

Critically Exploring Co-production Approaches

A BSA Regional Postgraduate Forum

Hosted by Brunel University
London

June 24th 2021 (9:00-14:00 BST)

#BSACoPro

VIRTUAL FORUM INFORMATION PACK

This interactive virtual forum aims to critically explore the methodological, conceptual, and ethical dimensions of co-production research approaches with and for postgraduate and early career researchers. This event will bring together the multiple voices of those involved in co-production research including academic and non-academic experts and co-researchers to provide a forum for critical reflection, discussion, and knowledge exchange. Postgraduate Researchers (PGRs), Early Career Researchers (ECRs), and community stakeholders seeking to examine the contested nature of co-production and explore the relevance and application of co-production strategies for their work will benefit from this forum.

The forum has been organized by Brunel University London and led by Robyn Smith and Professor Louise Mansfield. The conference organizers would like to thank the British Sociological Association (BSA) and the Brunel Public Engagement Fund for their continued support. We would also like to thank the speakers who have provided their time and expertise to make this forum possible.

Zoom access

The conference will be a live event taking place on Zoom. Please use the access code below to enter the forum.

<https://bruneluniversity.zoom.us/j/99013235060>

Meeting ID: 990 1323 5060

Passcode: COPROFORUM

All delegates must log in through Zoom to access the event. If you do not have an account, please register for a free account. It may be possible to log in via Facebook/Gmail but we would recommend access through Zoom. This is due to security features on the institutional Zoom account.

Zoom etiquette

- Please note that to promote reflexive and open discussion, we will not be recording this event. However, our RA, Amy Prescott, will be acting as scribe throughout the day to capture key themes.
- Join the discussion on Twitter through #BSACoPro

- You will be able to leave sessions and re-enter via the waiting room but please be considerate to the presenters.
- Upon entry you will be muted, please ensure this is the case and do not unmute your microphone.
- Please do not interrupt those presenting.
- Please ensure you are dressed appropriately (if keeping your camera on).
- Please pose any questions to speakers through using the chat function.
- For immediate questions, please use the chat function. These will be managed by IT support. Please use the contact numbers below if required:

Contact Details

For all enquiries please contact: robyn.smith@brunel.ac.uk or louise.mansfield@brunel.ac.uk

For access problems on the day please contact:

Amy Prescott: amy.prescott@brunel.ac.uk | WhatsApp: +447931551172
Robyn Smith: WhatsApp: +447394580809

Forum schedule

Time	Activity
9.00-9.15am	Introduction & Housekeeping (<i>Prof. Louise Mansfield</i>)
9.15-10am	<p style="text-align: center;">Keynote: Living Life to the Fullest Project <i>Chair: Prof. Louise Mansfield</i></p> <p>Dr Kirsty Liddiard, The University of Sheffield & The Co-Researcher Collective, represented by co-researchers from the Living Life to the Fullest Project Katy Evans and Sally Whitney</p>
10-10.15am	Break
10.15-11.15am	<p style="text-align: center;">Panel: Experiencing Co-production <i>Chair: Robyn Smith</i></p> <p>Dr Vanessa Pinfold & member of Community Navigator Co-production Group <i>The McPin Foundation</i> Reflections on co-production (title subject to change)</p> <p>Prof. Brett Smith <i>Department of Sport & Exercises Sciences: Durham University</i> Thinking through co-production and thresholds for what counts as co-produced research</p> <p>Amy Spiller & Djamila Bulakio <i>Coram Young Citizens Programme</i> Co-production with young people</p> <p>Prof. Louise Mansfield <i>Division of Sport, Health and Exercise Sciences, Brunel University London</i> Compromised? The privilege and perils of coproduction approaches</p>
11.15-11.20am	Short comfort break
11.20-12.20pm	<p style="text-align: center;">Break-out room discussions <i>Facilitators: Gemma Cook; Robyn Smith; Bev Goodman, Jake Gifford</i></p> <p>Delegates will be randomly allocated to break out rooms for open discussions on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Building and sustaining effective partnerships (ii) Ethics and doing research with integrity
12.20-1pm	Lunch break
1-1.45pm	<p style="text-align: center;">ECR panel: Opportunities and challenges in doing co-production research <i>Chair: Robyn Smith</i></p>

	<p>Gemma Cook <i>Doctoral Researcher, Brunel University London</i></p> <p>Beverley Goodman <i>Doctoral Researcher, University of Essex</i></p> <p>Dr Kyle Rich <i>Assistant Professor, Brock University, Canada</i></p> <p>Dr. Ruth Beresford <i>Research Associate, Sheffield Hallam University</i></p>
1.45-2pm	<p>Plenary: Summary and next steps – towards a ‘Network for Co-production Approaches’ (<i>Prof. Louise Mansfield</i>)</p>

Keynote: Living Life to the Fullest Project

9.15-10am

Chair: Prof. Louise Mansfield, Brunel University London

Speakers: Dr Kirsty Liddiard, University of Sheffield and The Co-Researcher Collective, represented by co-researchers from the Living Life to the Fullest Project Katy Evans and Sally Whitney

Abstract: In this talk, we want to detail the politics and practicalities of co-produced disability research with disabled young people. We centre an arts-informed, co-produced research project - Living Life to the Fullest (ESRC 2017-2020) - that has brought together a Co-Researcher Collective of disabled young people. Co-production is an established approach; however, our young co-researchers have led us to develop inclusive research practices that engage with online and collaborative social research methods in innovative ways.

Biographies:

Dr Kirsty Liddiard

Senior Research Fellow, The University of Sheffield

Kirsty Liddiard is currently a Senior Research Fellow in the School of Education at the University of Sheffield and a co-leader of the Institute for the Study of the Human (iHuman). Prior to this post, she became the inaugural Ethel Louise Armstrong Postdoctoral Fellow at the School of Disability Studies, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada. Kirsty is a disabled feminist and public sociologist who believes in the power and politics of co-production and arts methodologies. She is the author of *The Intimate Lives of Disabled People* (Routledge 2018) and co-editor of *The Palgrave Handbook of Disabled Children's Childhood Studies* (Palgrave 2018) with Katherine Runswick-Cole and Tillie Curran.

Sally Whitney

Community Researcher, The University of Sheffield

Sally is a community academic researcher, predominantly with the University of Sheffield. She works within the field of Disability studies and is particularly interested in the lives of young, disabled people as well Human-Animal interactions; especially Assistance Animals, as she has Canine Partner, Ethan,

herself. Sally has carried out projects in relationship with charity partners (including Scope and Canine Partners) and other organisations (including YEUK and the Open University) through the methodology of co-research. Sally is passionate about what can be achieved from using co-production methods, which involve disabled people themselves, to provide valuable and impactful insights into their lives. Sally is a Co-Researcher in the Living Life to the Fullest project and co-author of *Living Life to the Fullest: Disability, Youth and Voice* (Emerald, forthcoming) as well as co-author of various journal articles relating to co-production.

Katy Evans

Community Researcher, The University of Sheffield

Whilst completing her Disability Studies degree, Katy was selected to be part of a government advisory group for the Special Educational Needs and Disability reforms in the Children and Families bill. This gave her the opportunity to use her experiences to influence government policy to improve the support offered to other young people. Katy worked with the Council for Disabled Children to develop and deliver training about the reforms and promoting young disabled people's co-production. Following this, she became an advocate, supporting young people and their families to develop their EHC Plans. Katy is now working for a rights based charity where her role is ensuring people with learning disabilities are supported to live ordinary lives. Katy is also a Co-Researcher in the Living Life to the Fullest project and co-author of *Living Life to the Fullest: Disability, Youth and Voice* (Emerald, forthcoming)

Panel: ‘Experiencing Co-production’

10.15-11.15am

Chair

Robyn Smith

Doctoral Researcher, Division of Sport, Health, Exercise Sciences: Brunel University London

Robyn Smith is a third-year Doctoral Researcher at Brunel University London, funded by the College of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences. She has five years’ experience using participatory approaches in Canada and England to explore the wellbeing and leisure experiences of young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds. Robyn is a Cumberland Lodge Scholar and Youth Worker who is passionate about building strong partnerships and working in collaboration with young people to co-produce impactful research. Robyn is keen to promote opportunities for postgraduate and early career researchers to develop their skills and exchange knowledge around participatory approaches.

Panel Members

Dr. Vanessa Pinfold

Co-Founder and Research Director: The McPin Foundation

Vanessa is the co-founder and research director at the McPin Foundation a small specialist charity. She has over 25 years of working in mental health research including using coproduction approaches. Her background is as a Geography graduate. At McPin the focus is on using expertise from experience to transform mental health research. Vanessa works on various research studies including development and evaluation of new interventions often with university partners, or commissions from voluntary sector organisations to evidence base work. Recently the focus has been community peer research with Black Thrive, evaluation of community transformation pilots, exploring impact of screen time use on young people’s mental health and developing a public mental health research study using photovoice.

Prof. Brett Smith

Professor, Department of Sport & Exercises Sciences: Durham University

Brett Smith is a Professor of Disability and Physical Activity in the Department of Sport and Exercise Sciences at Durham University. He is also the Department Director of Research. Brett’s extensively funded research

focuses on disability, physical activity, sport, and health. It combines thinking from psychology, sociology, public health, and critical disability studies. It also is often co-produced. One example of current research he leads is: 'Making Every Contact Count: Training the Social Workers of Today and Tomorrow in Supporting Disabled People to be Physically Active'. This 3 year project is funded by Sport England and the National Institute of Health Research. He is leading as well the new UK Chief Medical Officers' Physical Activity Guidelines for Disabled Children and Disabled Young People. Reflecting a passion also for qualitative research, Brett is the co-founder and President of the *International Society of Qualitative Research in Sport and Exercise*. He is currently co-editing a special section on co-production for the international journal *Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise and Health* and writing a chapter on co-produced research for the *Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research* (6th Edition). He is working with *Disability Rights UK* and *Sport England* to translate this academic work into useful and useable resources.

Amy Spiller

Programme Manager Young Citizen Programme: Coram

Amy Spiller is Programme Manager of Coram's Young Citizens Programme and leads on co-production at Coram. She has 13 years' experience leading and co-ordinating projects with young people to get their voices heard on issues they care about.

Djamila Bulakio

Young Citizens Trainer: Coram

Djamila Bulakio is a Young Citizens Trainer who uses her experiences of making a life in the UK to co-design and run workshops for other young people who are new to the country.

Prof. Louise Mansfield

Professor, Division of Sport, Health & Exercise Sciences, Brunel University London

Louise Mansfield is Professor of Sport, Health and Social Sciences and Director of the Centre for Health and Wellbeing across the Lifecourse in the Institute for Health, Medicine and Environments at Brunel University London, UK. She is Associate Director of the ESRC Grand Union Doctoral Training Programme; a partnership between Brunel University London, Oxford University and the Open University.

Her research focuses on the relationship between communities physical activity and public health. She has extensive expertise in partnership and community approaches to physical activity and issues of health, wellbeing, inequality and diversity. She has conducted her work with diverse population groups in different contexts and has over 10 years' experience of leading research projects for sport and public health organisations in the UK including the Department of Health, Youth Sport Trust, Sport Scotland, Economic and Social Research Council, Medical Research Council, Macmillan Cancer Support, Public Health England and Sport England. Louise has published widely in academic journals on the sociology of sport, leisure, and public health and is known for developing evidence to inform policy and practice.

Early Career Researcher Panel

Challenges and Opportunities in doing co-production *1-1.45pm*

This panel has been co-produced by the panellists and chair and seeks to critically and reflexively discuss the challenges and opportunities faced by Postgraduate and Early Career Researchers across multiple disciplines in their co-production work. This interactive panel will follow a question and answer style and allow time for questions.

Chair: Robyn Smith | Doctoral Researcher | Brunel University London

Gemma Cook

Doctoral Researcher, Brunel University London

Gemma is a second-year doctoral researcher at Brunel University London, under the Grand Union Doctoral Training Partnership, funded by the ESRC. Gemma is also an international disability policy expert, holding a part-time role at Leonard Cheshire Charity. Additionally, she has twenty years' experience as a neurological physiotherapist and is a practicing artist. Her developing research interest area is in applying creative practice as method to raise awareness and understanding of disability experience.

Beverley Goodman

Doctoral Researcher, University of Essex

Bev Goodman is a second-year interdisciplinary PhD student based across the Schools of Health and Social Care and Sport, Rehabilitation and Exercise Sciences at the University of Essex. Bev's PhD involves a Participatory Action Research project, where she is working with a group of five disabled people and one family carer as co-researchers to explore more accessible and inclusive ways of evaluating disabled people's participation in sport and physical activity. Bev is a founding member of the Disability Physical Activity Impact Collective, a group of individuals and organisations that aim to transform the impact, quality and range of physical activity options for disabled people, through better evaluation, shared learning and co-production.

A qualified Occupational Therapist and part-time Lecturer in Occupational Therapy at Essex, Bev is particularly interested in how Occupational Therapists

can work with marginalised groups to address inequalities in access to occupations (particularly sport and physical activity) through collaborative research approaches. Bev brings interests in Occupational Justice and Social Justice into both her research and teaching.

Dr. Kyle Rich

Assistant Professor, Brock University, Canada

Kyle is an Assistant Professor at Brock University, in St. Catharines, Canada. His research focuses on sport and recreation programming and policy making. He is particularly interested in rural community development and using participatory and action-oriented research methodologies.

Dr. Ruth Beresford

Research Associate, Sheffield Hallam University

Ruth is a Research Associate in the Department of Psychology, Sociology and Politics at Sheffield Hallam University. Her research focuses on pornography, women's sexualities and sexual lives, and sex education. She is particularly interested in using participatory and collaborative research methodologies to research these fields.