

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY

Project Title: The Natural World of Child Protection

Short Project Description:

This research will examine the service response to families affected by imprisonment, including but not limited to; prison and probation services, law enforcement agencies and voluntary and statutory community services. The enquiry focuses upon *design*, particularly how to inform the design of a systemic response to children and their families affected by imprisonment, with the goal of influencing compassionate, creative and trauma informed care. Extant research indicates that when people are in distress due to trauma, they will often turn to family members and neighbours (Heerde and Hemphill, 2018, Mowen et al, 2018, Allward et al, 2020). All too often families affected by incarceration are misunderstood by society, they experience marginalisation and depersonalisation and their strengths are typically ignored. Perspectives like these limit opportunities for all involved – children, their families, service providers and communities. This project seeks to better understand existing theories of change, highlight gaps and strengths of this current body of literature. It is envisaged that this study will ultimately posit a more inclusive theory of change in support of the wellbeing of children, their families, their communities and families and those who work in this field.

Duration of Project: 48 months

Funding Agency: TUS RISE Scholarship comprises of a monthly stipend, materials budget and postgraduate fee for the duration of the award only.

Type of Degree Offered: PhD

Minimum Qualifications: A minimum classification of 2:1 honours or equivalent in a BSc/BA (Hons) degree and an MA in a Social Science/Psychology/Psychotherapy

Experience Necessary: Working directly with children, young people and vulnerable populations as a project worker, social worker or related discipline for at least 10 years or more full time

Any Other Requirements: Must have worked at least 5 years in a leadership position in a community-based organisation working within disadvantaged/marginalised areas

IELTS [International English Testing System] Applicants must have a minimum of 6.0 with no component score less than 6.0.

Research Supervisors: Dr Melinda Gushwa and Ms Cathy Jones

For further information, please contact: melinda.gushwa@tus.ie

Closing date for receipt of completed application form is 5pm on Tuesday, 4th June. Interviews will take place within subsequent weeks.

Download TUS RISE application form here:

<https://tus.ie/rdi/research/office/funded-research/>



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Arna chomhchistiú ag
an Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by the
European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach
Tuaiscirt & Iarthair
Northern & Western
Regional Assembly



Tionól Réigiúnach
an Deiscirt
Southern Regional
Assembly



AN tÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS
HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY