members of two generations of 18 different families about the experiences of those at-risk and their partners and, in some cases, their siblings and other family members, such as cousins, and their partners. The younger generation includes those currently making reproductive choices, or facing them in the future, whilst the older generation comprises their parents, or those of the previous generation who have not had children. Of the younger generation the accounts include those from some who have been willing to consider and make use of these new options, as well as those who have chosen not to. A two generation case study approach was employed as the cooperation of the previous generation is often required for access to testing and I was also interested in exploring whether there are any other cross generational influences. I hope that the analysis will provide an insight into naturalistic decision making in the social context of the family.

RECENTLY COMPLETED RESEARCH

IMPRISONMENT AND FAMILY TIES

October 1990 - May 1994

Principle researchers: Martin Richards, Brenda McWilliams and Jill Enterkin.

Grantholder: Martin Richards.

Funded by the Home Office.

The research aimed to examine 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 prisons for fostering family ties, and for promoting family stability. The research involved interviewing prisoners before and after their discharge as well as members of their families. The study included samples of women and men who are not UK subjects.

A report 'Visiting Prisoners' was 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.

Richards, M.P.M., McWilliams, B., Batten, N., Cameron, C. and Cutler, J. (1995) Foreign nationals in UK prisons: I. Family Ties and their Maintenance. II. Some Policy Issues. Howard Journal of Criminal Justice, 34: 158-175 and 195-208.

Richards, M.P.M., McWilliams, B. & Enterkin, J. The Family Ties of English Prisoners. Report to the Home Office, 1994.

Jill Enterkin is now doing a PhD in the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge.

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

RECENT GRADUATE STUDENTS

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 interviewed 40 mothers and 23 of their partners, all of varying socio-economic backgrounds as the basis for my thesis. Ph.D. awarded 1994. This work was supported by a studentship from the Medical Research Council. After holding a post doctoral fellowship at the Graduate School of Education, Harvard University, I now work in the Health Services Research Unit, University of Aberdeen.

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 researched the lives of young women growing up in the shanty towns. I was interested in their education, sexuality, family structure and ideologies about family life and motherhood. I spent 14 months undertaking fieldwork in Caracas, and was mainly funded by the Simon Population Trust and Lucy Cavendish College. Ph.D. awarded 1994. I now work as a reporter for BBC Radio Stoke.

GENDER IDENTITIES AND RELATIONS IN ADOLESCENCE

Jane Ireland. I studied men and women in non-traditional occupations. I focused on men in nursing and women in the engineering trades. The research basically asked 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? Ph.D. awarded 1994.

RECENT VISITORS TO THE CENTRE

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.

Ben Bradley

Ben Bradley visited during the summer of 1994 from James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland. His current work concerns some of Darwin's ideas about children and child development and he has recently completed a book on this subject.

Carol Gilligan

Carol Gilligan was attached to the Centre during her year (1992-93) as Pitt Professor and the following year. She has now returned to her post at the Graduate School of Education, Harvard University to continue her research on the relationships of young women. She and Martin Richards are organising an international conference on 'the new psychologies' for 1996.

Linda Slack-Smith

Linda Slack-Smith from Curtin University in Perth, Australia visited in July 1995. Her research interests include infertility and family attitudes to childhood illness.

Duane Alwin

Duane Alwin from the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan is spending a year of leave in Cambridge with support from the Fulbright Foundation. His major research interest is in the connections between human development, the family and social change.

CENTRE FOR FAMILY RESEARCH
(formerly Child Care and Development Group)

Lunchtime Seminars - Easter Term 1995

(Meetings held at 12.30 on Tuesdays in Room 606)

- April 25 Claire Moynihan (*Royal Marsden Hospital*)
A History of Counselling: The fall and rise of psychosocial interventions
- May 2 Jane Ussher (*University College London*)
Deconstructing Male Sexuality in the Context of Sexual Violence
- May 9 Andrea Doucet (*SPS, University of Cambridge*)
"I'm their mother and I ought to Know": Exploring the persistent link between women and the responsibility for young children.
- May 16 Ginny Morrow (*Centre for Family Research, University of Cambridge*)
The Transition to Adulthood: a matter for the family
- May 23 Jan Pryor (*University of Auckland*)
Title T.B.A

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: (01223) 334510

CENTRE FOR FAMILY RESEARCH
(formerly Child Care and Development Group)

LUNCHTIME SEMINARS - MICHAELMAS TERM 1995
(Meetings held at 12.30 on Tuesdays in Room 606)

- October 17th Martin Richards (*CFR, University of Cambridge*)
Making sense of biological inheritance and kin relationships.
- October 24th Kostas Kafetsios (*CFR, University of Cambridge*)
Attachment in adult close relationships.
- October 31st Paul Thompson (*University of Essex*)
Trans-generational influences within the family.
- November 7th Ken Prandy (*SPS, University of Cambridge*)
The family: Occupation and social stratification.
- November 14th Jackie Scott (*SPS, University of Cambridge*)
Religion and attitudes towards family and sexual behaviour:
A cross national comparison.
- November 21st Janet Sayers (*University of Kent*)
The man who never was: teenage memories, teenage gods.
- November 28th Felicity Kaganas (*Centre for the Study of Law, the Child
and the Family, Brunel University*)
Parental responsibility and the Children Act.
- December 5th Pat Wright (*Applied Psychology Unit*)
Media options for promoting informed patient consent

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL SEMINARS BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 12.30 PM
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CENTRE FOR FAMILY RESEARCH
(formerly Child Care and Development Group)

LUNCHTIME SEMINARS - LENT TERM 1996
(Meetings held at 12.30 on Tuesdays in Room 606)

- January 23rd Dieter Wolke (*Psychology Dept, University of Hertfordshire*)
Born too early: Fit for life? An epidemiological study of the cognitive and biological development of very pre-term children.
- January 30th Kate Quirk (*History Dept, University of Cambridge*)
The medieval family: Experiences of motherhood in Normandy, 1050 -1150.
- February 6th Lynne Murray (*Winnicott Research Unit, University of Cambridge*)
Post natal depression and associated difficulties in the mother-infant relationship.
- February 13th Alison Didduck (*Centre for the Study of Law, the Child and the Family, Brunel University*)
Images of the family in the Child Support Act.
- February 20th Jane Beattie (*Exp. Psychology Dept, University of Sussex*)
A decision theoretical approach to understanding women's prenatal testing decisions.
- February 27th Judith Ennew (*CFR, University of Cambridge*)
What is a child in Senegal and Vietnam?
- March 5th Sarah Clement (*Division of Primary Health Care, U.M.D.S.*)
Is antenatal care too much of a good thing? Findings from a randomised controlled trial.
- March 12th George Brown (*Dept of Social Policy & Social Science, Royal Holloway & Bedford College*)
Single mothers, poverty & depression.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL SEMINARS BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 12.30 PM
Centre for Family Research, University of Cambridge,
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Tel: (01223) 334510

Occasional Papers

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

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.

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.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.

Owens, P. (1991) Visiting Prisoners. An Interim Report from the Cambridge Research Project on Imprisonment and Family Ties. Price £4 including 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.

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.

Divorce. What about the children? A leaflet intended for parents. Price £1 incl. P&P.

Richards, M.P.M., McWilliams, B. and Enterkin, J. (1996) The Family Ties of English Prisoners. A Report to the Home Office. Price £5 incl. P&P.



Line drawings by Shirley Prendergast