

**Child-rearing in a risk society: Provisional programme
Aston University, Birmingham**

**Wednesday September 16
Adult-child relations and the management of risk**

Registration/coffee from 10.15am

11am-11.15pm Introduction to the seminar:

Ellie Lee, senior lecturer in social policy, University of Kent, and co-ordinator of Parenting Culture Studies

11.15-1pm Session 1

Adult-child relations and the management of risk

Chair: Ellie Lee, senior lecturer in social policy, University of Kent, and co-ordinator of Parenting Culture Studies

Presenters:

Heather Piper, Professorial Research Fellow, Institute of Education, Manchester Metropolitan University

'The problem of 'touch' and other intergenerational issues'

Jennie Bristow, journalist

'Licensed to Hug - Adult-child relations and the national vetting scheme'

Stuart Waiton, Lecturer in Sociology and Criminological Studies, University of Abertay

'Antisocialisation: How intervention undermines individuals and communities'

Discussants:

Val Gillies, Reader, ESRC Families and Social Capital Research Group, London South Bank University

Frank Furedi, Professor of Sociology, University of Kent

1-2.30pm Lunch

2.30-3.45pm Session 2

Freedom and play in an age of fear

Chair: Jan Macvarish, Research Associate, Centre for Health Services Studies, University of Kent

Presenter:

Helene Guldberg, Associate Lecturer in Psychology, Open University

'Cotton-wool kids': who's to blame?'

Discussants:

Professor Aline-Wendy Dunlop, Chair of Childhood and Primary Studies, University of Strathclyde

Bernard Spiegel, Principal of the not-for-profit PLAYLINK

3.45-4.15pm Break

4.15-5.45pm Session 3

Culture and risk management

Chair: Pam Lowe, lecturer in sociology, Aston University

Presenters:

Lydia Martens, senior lecturer in sociology, University of Keele

'Safety, Safety, Safety for Small Fry': The Conjoining of Children and Safety in Commercial Communities of Parenthood'

Timo Heimerdinger, Juniorprofessor für Kulturanthropologie/Volkskunde, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität, Mainz, Germany

'Dummies and Fairies: Family culture and the question of authority'

6pm – 7pm Drinks reception sponsored by Imprint Academic, publishers of *Standing up to Supernanny*

7.30pm Meal at local restaurant

Thursday September 17
Healthcare, Risk and Motherhood

9.30-10am Coffee

10.00am-12pm Session 4

Feeding babies

Chair: Charlotte Faircloth, doctoral candidate in Anthropology, University of Cambridge

Presenters:

Sue Battersby, Independent midwifery researcher/lecturer

'Infant feeding and the mother-midwife interface in the antenatal period'

Helen Lomax, Senior Lecturer in Health Policy, Centre for Research in Primary and Community Care (CRIPACC), University of Hertfordshire

'You are going to be a wonderful breast-feeder': Mothers, midwives and the micro-politics of infant-feeding'

Discussant:

Professor Elizabeth Murphy, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of the College of Social Science
University of Leicester

12-1.15pm Lunch

1.15—3.15pm Session 5

Extending parenting backwards?

Chair: Esther Dermott, Senior Lecturer in Sociology, University of Bristol

Presenter:

Rebecca Kukla, Professor of Philosophy and Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of South Florida

'"Preconception Care" and the Transformation of Women's Health Care into Reproductive Medicine'

Discussant:

Emily Jackson, Professor of Medical Law, London School of Economics

Presenter:

Ellie Lee, senior lecturer in social policy, University of Kent

'Advocating alcohol abstinence to pregnant women in Britain: some sociological observations'

Discussants:

Colin Gavaghan, lecturer in law, University of Glasgow

Hauke Reisch, Winton Programme for the Public Understanding of Risk, University of Cambridge

3.15-3.30pm coffee

3.30-5pm

Session 6

Special Session: Book launch, *Standing Up to Supernanny*

This book, written by journalist Jennie Bristow and published by Societas, puts forward a powerful critique of contemporary parenting culture. It includes contributions from Tracey Jensen (PhD candidate, Open University), Jennifer Howze (editor *Times Online* Blog Alphamummy), Christina Hardyment (historian and author of *Dream Babies: Childcare Advice from John Locke to Gina Ford*), Nancy McDermott (US based journalist), Zoe Williams (columnist, *The Guardian*), Helene Guldberg (author of *Reclaiming Childhood: Freedom and play in an age of fear*), Val Gillies (Reader, ESRC Families and Social Capital Research Group, LSBU), Jan Macvarish (CHSS, University of Kent) and Ellie Lee (senior lecturer in social policy, University of Kent). Seminar participants are warmly invited to the launch.