



Interdisciplinarity: common ground as public good

Prof Pamela Cox



Interdisciplinarity needs...

1. communication
2. clarity
3. compromise
4. reflexivity within/between specialisms...

...to open up new creative common ground as a public good.

'interdisciplinary research as a public good'

Elizabeth Warren (2012)
'Balance of Knowledge'

In *A Debtor World:
Interdisciplinary Perspectives on
Debt*, ed Ralph Brubaker et al.





Victims' access to justice in English criminal courts, 1675 to the present





Interdisciplinary Team

- Prof Pam Cox - *Sociology/History*
- Prof Barry Godfrey - *Criminology/History*
- Dr Ruth Lamont - *Law*
- Prof Bob Shoemaker - *History*
- Prof Heather Shore - *History*
- Prof Sandra Walklate - *Sociology/Criminology*
- Dr Elisa Impara - *Sociology/Criminology*
- Lucy Williams - *History/Criminology*



Victims project aims

1. To profile victims engaging in criminal trials in England, 1675 to present;
2. To track the changing combinations of rights, resources and services available to these victims, and the use/uptake of these by these victims;
3. To use this new data to recommend new ways to frame victims' access to justice and reduce 'justice gaps'.



Victims project methods: dataset summary

1. 1670s-1910s: 198,000 identified victims in Old Bailey trials
2. 1910s-1980s: 9,000+ OB trial victims drawn from *Times* reports
3. 1980s-2010s: secondary data on OB and other criminal trial victims drawn from CJS agencies; aggregated survey data from *British Crime Survey* and *Crime Survey for England and Wales*



Reducing recurrent care proceedings



- Prof Pam Cox - *Sociology/History*
- Dr Susan McPherson - *Health/Social Psychology*
- Dr Frances Blumenfeld - *Clinical Psychology*
- Dr Danny Taggart - *Clinical Psychology*

Interdisciplinary Essex Team



Recurrent care project & impact case study context and aims

1 in 4 birth mothers who have a child taken into care in England will re-appear in further care proceedings within 7 years.

Our research has co-created a new interdisciplinary evidence base underpinning:

- new service design and development
- new evaluation methodology
- new resources for frontline staff and birth parents



South East Network for Social Sciences

An ESRC doctoral training partnership (DTP) spanning
10 universities and 13 disciplines





SeNSS universities





SeNSS disciplines

- Business and Management
- Development Studies
- Economics
- Education
- Human Geography
- Linguistics
- Politics and International Studies
- Psychology
- Science, Tech and Sustainability Studies
- Social Anthropology
- Social Work and Social Policy
- Socio-Legal Studies
- Sociology



TV history depends on teams...

[Servants](#) (2012)

[Shopgirls](#) (2014)

[Edwardian Britain in Colour](#) (2019-20)



More information

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Victims project www.esrcvictims.org

Recurrent care project 1 [link](#)

Recurrent care project 2 [link](#)

SeNSS <https://senss-dtp.ac.uk/>