



The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 360, 20 September 2022

Events

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

Black Lives Matter

Still rigged: racism in the UK labour market 2022

web version: <https://www.tuc.org.uk/research-analysis/reports/still-rigged-racism-uk-labour-market>

pdf: <https://www.tuc.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-08/RacismIntheUKlabourmarket.pdf>

(Source: *Left Foot Forward*, 1 Sep 2022)

This shocking new report from the TUC shows that, for example, when BME workers were asked to select all types of harassment that they have experienced at work in the past five years, they identified:

- “racist jokes or banter (27 per cent)
 - being made to feel uncomfortable at work due to, for example, people using stereotypes or commenting on their appearance (26 per cent)
 - being bullied or harassed (21 per cent)
 - racist remarks directed at them or made in their presence (21 per cent)”
- [p7]

It concludes:

“Too often, racism is only seen as a problem when an individual incident is identified – such as when someone gets abused or are treated differently because of their race.

What is needed instead is a collective, pre-emptive response that promotes equality and dignity for everyone, gives confidence to all staff that they need not stand for discrimination or bullying, and makes dealing with racism at work everyone’s responsibility. To achieve this change, government, employers, enforcement bodies and trade unions must work together to:

- Ensure that the workers at the sharp end of structural racism get a better deal. Black workers are significantly more likely to experience insecure and poor quality work. Raising the floor of rights for everyone will have a disproportionately positive impact

on Black workers and make it harder for employers to operate a two-tier workforce.

- Ensure that employers have a duty to embed race equality practices in their workplaces. Employers should be responsible for taking corrective and preventative action. They must ensure that they take measurable steps to prevent situations in which their employees are at risk of encountering everyday and institutional racism.
- Ensure that there are swift and effective penalties when workers experience racism. Everyone deserves to be treated with respect and dignity at work. All forms of alleged harassment and bullying must be dealt with seriously and swiftly.” [pp8-9]

“Ethnicity and the heightened risk of very deep poverty”

https://www.jrf.org.uk/blog/ethnicity-and-heightened-risk-very-deep-poverty?dm_i=7ADY,99SN,1R494R,141TR,1

(Source: JRF *Round-up*, 1 Sep 2022)

New blogpost from JRF:

“Like poverty in general, very deep poverty is higher for people in households headed by someone of black, Asian and minority ethnicity. In this blog, Peter and Rachelle look at important differences in both the levels and trends of very deep poverty, and the impact of the cost of living crisis for different ethnic groups.”

This blog explores in further depth some issues raised in the recent JRF report, *Going without: deepening poverty in the UK* (https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/going-without-deepening-poverty-uk?dm_i=7ADY,99SN,1R494R,141TR,1) assessed briefly in Ebulletin 358.

Cost of living crisis – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“Warm Banks”

<https://www.publiclibrariesnews.com/>

https://twitter.com/MartinSLewis/status/1570425388458819592?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1570425388458819592%7Ctwgr%5E24bb182be8d2a7846e99921235e78b5da4ded11c%7Ctwcon%5Es1&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.publiclibrariesnews.com%2F

Tweet from Martin Lewis:

“I’ve just commissioned/funded the @CILIPinfo charity to create best-practice guidance to help councils, libraries, unis and any other local organisations who want/need to set up and run warm banks.

If you have good info to help on this pls email warmbanks@cilip.org.uk.”

Cost of living crisis – Other Agencies

Supporting people with data connectivity (Broadband and mobile data)

https://www.goodthingsfoundation.org/data-poverty-lab/supporting-people-with-data-connectivity-broadband-and-mobile-data/?utm_source=Good+Things+Foundation+Newsletter&utm_campaign=fdc1924941-

[EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_04_05_08_12_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_874c1dbcc0-fdc1924941-110066901](https://www.goodthingsfoundation.org/data-poverty-lab/supporting-people-with-data-connectivity-broadband-and-mobile-data/?utm_source=Good+Things+Foundation+Newsletter&utm_campaign=fdc1924941-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_04_05_08_12_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_874c1dbcc0-fdc1924941-110066901)

(Source: *Good Things Foundation News*, Aug 2022)

Important and timely new resource:

“This guide is for charities, community groups and organisations that reach and support people struggling to afford internet because of poverty and the cost of living, especially those that are not specialist providers of debt or money advice.” [p2]

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Ending rough sleeping for good

Web version: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ending-rough-sleeping-for-good/ending-rough-sleeping-for-good#executive-summary>

pdf:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1102408/20220903_Ending_rough_sleeping_for_good.pdf

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 8 Sep 2022)

“This strategy sets out how the whole of government is taking action to meet our ambition to end rough sleeping, reflecting on the significant progress that has been made since the 2018 Rough Sleeping Strategy.”

NB Fuller assessment to appear in *The Network Newsletter*.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

“Averting disaster: the impact of poverty on disadvantaged children is a crisis we can’t ignore”

https://nfer.ac.uk/news-events/nfer-blogs/averting-disaster-the-impact-of-poverty-on-disadvantaged-children-is-a-crisis-we-can-t-ignore/?utm_campaign=1202245_NFER%20Direct%20September%202022&utm_medium=email&utm_source=National%20Foundation%20For%20Educational%20Research&dm_i=4R3K,PRNP,10J6KZ,3628A,1

(Source: *NFER Direct*, Sep 2022)

Blogpost from NFER, which looks at the impact of the cost-of-living crisis.

Migration issues – Other Agencies

“A Syrian academic at the Fringe: why I put on a show to reclaim the stories of refugees like me”

<https://theconversation.com/a-syrian-academic-at-the-fringe-why-i-put-on-a-show-to-reclaim-the-stories-of-refugees-like-me->

[190119?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20September%208%202022%20-%202395723935&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20September%208%202022%20-%202395723935+CID_46958d2c9ac7da37d6dd24ae41f0f8ea&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=A%20Syrian%20academic%20at%20the%20Fringe%20why%20%20put%20on%20a%20show%20to%20reclaim%20the%20stories%20of%20refugees%20like%20me](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/09/08/syrian-academic-at-the-fringe-why-put-on-a-show-to-reclaim-the-stories-of-refugees-like-me)

(Source: *The Conversation*, 8 Sep 2022)

Powerful article which looks again at the different responses to sanctuary-seekers from different countries.

“‘Hard working people’: how intersections of class, nationality and race in the UK are harming migrant communities”

https://migrantsrights.org.uk/2022/08/26/hard-working-people-how-intersections-of-class-nationality-and-race-in-the-uk-are-harming-migrant-communities/?mc_cid=284fa235db&mc_eid=f4e6ea96b3

(Source: Migrants’ Rights Network *Newsletter*, Sep 2022)

Another important post in the #WordsMatter series, this time looking at the use of the term “hard-working”:

“The harmful perception of a migrant as a drain on the State or a ‘scrounger’ are drenched in intersections between race and class. The characterisation of these communities as ‘lazy’ in comparison to the wealthy, combined with racist depictions of migrants and those from the Global South whip up resentment for migrant communities.

It is clear that the established narrative of the working class as lazy combined with imperialist stereotypes of the ‘uncivilised’ and ‘undeserving’ colonised are being weaponised as a motivation for anti-migration discourse and policies.”

“A hostile environment perpetuates modern slavery in the garment industry”

https://freemovement.org.uk/a-hostile-environment-perpetuates-modern-slavery-in-the-garment-industry/?mc_cid=1083914239&mc_eid=7d8713d645

(Source: *Free Movement Weekly Newsletter*, 20 Sep 2022)

Important article, showing some of the effects of the continuing hostile environment policies:

“The hostile environment has impacted the media, public attitudes, and most alarmingly the approach of our front line authorities. We have seen repeatedly how this has led to systemic failures in identifying and protecting against modern slavery, as victims are consistently labelled as illegal immigrants. There have been multiple complaints by grass roots organisations highlighting how public authorities’ treatment of victims allows cases of modern slavery to rise in the United Kingdom.”

LGBTQ+ issues – News

“7 LGBTQ+ issues Liz Truss needs to urgently prioritise, from conversion therapy to hate crime”

https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2022/09/07/liz-truss-lgbtq-conversion-therapy-ban-trans-healthcare-hate-crime/?utm_source=piano&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=mypinknews&pnespid=s7diBilcOLob1qWeoTusApSP7wP.SZI7LOHjzfZupBRm5scyekdCW6etf5x9ECBORsq.urr7cg

(Source: *PinkNews*, 7 Sep 2022)

This is a timely reminder of some of the issues we face ...

Broader issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Press release: “Baroness Sanderson to help develop new public libraries strategy”

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/baroness-sanderson-to-help-develop-new-public-libraries-strategy?utm_campaign=434985_Fortnightly%20email%207%20Sept%202022%20-%20MEMBER&utm_medium=email&utm_source=The%20Chartered%20Institute%20of%20Library%20and%20Information%20Professionals&dm_i=6WFS_9BMX,9VBO9,14CYA,1

(Source: *News from CILIP*, 7 Sep 2022)

“Baroness Elizabeth Sanderson of Welton has been appointed by the Government to help develop a new strategy to make sure public libraries are providing the best possible service for their communities [...]

Through the autumn and winter she will lead a number of sessions with the advisory panel of contributors who will be drawn from the library sector and beyond. Participants in the panel sessions will be confirmed in due course.

All sessions will be attended by representatives from Arts Council England, Libraries Connected, and the cross-party Local Government Association.

The sessions will help gather information to inspire a set of recommendations which will form part of a new government public libraries strategy for 2023, succeeding the previous strategy which came into force in 2016.

Input into the development of the recommendations will also come from the British Library, the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, local authority library services and community-managed libraries, as well as other government departments, to bring in a wide range of views and insights.”

Broader issues – Other Agencies

Citizenship: from right to privilege – a background paper on the history of citizenship-stripping powers

<https://irr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Deprivation-of-citizenship-Final-LR.pdf>

(Source: email from IRR, 12 Sep 2022)

New report from IRR:

“Beginning with the public debate over Clause 9[*], this background paper looks at the history of citizenship-stripping powers and their use over the past two decades against the background of the colonial roots of British citizenship and the way citizenship continues to be shaped by a colonial approach.” [p4]

* “In October 2021, the government added a new clause to the Nationality and Borders Bill 2021-22, whose nationality provisions, up to that point, had been designed mainly to enable the grant of citizenship to those historically prevented from obtaining it.” [p4] This clause allows British citizens to be deprived of their citizenship without notice.