

# SOCIOLOGY

@ UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX

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Introducing

### Nelleke van Helfteren

#### Communications Officer for Faculty of Social Sciences

I joined University of Essex in mid-February 2021, after working for Citizens Advice. In that role, I was responsible for raising the profile of the organisation by promoting its campaign work and its research findings, as well as the service itself and how we could support people through change – either due to personal circumstances or government policies impacting on their daily lives.

Prior to that I worked at the Policy Studies Institute and Islington Council Social Services in communications roles.

My role focuses on raising the profile of research by working with academics to secure regional, national and international mainstream and social media coverage I can provide one-to-one advice and media training to help promote your research.

If you have just joined the University or have not previously been in contact with the Communications team please contact me to let me know what your areas of expertise are, details of any previous media experience, and updates on your latest research – Email me on [n.vanhelfteren@essex.ac.uk](mailto:n.vanhelfteren@essex.ac.uk)

#### Nelleke's regular requests

Nelleke will **contact** individual academics seeking expert comment on stories on the news agenda. Your feedback is used to pitch to journalists covering these stories and via our broadcast partner Globelynx, part of the Press Association, which connects to broadcasters around the world including BBC, Al Jazeera and CNN. When responding, please include in your response a clear view on the points you'd like to make in response to the story, details of your availability and media experience (if you haven't spoken to the Communications Team previously).

Nelleke will **respond** to requests from academics to help with promoting a new paper coming out, funding award or a project's conclusion. Requests should include any ideas you have about the journalists to target and outlets interested in the findings.

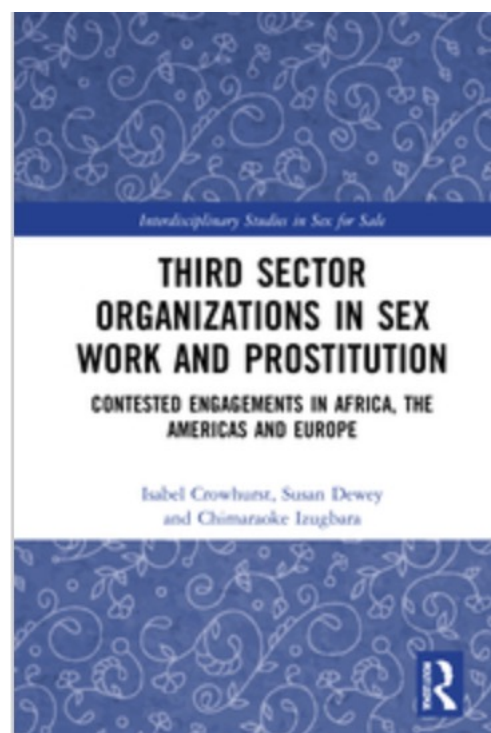
### Dr Isabel Crowhurst

A new book I co-authored with Susan Dewey and Chimaraoke Izugbara is now out with Routledge.

#### Third Sector Organizations in Sex Work and Prostitution

It is about sex work and prostitution third sector organizations (TSOs): non-governmental and non-profit organizations that provide support services to, and advocate for the well-being of people operating in the sex industries.

With a focus on three vast and extremely diverse regions, Africa, the Americas, and Europe, this book provides a unique vantage point that shows how interlinked these organizations' histories and configurations are. TSOs are fascinating research sites because they operate as zones of contestation which translate their understandings of sex work and prostitution into different support practices and advocacy initiatives. This book reveals that these organizations are not external to normative power but participate in it and are subject to it, conditioning how they can exist, who they can reach out to, where, and what they can achieve.



### Kelly-Ann Coulter, PhD Candidate

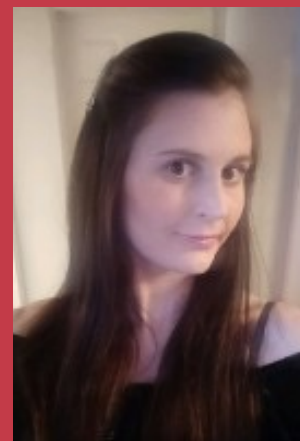
I have been working for the UK Government (Home Office) on a cybercrime project called 'Protecting Businesses Against Cybercrime'. Report and paper will be out later in summer. I have written posts and blog, which can be found on my LinkedIn page

[here](#)

or blog directly

[here](#)

I have also recently (just a few weeks ago!) started a new project working for the Ministry of Defence as Head of Strategic Research and Analysis at UK Ministry of Defence. Exciting and busy times ahead!





Dr Giuliana Borea

Marie Curie PostDoc Fellow

New Book by Dr Giuliana Borea!

[Configuring the New Lima Art Scene: An Anthropological Analysis of Contemporary Art in Latin America.](#) London: Routledge, 2021.

**Exhibition:** Curator of 'Place-making/World-making: The work of three Amazonian Indigenous artist – Rember Yahuarcani, Harry Pinedo/Inin Metsa, Brus Rubio' an online exhibition at Art Exchange: Place-making, World-making: Three Amazonian Indigenous Artists - Art Exchange

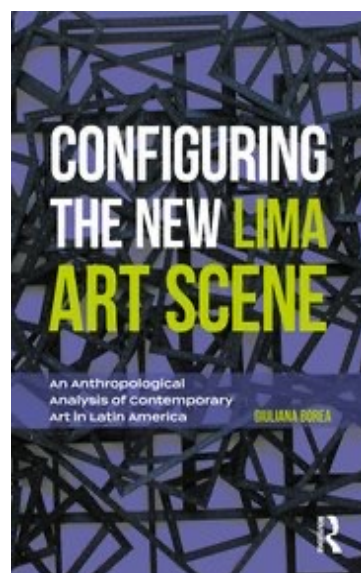
You are invited to visit the website for our exhibition, online gallery tour, artists' videos, gallery guide, and our last public event! Exhibition goes until April 2.

**Talks & Conferences:** *"Amazonizar": Indigenous Cosmopolitanism, New Cities and Knowledge Production in Brus Rubio's Art Practice.* Panel, Rethinking categories of indigeneity and artistic practice, Association of Social Anthropology Annual Conference. March 27, 2021.

*Panel convener* with Dr Alex Flynn, Rethinking categories of indigeneity and artistic practice, Association of Social Anthropology Annual Conference, March 27-29, 2021.

*'Questioning 'Global Art': When multiplicity is not enough',* World Art Studies Seminar, UEA. March 24, 2021.

*'Amazonian Indigenous Art and Urban Migration: The Battles of Place, Dignity and a Future',* The School of International Development Seminar, UEA, Feb. 10, 2021.



Prof Nigel South

Papers now coming out of our project on Indigenous communities and the environment in Colombia, funded by GCRF and others. First one is in BJC [here](#) and this is the team.

D. Goyes et al, (2021) 'The erosion of a way of life and memory: genocide and ecocide in four Colombian Indigenous communities', British Journal of Criminology





### Journal Paper

Article analysing human rights implications of online surveillance for intelligence purposes accepted for publication in the Journal of National Security Law and Policy. The paper, Oversight of Large-Scale Surveillance Activities: A Human Rights Perspective, was authored with Human Rights Centre colleagues Daragh Murray, Lorna McGregor and Maurice Sunkin.



Prof Pete Fussey

### Blog Post

Co-authored a blog with Daragh Murray for About:Intel – European Voices on Surveillance in response to publication of GCHQ’s Artificial Intelligence-driven surveillance ethics strategy. GCHQ’s ethical approach to AI: an initial human rights-based response is available [here](#).

### Media

Interviewed for Wired story on Uber’s use of biometric facial identification to summarily fire BAME workers. Couriers say Uber’s ‘racist’ facial identification tech got them fired, available [here](#).

### Impact

Invited to join the Department for Education led cross government Serious Violence Expert Advisory Group.

## Olivia Arigho-Stiles, PhD Candidate



In early March Olivia gave a guest lecture on decolonial movements in Bolivia as part of the UCL Global Politics Remix lecture series. You can view all the talks [here](#): In April Olivia will also be participating in an international workshop entitled 'Land Back' hosted by the Harvard University research institute, Dumbarton Oaks, exploring Indigenous demands for land and territory across the Americas.

The **Journal of Cultural Economy** recently published a symposium on McGoeys book, *The Unknowers: How Strategic Ignorance Rules the World* (Zed, 2019), featuring contributions from Birke Otto (European University Viadrina), Steve Fuller (Warwick), Claudia Aradau (King's College London) and Scott Frickel (Brown). McGoeys open-access response is [here](#).

*Linsey McGoeys (2021) Oracular power and the architects of the future, Journal of Cultural Economy, DOI: 10.1080/17530350.2021.1895282*

McGoey has given recent **online talks** at Northwestern University (December 2020); the Oxford Society for International Development, Bayreuth University, and UCL (all in February 2021). She is participating in an upcoming debate about 'billionaires' with the Berkeley Forum, a student-led society at the University of California, Berkeley (April 2021).

McGoey has also joined **Progressive International's COVID-19 taskforce**, and spoke on a recent PI panel about the Geopolitics of Vaccine Apartheid (youtube video available here: (25) Vaccine Apartheid: Pandemic Anniversary - YouTube). Lastly, a highlight of McGoeys term was CRESIs January panel on the Bolivian presidential elections, organized by **Olivia Arigho-Stiles**. If any students or staff wish to help develop **CRESI events** in future, please get in touch with the core CRESI leadership team: Linsey McGoeys, Maitrayee Dekas and Jason Sumich.

Also Read [a blog post she wrote](#) in the **London Review of Books**  
*"Try to persuade your friends, monsieur not to force the people into the streets," George Sand told Alexis de Tocqueville at dinner in June 1848"...*

**Prof Linsey McGoeys**



**Dr Neli Demireva**

I presented two papers at ISA:

23rd of February, 2021 . "Understanding the Ecology of Disadvantage: betting Agents, Crime and the British Neighbourhood", IV ISA Forum of Sociology

23rd of February, 2021 . "Ethnicity, Stereotypes and Segregation in the British Neighbourhood", IV ISA Forum of Sociology

I have another **new album coming out next Friday**, last day of term! Details [here](#) in this interview with the singer Cathal Coughlan, which handily gives some historical context and you can hear three singles from the record too. There is also an [Irish Daily Mirror piece](#) that contains an embarrassing pic of me from 1990.

### Prof Nick Allum



On the **academic impact front**, my project, SOPs4RI, as research output, has produced a guideline for promoting research integrity that now functions as a reference document related to EC requirements for all researchers applying for EU grants. This is quite some impact for our project, which is still only just over half way completed.

The new grant application template for Horizon Europe was published in February and that the following paragraph is included among mandatory declarations:

*“Appropriate procedures, policies and structures are in place to foster responsible research practices, to prevent questionable research practices and research misconduct, and to handle allegations of breaches of the principles and standards in the Code of Conduct.”.* An active hyperlink for ‘appropriate procedures, policies and structures’ takes applicants to the [SOPs4RI guideline here](#). You can access the application template [here](#).

Next month I am attending the first meeting as a member of **an expert panel convened by the US National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES)** at the National Science Foundation (NSF). The panel will inform the thematic report on “Science and Technology: Public Attitudes, Knowledge, and Interest” that is part of the National Science Board’s flagship publication, the biennial Science and Engineering Indicators report <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/seind/>

### Dr Anna Di Ronco



My co-edited book ‘Harm and Disorder in the Urban Space: Social Control, Sense and Sensibility’ has now a webpage and is available for pre-order at: <https://www.routledge.com/Harm-and-Disorder-in-the-Urban-Space-Social-Control-Sense-and-Sensibility/Persak-Ronco/p/book/9780367552664>

I have been invited to give **talks** at the University of Sassari, Ghent University, Vrije Universiteit Brussels and University of Pisa – all these talks will happen either in April or May. In January this year I have become the proud auntie of beautiful little Flor! ❤️





**Dr Anna Sergi**

### Research

Sergi, A. (2021) Harboursing Doubts: Brexit raises risk of organised crime exploiting maritime loopholes, Janes Intelligence Review, February, pp.40-43 – Read [here](#)

### Submitted

**Book Proposal** "Chasing the 'ndrangheta. Memories, Journeys and Research on the Calabrian Mafia – Academic/Trade

**Book Proposal** "Shifty Obedience. Mafia, Deviant Lodges, Corruption and Power in Italy" (with Prof. Alberto Vannucci)

**Journal Article:** "Stumbling upon places and cultures: an involuntary ethnography in researching the Australian 'ndrangheta"

### Blog

[From Calabria to the Roof of the World: The Maxi Trial and the Village](#), The Informer, RUSI, 8 March 2021 (also on [Essex Blog here](#))

[Deep Waters: Policing ports and waters after Brexit](#), Policing Insight 26 January 2021

### Media

Interviewed by several news outlet on the 'ndrangheta **Maxi Trial** starting in January in Calabria, Italy, see Sky News on the [Biggest mafia trial in decades begins](#) , The Telegraph [Hundreds of alleged members of Italy's most powerful mafia network face 'maxi trial' in Calabria](#) and The Times Magazine [Italy's mafia trial of the century](#)

Also quoted in [The Secret Luxembourg Base of Italy's 'Ndrangheta Mafia](#) by the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project; in France24 [Dismembering the mafia, one child at a time](#) and The Financial Times [The mafia turns social media influencer to reinforce its brand](#)

**Prof Pamela Cox**

Read my Blog Post for Policy @Manchester with Dr Ruth Lamont [here](#)

"Why the powers of the Victims' Commissioner are not enough"



### Dr Tara Mahfoud

I participated in the Cross University Research Event on 'Emerging Technologies' where I shared my research on: 'dual use' in neuroscience and neurotechnology, the importance of 'tacit knowledge' in the clinical translation of Artificial Intelligence in medicine, and the challenges of developing a framework for Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in big science projects.

The Culture, Mind and Brain Speaker Series at the McGill University invited me to give a talk on 18 March 2021 based on a recently published paper titled 'Visions of Unification and Integration: Building Brains and Communities in the European Human Brain Project'. I will be presenting a shortened version of the paper at the British Sociological Association's Annual Meeting on 15 April 2021.



#### Latest Publications:

Mahfoud, Tara. (2021) "Visions of Unification and Integration: Building Brains and Communities in the European Human Brain Project." *New Media & Society* 23(2). Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1177/1461444820929576>

Mahfoud, Tara, Saheli Datta, Christine Aicardi, and Nikolas Rose (2021). "Clinicians in the Middle: Trust, Big Data Analytics and the Clinical Translation of Predictive Brain Models." *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews* 46(1-2). Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/03080188.2020.1840223>

### Updates from the Science Technology & Society Research Group

The Science, Technology and Society (STS) research group met for the first time on 5 February 2021 for a 3-hour workshop where we discussed democracy and access to the internet in Venezuela (Dr Carlos Solar); urban planning, temporality and utopias in Mozambique (Dr Jason Sumich); exchanges between informal marketplaces and digital platforms in India (Dr Maitrayee Deka); and the tensions between formal and informal infrastructures of collaboration in the neurosciences (Dr Tara Mahfoud). The STS research group will hold its second workshop in the coming Autumn term.

### Dr Rhiannon Firth

Rhiannon Firth and John Preston have had media coverage of their recent book, *Coronavirus, Class and Mutual Aid in the UK* in [The Big Issue](#) and [The Morning Star](#).

They also discussed their work in an online debate organized by the Nottinghamshire branch of International Workers of the World (IWW) on February 18th.



### Prof John Preston



A co-authored journal article of Prof Preston's (Hapgood et al, 2021) was published in the astrophysics journal "Space Weather" – "Development of Space Weather Reasonable Worst Case Scenarios for the UK National Risk Assessment". This is based on his work with physicists, engineers and health scientists on the potential impact of solar flares. His contribution to the article concerns how public behaviour might be influenced by a major solar event including a discussion of the possible reactions of solar cults and millenarian groups.

[Development of Space Weather Reasonable Worst Case Scenarios for the UK National Risk Assessment - Hapgood - - Space Weather - Wiley Online Library](#)

Read an interview with me by Joel Quirk about the history of the UN trafficking Protocol for Open Democracy [here](#)

Marjan Wijers, PhD Candidate





### Publications

An article developing the concepts of masks and masking to interrogate the role of institutions in the co-production of 'untouchable' celebrity icon status has been published in Cultural Sociology:

Greer, C. and McLaughlin, E., (2021) The Celebrity Icon Mask: The Multi-Institutional Masking of Sir Jimmy Savile, Cultural Sociology (Online First).

**Prof Chris Greer**



### Projects and Impact

Following a complete pivot and methodological restructuring as a result of the pandemic, we are now (finally) completing the UKRI-funded project, Journeys and Turning Points on the Andover Estate, in partnership with young offenders and Islington's Youth Offending Services, Targeted Youth Services, Integrated Gangs Team and other stakeholders in the borough.

Islington Council have produced an action plan to implement recommendations in the [Final Report from the Disproportionality Project](#) funded by the Youth Justice Board and City, University of London, which sought to develop a partnership response to tackling the over-representation of Islington and Haringey's young BAME people within the criminal justice system.

The team is now undertaking further research with Islington partners (Safeguarding and Family support, Youth Offending Services), funded by DfE, to develop the Reunification Project, which will engage with CYPs in care, care leavers, practitioners, carers and parents to produce better outcomes for at risk CYPs.

**Supporting Social Sciences** In late-2020, I was invited to join the Board of the Campaign for Social Sciences.

### Dr Roisin Ryan-Flood



I gave an online workshop on 'Difficult Conversations' at the Gender and Sexualities Research Centre at City University, London in January 2021, as part of their ongoing series 'Advanced feminist research methods and skills'.

Poul Rohleder from PPS and I presented our current research project about LGBTQ people's experiences of expressing physical affection for a same sex partner in public, at a CISC seminar. The presentation was called 'Holding Hands: LGBTQ relationships and experiences of shame, pride and protest in everyday spaces.' Here's a link to the project website: [Holding Hands: Gathering Experiences of Shame, Pride and Protest among LGBTQ Relationship Partners](#)

### Prof Colin Samson

I gave a presentation entitled '*The Colonial Dimensions of Human Rights: Reparations as Decolonisation?*' to the Ethnicity, Race and Diverse Societies Network at the University of Sussex on 24 February. It is mentioned [here](#).



### Prof. Sandya Hewamanne

After getting caught up in pandemic related review bottlenecks three of my articles got published in one month - February 2021.



2021 Invisible Bondage: Mobility and Compulsion within Sri Lanka's Global Assembly Line Production. Ethnography DOI: 10.1177/1466138121995843

2021 Emergency Contraceptives are our Savors: Sri Lanka's Global Factory workers Negotiating Reproductive Health. Journal of International Women's Studies 22 (1) 38-53.

2021 Pandemic, Lockdown and Modern Slavery among Sri Lanka's Global Assembly Line Workers. Journal of International Women's Studies 22 (1): 54-69.

### Dr Maitrayee Deka

New article out

Deka M, Arvidsson A. "Names doing rounds": On brands in the bazaar economy. Journal of Consumer Culture. March 2021. doi:10.1177/1469540521989396





**Dr Alexandra Cox** will participate in an event with the Marshall Project in April aimed at journalists in newsrooms across America - “The Words We Use to Cover Justice, Jails and Prisons” April 21

She also contributed to a report with the Centre for Justice Innovation and there is a [launch](#) for the report in April.

**Olivia Arigho-Styles** will speak at the Symposium “Land Back: Indigenous Landscapes of Resurgence and Freedom” on **April 29** with a paper on “Landscapes of Struggle: Indigenous Discourses on Nature in Bolivia, 1960-1990” To register go [here](#)



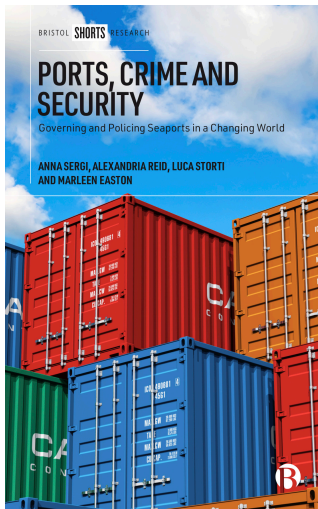
On 30 April **Prof Colin Samson** will be giving a keynote address entitled ‘Ongoing types of colonialism and hierarchical human rights’ for the Clio Conference 2021 – “From Slavery to Outer Space: Colonialism in the 21st Century” in Groningen, Netherlands.

# Save the Date

# April



Dr Anna Sergi will be speaking at an event by the Global Initiative Against Organized Crime, “An evolving Mafia concept: The Mafia power nexus and social anti-mafia strategies” 22 April 2021 – [Register here](#)



Dr Sergi's latest book [“Ports, Crime and Security. Governing and Policing Seaports in a Changing World”](#) (with Alexandria Reid, Prof Marleen Easton, Dr Luca Storti) will be published at the end of June by Bristol University Press



**Workshop:** Dr. Giuliana Borea and Prof. Andrew Canessa are organising the workshop ‘Indigenous Management of Place in Times of Crisis: Explorations on Latin America’, University of Essex, June 10.

# Save the Date

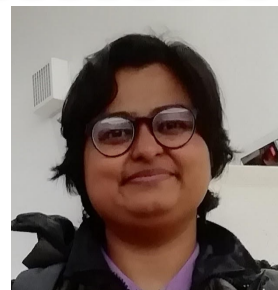
## April - June

Vince Eade, PhD Candidate, is presenting a paper at the Leisure Studies Association annual conference at Solent university 6-8th July. The paper is titled 'It might be risky: 'but you just feel really at ease with yourself, at peace'. It's concerned with the wellbeing effects of performing risky leisure sports, with a focus on women during COVID-19.



**Dr Shaul Bar-Haim** has a new book "The Maternalists. Psychoanalysis, Motherhood, and the British Welfare State" coming out in July 2021 with University of Pennsylvania Press

**Sanhita Chatterjee**, PhD Candidate, is going to be presenting her paper **Domestic Goddesses and Double Shifts: Bengali married women's negotiation of professional and domestic labour** at the 26th European Conference on South Asian Studies at the University of Vienna this summer (26-29 July 2021)



**Dr Catherine Duxbury** has new book coming out "Science, Gender and the Exploitation of Animals in Britain since 1945" by Routledge and is going to be recommended by the editor of the series to the ASA's Animals & Society section.

# Save the Date

# July- August

# SOCIOLOGY

@ UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX

## GET IN TOUCH

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