THE UK’S BIRTH COHORT STUDIES: UNDERSTANDING THE LONG ROOTS OF CHILDHOOD, AND GENERATIONAL CHANGE

Presenter: Prof Alissa Goodman
Date: Tuesday 24 October 2017
Time: 12.00pm - 1.00pm
Venue: RB Scotton Room
Centre for Health Economics

Abstract

This seminar will highlight some new findings from the birth cohort studies that are run by the Centre for Longitudinal Studies, at University College London, with a particular focus on the National Child Development Study (NCDS). Birth cohorts inform a range of policy questions including on the long roots of childhood experience, inter-generational transmission of disadvantage, and generational change. In this seminar Alissa will present an overview on three themes. First, some very early findings from a new project analysing the predictive power of the language used in essays that the cohort members wrote when they were age 11. Second, some new work illustrating the lifetime working histories of the cohort, and how earlier adult life is associated with labour market and retirement decisions of the cohort. Third, some of the evidence now emerging on striking generational changes occurring including in mental health, and obesity.

Presenter

Alissa Goodman is a professor of economics and Director of the Centre for Longitudinal Studies in the Department of Social Science at the University College London Institute of Education. She is an economist whose main research interests relate to income inequality, poverty, education policy, and the intergenerational transmission of health and wellbeing. Since 2013 Alissa has been the Principal Investigator of the 1958 British Birth Cohort Study, leading the team responsible for developing its content, design and analysis. During that time Alissa has overseen the age 55 sweep of the cohort, and the age 60 sweep – which will be a biomedical sweep – is now under design. Alissa previously served as deputy director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies in London, which is Britain’s leading independent microeconomics research institute.

VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME

The Seminar Series is free of charge. For further information please phone 9905 0733 or email che-enquiries@monash.edu

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