

CfP Geographies of Institutionalised Childhood

The everyday micro-scale worlds, materialities, subjectivities and mobilities of childhood and youth have long been of interest to geographers (Horton and Kraftl 2006), yet, extant research in this area has often focussed on 'mainstream' childhoods from the global North. What of those children deemed 'problematic' or in need of care and correction? Many children and young people are subject to institutional interventions that seek to "design' and 'produce' particular and improved versions' (Philo and Parr 2000: 513) of their everyday, which is markedly different from the 'mainstream'. For example, in England last year over 50,000 children were subject to child protection plans, over 70,000 were in residential care (DfE 2016) and over 1000 were experiencing Young Offenders Institutes (MoJ 2017). Such significant interventions see children and young people's worlds shaped and remade by statutory services.

In this session we want to focus on young people as an under-researched subgroup within carceral geography while also building on research from other disciplines. The more dispersed forms of the carceral are explored in wider institutional settings. The interventions children and young people are subject to can be traced to the more classic institutions that seek to alter problematic behaviour but it is also operating in a more 'dispersed' spatial form that has yet to be addressed. In short, there is a geography of institutionalised childhoods that requires attention.

This CfP seeks to shed light on the everyday worlds of children experiencing institutional environments or interventions. We invite papers from all disciplinary backgrounds that seek to engage with, but are not limited to the following topics and areas:

- Young people's experiences of confinement
- More dispersed forms of institutional interventions
- Experiences of residential care
- Young people's carceral mobilities
- Health environments like hospitals and mental health care
- The family/home as an institutional environment
- Children's services
- School as an institutional setting

Please send abstracts of max 200 words, giving names, institutional affiliation and contact details for authors/presenters, to Tom (T.N.Disney@bham.ac.uk) and Anna (aks79@cam.ac.uk) by no later than Friday the 9th of February 2018.

This session will be sponsored by the Carceral Geography Working Group.