



The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 354, 13 June 2022

Events

Events have been added to the Courses & Events pages on The Network website – see: <http://www.seapn.org.uk/courses>.

Coronavirus/COVID-19

“Concern over young children’s development after lockdowns”

<https://www.cypnow.co.uk/news/article/concern-over-young-children-s-development-after-lockdowns>

(Source: Children & Young People Now *Early Years and Education Bulletin*, 24 May 2022)

Article reporting on recent research which has shown that: “The proportion of reception-aged children developing as expected academically, emotionally and in their communication has dropped markedly following Covid-19 lockdowns.”

The full research is at: <https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/projects-and-evaluation/projects/the-impact-of-the-covid-19-pandemic-on-childrens-socioemotional-well-being-and-attainment-during-the-reception-year>.

Congratulations!

“Museum of Homelessness”

<https://museumofhomelessness.org/2022/05/23/secret-museum-scoops-best-temporary-exhibition-award/>

“Museum of Homelessness’s Secret Museum has received the prestigious best temporary exhibition award (under £80,000) at the 2022 Museum and Heritage awards. Winners from across the UK were revealed in a range of categories that are widely regarded as the ‘Oscars of the museums world’.”

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

Libraries and the cost of living crisis

<https://www.librariesconnected.org.uk/sites/default/files/cost%20of%20living%20crisis%20briefing%20note%20final.pdf>

(Source: *Public Libraries News*, 12 Jun 2022)

Important “Briefing Note” from Libraries Connected, which presents the results of a survey of public libraries, illustrates this with some short case studies, and argues for better resourcing.

“The survey revealed that more than two-fifths of public libraries have already experienced increased demand for services related to the cost of living crisis. And the vast majority predict the problem to get worse – with over 80% expecting the number of people using libraries to keep warm to

increase. The survey also shows the breadth of support provided by libraries: food and clothes banks, cooking on a budget classes, help with household bills coffee mornings and holiday activities for children are just some of the ways they are responding to the new economic reality.

The results show that public libraries are already playing a crucial frontline role in helping people navigate the cost of living crisis. As the crisis deepens, this role will only become more important and entrenched. Library services are ready and willing to respond but they must be adequately funded and supported to fulfil this vital community role.” [p2]

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

“Class Inequality Awareness Toolkit”

<https://www.diverseeducators.co.uk/class-inequality-awareness-toolkit/>

(Source: Diverse Educators *Update*, Jun 2022)

Latest in the series of useful toolkits from Diverse Educators.

The UK race class narrative report

<http://classonline.org.uk/docs/RaceClassNarrativeReport-CLASS-v27.pdf>

(Source: *Black & Asian News*, UK edition, 27 May 2022)

Important new report from CLASS (the Centre for Labour and Social Studies).

There is a very useful brief summary of the report and its key findings on the CLASS website, from where the following has been taken:

“Over the past year CLASS have been working in collaboration with ASO Communications on the Race-Class Narrative project, which captured the values and experiences of diverse working class people up and down the country. Through our research we have developed a new narrative that builds solidarity across race and class to inoculate against the powerful few seeking to divide us, and win progressive change. Utilising the methodology of phenomenally successful Race Class Narrative project in the US, this project responds to the way dog-whistle racism is used by the hard right (but also some parts of the left and centre) to create a divisive, ‘anti-woke’ narrative of the ‘white working-class’ being ‘left behind’ while people of colour and migrants are showered with unfair advantages. We find ourselves in a situation where the right articulates and builds this coherent narrative of ethnonationalism, and progressives do little more than publicly object to this story.” [Taken from:

<http://classonline.org.uk/pubs/item/the-uk-race-class-narrative-report>]

Health & Wellbeing issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

“Health state life expectancies by national deprivation deciles, England: 2018 to 2020”

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthinequalities/bulletins/healthstatelifeexpectanciesbyindexofmultipledeprivationimd/2018to2020>

(Source: New Start *Friday Round Up*, 29 Apr 2022)

The latest data (published 25 Apr) include the following 'headlines':

- “In 2018 to 2020, males living in the most deprived areas were living 9.7 years fewer than males living in the least deprived areas, with the gap at 7.9 years for females; both sexes have seen statistically significant increases in the inequality in life expectancy at birth since 2015 to 2017.
- Female healthy life expectancy at birth in the most deprived areas was 19.3 years fewer than in the least deprived areas in 2018 to 2020; for males it was 18.6 years fewer but there were no significant changes in the inequality since 2015 to 2017.
- Male disability-free life expectancy at birth in the most deprived areas was 17.6 years fewer than in the least deprived areas in 2018 to 2020; for females it was 16.8 years fewer but there were no significant changes in the inequality since 2015 to 2017.
- Females and males living in the most deprived areas of England saw a significant decrease in life expectancy between 2015 to 2017 and 2018 to 2020.
- In 2018 to 2020, females living in the most deprived areas were expected to live less than two-thirds (66.3%) of their lives in good general health, compared with more than four-fifths (82.0%) in the least deprived areas.
- There were significant decreases in female disability-free life expectancy at birth in both deprived and less deprived areas between 2015 to 2017 and 2018 to 2020; sizable reductions of almost two years occurred in Decile 2 and Decile 7.”

LGBTQ+ issues – News

“Nearly one in 12 young adults in UK identifies as lesbian, gay or bisexual”

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/lgb-office-for-national-statistics-london-england-b2087669.html>

(Source: email from the Peter Tatchell Foundation, 5 Jun 2022)

Just in case you haven't seen this news story:

“The proportion of young adults in the UK identifying as lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) has almost doubled in four years and now stands at nearly one in 12, new figures show.

Some 8.0% of 16 to 24-year-olds identified as LGB in 2020, up from 6.6% in 2019 and a jump from 4.1% in 2016.”

However, at the same time:

“UK falls down Europe's LGBTQ+ rights ranking for third year running”

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/may/12/uk-falls-down-europes-lgbtq-rights-ranking-for-third-year-running>

“The UK has dropped down the annual ranking of LGBTQ+ rights across Europe for the third year running, with organisers citing the government's failure to fully deliver long-awaited reforms on conversion practices and gender recognition.

The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association Europe (ILGA-Europe), which produces a yearly “rainbow map” of 49 countries across Europe, revealed on Thursday that the UK – which led the table in 2015 – had the most significant drop in ranking, falling from 10th to 14th place.”

LGBTQ+ issues – Other Agencies

“Monkeypox isn’t like HIV, but gay and bisexual men are at risk of unfair stigma”

https://theconversation.com/monkeypox-isnt-like-hiv-but-gay-and-bisexual-men-are-at-risk-of-unfair-stigma-183571?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20May%2024%202022%20-%202300222890&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20May%2024%202022%20-%202300222890+CID_f500ebff2e0a324189faad64c6a9008d&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Monkeypox%20isnt%20like%20HIV%20but%20gay%20and%20bisexual%20men%20are%20at%20risk%20of%20unfair%20stigma

(Source: *The Conversation*, 24 May 2022)

I’m including this as I have been around long enough to remember how we were stigmatised in the 1980s and 1990s – and this useful article is a good reminder not to make a link between “monkeypox” and queer men.

See also: “Monkeypox: UN condemns ‘homophobic and racist’ reporting on spread of rare virus”

https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2022/05/23/monkeypox-gay-bi-men-homophobia-unaid/?utm_source=piano&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=mypinknews&pnespid=taV1CDgZMaYE26PSrW7rHoPXvwKoWcVrMO21w7N4.0BmEuI435b2P.qnB.fkp.MyfXGjz0.OcQ.

In a timely but coincidental blogpost, “Notches” has just published an interview with Karma Chávez about her new book, *The borders of AIDS: race, quarantine, and resistance*, which focuses on the blaming by the US of other groups and countries:

“As soon as US media and politicians became aware of AIDS in the early 1980s, fingers were pointed not only at the gay community but also at other countries and migrant communities, particularly Haitians, as responsible for spreading the virus. Evangelical leaders, public health officials, and the Reagan administration quickly capitalized on widespread fear of the new disease to call for quarantines, immigration bans, and deportations, scapegoating and blaming HIV-positive migrants—even as the rest of the world regarded the US as the primary exporter of the virus.”

See: <https://notchesblog.com/2022/05/24/the-borders-of-aids-race-quarantine-and-resistance/#more-17012>.