

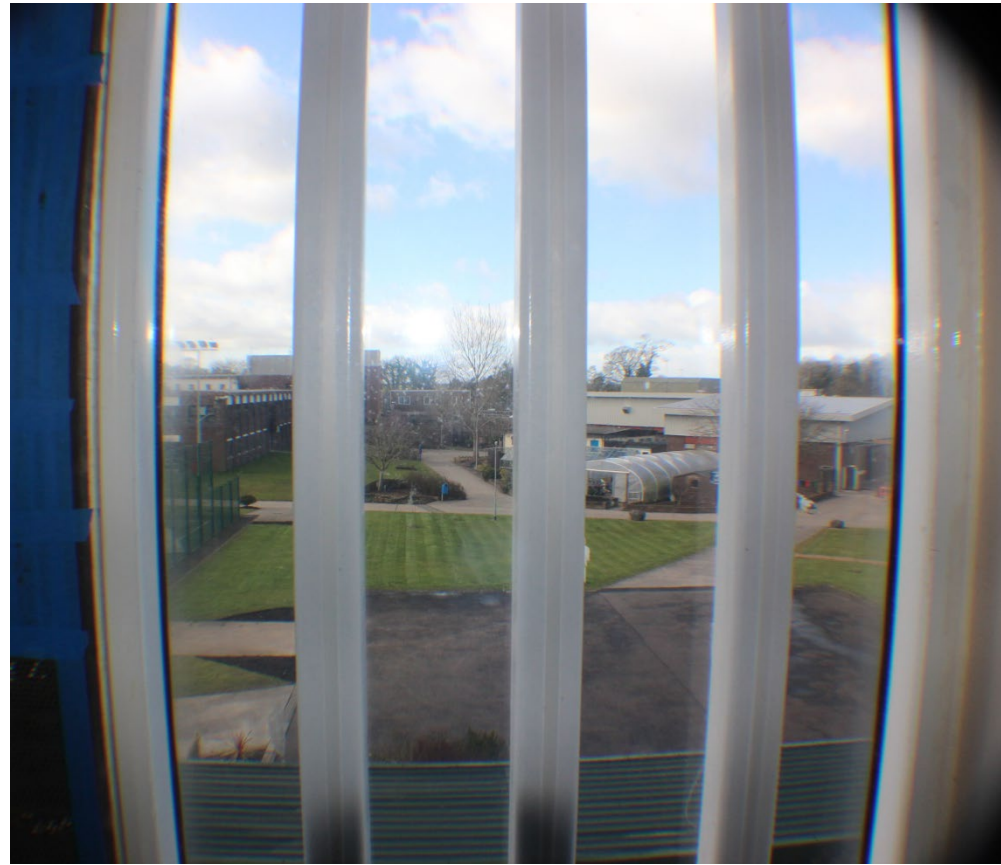
Learning from Young Adults in Prison

Lessons for Research

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Learning from Young Adults in Prison

- SU engagement contested; practically non-existent for young people in the justice system (Beresford & Carr 2012)
- How can we genuinely engage the voice and experience of the most excluded young people in a way that is **meaningful** for BOTH them and the students?





Structure of Presentation

Brief Overview of Project

Key Lessons for Undertaking Research

Young People as Educators Project

Aims

- To enable social work students understand a) what being excluded means for young people, b) what socially excluded young people need from social work
- To facilitate young people collaborating with social work students in developing a multi-media resource
- To provide excluded young people with opportunities to envisage education as achievable

Custodial Strand



Introduction

The Venue

- Where engagement took place was important
- Chapel – no security
- Lunch together in café
- Outdoor activities
- Gym
- Not the University



Implementation

- 8 young men, 5 students
- 10 project days
- Co-ordinating student group
- Operating within a custodial setting / expect the unexpected
- Managing student group's anxieties
- The nature of young men's lives, uncomfortable beginnings
- Contracting



The Journey

- Planning daily structure with flexibility within this
- Process as important as outcome
- Planning 'bite size' chunks
- Allowing lots of 'down time', time to get to know one another and chat
- Having fun
- Allowing project experience to take its course



Topics of Research decided with students and young men

- Experience of the Justice System
- Experience of Social Work
- Impact on Family and Self
- The Future



Planning Research Element

- Research Process not linear
- Time and Pace
- Building Trust
- Planning Interviews
- Issue of Consent – ethics v agency



Undertaking the Research

- Conducting the Interviews
- Creating the DvD
- Future Use of the Resource
- Equal Partners?



Completing the Project

- Project Evaluation
- Acknowledgement of expert by experience knowledge
- Awards
- Gifts
- Celebratory Lunch
- Future Engagement?



Read more about the Project.....

- O' Shea, J. & McGinnis, E., (2019)
'Do you really want me to tell ya!' Critical learning in engaging young people in contact with the justice system as peer educators with social work students'

Social Work Education

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**THANK YOU FOR LISTENING
ANY QUESTIONS**