



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Advancing Theory, Policy and Practice International Conference

Thursday 22nd – Friday 23rd November 2018

Join academics, policy makers and practitioners as we consider:

The theoretical, ethical and methodological issues in using ACEs.

Research and evaluative evidence of the impact of ACEs.

The challenges of using ACEs for policy makers and practitioners.

Alternative approaches to understanding risk and resilience.

Speakers include

Dr Pippa Rowcliffe, Human Early Learning Partnership, Canada

Professor Alan Lucas, University College London

Dr Warren Larkin, former Clinical Lead for UK Department of Health ACEs Programme

Janine Roderick, Public Health Wales

Professor Sue White, University of Sheffield

Matt Buttery, Chief Executive Officer, Triple P UK

Professor Sir Al Aynsley-Green, Nottingham Trent University



Keynote Speaker: **Professor Michael M. Merzenich**

University of California San Francisco

Expert in the science of 'brain plasticity', recipient of the Russ Prize (for the co-invention of the cochlear implant) and member of the US National Academy of Sciences.

Adverse Childhood Experiences

International Conference – Nottingham, UK

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Rationale

Since the mid-1990s, there has been an increasing international academic and policy interest in better identifying and responding early to risk factors in childhood and adolescence as a means to mitigate against problems in later life. In policy and practice, prevention is now commonplace across health, education and welfare services, much of it focused on individual behavioural modification and early intervention programmes. These approaches are often underpinned by academic work that favours longitudinal and cohort studies, together with a predisposition to the ‘what works’ potential of clinical trials work.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) offers one such example where early childhood trauma is linked to negative outcomes on a range of indicators in adulthood spanning health, crime, relationships, education and employment. Having gained significant ground in the USA, where much of the underpinning research originates, there is increasing international interest in its deployment.

The economic, social and moral case for early intervention is compelling, especially when set against the costs of late intervention. Yet such approaches are not uncontroversial, raising significant ethical and methodological questions. Too often, much needed debate is dampened by the overwhelming need to *do something* in the context of significant pressures on frontline services that engage with children, young people and families at risk.

This conference aims to

- Encourage and expand debate about the theoretical, ethical and methodological issues related to the use of ACEs in work with children, young people and families.
- Review research and evaluative evidence that considers the use and impact of ACEs.
- Encourage dialogue between academics, policy makers and practitioners, and identify new research questions.
- Invite participants to consider alternative approaches to understanding risk and resilience in a community context.
- Consider ACEs in the wider context of knowledge around risk and resilience, from multi-disciplinary perspectives.

Who should attend?

This conference is international and inter-disciplinary in scope, designed to strengthen the dialogue between academics, policy makers, practitioners and other stakeholders. It will be of particular interest to those involved in teaching and research or practice in health, criminal justice, education, childhood and youth development and social work/social care.

Programme

Our two day programme contains a mix of plenary and keynote sessions, parallel sessions and workshops delivering academic, policy and practitioner insights into ACEs. The conference is action and impact focused, with facilitated workshops designed to enable participants to pose questions and develop new insights into the theoretical, ethical and methodological challenges posed by ACEs.

Day 1 chaired by Professor Sir Al Aynsley-Green

Time	Session	
09:30	Welcome	Professor Edward Peck Vice Chancellor, Nottingham Trent University
09:40 – 11:30	Antecedents of adult morbidity and mortality: programming of adult ill health	Professor Alan Lucas University College London
	Reflections on the evidence base for ACEs	Dr Warren Larkin, former Clinical Lead for Department of Health Adverse Childhood Experiences Programme
	ACEs in public health policy	Janine Roderick Lead for Public Health and Policing, Public Health Wales
11:45	Epigenetics and ACEs	Professor Sue White University of Sheffield
	Parenting and ACEs	Matt Buttery Chief Executive Officer, Triple P (Positive Parenting Programme) UK
12:30	Action Workshops on Plenary Sessions 1 & 2 followed by lunch	
14:00	Keynote Speech: Rewiring the Damaged Brain	Professor Michael M. Merzenich University of California San Francisco
	Implications of ACEs (Panel)	Speakers from the day and other guests
15:45	Coffee and Action Workshops on Plenary Sessions 3 & 4	
16:30	Feedback from Action Workshops and summation.	Professor Sir Al Aynsley-Green
19:00	Conference dinner at Colwick Hall.	

Day 2 chaired by Dr Jason Pandya-Wood

Time	Session	
09:30	Welcoming remarks and reflections	Dr Jason Pandya-Wood
09:40 – 10:40	Mapping and Building Communities for Children and Young People	Dr Pippa Rowcliffe Human Early Learning Partnership, University of British Columbia, Canada Dr Kirsten Asmussen Early Intervention Foundation <i>Plus other speakers</i>
10:40	Parallel Sessions (1) - papers, workshops and panels, followed by coffee break	
12:00	Parallel Sessions (2) - papers, workshops and panels, followed by lunch	
14:00	Issues in Risk and Resilience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bereavement and grief • Bullying • Crime 	Dr Katie Koehler Child Bereavement UK Dr Sarah Gardner Nottingham Trent University <i>Plus other speakers</i>
15:00	Parallel Sessions (3) - papers, workshops and panels	
16:00	Action Workshops on Plenary and Parallel Sessions	
16:30	Feedback from Action Workshops and close.	Dr Jason Pandya-Wood
17:00	Book launch and drinks reception to close conference The British Betrayal of Childhood: Challenging Uncomfortable Truths and Bringing About Change – Professor Sir Al Aynsley-Green	

Conference venue

The conference will take place at Nottingham Conference Centre, in the city centre of Nottingham and easily accessible by tram or on foot from the railway station. Our team will be happy to advise you on nearby hotels and other accommodation options. Join us at the beautiful Colwick Hall for dinner, networking and entertainment on Thursday night. Colwick Hall dates back to 11th century and was recorded in the Domesday book. Transport to and from the conference dinner will be provided.

For full details, including the full programme and to book your place, please visit:

www.ntu.ac.uk/aceconference