



THE CENTRE FOR FAMILY RESEARCH

University of Cambridge

(formerly The Child Care and Development Group)

Current Research 1991/1992



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 Dr Richards.

April 1992

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(formerly The 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 nearly £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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A brief history of the Unit

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. 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 conciliation, child and adult psychiatry, 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 Unit, 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.31) 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 material 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

Margaret Lowenfeld Library

The library of the Institute of Child Psychology is now housed in our premises. This came to us together with the Margaret Lowenfeld Fellowship, which was held by Dr Catherine Urwin, 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.

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.

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.

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 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.

A new project begun in 1989 investigates the longer term effects of parental divorce for children using existing data from large scale longitudinal studies. This work will be carried out in collaboration with Jane Elliott and is funded by the Health Promotion Research Trust (p.24).

On a more practical level I have been concerned with the development of divorce conciliation in Cambridge. See Richards, M.P.M. (1990) Divorce Cambridge Style, Family Law, November 1990. See also Richards, M.P.M. Divorce Research Today, Family Law, February 1991. For work on marriage see J. Reibstein and M.P.M. Richards, Sexual Arrangements: Marriage and Affairs. Heinemann, 1992.

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. Fatherhood, marriage and sexuality: some speculations on the English middle-class family. In C. Lewis and M. O'Brien (eds) Reassessing Fatherhood. Sage Publications, 1987.

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.

Neonatal care

A considerable part of the work of the Centre 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.

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

Scott, S., Lucas, P., Cole, T. and Richards, M.P.M. (1983) Weight gain and movement patterns of very low birthweight babies nursed on lambswool. The Lancet, ii, 1014-1016,

Prenatal screening for genetic and congenital abnormalities of the fetus

One of the most rapidly expanding areas of medicine in the development of methods for fetal diagnosis through such techniques as amniocentesis, ultrasound scanning, chorion villus biopsy and gene probe methods. The deployment of these methods poses a series of psychological and social questions, especially for parents, which as yet have been little investigated. Together with Jo Green I am engaged in a project to investigate some of these questions which started in 1989 (see p.7). As part of this work we are studying screening for sickle cell anaemia. The project has been supported with a major grant from the Health Promotion Research Trust.

Richards, M.P.M. (1989) Social and ethical problems of fetal diagnosis and screening. J. Reprod. Infant Psychol., 71, 671-85.

A second study began in 1990 which is concerned with the reactions of families to the diagnosis of a son with Duchenne muscular dystrophy. The work is being carried out with Professor Martin Bobrow of Guys Hospital and is funded by the Muscular Dystrophy Trust (see p.10).

The family ties of prisoners

A study of the extent to which male and female prisoners are able to retain their links with family and children was begun in 1990 (see p. 15).

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.

Some other relevant 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, in press, 1992

THE MATERNITY SERVICES RESEARCH GROUP

WORK IN PROGRESS

Social and psychological aspects of prenatal diagnosis

March 1989 to July 1992

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

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 feto-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 is examining the experiences of an unselected group of women at nine hospitals with different screening policies. Women are completing four postal questionnaires: prior to booking, at 20 weeks, at 36 weeks and six weeks after the birth. Some women and their partners are also being interviewed.

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

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

Anxiety about fetal abnormality is being examined in the context of other sources of anxiety and the woman's predisposition to being anxious. 1756 women have been recruited to the study.

There are three additional projects supplementary to this study:

The sickle cell study

This study is replicating the methodology of the main study with a sample of women from 2 hospitals in the West Midlands. The sample will contain 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 will be looking at differences between Afro-Caribbean and non-Afro-Caribbean women within this sample, and at differences between these groups and the

main sample. The study is being carried out by Merry France-Dawson, and recruitment started in September 1990.

Ultrasound observation

With a grant from the Marie Stopes Research Fund, we are pursuing some of the issues arising from the main study concerning ultrasound scanning. We will be visiting three of the main study hospitals and approaching women waiting for their scan. We will give them information about the research and ask whether we might accompany them during their examination. At this time we will collect some information about the woman's background, her previous experiences of scanning and her attitude to the pregnancy. We will observe the scan and afterwards talk to the woman about her understanding of what had happened and her feelings about it. We plan to interview 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 completed all the questionnaires for 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, which is an area in which we plan further research.

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. (1990) Is the baby alright? and other worries. Paper presented to the Tenth Anniversary Conference of the Society for Reproductive and Infant Psychology, Girton College, Cambridge. 11th Sept.1990.
- Green, J.M., Statham, H. and Snowdon, C. (1992) Screening for fetal abnormalities in attitudes and experiences. In T. Chard and M.P.M. Richards, Obstetrics for the 1990s: Current Controversies. Mackeith Press (in press).
- Snowdon, C. (1990) Women's attitudes to abortion and pre-natal diagnosis. Presented at the 22nd Annual Conference of the Medical Sociology Group, Edinburgh, September 1990.
- Statham, H. (1990) Termination for abnormality: Professional understanding and parents experiences. Presented at the 2nd European Meeting of Psychosocial Genetics, Leuven, September 1990.
- Green, J.M. Principles and practicalities of carrier screening: attitudes of recent parents. J.Med.Genet. (in press)
- 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.
- Statham, H., Green, J. and Snowdon, C. (1991) When is a fetus a dead baby? Lancet, 6th April, 1991.
- Green, J., Statham, H. and Snowdon, C. (1991) EPDS by post. British Journal Psychiatry, 158, 865.
- Maternity Services Research Group: Memoranda submitted to the House of Commons Maternity Services Inquiry, March 1991, to be published in Vol. III of the Inquiry's Second Report (1992).

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

Date started December 1991.

Researchers: Josephine M. Green, Frances Murton, Helen Statham

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

Funded by Cancer Research Campaign

Purpose of the study

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

In the longer term it is intended that the research should provide answers to a number of specific questions which may be considered under the following headings:

- 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.

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

Due starting date: 1st June 1992 (MRC funding applied for)

Researchers: Josephine M. Green, Claire Snowdon.

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

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 150-200 couples of reproductive age who carry a deleterious recessive gene will be examined.

DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY : FAMILIES' RESPONSES TO DIAGNOSIS AND GENETIC COUNSELLING

Date started: January 1990

Date due to finish: December 1992

Researchers: Josephine M. Green, Frances Murton

Grant holders: Martin Richards, Josephine M. 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 will examine families' responses to diagnosis and genetic counselling. The study has the following aims:

- (1) To assess the relative efficacy of counselling, advice, information and support given by different people (including paediatricians, geneticists, health visitors, support groups and church and religious groups) and how this is viewed by the recipients.
- (2) To describe the attitudes of the families to future reproduction and prenatal diagnosis and how such attitudes may have altered with counselling.
- (3) To identify aspects of advice and help that may have had particularly positive or particularly negative effects on attitudes.
- (4) To compare the experience of families who have received care through one of the major specialist centres with families who receive care elsewhere.
- (5) To examine effects that the disease and decision making about it may have had on the relationship between the parents and each of their involvement with the care of the affected son and other sons and daughters.
- (6) To examine effects of the disease and its progress on siblings of the affected child and relatives outside the nuclear family.

Data is being collected by postal questionnaires and interviews from families who have had a child with Duchenne muscular dystrophy diagnosed since 1978. It is hoped that approximately 160 families will be contacted.

RESEARCH COMPLETED

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

Research Team: Jo Green, Vanessa Coupland, Jenny Kitzinger

Publications

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.

- Coupland, V., Green, J., Kitzinger, 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., Kitzinger, 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.
- 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.

Women's expectations and experiences of childbirth

Research Team: Jo Green, Vanessa Coupland, Jenny Kitzinger

Publications

- 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., Kitzinger, J. and Coupland, V. (1990) Midwives responsibilities, medical staffing structures and women's choice in childbirth. In Midwives. Research and Childbirth, vol. 3. eds. Robinson and Thomson (forthcoming).
- 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.M. (1990) Who is unhappy after childbirth?: Antenatal and intrapartum correlates from a prospective study. J.Reprod. & Infant Psych. 8, 175-83.
- Green, J., Richards, M., Kitzinger, J. and Coupland, V. (1991) Mothers' perceptions of their 6-week-old babies: Relationship with antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal factors. Irish Journal of Psychology, 12, 133-144.

Josephine Green

I graduated in Psychology at the University of Sheffield, 1970, Ph.D. at the Hester Adrian Research Centre, University of Manchester, 1973. My research has 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. I am currently Senior Research Associate on the Maternity Services Research Group, whose interests are moving increasingly into the field of genetics.

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 MSRG as a Research Associate on the prenatal screening project, I spent 3 years researching women's experiences of termination of pregnancy following the detection of fetal abnormality.

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 MSRG 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.

Merry France-Dawson

After graduating in Anthropology and Biology in 1982 and Genetics in 1984, I worked at the Royal College of Nursing first as a research assistant and later as a research officer. Projects in which I was involved focussed on the role of the clinical nurse specialist caring for

- (1) Ostomates and
- (2) Juvenile diabetics.

I then worked on a two part four year study on sickle cell conditions. This examined amongst other things, nurses', health visitors' and patients' knowledge of the conditions, patients' perceptions of their health needs, the care they received from health care professionals and how they coped with having a sickle cell condition.

While working on this project, I did a small scale study (for a degree in research methods) which focussed on beliefs and attitudes towards pregnancy, childbirth, contraception and abortion (all of the sample members were known to have one or more sickle cell genes).

I joined the Maternity Services Research Group in April 1990 to work on the sickle cell study. This project is funded until July 1992.

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.

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.

IMPRISONMENT AND FAMILY TIES

Date started: October 1990

Date due to finish: December 1992

Research team: Martin Richards, Brenda McWilliams, Nikki Batten 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 will evaluate the provision in Prison Department establishments for fostering family ties, and for promoting family stability. It sets 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 will involve interviewing prisoners before and after their discharge as well as members of their families. The study will include a subsample of women 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.

Brenda McWilliams

After graduating in Mathematics from London University, I worked for 10 years in the civil service, first at the Royal Aircraft Establishment in Farnborough, and then at the Home Office Research Unit (in the probation and after-care section). I was involved with several studies related to prison and probation, and I coordinated one large-scale random allocation project across five probation areas. Later, in Sheffield, I undertook some research into discretion in the breaching process of community service orders. I also worked at the MRC unit doing clinical assessments of patients referred for therapy to an experimental clinical project. I have most recently been employed on a DOH funded project at the Institute of Criminology, looking at Intermediate Treatment for juvenile offenders. My responsibility has been coordinating the project and processing and analysing the data generated. I also provided statistical and computing advice to a number of short-term fellows at the Institute, and I am a member of the selection committee for Cropwood Fellows.

Selected publications

- Chapman, B.C., Silberman, M. and McWilliams, B. (1971) After-care units in London, Liverpool and Manchester. In Explorations in After-Care. Home Office Research Study No. 9. London: HMSO.
- McWilliams, B. (1972) Practical aspects of experimental design. In Proceedings of the European Committee on Crime Problems. London: Home Office.
- Folkard, M.S. et al. (1974) Intensive Matched Probation and After-Care Treatment. Vol.1. Home Office Research Study No. 24. London: HMSO.
- McWilliams, B. (1980) Discretion and the Prosecution of Breach Proceedings: An Interim Report, University of Manchester, Department of Social Administration.
- Bottoms, A.E. et al. (1990) Intermediate Treatment and Juvenile Justice: Key Findings and Implications from a National Survey of IT Policy and Practice. London: HMSO.

Nikki Batten

After graduating in Psychology/English at R.I.H.E. I spent a year working for the Home Office/Metropolitan Police on their Neighbourhood Policing Project. With two children under 3 years I then worked part-time managing a women's refuge in Surrey for two years while continuing my studies in Criminology. After a ten week research project for Hampshire Constabulary on Policewomen Returners I spent a year working for Surrey University, firstly on a Twin Research project and then on a Depression project. With background experience of childcare, domestic violence and women's imprisonment these areas remain my focus of interest whilst an increasing interest in alternative medicine and meditation have led me to focus my Masters dissertation on Women's Dreams.

Jill Enterkin

After graduating from Goldsmiths' College, London University with a degree in Psychology I returned to Hong Kong where I remained for a year and a half working in the administration department of a large sports, recreation and yacht club. In 1989 I spent six months living in Indonesia before returning to England to complete a Masters degree in Criminology at Cambridge University.

Before joining the Group I worked as a research assistant at the Institute of Criminology on a project investigating organisational issues arising in inter-agency crime prevention initiatives.

CONSEQUENCES OF SELECTIVE REDUCTION OF MULTIFETAL PREGNANCIES

Researcher: Frances Price

Grant holders: Dr Susan Golombok and Dr Rachel Cook

Funded by Nuffield Foundation, ongoing.

A woman diagnosed as having a multiple pregnancy can continue with the pregnancy and confront not only the possible maternal medical complications and the probable prematurity of her babies but also all of the ensuing social, psychological and financial consequences of bringing up three, four or more children born of the same delivery. Alternatively, she can ask to have the pregnancy terminated. In recent years, a third option has become available. This involves selectively killing some fetuses so that others can survive, a procedure which has come to be known as 'selective reduction'. This project is a systematic and controlled investigation of the social and psychological consequences of the procedure. All the interviewing for this project is my responsibility. The analysis will be undertaken jointly.

Frances Price

Graduation in Sociology at the University of Wales in Cardiff was followed by employment first as a research assistant to Professor Peter Townsend and subsequently as a lecturer in adult and continuing education employed by the Universities of London, Brunel, Lancaster and the Open University. When my two children were older, an SSRC studentship enabled me to complete my Ph.D. The exploration of ideas, expertise (particularly in the field of medicine) and about intent, choice and assistance in relation to parenthood predominate in my current work.

Recent Publications

- Price, F.V. (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.V. (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.V. (1988) The Risk of High Multiparity with IVF/ET. Birth 15, 157-163.
- Price, F.V. (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.V. (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.V. (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.
- Price, F.V. (1990) Joint editor and contributor to Three, Four and More: A

- National Study of Triplets and Higher Order Births. London: HMSO.
- Price, F.V. (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 Sext Report of the Interim Licensing Authority for Human In Vitro Fertilisation and Embryology. London, ILA.
- Price, F.V. (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.V. (1991) Sacrificing siblings?: the dilemmas surrounding selective fetacide. In R. Lee and D. Morgan (eds), Death Duties: Law and Ethics at the End of Life. London: Routledge.
- Price, F.V. (1991) Extraordinary circumstances: caring for triplets, quads and more. In D. Harvey (ed) The Stress of Multiple Births. Multiple Birth Foundation.
- Price, F.V. (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.V. Assisting fertilisation: clinical practices and public concerns. In T. Chard and M.P.M. Richards (eds.) Obstetrics for the 1990s. Current Controversies. MacKeith Press (forthcoming 1992).
- Price, F.V. (1991) Having triplets, quads or quins: whose responsibility? In M. Stacey (ed.) Changing Human Reproduction: Social Science Perspectives. Sage.
- Price, F.V. (1992) Icons, imaging and conceptive technologies: witnessing transformations in human reproduction. In A. Irwin and B. Wynne (eds.) Science, Technology and Everyday Life.
- Price, F.V. (1991) How Many is Too Many? Triplets, Quadruplets and More. 1991 Medical and Health Annual, Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Completed research

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

Date started: July 1986 - Final Report completed 1989. Jointly edited book published 1990.

Researcher: Frances V. Price

Funding sources: Department of Health (until 31st July 1990); Doris Bott Fund.

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, needs and nature and timing of the practical help and support required were central to the study.

The Final Report to the Department of Health was based on the analysis of the first two hundred and ninety-nine questionnaire returns from, and also seventy-four interviews with, parents whose triplets, quads and quins were born in the years 1979-1988 inclusive. The wide-ranging social and economic implications of a higher order multiple birth are emphasised in the Report, as is the need for adequate provision of support and assistance to the parents of these children, especially in the pre-school years.

A book 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 to which I am a contributor, edited by Alan Irwin and Brian Wynne, is to be published in 1992 by Cambridge University Press.

Information about the Prospect of Triplets

Completed: July 1991

Researchers: Frances Price, Ruth Bush, Julie Tucker.

This research project, funded by the Department of Health, follows from the recently completed Parents Study of the National Study of Triplets and Higher Order Births (see above). The main objective is 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

Completed: December 1991

Consultant to ESRC funded project directed by Professor Marilyn Strathern, University of Manchester.

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

Date started: April 1989
Report due: 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. An extensive literature review, a report, and following book and journal articles and, hopefully some curriculum materials for schools are planned for 1992-3.

- Prendergast, S. (1989) 'Girls' Experience of Menstruation in School'. In L. Holly (ed.) Girls and Sexuality, OU Press, Milton Keynes.
- Prendergast, S. and Prout, A. (1990) Birth the Classroom Context. In J. Garcia, R. Kilpatrick, M. Richards (eds.) The Politics of Maternity Care. Oxford University Press.
- Prendergast, S. (1991) 'Teaching and Learning About the Body in School'. In Young People, Behaviours and Opportunities. Health Promotion Research Trust.
- Prendergast, S. (1991) 'Gender and Sex Education'. In Sex Education, Theory and Practice. (ed) D. Massey, Falmer Press. Forthcoming 1991/2
- Prendergast, S. (1992) 'School, Sex and Gender: Learning the Body in the Mind'. Submitted to The Sociology of Health and Illness.

Previous work, now completed

Knowing and learning about parenthood in school (funded by the Health Education Authority) explored the ways which adolescents' knowledge about parenthood generally framed in everyday experience meets more formally constructed knowledge in the secondary school curriculum, drawn from developmental psychology, biology and medicine. Pupils were interviewed in depth before classes began and followed through lessons in an ethnographic study of the classroom. They were interviewed again to establish what new learning had taken place and the impact of different frames of meaning on learning processes. Pupils own accounts of their knowledge and learning were the central resource of the study matched against an observation of the classes they took. (This work was done jointly with Alan Prout.)

Prendergast, S. and Prout, A. 'The Natural and the Personal: Reflections on birth films in school', British Journal of the Sociology of Education, Vol. 6, No. 2, 1985.

Prout, A. and Prendergast, S. 'Some reflection on pupil knowledge as a resource in parenthood and family life education'. In Childhood. Milton Keynes: Open University (Course PE631), 1985.

Prendergast, S. and Prout, A. 'Knowing and Learning about Parenthood'. 1987. Health Education Authority Research Monographs Series, No. 17.

Prendergast, S. and Prout, A. 'Smile at him when you ask for the books: transmitting sexuality in class'. In Producing and Reducing Disaffection. Ed. T. Booth and D. Coulby, 1987. OU Press: Milton Keynes.

Active learning in the classroom (funded by the Health Education Authority and the Open University), was an ethnographic study of classroom process, evaluating Open University learning materials packs Childhood and Family Lifestyles.

Prendergast, S. Active Learning in Family Life Education: Teachers using the Open University Training Packs, Childhood and Family Life Style. H.E.A. Research Monograph Series. 1988. (plus summary version)

Shirley Prendergast

I graduated in Social Anthropology at Cambridge. I have mostly worked in educational research using both ethnographic and quantitative methods to explore aspects of health, sexuality and the learning process. I am particularly interested in exploring recent sociological debates about the body in relation to women's health.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF DIVORCE FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Date started: April 1989
 Date due to finish: 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 has begun, which will examine in more detail some of the emotional dynamics around the ending of 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. Further analyses of this data are planned in parallel with analyses of the 1946 and 1970 birth cohorts, in order to examine possible changes in the effects of divorce on children during a period when divorce has become a much more common event.

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.

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. Paper presented at a Cross National Seminar 'Family, Politics and the Law'. Oxford.
- 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.
- Richards, M.P.M. (1991) Divorce research today. Family Law, February.

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. (forthcoming) Wishes, fears and dreams; Child Guidance in Britain. In R. Cooter (ed) In the Name of the Child. Routledge.

Currently writing a book on educational psychology, intelligence testing and child guidance from 1940-1970 called The History of the Clinic.

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 Newnham and Robinson Colleges and a Fellow of Robinson. I am course organiser for the Women in Society paper in SPS and lecture in the History and Education faculties as well. 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.

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 am currently interviewing mothers of varying socio-economic backgrounds, who have a child up to the age of 2 years old.

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

FEMALE FERTILITY IN SHANTY TOWNS IN CARACAS.
VENEZUELA

Myra Hunt. In conjunction with the 'Centro de Investigaciones Para la Infancia y la familia' in Caracas, I am researching the processes of family formation and the determinants of female fertility in the shanty towns. My particular concern is the aspirations for employment, marriage and children of young women. Fieldwork began in August 1991. I began work as a graduate student in October 1990, having graduated in Social and Political Sciences just over a year earlier.

GENDER IDENTITIES AND RELATIONS IN ADOLESCENCE

Jane Ireland. I came to Cambridge to do an M.Phil. in Social and Political Theory in 1990 following completion of my degree in social work and social policy in New Zealand.

I commenced my Ph.D. in October 1991 and am being supervised by Shirley Prendergast. My interest is in the construction of gender, identity and conceptualisations of gender, and how they vary in different situations and contexts. I aim to focus on the relations and differences between gender relations in the family and school in working with young men and women in school.

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.

COMPLETED RESEARCHNIGHT WAKING IN INFANCY

September 1984 to December 1988
Grantholder: Martin Richards

Researcher: Gordon K. Scott (left September 1989)

Funded by The Health Promotion Research Trust

Night waking in babies is one of the difficult problems that parents of young children may have to face. There are many different ideas about what causes the problem and what is best done about it. The study aimed i) to discover exactly how common the problem is and whether it is typically associated with particular kinds of families or living circumstances and, ii) to test out a booklet written for parents to see if it helped them with their night waking problem.

We did this with i) a postal survey of the incidence of night waking in a representative sample of about 1000 English one year olds and ii) an intervention study in which support and information was offered to the mothers of children under 18 months who were waking regularly at night. The study is now completed and we are writing up results for publication.

i) The postal survey of families

Addresses of 1500 families with one year olds were obtained from the community health registers in 6 Health Service Districts. These were selected from the north and south of England and from urban and rural areas to get a cross section of communities. Each family was sent a questionnaire which included questions about night waking and other aspects of child rearing as well as some details about the family. 69% of the families returned the questionnaire.

About half of all families reported some kind of problem with their one year olds sleeping and 26% said their baby was waking on average at least 5 nights a week. Night wakers were found with equal frequency among all social class, among breast feeders and bottle feeders, among boy and girl babies, and among all types of housing. However, they were more common in households which were overcrowded. Babies that regularly slept in their parents' bedroom were more likely to wake regularly but it is not clear whether this is because night wakers are more likely to be taken into their parents' bedroom or because being in the parents' bedroom disturbs the baby.

From the replies it is clear that though there was a wide range of attitudes to night waking (some parents, for example, did not think that a baby waking 5 times or more a week was 'a problem') many found night waking very stressful and mothers of night wakers were less likely to say they generally felt well. They also more often wanted their partners to help more with the baby. Mothers also had more mixed feelings about their babies

if they woke often.

Parents had tried a very wide range of ways of dealing with night waking - from sleeping medicines to leaving the baby to cry. No method seemed particularly helpful and the rather depressing picture is that the problem is a very persistent one, at least through the first year.

ii) The intervention study

Mothers with night waking babies they considered a problem were divided into 3 groups (30 mothers and babies in each). The first were given our booklet which was especially written for the study and support visits, the second the booklet only and the third neither the booklet nor support visits until the end of the study. A fourth comparison group of mothers and babies who did not wake at night was also included. All 4 groups were assessed after 3 months.

On all our measures of night waking - number of nights the baby woke, number of times the baby woke each night - and the assessment of how well the mothers themselves felt, all three night waking groups improved over the three months of the study but no one group did better than the others suggesting that our booklet and support visits were not particularly helpful (at least as far as these measures are concerned). However, mothers said they valued the visits and that they found the booklet interesting and useful.

It was of course disappointing to find no particular improvement in night waking in the families who received our booklet and visits from Gordon Scott. Other studies have found night waking to be intractable and perhaps we were over optimistic to expect a marked improvement in 3 months. All babies tended to sleep a bit better as they got older. Some parents said they felt better able to cope with the problem after reading the booklet even though the night waking itself had not changed much.

A chapter on night waking by M.P.M. Richards and D. Messer will appear in Infant Crying, Feeding and Sleeping, by I. St. James-Roberts, G. Harris and D. Messer (eds). Harvester Wheatsheaf, in press.

A book for parents on night waking is in preparation.

Publications

- Scott, G.K. Night Waking in Infancy. Child Care and Development Group, 1985. (The booklet used in the intervention study).
- Scott, G.K. and Richards, M.P.M. (1988) Night Waking in Infancy. Report to the Health Promotion Research Trust.
- Scott, G.K. and Richards, M.P.M. (1990) Night Waking in Infants: Effects of providing advice and support for parents. J. Child. Psychology Psychiatry, 31, 551-567.
- Scott, G.K. Night Waking in Infants: a review. (Unpublished paper.)
- Scott, G.K. and Richards, M.P.M. (1990) Night Waking in 1 Year Old Children in England. Child: Care, Health and Development, 16, 283-302.

1. POST PARTUM DEPRESSION AND INFANT DEVELOPMENT

Date started: October 1985.

Date expected to finish: March 1992.

Researchers: Lynne Murray and others

Funded by the Winnicott Trust, Medical Research Council, and Camilla Samuel Fund.

This research is now based in the Winnicott Research Unit, Department of Psychiatry.

Background

Studies of children aged 1-15 years, whose mothers suffer from depression, show impaired outcome on measures of cognitive and language development, a raised incidence of psychiatric disturbance, and greater insecurity of attachment.

Methods

This research project aims to elucidate the processes involved, by carrying out a prospective longitudinal study in which comparisons are made of interactions between depressed mothers and their infants and randomly selected control mothers and their infants, over the first 18 months of life. Assessments are also being made of these children's development on a range of cognitive and linguistic variables.

Recent Publications

- Murray, L. and Trevarthen, C. (1985) Emotional regulation of interactions between two-month olds and their mothers. In Social Perception in Infants. T.M. Field and N. Fox (eds). Ablex, New Jersey.
- Murray, L. and Trevarthen, C. (1986) The infant's role in mother infant communications: Journal of Child Language. 13, 15-29
- Murray, L. (1988) Effects of Postnatal Depression on Infant Development: the Contribution of Direct Studies of Early Mother-Infant Interaction. Chapter in Motherhood & Mental Illness Vol. II Brockington I & Kumar R (Eds). John Wright.
- Murray, L. (1988) The influence of postnatal depression on infant development. Marce Society Bulletin, Summer.
- Murray, L. and Carothers, A.D. (1989) Post-natal Depression in 702 Cambridge Mothers: Estimation of prevalence and validation of the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS). Brit.J.Psychiatry, in press.
- Murray, L. (1989) Childbirth as a life event: the Cambridge study of postnatal depression and infant development. In Childbirth as a Life Event. J.L. Cox and E.S. Paykel (eds). Univ. Southampton Press.
- Murray, L. (1989) Winnicott and the Developmental Psychology of Infancy. British J. Psychotherapy. 5 (3): 333-348.

2. THE PREDICTION AND TREATMENT OF POSTNATAL DEPRESSION, AND THE PREVENTION OF ITS ADVERSE EFFECTS ON INFANT DEVELOPMENT

Starting date: October 1989

Date expected to finish: September 1992

Researchers: Lynne Murray, Peter Cooper, Ian Goodyer, Steven Smith, Angela West, Freda Gardner.

Funded by the Birthright and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Award.

Information about the epidemiology of postpartum depression from the first study described above in a population of over 700 Cambridge mothers, combined with the evidence from Dr Peter Cooper's study of the prevalence and course of postnatal depression in a large Oxford sample has permitted Dr Cooper and me to draw up a predictive index, for antenatal administration, to identify women at risk for postnatal depression. This predictive index will be administered at antenatal clinics, and its sensitivity and specificity will be established by following up all potential cases in a random sample of potential non cases at 6 weeks postpartum. The index could then be used by those working in obstetric clinics to identify a high risk population who would benefit from special care.

Women identified in this phase of the study as suffering from postnatal depression will be randomly assigned to one of four conditions: routine primary care, non directive counselling, psychotherapy, or mother-infant interaction treatment. This last treatment will be developed on the basis of the specific pattern of deficits in mother-infant relationships identified in the first study described above. The infant's outcome on a range of measures and the mother's emotional state, will be monitored for eighteen months to compare the relative effectiveness of the different treatments.

Lynne Murray and her collaborators moved to the Department of Psychiatry in October, 1990. Current address:

Winnicott Research Unit,
Fenners,
Gresham Road,
Cambridge.

Tel: (0223) 336974

MARGARET LOWENFELD RESEARCH FELLOW

Researcher: Cathy Urwin

Funded by Margaret Lowenfeld Trust until September 1990

Cathy Urwin has carried out a small-scale longitudinal study of relationships between same-aged babies. She is interested in making links between psychoanalytic and other clinical approaches and academic developmental psychology, and has just completed training as a child psychotherapist.

Recent Publications

- Henriques, J., Hollway, W., Urwin, C., Venn, C. and Walkerdine, V. (eds.) (1984) Changing the Subject: Psychology, Social Regulation and Subjectivity. London: Methuen.
- Urwin, C. (1984) Language for absent things: learning from visually handicapped children. In C. Snow (ed.) Topics in Language Disorders, 4, 24-37.
- Urwin, C. (1985) The Construction of Motherhood: The Persuasion of Normal development. In C. Steedman, C. Urwin and V. Walkerdine (eds.) Language, Gender and Childhood. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.
- Urwin, C. (1986) Psychoanalysis and Developmental Psychology: Splitting the Difference. In P. Light and M. Richards (eds.) Children in a Changing World. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Urwin, C. and Hood-Williams, J. (eds.) (1988) Child Psychotherapy, War and the Normal Child. Selected papers of Margaret Lowenfeld. London: Free Associations (in press)

Cathy Urwin

I studied psychology at Bedford College, London from 1968 to 1971 and then did a Master's course at Nottingham University with John and Elizabeth Newson. I came to Cambridge in 1972 to do research for a Ph.D. on social interaction and early language development in blind infants. I then worked in Oxford with J.S. Bruner on a project on early language development, before taking a post as a lecturer at Warwick University.

In 1981 I took up a position as Margaret Lowenfeld Research Fellow. This position was supported by a Trust fund set up in the name of Margaret Lowenfeld, a child psychotherapist who practised from 1928 until her death in 1973. Broadly speaking, the original purpose of the Fellowship was to foster link-making between academic developmental psychology and the concerns of child psychotherapists, paediatricians and other practitioners. While holding this post I have carried out a research study on social relationships between same aged babies, and a historical study of childcare books. Dina Lew helped in the initial stages of this work and more recently the historical survey has been done jointly with Elaine Sharland. From 1984 I also began training as a child psychotherapist at the Tavistock Clinic, London. From September 1989 I will be working part-time in London as a child psychotherapist while continuing to work here on a one day a week basis.

Dr Urwin now works as a child psychotherapist in London. Current address: Emanuel Miller Centre, Gill Street Health Centre, 11 Gill St, London E14. Tel: (071) 515 6633

PARENTAL DIVORCE AND ADOLESCENTS' ATTITUDES TOWARDS MARRIAGE

Date Ph.D. started: October 1986 Finished 1990
 Researcher: Fiona Tasker (left the Centre in July 1990)
 Funded by an Economic and Social Research Council Post-graduate Award

The research is concerned with the effects of differing parental marriage relationships and parent-child relationships on teenagers' current close relationships and dating experience. From this, and the teenagers' expectations of their own possible marriages in the future, inferences are being drawn about the processes involved in the repetition of family patterns and parent-child relationships across generations.

The respondents in this study are both male and female 18 year olds in the Cambridge area who come from varying social class backgrounds. These adolescents were asked to fill in a survey questionnaire. From their answers to the questionnaire a smaller group of subjects were selected for interview.

I obtained a B.A. in Psychology from University College of Swansea in 1986 and my Ph.D. in 1990.

(Fiona Tasker now works in the Clinical Research Unit, City University, Northampton Square, London EC1V 0HB.)

Tasker, F.L. (1991) Anti-marriage attitudes and pro-marriage behaviour amongst adolescents with divorced parents. Unpublished paper.

Tasker, F.L. and Richards, M.P.M. (1991) The attitudes to marriage and the marital prospects of children of divorce: a review. Unpublished paper.

DIVORCE AND KINSHIP

Date Ph.D. started: January 1988 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.

INTERMITTENT FATHER ABSENCE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN

Date Ph.D. started: October 1984

Date finished: June 1989

Researcher: Nicola Totterman (left the Centre August 1989)

Funded by Economic and Social Research Council, CASS Studentship

Background

Intermittent father absence is a fairly common family pattern, yet little research has been carried out in this field. Most father absence studies tend to concentrate on children whose fathers are absent due to divorce, death or desertion. The few studies that do exist suggest that boys, being more affected than girls, develop poor peer relationships, sleeping problems, aggressive behaviour, hostility as well as attention seeking and fearfulness.

Present study

The present study is concerned with children from naval families who experience frequent separations from their fathers. Some children may only see their father for a few weeks of the year and odd week-ends. Other children may experience separation from the father for 6-9 months at one time. Fathers may also be intermittently absent for 12-18 months after which they may be home for the same length of time. Two groups of families were examined. One group, whose fathers had been intermittently absent from home for the last two years or more, was compared with a group of children whose fathers were home for a similar length of time. Age and sex were taken into account as well as age of child when father first went away to sea. 90 mothers and children were interviewed. Children were interviewed about their feelings regarding their father going away and their self-concept. In addition the older children were given a depression scale. Mothers were interviewed about their children's behaviour and their adjustment to the father's intermittent absence and presence in the home. Questions were also asked about mothers' own coping strategies of being part of a two parent household yet spending a great deal of time as a single parent, the support they receive from their husbands, family and friends when their husbands are home and away. The results were written up for my Ph.D. thesis.

Nicola Totterman

I graduated from Oxford Polytechnic with a joint honours degree in Psychology and Anthropology after which I received a M.Sc. in Child Development from London University, Institute of Education. I then spent three years at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, as a research assistant, working with children with leukaemia. I gained my Ph.D. in 1989. My research interests have ranged from mothers' attitudes towards early post-natal care both in England and Finland, language mixing in bilingual and trilingual speaking children, the effect medical treatment has on the intellectual development on children suffering from leukaemia to father absence and the effect on children's emotional and social development.

Current address: 112 N. 4th St, Highland Park, New Jersey 08904, USA.

THE WORK OF D.W. WINNICOTT

It is with great regret that we record the death of Madeleine Davis in October 1991. Madeleine was associated with the Centre from her arrival in Cambridge in 1979 when John Davis was appointed as the first Professor of Paediatrics. We remember Madeleine for many things, her wise contributions at seminars, the support, both academic and emotional, she so freely offered to members of the Centre and, not least, the marvellous cakes she produced for our Christmas Party and for other special occasions.

Madeleine Davis

From 1971 until 1985, during the time our five children were growing up, I was a voluntary worker in hostels for ex-offenders in Manchester and then in Cambridge. I also worked in Manchester Prison. For the last ten years I have been involved in the publication of the posthumous papers of D.W. Winnicott, and am now one of the Editors to the Winnicott Trust and have special responsibility for the last stages before publication. I am co-author, with David Wallbridge, of Boundary and Space: an Introduction to the Work of D.W. Winnicott (Penguin Books, 1983). I am involved in conducting seminars on Winnicott's ideas with the British Association of Psychotherapists and with the Cambridge-centred Bioenergetics Training course. Since 1984 I have also been training with the British Association of Psychotherapists, and see patients in Cambridge.

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Lunchtime Seminars - Easter Term 1991

(Meetings held at 12.30 on Tuesdays in Room 606)

- 23 April Israel Kolvin, Tavistock Institute.
Diagnosis and classification of childhood depression.
- 30 April Jenny Kitzinger, Glasgow University, Media Unit. Understanding AIDS media messages.
- 7 May Robert Dingwall, Nottingham. Conciliation.
(exact title to be arranged)
- 14 May Lesley Ashby, Psychiatric Research Unit, Cambridge and Deborah Thom, CCDG. Cambridge child guidance, 1940-1970.
- 21 May David Morgan, University of Manchester.
Institution and relationship within marriage.
- 28 May Half-term, no seminar
- 4 June Haleh Afshar, Institute for Research in Social Services, York. Crisis of identity amongst second and third generation Muslim women in England: a case study in Bradford.

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

Child Care and Development Group,
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Cambridge CB2 3RF.

Tel: (0223) 334510

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Lunchtime Seminars - Michaelmas Term 1991
 (Meetings held at 12.30 on Tuesdays in Room 606)

- 8 October Ziba Mir-Hosseini, Girton College, Cambridge.
 "Legal and Social Constructions of Marriage: a comparative note on the differing notions of marriage in Morocco and Iran".
- 15 October Israel Kolvin, Child and Family Department, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine and The Tavistock Clinic.
 "Diagnosis and Classification of Childhood Depression"
- 22 October No Seminar, School half term
- 29 October Jo Wray, Paediatric Surgery Unit, Harefield Hospital.
 "The psychological costs and benefits of paediatric heart and heart-lung transplantation"
- 5 November Ginny Morrow, Social and Political Sciences, University of Cambridge.
 "Who's holding the baby? Children and responsibility"
- 12 November Michelle Stanworth, Department of Sociology, Anglia Polytechnic, Cambridge.
 "Virgin births and the ethics of infertility treatment"
- 19 November Glenn Taylor, Cambridge Education Authority.
 "Educating young travellers"
- 26 November Ross Mitchell, Young People's Psychiatric Service and Medical Adviser to CRUSE, Cambridge.
 "The death of a child: a poignant grief"
- 3 December Claire Snowdon, Child Care and Development Group, University of Cambridge.
 "Whose baby? Complications of surrogacy and egg donation"

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

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CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Lunchtime Seminars - Lent Term 1992
 (Meetings held at 12.30 on Tuesdays in Room 606)

- 14 January Maggie Ponder, Cancer Research Campaign, Human Cancer Genetics Research Group.
 "Familial cancer - some ethical problems"
- 21 January Rosy Andriaenssens, Save the Children Fund.
 "The children's full day visits scheme, a partnership between Save the Children Fund and HMP Holloway"
- 28 January Lesley Hall, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, London.
 "A 'new man' in the 1920s? Questions of social/sexual change"
- 4 February Jane Elliott, Child Care and Development Group, University of Cambridge.
 "The process of divorce: support for couples at a time of emotional crisis?"
- 11 February Terri Apter, Clare Hall, University of Cambridge.
 "Mothers and daughters during adolescence"
- 18 February Colin Morley, Department of Paediatrics, University of Cambridge.
 "Is that baby really ill?"
- 25 February No seminar.
- 3 March David Messer, Psychology Division, Hatfield Polytechnic.
 "The prediction of sleeping patterns in the pre-school years"
- 10 March Martin Richards, Jill Enterkin, and Brenda MacWilliams, Child Care and Development Group, University of Cambridge.
 "Who cares? Family ties and parents in prison"

If you wish to come to a seminar, please arrive on time,
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CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Lunchtime Seminars - Easter Term 1992

(Meetings held at 12.30 on Tuesdays in Room 606)

- 28th April Susan Condor, Department of Psychology,
University of Lancaster.
"Changing patterns of partnership: men's
accounts of their wives' 'conversion' to
feminism."
- 5th May Helen Roberts, Public Health Research Unit,
University of Glasgow.
"Safety as a social value: a community
approach."
- 12th May Judit Gervai, Sub-Department of Animal
Behaviour, University of Cambridge.
"Modern life-styles, old fashioned views:
Gender roles and stereotypes in Hungary."
- 19th May Anne Solberg, Norwegian Institute for Urban &
Regional Research, Oslo.
"Accounting for children's agency at home."

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

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Please note that from 1st September 1992 the name of our Group
will be changing to Centre for Family Research.

Occasional Papers

Available from the Centre Secretary

No. 1. Visiting Prisoners. An Interim Report from the Cambridge Research Project on Imprisonment and Family Ties, by Patricia Owens. Price £4 including postage.



Line drawings by Shirley Prendergast