

**Centre Report:
Sociology & Social Policy Programme
The University of Waikato**

May 2021 – Johanna Schmidt

As with all the universities, 2021 continues to see the effects of COVID-19 on teaching and research at Waikato. However, we are encouraged to see that the increase of domestic students has, to some extent, off-set the drop in international student numbers.

2021 also sees the start of the implementation our refreshed programme of teaching, with a number of new papers starting this year, and further new offerings on the books for 2022. New papers reflect the expertise of colleagues appointed in recent years, and areas of contemporary sociological interest. These include papers on precarity, the body, policy shifts from welfare to workfare, and feminist perspectives on incarceration.

Research Activity

This section lists some of the highlights of the research activity in our programme.

Work involving multiple programme staff

2020 saw the publication of the edited collection *Neo-Colonial Injustice and the Mass Imprisonment of Indigenous Women*, with the editorship including Adele Norris and Juan Tauri. The list of contents can be found at the Palgrave page for the book: <https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9783030445669>

Juan and Adele co-authored the following chapter, for which the lead author is one of our students, Cassie Lewis:

Lewis, C; Norris, A; Heta-Cooper, W and Tauri, J (2020) Stigmatising Gang Narratives, Housing, and the Social Policing of Maori Women. In L. George, A. Norris, A. Deckert & J. Tauri (Eds). *Neo-Colonial Injustice and the Mass Imprisonment of Indigenous Women* (pp. 13-33). London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.

Both Bill Cochrane and Gemma Piercy-Cameron are involved in involved in a five-year research project *The expression, experience and transcendence of low skills in Aotearoa New Zealand*, funded through the MIBE Endeavour Fund and lead by Gail Pacheco at AUT and the Work Research Institute. The following working paper emerges from this project:

Cochrane, W., Erwin, C., Furness, J., Hedges, M., Masters-Awatere, B., Meehan, L., Ofe-Grant, B., Piercy-Cameron, G., Rua, M. (2020). Adult literacy and numeracy in Aotearoa New Zealand: Context, conceptual issues and existing evidence. NZ Work Research Institute. Auckland, NZ. Available from:

https://workresearch.aut.ac.nz/data/assets/pdf_file/0011/439733/MBIE-low-LN-literature.pdf

Gemma and Bill are also both involved in the new social policy textbook *Social policy practice and process in Aotearoa New Zealand*, with the following chapters including authorship of one or both of them:

Piercy, G. East, D., & Cochrane, B. (2021). Welfare: Income levels and distribution. In G. Hassel & G. Karacaoglu *Social policy practice and processes in Aotearoa New Zealand*. Palmerston North: Massey University Press.

Maloney, K., Yeung, P. & Piercy, G. (2021). Ageing and retirement in Aotearoa New Zealand. In G. Hassel & G. Karacaoglu *Social policy practice and processes in Aotearoa New Zealand*. Palmerston North: Massey University Press.

The chapter on welfare is also co-authored by Dayna East, who recently completed her Masters degree in Social Policy.

Bill Cochrane

In addition to the book chapter mentioned above, Bill has had a number of other publications in 2020/21:

Cochrane, W., & Poot, J. (2020). Did the post-1986 decline in the homeownership rate benefit the New Zealand labour market? A spatial-econometric exploration. *Asia-Pacific Journal of Regional Science* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41685-020-00148-6>

Cochrane, W., Cameron, M. P., & Alimi, O. (2021). *Labor Markets, Migration, and Mobility Essays in Honor of Jacques Poot*: Springer.

Cochrane, W., & Poot, J. (2021). Effects of Immigration on Local Housing Markets. In K. Kourtit, B. Newbold, P. Nijkamp & M. Partridge (Eds.), *The Economic Geography of Cross-Border Migration* (pp. 269-292): Springer.

Bill is currently engaged in three major strands of research:

- an examination of local employment resilience to the COVID-19 shock at territorial authority level.
- determining the impact of skills on gender and ethnic pay gaps.
- a preliminary examination of white working class male masculinity on labour market outcomes.

Bruce Curtis

Bruce continues in his role as the Head of the School of Social Sciences. His major publication for this period is the co-editorship of the third edition of *Being Sociological*.

Matthewman, S., Curtis, B., & Mayeda, D. (Eds.) (2020). *Being Sociological* (3rd ed.). Red Globe Press.

Bruce also presented some results from his work with local humanities and social sciences academics, which we are all likely to find directly relevant:

Curtis, B. (2020). Key findings from an attitudinal study of academic staff in the humanities and social sciences. In Sociology Seminar 2020, Sociology, University of Waikato, 3 June, 2020. Via Zoom only: <https://waikato.zoom.us/j/92410001568>.. Retrieved from <https://events.waikato.ac.nz/events/sociology-seminar-2020>

David Neilson

David had a number of outputs in 2020/21. He also has two book projects currently in the pipeline – watch this space.

Neilson D (2021) Reversing the catastrophe of neoliberal led-capitalism in the time of coronavirus: Towards a democratic socialist alternative, *Capital & Class*, advance online edition: 1–23. DOI: 10.1177/0309816821997114

Neilson D (2021) Beyond Regressive Nationalism and the Neoliberal Model of Development, *Review of Radical Political Economics*, Vol. 53(1): 17–34. DOI: 10.1177/0486613420945408

Neilson D (2020) Bringing in the ‘neoliberal model of development’, *Capital & Class*, Vol. 44(1) 85-108. DOI: 10.1177/0309816819852746

Michael A. Peters & David Neilson (2020): Theorising immaterial labor: Toward creativity, co(labor)ation and collective intelligence, *Educational Philosophy and Theory*, online November 2020. doi.org/10.1080/00131857.2020.1840349

Michael A. Peters, David Neilson & Liz Jackson (2020): Post-marxism, humanism and (post)structuralism: Educational philosophy and theory, *Educational Philosophy and Theory*, online publication 1 October 2020. DOI: 10.1080/00131857.2020.1824783.

Neilson D (2020) The democratic socialisation of knowledge: Integral to an alternative to the neoliberal model of development. In: Peters M, Beasley T, Jandric P, et al. (eds) *Knowledge Socialism. The Rise of Peer Production: Collegiality, Collaboration and Collective Intelligence*. Singapore: Springer, pp. 134–153.

Invited commentaries:

Neilson D 2020 Beyond the subject-object binary: Towards cosmopolitan knowledge, *Theory & Psychology*, Vol. 30(3) 448- 454. DOI: 10.1177/0959354320920943

Neilson D (2020) On the Edge of the Abyss: From Denial to Praxis, *Knowledge Cultures* 8(2), 2020: 44–50. doi:10.22381/KC8220207

Invited editorials:

David Neilson (2021): Editorial: Reading Marx again, *Educational Philosophy and Theory*, 5 April, DOI: 10.1080/00131857.2021.1906648

David Neilson (2020) Editorial: Epistemic violence in the time of coronavirus: From the legacy of the western limits of Spivak's 'can the subaltern speak' to an alternative to the 'neoliberal model of development', *Educational Philosophy and Theory*, published online 10 April 2020. DOI:10.1080/00131857.2020.1750092.

David Neilson & Michael A. Peters (2020) Capitalism's slavery, *Educational Philosophy and Theory*, 52(5): 475-484. DOI: 10.1080/00131857.2019.1595323.

Extended Book Review:

David Neilson (2020) Making Socialism within Capitalism (Extended book review of Boston, 2019, Transforming the Welfare State.) *Counterfutures*, 10: 168-175.

Adele Norris

In addition to the edited collection mentioned above, Adele published the below journal article, and wrote a number of blogs for various outlets in 2020, focusing on ethnicity, and particularly on the Black Lives Matter movement. These blogs represent useful teaching and discussion resources, and encourage us to consider our own teaching practices.

Norris, A. N. & Nandedkar, G. (2020). Ethnicity, racism and housing: Discourse analysis of New Zealand housing research. *Housing Studies*, 1-9. DOI:10.1080/02673037.2020.1844159

Blogs:

Norris, A. (2020). Mississippi removes the Confederate emblem from state flag: Confronting heritage. Retrieved from <https://www.palgrave.com/gp/blogs/social-sciences/norris>

Norris, A. (2020). Fitting the description: Understanding anti-blackness and black youth. Pantograph Punch. Retrieved from <https://www.pantograph-punch.com/>

Norris, A. (2020). Anne Moody's coming of age in Mississippi: Seeing Anne's struggles as our own. Black Perspectives. Retrieved from <https://www.aaihs.org/>

Norris, A. (2020). Inaction is action - Teaching during an Anti-racism Uprising. Retrieved from <https://www.springernature.com/>

Gemma Piercy-Cameron

At the beginning of this year, Gemma was interviewed for a piece in *Stuff* on coffee culture – particularly the expansion of Starbucks.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/business/123932383/starbucks-revamps-and-expands-after-struggling-to-win-over-nz-coffee-snobs>

Gemma has extended on her PhD relating to baristas and coffee making to focus on masculinities, which has thus far led to a book chapter:

Piercy, G. (2021). Charismatic Killer Breadwinner: Gender Power Relations in Charlie Says (2018). In K. Barrett (Ed.) *ReFocus: The Films of Mary Harron*. Edinburgh, UK: Edinburgh University Press.

She has also contributed the qualitative analysis to a project on the impact of COVID-19 in higher education, on which the followig working paper is based:

Michael P. Cameron & Barbara Fogarty-Perry & Gemma Piercy, 2021. "The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on higher education students in New Zealand," Working Papers in Economics 21/02, University of Waikato. Retrieved from: <https://ideas.repec.org/p/wai/econwp/21-02.html>

Katrina Roen

Katrina is currently the programme's convenor. Her most recent publications continue her work related to the medical treatment of children with intersex characteristics, and she has also contributed to a blog on digital media – another potentially useful short piece for prompting class discussions. Katrina's Marsden application, in collaboration with Louisa Allen (The University of Auckland), has gone through to the second round. Title: *Beyond the cycle of shame and silence: a relational study of intersex experience*.

Lundberg, T., Roen, K., Kraft, C., & Hegarty, P. (2021). How young people talk about their variations in sex characteristics: making the topic of intersex talkable via sex education. *Sex Education*, 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14681811.2021.1911796>

Roen, K., Carlquist, E., & Prøitz, L. (2021). 'Does anyone else have this?' The role of emotion in forum discussions about medical conditions affecting sex characteristics. *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 23(1), 52-67. doi:10.1080/13691058.2019.1688867

Hegarty, P., Prandelli, M., Lundberg, T., Liao, L.-M., Creighton, S., & Roen, K. (2020). Drawing the line between essential and non-essential interventions on intersex characteristics with European healthcare professionals. *Review Of General Psychology*. doi:10.1177/1089268020963622

Roan, K., Carlquist, E., & Prøitz, L. (2021). (When) do digital media make us happy?
International Society for Critical Health Psychology Blog.
<https://ischp.net/2020/12/14/when-do-digital-media-make-us-happy/>

Johanna Schmidt

Johanna has been taking a break from teaching for the first half of 2021, and is focusing on research and writing. A number of papers examining public responses to Jacinda Ardern's pregnancy, and Ardern and Gayford's parenting, will emerge at the end of her research and study leave. Johanna is also commencing work on a longer term project on ethical non-monogamy.

Johanna's 2020/21 publications were co-authored pieces resulting from work with PhD students, in particular with Kyle Tan, who project utilised data from the *Counting Ourselves* survey on the health of trans people in Aotearoa – Kyle graduated with a PhD in Psychology in April.

Tan, K.K.H., Schmidt, J.M., Ellis, S.J., Veale, J.F., & Byrne, J.L. (2021): "It's how the world around you treats you for being trans": Mental health and wellbeing of transgender people in Aotearoa New Zealand. *Psychology & Sexuality*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1080/19419899.2021.1897033

Tan, K.K.H., Ellis, S.J., Schmidt, J.M., Byrne, J.L. & Veale, J.F. (2020). Mental health inequities among transgender people in Aotearoa New Zealand: Findings from the Counting Ourselves survey. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17(8), 2962. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17082862>

Tan, K.K.H., Treharne, G.J., Ellis, S.J., Schmidt, J.M., & Veale, J.F. (2020). Enacted stigma experiences and protective factors are strongly associated with mental health outcomes of transgender people in Aotearoa/New Zealand. *International Journal of Transgender Health*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1080/15532739.2020.1819504

Brown, J., Schmidt, J., & Veale, J. (2020) Reasons for (in)visibility on the university campus: Experiences of gender, sex and sexuality diverse staff and students. *New Zealand Sociology*, 35(1), 153-175.

Juan Tauri

In December 2020 Juan completed research on a Marsden-funded project with colleagues at the University of Auckland. The project examines Rangatahi Māori and Pacifica youth engagement with the criminal justice system.

In addition to the book chapter mentioned above, Juan was involved in editing the volume *Indigenous Research Ethics: Claiming Research Sovereignty Beyond Deficit and the Colonial Legacy* (publication details below). His 2020/21 publications include:

Ahuriri-Driscoll, A; Tauri, J and Veth, J (2020) Maori Views of Forensic DNA Evidence: An Instrument of Justice or Criminalising Technology? *New Genetics and Society*, online.

Bargallie, D; Cunneen, C; Marchetti, E; Tauri, J and Williams, M (2020) Developing Ethical Standards in Criminology and Criminal Justice Research: A Focus on Indigenous Aboriginal Peoples, in L. George, J. Tauri and L. MacDonald (eds) *An Introduction to Indigenous Research Ethics: Claiming Research Sovereignty Beyond Deficit and the Colonial Legacy*. Bingley (UK): Emerald Publishing Ltd, pp. 41-52.

George, L. MacDonald, L and Tauri, J (2020) An Introduction to Indigenous Research Ethics, in L. George, L; J. Tauri, and L. MacDonald (eds) *Indigenous Research Ethics: Claiming Research Sovereignty Beyond Deficit and the Colonial Legacy*. Bingley (UK): Emerald Publishing Limited, pp. 1-15.

Tauri, J (2020) Indigenous People and Criminology, *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice*, available online via <https://oxfordre.com/criminology>

Thesis Students

Theses within the Sociology and Social Policy programme include the following:

Sociology and Social Policy Masters thesis students

- Luke Furborough *An examination of white/pākehā young adults changing their religious identity in New Zealand*
- Christen Reed *The Effects of the 2020 Nationwide COVID-19 Alert Level 3 and 4 Lockdowns on Access to and Utilisation of Social Capital in Church Communities*
- Xan Harding
- Cynthia Martell-Stark *Measuring the pedagogical shift: Small scale review of the New Zealand Diploma in Legal Executive Studies (NZDipLEX)*

Sociology PhD projects

- Lynley Uerata *Four cases of precarious Māori whanau in Hamilton, New Zealand*
- Fungai Mhlanga *Digging though community gardens: An investigation of the social benefits of community gardens in Hamilton City*
- Darelle Howard *Bringing regulation to the fore of food regime theory: The neoliberal mode of agriculture and beyond in theory and practice.*
- Kyle Hefferon – project relating to whakapapa and wellbeing.
- Cayathri Divakalala *Young womxn's social activism as manifesting purposes and addressing legacy of differences in Sri Lanka: Revisiting feminist consciousness from the Global South*
- Roshanna Ali *Insights into the teachers' lounge: Teachers' perspectives on their well being.*

Recently completed thesis students

- Dayna East (Masters with first class honours, Social Policy) *Insecure Here, Precarious There? Workfare-style Welfare Provision in the Age of Precarious Employment in Aotearoa New Zealand*
- Katherine Hoek (Masters with first class honours, Sociology) *What about the violent offenders?' The possibilities and problems of prison abolition in New Zealand*