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LIFE COURSE CENTRE NEWSLETTER - JULY 2018

We aim to identify the drivers of deep and persistent disadvantage in Australia and develop innovative and practical solutions to reverse the impact of disadvantage on children and families.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

WELCOME TO THE JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER

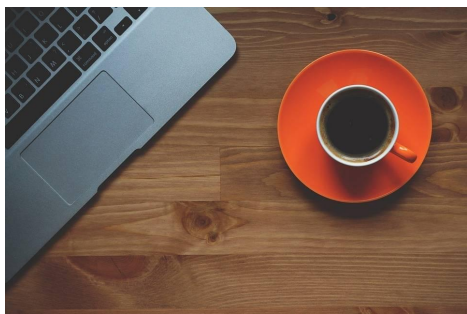


Welcome to the latest Life Course Centre newsletter for 2018. It has been a busy time at the Centre as the scope and reach of our research and activities continue to grow.

The Centre has been well represented at a number of recent international conferences, most notably this month's Society for Longitudinal and Lifecourse Studies (SLLS) 2018 conference at the University of Milan-Bicocca, Italy. Life Course Centre researchers hosted two symposia, showcasing their latest research to an international audience, and were a strong and visible presence throughout the conference.

We have also been fortunate to have a number of prominent international visitors to the Life Course Centre, including Life Course Centre Associate Investigator Professor Kathryn Edin of Princeton University, Professor Erik Olin Wright, Vilas Distinguished Research Professor at the University of Wisconsin, and Life Course Centre Partner Investigator Dr Orla Doyle of University College Dublin's School of Economics who is currently visiting our University of Sydney and University of Melbourne nodes.

In this newsletter you will find more about our recent events, achievements, our research highlights and our new website where you can keep up to date with all the latest Life Course Centre news.



VISIT THE NEW LIFE COURSE CENTRE WEBSITE

The Life Course Centre is proud to have launched a new-look website, which showcases all of our research, events, news and more. The new website is more engaging and user-friendly in order to boost the profile of the Centre, and further enhance our standing as a leading resource for evidence-based research on tackling deep and persistent disadvantage. In the Research section, you can explore our Working Paper Series and other publications and a new research search function is also in development. The News & Media section features all our news and other resources, including our most recent Annual Report. The website also includes details on upcoming events and opportunities to collaborate with the Centre. Be sure to check it out at: www.lifecoursecentre.org.au

LIFE COURSE CENTRE CHIEF INVESTIGATORS HONOURED

A number of Life Course Centre Chief Investigators have recently been recognised with prestigious honours and awards. Professor Matt Sanders of UQ (pictured) received a 2018 'Queensland Greats' award for his contribution to parenting and mental health,



while Professor Lorraine Mazerolle of UQ was awarded the 2018 *Sellin-Glueck Award* by the American Society of Criminology for her contributions to understanding crime internationally. Professor Deborah Cobb-Clark of the University of Sydney was honoured with the Distinguished Fellow award by the Economic Society of Australia, and Professor Stephen Zubrick of the University of WA has been announced a finalist in the Scientist of the Year category in the 2018 WA Premier's Science Awards. Congratulations to all.



LIFE COURSE CENTRE SHOWCASED AT 2018 SLLS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Life Course Centre was prominently represented at this month's Society for Longitudinal and Lifecourse Studies (SLLS) 2018 International Conference at the University of Milan-Bicocca, Italy. The Life Course Centre presented two symposia at the conference which were very well received, with our researchers showcasing their latest findings in areas such as educational outcomes for disadvantaged children, the causes of school absences, long-term outcomes of poor childhood health, outcomes of teenage pregnancy, sexual identity and wellbeing, and risk taking among adolescents.

[Find out more](#)



LIFE COURSE CENTRE STUDENTS CELEBRATE GRADUATIONS

The Life Course Centre is very proud that several of our PhD students have recently celebrated their graduations. Those enjoying mid-year graduation ceremonies this year included: Dr Martin O'Flaherty, supervised by Life Course Centre Director Professor Janeen Baxter; and Drs Amanda Acutt and Laura Bedford, supervised by Life Course Centre Chief Investigator Professor Lorraine Mazerolle, who has now had a total of five PhD students graduate in the past six months. Capacity building of the next generation of social science researchers is an important aim of the Life Course Centre and it is wonderful to see these students completing their studies and taking the next steps in their careers.

[Find out more](#)

THE TENUOUS ATTACHMENTS OF WORKING CLASS MEN

White working class males in the US are "at a moment of profound transition" as they renegotiate their relationships with the traditionally binding social institutions of work, family and religion. This is the important message from one of the world's leading poverty and low-wage researchers, Professor Kathryn Edin of Princeton University. The Life Course Centre was privileged to have Professor Edin, a Life Course Centre Associate Investigator, as its Researcher in Residence during our Researchers' Week in June.


[Find out more](#)


WHY COUPLES SLEEP BETTER IN MORE GENDER-EQUAL SOCIETIES

Night is supposed to be a period of rest and restoration - but for many of us, this simply isn't the case. A new study, involving Life Course Centre Research Affiliate Dr Leah Ruppner, Senior Lecturer in Sociology at The University of Melbourne, has found the daily demands of family for women, and work for men, decreases sleep quality. Luckily, there is hope - living in a country with more gender equality results in better sleep for couples.

[Find out more](#)


HOW STIGMA IMPACTS LGB HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN AUSTRALIA

Research in Australia and internationally has documented poor health and wellbeing among LGBTQI people compared to heterosexual people. What's less understood are the reasons why. While several studies have been conducted in the US suggesting this is due to discrimination and stigmatisation, new research by Life Course Centre Senior Research Fellow Francisco Perales is the first to examine this issue in Australia.

[Find out more](#)


WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LIFE EVENTS AND RISK?

A person's willingness to take risks can greatly determine the economic and social trajectory of their life. The Life Course Centre's latest working paper by Nathan Kettlewell explores the important question of whether risk preferences change in response to certain life events such as changes in finances, health shocks, parenthood, property crime and bereavement. The paper also examines whether any changes in risk preferences determined by life events are transient or permanent.

[Find out more](#)



AN ANTI-CAPITALIST APPROACH TO ENDING POVERTY

Professor Erik Olin Wright, Vilas Distinguished Research Professor at the University of Wisconsin in the US, recently visited the Life Course Centre to discuss his work on unconditional basic income - the idea that means-tested, targeted welfare programs are replaced by a sufficiently liveable income given to all. Professor Wright argued that implementing such a system eliminates cash poverty. "It solves that piece of the overall problem of marginalisation," he said.

[Find out more](#)

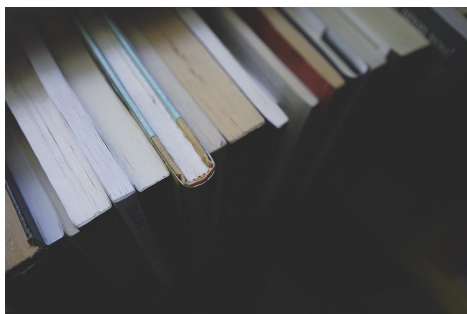
LIFE COURSE CENTRE RESEARCHERS TO HELP BREAK THE CYCLE OF WELFARE RELIANCE



A \$96 million Australian Government Fund designed to assist vulnerable young people is to be evaluated in a research project led by The University of Queensland and including researchers from the University of Melbourne. Research team leader Professor Janeen Baxter said the Try, Test and Learn (TTL) Fund trialled innovative approaches to assist people at risk of long-term reliance on welfare to move into sustainable employment. The research project will aim to provide evidence-based evaluations essential for effective policy design and implementation.

[Find out more](#)

MATERNAL EMPLOYMENT AND CHILDREN'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC OUTCOMES: AN AUSTRALIAN LONGITUDINAL STUDY



Amir Salimiha, a funded Life Course Centre Masters of Philosophy student, has had a paper published in the *International Journal of Public Health* titled: 'Maternal employment and children's socio-emotional outcomes: an Australian longitudinal study.' The paper was co-authored by his supervisors Francisco Perales and Janeen Baxter.

[Find out more](#)

REFUGEE SETTLEMENT AND WELLBEING OVER THE LIFE COURSE



The Life Course Centre brought together international experts to an audience spanning Australian NGOs, government departments and universities to discuss research findings from surveys undertaken in Germany, the United Kingdom and Australia on refugee settlement and its impact on individuals and society.

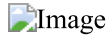
[Find out more](#)



DOES PARENTAL JOBLESSNESS DELAY YOUNG ADULTS' SCHOOL-TO-WORK TRANSITIONS?

In Australia, parental joblessness is the single greatest cause of childhood poverty. A new Life Course Centre Working Paper by Matthew Curry, Irma Mooi-Reci and Mark Wooden explores the impact of parental joblessness on young adults' transition to the workforce.


[Find out more](#)



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ISSR The Life Course Centre is administered by the University of Queensland's Institute for Social Science Research



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