



## **CPCS@Kent end of year Forum 2015: Book Launch and Drinks**

Wednesday 24 June 2015, 3pm - 5pm

Cornwallis NW 07, University of Kent, CT2 7NZ

The dominant cultural script is that the Baby Boomers have ‘had it all’ - the benefits of a booming economy, the welfare state, and personal freedoms - thereby depriving younger generations of the opportunity to create a life for themselves. In *Baby Boomers and Generational Conflict*, CPCS associate Jennie Bristow provides a critical account of this discourse by locating the problematisation of the Baby Boomer generation within a wider ambivalence about the legacy of the Sixties.

At this forum, Bristow will discuss some of the ideas in her book and how these relate to wider discussions about the sociology of generations and the ‘reproductive revolution’. Come along to join the discussion, launch the book, and toast another successful year of work for the Centre for Parenting Culture Studies.

### **Reading:**

Bristow, J. (2015) [Introduction](#) *Baby Boomers and Generational Conflict*.

MacInnes, J. and Pérez Díaz, J. (2009) ‘[The reproductive revolution.](#)’ *The Sociological Review*, 57:2, pp262-284

### **About *Baby Boomers and Generational Conflict*:**

*‘Like the fabled blind men trying to grasp the nature of an elephant, commentators on both sides of the Atlantic have struggled to understand the significance of the Baby Boomers, at different times offering very different, sometimes contradictory*

*interpretations. By telling this fascinating story, Jennie Bristow offers a model for a symbolic demography that critically explores how and why we assign meanings to generations.'*

*-Joel Best, University of Delaware, USA*

*'Scan the cultural and political landscape today and it's hard not to conclude that Western society is experiencing a pronounced blurring of generational standards. The current furore over the "Baby Boomer generation" only adds to this perception. Jennie Bristow's new book brings much needed clarity to all this generational confusion, and does so with no small amount of insight and flair. Required reading for social scientists looking for a considered introduction to "generationalism", or anyone heading for retirement who wants to avoid a future of nonsensical stigmatisation.'* -**Keith Hayward**, University of Kent, UK

Please contact [c.faircloth@kent.ac.uk](mailto:c.faircloth@kent.ac.uk) if you'd like to attend.