MANCHESTER 1824
The University of Manchester

ADDRESSING GLOBAL INEQUALITIES

Leading comment, research and impact

Global inequalities

GLOBAL CHALLENGES
MANCHESTER SOLUTIONS

Contents

Welcome

At The University of Manchester we're working and collaborating with communities, NGOs, policymakers and academics to address global inequalities and improve lives. Here we share with you the breadth and depth of research across a range of inequalities expertise – from economics to the sociological, anthropological, political and more.

Through reading this publication you may discover an area of research that is of interest, or a researcher that you want to contact in relation to your own efforts to address global inequalities. If so, please get in touch via global.inequalities@manchester.ac.uk.

My own story of wanting to make the world a fairer place through research at Manchester began when I studied here for my first degree. Manchester was an obvious choice for me – a University strong in its disciplines and also an industrial city with a history that includes Peterloo and the suffragette movement and a strong belief in taking action to bring about social justice.

Today I am the academic lead for the University's global inequalities research beacon. I still believe, just as I first did as an undergraduate student, that this institution is best placed to enable academics and a wide range of stakeholders to work together and make the world a fairer place. With a heritage of research in global development, health care, education, disaster management, humanitarian aid, employment and equality and diversity, we help to deliver real-world benefit.

While progress has been made in some countries and on some aspects of inequality, it's still the case that food, health care, infrastructure and resources are plentiful in some areas and scarce in others. Far too many households struggle with low income and poor job prospects and lack the basic services that are required for health and well-being.

In this publication you will find examples of the work The University of Manchester is doing to address global inequalities, and to dismantle the structures that reinforce marginalisation and indignity. We are working collectively to break through such barriers so that all people can live equitable and full lives, free from injustice and repression.

From our recent PhD graduate Dr Fortunate Machingura (page 2), to the Executive Director of our Global Development Institute, Professor David Hulme (page 8), we have many researchers and students who are working with partners and across academic disciplines to better understand the drivers of a wide range of inequalities, and how to address them in both the global north and south.

UK-Med – an NGO situated within our Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI) – played a crucial role in the UK's response to the Ebola crisis (page 6). We are working with a broad number of partners to understand effective states and inclusive development (page 38). As Ruth Lupton's research shows (page 20), we are seeking to work across the global north and south. In this and other research we are working at the level of local neighbourhoods and districts to understand inequality at multiple scales. We engage with everyone from grass-roots charities to large NGOs, from local councils to national and international governments.

As a city, Manchester has a proud history of protest and refusing to settle for the status quo. There is an undeniable need for this kind of active citizenship in the world right now, and, working with you and other partners, we are excited to lead the way. ●

Professor Diana Mitlin
Managing Director of the Global Development Institute (GDI)

Academic Lead for the Global Inequalities Research Beacon

Leaving no one behind by 2030

As part of a wider discourse to 'leave no one behind' in the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), **Dr Fortunate Machingura** talks about how she is developing tools to assist policymakers, development practitioners and donors to understand inequality among marginalised social groups in Zimbabwe living with HIV/AIDS.

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ESRC Global Challenge Research Fund Post-Doctoral Researcher

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Community symposium on the SDGs in Mwanza Communal Lands, Goromonzi District, Zimbabwe, attended by Dr Fortunate Machingura

The aphorism that no population or person should be 'left behind' continues to consume the development world. Announced in 2015, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have galvanised thinking about how to achieve this aim, and are based on optimism as to the world's capacity to cooperate and govern for sustainability, with an ultimate aim of ending poverty, deprivation and inequality for all.

History demonstrates that there is often a disconnect between the priorities of those involved in development policymaking and those at the receiving end of interventions. Closing these gaps has the potential to improve the legitimacy and effectiveness of development work.

This optimistic outlook informs my work as part of the Economic and Social Research Council's (ESRC) Global Challenges Research Fund, which I believe presents two significant opportunities. Firstly, the international network created through my research should help to leverage and build impact opportunities, and to debate the practical and contextually relevant mechanisms for bringing political and policy attention back to some of the cross-cutting issues that are critical to building responsive health systems, but which are not well understood – such as how to tackle health inequality and preventable mortality.

For many households in low-resource contexts, health is the difference between whether you live above or below the poverty line; whether your children can attend primary and/or secondary education; or whether you have access to potable water and decent sanitation. Yet there is a common failure on the part of governments to provide basic services, water and sanitation, which can erode trust and promote instability. Unless health inequality, and other broader social determinants of health, are tackled, those vulnerable to poverty, disease and deprivation will continue to constitute an ever-growing marginalised group.

Secondly, the project is already translating my PhD findings into useful policy tools – bridging that research practice gap. These tools might have a lasting impact on the advancement of well-being and quality of life of low-income communities, particularly those living with HIV/AIDS. The work aims to identify the priorities of marginalised groups, especially low-income people living with HIV/AIDS, by digitising and weighting their priorities through community-level data traces.

These will be linked with big data through well-being weighting economic techniques and transformed into an HIV outcome measure (CHOM) to strengthen understanding on what matters for the most vulnerable – and how data uptake by them could improve patient choice. This approach is particularly significant when local-level data traces are the condition required to access free health care, and a pathway to addressing inequality at the community level – where the need is greatest.

Understanding who vulnerable populations are, where they live, and what kinds of inequalities they experience, is critical. Effective participation for groups that are 'left behind' would mean that their voices are heard from the outset. Leaving no one behind also means moving towards a culture of inclusion and human security, to strengthen solidarity. This is what my research aims to do. ●

> **"Effective participation for groups that are 'left behind' would mean that their voices are heard from the outset."**

Childhood urban inequalities in Latin America

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Professor Armando Barrientos participated in Habitat 3 – the United Nations' 2016 Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development. A key member of the UNICEF panel, 'Children in cities in the Latin America and Caribbean region', he discusses factors contributing to poverty and exclusion in many Latin American countries.

Why is urban inequality such an issue for children in Latin America?

Children represent by far the majority of the population of Latin America, and are therefore overrepresented in poverty compared to other groups. This is partly because large families with lots of children tend to be poorer, and partly because when your children go to school it can be one of the more difficult points in the life cycle in terms of generating income and managing your money. Also, a lot of the policies designed to reduce poverty and inequality have not been specifically aimed at children and child poverty until recently.

What are some of the biggest issues that children face?

Probably the most significant issue for children is the mismatch between service provision and where children in poverty live. If you map service provision – schools, hospitals and government buildings – they are all in the centre of cities. Low-income households live far from the centre, which can mean it is hard to access services like water, sanitation, education and health care. Public agencies are supposed to help people in poverty, but they are located far away from those they need to reach.

If you look at anti-poverty programmes as an investment in children's futures – improving things with future benefits such as their education and health care as well as current concerns such as their consumption and nutrition – then it is more likely that they will exit poverty as adults, and that their own children will not be in poverty, because they'll have had better opportunities within the labour market, for example.

Why is this situation so complex?

This is more than a matter of low-income families being excluded. If you have new accommodation, new houses and new buildings in a particular city, then the council has a responsibility to ensure they have gas, electricity and sanitation. In a context where you can plan this, the council will approve a proposal for a new development. However, the situation in Latin America relates to informal settlements, with people taking available land, and there is no real planning system.

It is not necessarily that local councils are ignoring low-income families and these inequalities – it is that they don't have the resources to reach them.

What are the solutions?

There is still an obligation to get water, sanitation and electricity to these areas. It takes time, but it does happen. It is a case of creating and developing an infrastructure. Property ownership needs to be considered, as most people don't have deeds or titles to their homes. They may have migrated from rural areas 30 years ago to access schools, and the property may have changed hands four or five times and there are no titles. Legislation is a complex area and provides some protection for the initial settler, but none to people who may have bought the property and moved on, or handed it down to their children or grandchildren.

What are your recommendations for policymakers and planners?

Rather than have a radical solution that erases everything and starts again, it is more a matter of how you can accelerate existing processes of development. How you can improve them and how you can pay more attention to people living in these communities. ●

For me, there are three key questions for policymakers:

1. How did we get here?

Why are levels of child poverty in Latin America so high compared to other groups in the population? Governments for a long time have not seen children and families as a key audience for social protection. There has been more focus on workers in informal employment to improve family well-being.

2. What should governments focus on now?

Government has to have innovative policies that improve the prospects of children and their capacity to develop as human beings. There has been progress, with governments now starting to do this.

3. What is the end goal?

To me, this should be that our societies are more inclusive and equal. There should not be a distinction based on where families are located. Tackling the prospects of children can enable us to get to this future point.

The UK-Med response to Ebola in Sierra Leone

Professor Tony Redmond OBE is Deputy Director of the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute as well as founder and CEO of the charity UK-Med. Here he talks about coordinating the NHS's international response to the Ebola crisis.

Much good has followed the outbreak of Ebola in West Africa. Firstly, the outbreak was eventually contained, due in part to a large international response. Many Sierra Leoneans risked their lives to address this problem. In particular, we look here at the health care workers who formed the largest response, and died in their hundreds.

The robustness of our own public health systems contributed significantly to the international response to contain Ebola. UK-Med, a medical NGO within The University of Manchester's Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI), assisted the UK government in recruiting NHS volunteers to help combat the outbreak.

We now have a national Public Health Rapid Response Team ready to deploy when – and it's not if – an outbreak of another dangerous pathogen occurs, as well as a national Emergency Medical Team able to respond to health emergencies and disasters both overseas and in the UK.

Policy needs to continue to formally recognise and promote the link between our safety and the vulnerability of others, and overcome any political, philosophical or funding separation so that the two can be addressed together. Despite the current move towards isolationism, we are still a global community, which walls – whether physical, imaginary or rhetorical – cannot ultimately destroy. ●

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UK-Med

2014-16 Ebola Outbreak

Ebola has an 80% mortality rate without early treatment

28,616 Ebola cases

and 11,310 deaths in the outbreak

NHS doctors, nurses and paramedics from the acute health care sector were deployed

Cost of deployment to the NHS

£1.35 million

50%+ survival rate with supportive treatment

An experimental vaccine has proven highly protective against the virus

Due to the work of UK-Med, the UK now has a highly skilled and well-trained group of health care professionals ready to respond to deadly viruses in the UK and worldwide.

Inequality and the Sustainable Development Goals

One of the aims of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is to reduce inequality. But how, when this is rising in most countries? **Professor David Hulme**, Executive Director of the Global Development Institute, tells us more.

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David Hulme talks with students near Masindi in Uganda

For a generation or more prior to the announcement of the SDGs in 2015, any meaningful mainstream discussion regarding inequality and its reduction was off the table. Governing elites and international institutions would barely acknowledge it as relevant to development, often dismissing inequality-focused academics and activists as hard-leftists.

Thus, the very inclusion of SDG 10, which specifically calls for "reduced inequalities", is a game-changer, and signals a paradigm shift in how the international community perceives and approaches development. The global financial crash of 2008 and its ongoing fallout has changed the conversation.

Existing evidence of the damage to society caused by high levels of inequality is being re-examined, while new research and popular campaigns have seen a fresh consensus form relatively rapidly as to the negative impacts of persistent, extreme income inequality – for individuals and the social fabric more broadly, in 'rich' countries as well as 'poor'.

SDG 10, with its specific target to "progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40% of the population at a rate higher than the national average", encapsulates this broad acceptance of the perils of inequality – not just between countries, but within them too.

However, this is not a radical goal – as arguing that the highest incomes must be capped, or that Gini coefficients must be reduced annually, would be. Rather, it is a modest, reformist target that seeks to ensure that those with the lowest incomes are not 'left behind' as economic growth moves forward. In other words, we still want our cake and to eat it too.

Since 2000, the rate of growth of the incomes of the bottom 40% has slowed year in, year out. Inequality is rising at spectacular rates. While different measures (wealth or income), different datasets (national accounts or taxation) and different analysts disagree on the detail, all agree that the wealthiest are getting richer faster than anyone else – except in Latin America. The real income of the global top 1% rose by more than 60% between 1988 and 2008.

Contemporary capitalism is based on economic processes that mean the returns to capital are greater than the returns to labour. The rich get richer, and when they do they are able to shape national and international public policies and law in ways that protect their interests. To top it all, by gaining control of sympathetic media plutocrats the super-rich can even persuade the public that inequality improves everybody's prospects. Billionaire Donald Trump somehow becomes the voice of those left behind.

What can be done? Few support the 20th century revolutionary solution of seizing and redistributing land and assets, as happened after WW2 in China, South Korea, Japan and Taiwan. But in most low-income countries, effective public expenditure on domestically financed education, health and social protection would raise the prospects for sustained growth, structural transformation and welfare advances.

Significantly reducing inequality in every country, and between countries, will require a Herculean shift in how economic and political systems operate, but it doesn't have to be the stuff of utopian dreamers.

Humanity has made amazing progress in reducing income poverty and raising health standards. The next big task is reducing inequality so that we can all enjoy a better life. A growing tide of protest – sometimes socially progressive and sometimes regressive – may persuade the 1% that they will not get the world they want for their grandchildren if business continues as usual. ●

This is an edited version of 'How has billionaire Donald Trump become the voice of those left behind?' which was published in the Guardian on 22 October 2016.

theguardian

> "It is a modest, reformist target that seeks to ensure that those at the bottom of the income scale are not left behind as economic growth moves forward."

IN CONVERSATION

Manchester Migration Lab

Manchester Migration Lab brings together more than 70 migration researchers across a range of disciplines at the University alongside non-academic and civil society partners, policymakers and politicians. **Dr Cathy Wilcock** tells us more.

What sorts of projects and research are you running through Manchester Migration Lab?

We are working on some exciting research bids which straddle different disciplines. We are also holding some academic workshops with leading migration researchers from all over Europe and the UK, and hosting some policy and advocacy events.

One event involves applying our research within discussions on mitigating fire risk in refugee camps, and another is on refugees and self-reliance in urban spaces. In addition, we are holding some really exciting events with non-academic collaborators, and there is our international conference – World on the Move – at the end of October 2017 with a public debate on Brexit.

What are some of the non-academic events?

We are developing a piece of theatre around the theme of 'borders' with a theatre company for performances at Hope Mill Theatre, 1–4 November 2017. We are running a newspaper writing project with some refugee journalists where we will challenge problematic and manipulative media representations of refugees and offer our own account of 'not the fake news'. Also, I've been working on some commissions for the Manchester International Festival's Creative50 programmes based on the themes of home and belonging.

Why do you think a network like Manchester Migration Lab is needed right now?

Public opinion on migration has been irresponsibly manipulated for political and ideological reasons by the right-wing press. A lot of popular discourse is very far removed from actual facts.

Why do we need a hub in Manchester?

It's actually quite a big achievement to get some think tanks and policymakers up to Manchester from London. Because of this, it is much easier for migration researchers based in London or the south to build relationships and to make connections. Manchester has so much to offer and I think our Migration Lab can demonstrate that.

Do you personally believe in freedom of movement? Why?

For me, it depends why, where and who we are talking about. I believe in freedom of movement within the EU and my reasoning is rooted in a rights-based approach. I reject the argument for freedom of movement which is grounded in a neo-liberal market-led approach. I'm not in favour of 100% global open borders, because I feel that would be one way to exacerbate all kinds of inequalities between the global north and global south, as well as between the educated and non-educated, the land-owning and working classes, the young and the old. Let's face it, only the privileged few would be able to exercise their right to move around the globe in a completely open border scenario.

How do you see the connection between global inequalities and migration?

Global inequalities cause both mobility and immobility. Poor living conditions, conflict and economic hardship are some of the main reasons that people cross international borders. However, inequality can be so debilitating that people cannot move.

Likewise, migration both causes and alleviates global inequalities. When skilled or young people leave their homeland, they take away some opportunities for its growth. However, their remittances – which in many cases exceed international aid – can contribute to reducing inequalities. Alternatively, they can create inequalities between those households that have a remitter and those who do not.

There is also, of course, the changing pattern of inequality experienced by those migrating and settling in new contexts. They are dealing with potentially discriminatory or plainly incompetent state apparatus in the asylum processes, as well as dealing with both institutional and everyday inequalities between migrants and citizens. ●

HOPE MILL THEATRE MANCHESTER

Creative50 supported by MIF

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Promoting gender equality in the cocoa-chocolate value chain

Leader of the research which saw Cadbury become Fairtrade in 2009, **Professor Stephanie Barrientos** tells us how addressing deeply embedded gender inequalities in cocoa-producing regions could improve the long-term productivity and resilience of the cocoa-chocolate value chain overall.

Women play an important role at both the production and consumer end of the cocoa-chocolate value chain, but the chain demonstrates significant gender imbalance. Many confectionery companies, concerned about the future resilience of their supply chains, are now promoting women's empowerment as part of their programmes to support cocoa farming.

Female cocoa producers largely work on their husband's land as unpaid family labour, and contribute an estimated 45% of labour input – typically at points in the production cycle critical to enhancing future crop yields and final production of quality beans. Yet only approximately 20% of recognised cocoa farmers are female.

As NGOs like Oxfam call for this imbalance to be addressed, leading brands have begun making public commitments to promoting gender equality. There is growing recognition that support for women's economic and social empowerment not only leads to significant gains for them as individuals, but could make an important contribution to the future sustainability of quality cocoa production and cocoa communities.

Research also shows that prioritising support for women working in cocoa production significantly improves the welfare of their children, households and communities. Linking the commercial and social dimensions of cocoa production could make an important contribution to the promotion of gender equality and thriving cocoa communities in the future.

Our research looked at two Ghanaian communities involved in the Cadbury Cocoa Partnership programme, established in 2008 to address challenges of the socio-economic sustainability of cocoa farming. It was expanded in 2012 by Mondelēz International under the Cocoa Life programme.

In Ghana traditional systems of land tenure mean that men constitute the majority of recognised farmers. In that capacity they are the primary recipients of training, extension services and access to finance, and they possess the passbooks required for sale of cocoa to licensed buying companies. Women working as unpaid family labour are reliant on their husband for access to information, inputs and income from cocoa, and are often not included in training.

There are signs of change, with more men bequeathing land and some male farmers 'gifting' part of their land to their spouse; however, women cocoa farmers still often face greater production constraints than male farmers, with less access to training, extension support, inputs and finance. This is despite the fact that their yields are often equivalent to those of male farmers.

Only concerted action involving multiple actors can address this, and it will be a slow process changing engrained attitudes and practices. ●

Stephanie Barrientos
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Recommendations

Our study generated the following provisional recommendations, designed to be further developed by all stakeholders to enhance gender equality in the cocoa-chocolate value chain. The industry needs:

- Clear strategy and reporting on gender equality both within organisations and along their supply chains
- Better incentives to source from women cocoa producers, independent of their land tenure status
- Better access for women to cooperative unions and small producer organisations as cocoa producers
- Better information and training on women's legal land rights; better implementation of government regulation on land rights; greater encouragement of land-gifting by male farmers to their spouses engaged in production
- Training sessions open to all engaged in cocoa production, and where possible provided at community level to ensure women are able to participate; more women trainers and gender sensitivity training for male trainers
- More women extension offers with more support to reach all farmers; women extension volunteers need better support, and compensation for their input
- Clearer strategies for public bodies to promote gender equality in cocoa, and clearer channels for community input into district and national policy formulation
- Greater alignment between public policy and commercial strategies to promote gender equality
- Better (commercial and social) rewards for both men and women engaged in cocoa farming, that take account of gender-differentiated needs

IN CONVERSATION

How are ‘rising powers’ incorporating and influencing global production standards?

An ESRC-funded research programme investigated the growth of industry and labour markets in the rising powers countries of India, Brazil and China and explored the ways firms, civil society organisations and the state are shaping global labour standards. We asked principal investigator **Professor Khalid Nadvi** to highlight some of the key findings.

How is the global economy changing as the balance of power shifts to rising powers?

The global economy is being transformed, especially by China, India and Brazil. One aspect of this is that governments, firms and civil society bodies from these economies are shaping the rules that govern international trade and production. For businesses in the developing world, meeting international standards – particularly on labour and social issues – is increasingly critical in order to gain market access. Western consumers show growing awareness about sweatshop labour, the food they eat, and how it came to their plates.

Yet, gains from compliance-based approaches in the supply chains to meet international standards, especially for workers and poor producers, remain unclear. Expanding trade between the rising power economies, their growing domestic consumer markets and the increasing significance of their firms raises questions as to how global social standards will be shaped in the future, who the key drivers will be, and what implications arise for workers globally.

What are some of your key findings regarding India?

India’s growth has been marked by the significant expansion of Indian lead firms since the early 2000s. India’s total stock of outward foreign investment rose from 6 billion US dollars in 2003 to 138.9 billion US dollars in 2015. Indian firms now have significant exposure to international markets, and they draw on their domestic market experience to help steer their international business strategies.

What has driven this expansion?

Indian firms have particularly focused on other developing country markets in the global south. In some sectors, Indian emergent multinationals are directly competing against northern lead firms both in emerging and established Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) markets. As such, firms are being increasingly exposed to international labour, social and sustainability standards. In sectors where Indian firms are active players in northern markets, firm-level compliance practices are advanced.

What is the situation in Brazil?

Brazil is currently experiencing severe economic and political challenges, undermining its rising power status. Nevertheless, in sectors as diverse as mining, meat processing and aerospace, Brazilian firms remain global leaders. State and civil society have had a strong and closely interactive role in the shaping of labour and sustainability standards following the re-emergence of democratic politics in 1990. Various governments have since implemented a strong regulatory framework through legislation.

Lastly, what were your observations in relation to China?

Since the economic reforms were enacted, China’s economy has undergone 36 years of extraordinary growth. Economic globalisation and the rising competitive strength of China’s economy have played a particularly important role in spurring Chinese companies to expand their foreign direct investment (FDI) and accelerate their transformation into global firms. China joined the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in 2001 and FDI has subsequently grown at an average annual rate of 36.5%.

Since 2008, the government has initiated a raft of new legislation designed to regulate labour standards, but its implementation is uneven. Grassroots activism and wild cat strikes have led to improvements in wages and working conditions for some, though this has primarily occurred along the coastal belt and Pearl River Delta.

What are the implications of your findings?

Our study suggests that fears of a ‘race to the bottom’ on labour and social standards as a consequence of the growing significance of the rising powers are unfounded. Yet, lead firm engagement with labour standards diverges across the three countries and our research suggests that companies engage with standards not only to access northern markets, but also due to local institutional incentives. Moreover, it appears that public and private involvement within the rising powers with environmental and sustainability concerns outstrips that of labour and working conditions.

It is also apparent that actors involved in developing northern market standards have an active interest in developing standards in the global south. It remains to be seen whether the rising powers will seek to shape standards in line with existing norms or develop and transform our current conceptions of what constitutes the content of global labour standards. ●

E·S·R·C ECONOMIC & SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

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Bringing human rights and business closer together

Alliance Manchester Business School Director of Research **Professor Ken McPhail** talks about the role of business in determining our human rights.

Businesses are both saints and sinners. The way we experience our rights is enriched by the products and services they offer. Give me an issue of current political, social and environmental significance and I'll show you how the private sector is implicated, both in the problem and in the solution to it.

Today, a burning issue remains the responsibility of high street names and big brands to honour their social responsibility commitments.

Often it is not intentional, but they can get caught up in unethical behaviour because supply chains are so complex and extensive and have become very difficult things to manage.

Business plays a big role, not only in influencing government behaviour, but also in determining an individual's lived experience of human rights – whether or not they are going to be held in slavery, whether or not they are going to be allowed to freely associate in unions, whether they will have health care, whether they will have access to education.

Many of our graduates will be leaders, many of them will be CEOs, and many of them will start their own businesses as entrepreneurs. They will not only want to do well, but also to do good. Business schools have a fundamental role to play in developing the next generation of leaders who have the capacity to understand the new challenges that are being levelled at corporations, big and small. We live in a completely different world now with different kinds of expectations from workers, consumers, the international environment and, importantly, investors.

What we need to do is enable them to see how they can do that, to empower them, to go and develop the next generation of social enterprises that have major social impacts but which are also financially sustainable. It is about having an impact way beyond the bottom line – having an impact on people's lives.

There is an increasing recognition that some kind of new deal needs to be reached for the ongoing sustainability of the global financial system.

You can see the Manchester spirit in its history in relation to the women's rights movement, the suffragettes, the labour movement, and to the cooperative movement. That spirit also seeps into the institution of The University of Manchester and gets to the heart of the core purpose of universities as society's critical conscience, where ideas can be converted into action. ●

Backed by the Lord Alliance Foundation, Alliance MBS has established one of the world's first business and human rights networks at a business school.

The network defines the challenges of business to respect human rights; engages key actors in informed and action-oriented discussion; informs the academic, social and political debate; and helps shape future policy and corporate practice.

Key themes being explored by the network include: modern-day slavery; the refugee crisis; gender equality in global value chains; ICT-related rights; and investment.

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The see-saw effects of inequality

When commentators refer to rising inequality, they mostly mean increased inequality in rich countries like the US. But while national inequality may have increased in some countries, global inequality has decreased significantly over the past 25 years. **Professor Kunal Sen** explains more.

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Consider two workers, one in the Rust Belt state of Wisconsin in the United States and the other in Shanghai, China. The American worker has seen their real wages stagnate for a long time, contributing to large increases in inequality in the US. The Chinese worker has seen their real wages slowly converge to those of the American worker.

Whose disparity should we care most about? That of the American, who has become worse off in relative terms in their own country over time? Or the Chinese worker, who has both grown richer in absolute terms, and whose position has improved as compared to their American counterpart?

The problem is that the forces that may decrease between-country inequality are the same forces that may increase within-country inequality. The main reason real wages stagnated in the Rust Belt has been globalisation, and in particular, China's entry to the World Trade Organisation in 2001. Substantial amounts of cheap, Chinese-manufactured goods were subsequently purchased by American consumers.

While this hugely increased the employment opportunities of low-skilled Chinese workers, leading to a sharp decline in poverty in the country, the employment prospects for American workers who had been producing similar goods deteriorated.

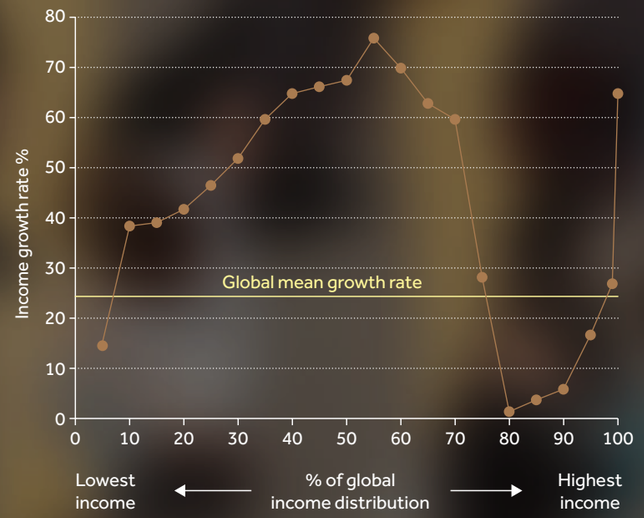
The conundrum then is: if one has to do something about reducing national inequality – as President Trump has said he will do by increasing tariffs on Chinese imports – it may exacerbate global inequality. Often simple-minded clarion calls for reducing inequality may miss the nuances and complexities inherent to the debate.

Between 1988 and 2008 we have seen the rise of a global middle class, which essentially reflects the move out of poverty of many Chinese households – and those of other very low-income countries. At the same time, we have observed a remarkable rise in the incomes of the top 1% globally.

The big losers from globalisation have been middle- and lower-income people in rich countries – represented by the big dip in Branko Milanovic's Elephant Curve (Figure 1). Their worsening economic condition explains, to a large extent, why inequality has become a core issue shaping the politics of rich countries today.

Most economists believe that extreme inequality of opportunity – in terms of access to quality education, health care and other factors that contribute to an individual's ability to live a good life – is the inequality that really matters, as it can lead to a persistence of intergenerational inequality.

Figure 1. The Elephant Graph
Global inequality has declined: Growth incidence curve, 1988-2008



However, economists disagree about the solutions and debate the benefits and costs of policies that attempt to reduce inequality. One example of this quandary is the relationship between structural transformation and inequality.

Nobel Prize-winning economists Simon Kuznets and The University of Manchester's Arthur Lewis taught us that, at the heart of economic development is the movement of workers from low productivity sectors like agriculture to high productivity sectors like manufacturing. High productivity sectors exhibit higher levels of inequality than low.

The solution for Chinese policymakers is not to thwart the processes that led to remarkable increases in income and a reduction in the number of absolute poor in China, but to find ways to manage the inequality-generating effects through a range of redistributive measures such as progressive taxation and social assistance.

We can call this the developer's dilemma, and it is one currently faced by many low- and middle-income countries. How inequality evolves in these countries will depend on the development path they choose. This will also have implications for whether global inequality is reduced, which should be the goal of long-run international development policy. ●

Ruth Lupton
Professor of Education and Head of Inclusive Growth Analysis Unit
Manchester Urban Institute
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@ruthlupton

How can we reduce poverty in Greater Manchester?

We are tackling poverty around the world and within Manchester itself. **Professor Ruth Lupton** heads up the Inclusive Growth Analysis Unit and tells us more.

The Inclusive Growth Analysis Unit (IGAU) is a partnership between the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and The University of Manchester. Sitting within the Manchester Urban Institute, the unit was established in January 2016 and charged with ensuring that poverty reduction is central to the development and promotion of the Northern Powerhouse and devolution, and supporting the development of evidence-based strategies for inclusive growth.

The Unit's most recent research presents key statistics on economic growth and poverty in Greater Manchester since the mid-2000s, and reports on a consultation with key stakeholders in the city region, setting out some of the ways leading actors might respond to the challenges identified.

The Unit identifies two approaches for addressing poverty reduction: 'Growth Plus' and 'Inclusive Economy'. The former takes the existing economic model as unproblematic, and promotes strategies for more inclusive future growth. The latter perceives inequality to be inherent to the existing model, and therefore that it must be rethought in order to achieve greater inclusion.

Overall, the research supports the development of a shared understanding of what needs to be done to make Greater Manchester not just a more prosperous city-region, but also a more economically inclusive one. It is hoped it will also provide insights for other city-regions, and create opportunities to learn from other UK cities and beyond. ●

JRF JOSEPH ROWNTREE FOUNDATION

180,000
working age people in 2015 had no qualifications

23.2% of the jobs done by residents paid less than the UK Living Wage in 2015 compared with 20.7% nationally

21% of neighbourhoods

were in the top 10% most deprived in England in 2015

There are now
60,000 more jobs
in the south of Greater Manchester
than before the recession while the north has only just reached its pre-recession level

An estimated
620,000 people
were living below the UK poverty line in 2013/14

Employment rate of people from ethnic minority backgrounds in 2015	57.2%
Employment rate of people from white ethnic backgrounds in 2015	72.9%
Working age people with a disability in employment in 2015	42.7%

Addressing global inequalities for 200 years

As both a city and a University, Manchester has a strong heritage and track record for addressing inequalities both globally and locally. Below are some key moments from the last 200 years...

Peterloo Massacre
1819
60,000-80,000 people gathered at St Peter's Field in Manchester to demand the reform of parliamentary representation following periods of famine and chronic unemployment exacerbated by the first of the Corn Laws.

Birth of Trades Union Congress
1868
The first Trades Union Congress (TUC) meeting was held in 1868 when the Manchester and Salford Trades Council convened the founding meeting in the Manchester Mechanics' Institute – a University of Manchester building.

Christabel Pankhurst fights for equality for women
1901
Dame Christabel Pankhurst was a suffragette and graduate in Law from The University of Manchester. She was co-founder of the Women's Social and Political Union.

Professor Arthur Lewis – the founder of development economics
1948
Aged 33 years old, Arthur Lewis arrived at The University of Manchester and became Britain's first black Professor. Over the next decade he became famous while at Manchester for developing some of the most important concepts about the patterns of capital and wages in developing countries.

UK-Med improves disaster responses
1995
This charity was established by the University as a direct result of Manchester research recommendations. It facilitated the provision of health care workers across the UK to support the hospitals in Sarajevo during the Balkans war and has since deployed teams to countries and crises including Haiti in 2010 following the earthquake, Gaza in 2014 following renewed conflict and responses to the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in Sierra Leone.

Launch of Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI)
2008
The HCRI is a research and teaching institute with a focus on the fundamental research that underpins humanitarian, global health, peace and conflict, and disaster response issues.

Cadbury becomes Fairtrade
2009
Following Manchester's research to investigate the Cadbury cocoa supply chain and find out more about the challenges facing cocoa producers, the Cadbury Cocoa Partnership was launched – a £45 million initiative to support cocoa growers over the next ten years. It also achieved Fairtrade certification for its main chocolate lines.

In Place of War project launches
2004
This Manchester project team engages NGO, government, academic and intergovernmental sectors across Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America on addressing terrorism, war, peace building, poverty, human rights abuses, LGBTI, indigenous rights, censorship, gang violence, refugees and limited opportunities for youth.

1800 — 2010

Launch of Business and Human Rights Network
November 2016
Backed by the Lord Alliance Foundation, Alliance Manchester Business School established one of the world's first business and human rights networks at a business school.

Launch of Global Development Institute (GDI)
February 2016
The GDI united the strengths of the Institute for Development Policy and Management and the Brooks World Poverty Institute to create Europe's largest dedicated development research and teaching institute, with 45 academics and up to 100 PhD students. It is home to The Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Doctoral College – the world's first doctoral college for international development.

A Human Development Report for Greater Manchester
June 2017
The University produced a human development report for Greater Manchester to mirror the UN's approach and provide new and innovative indices for comparing human development in Greater Manchester and its constituent local authorities to a national benchmark.

Global inequalities research beacon
February 2014
Global inequalities became one of five research beacons for The University of Manchester alongside cancer, energy, advanced materials and industrial biotechnology.

National award for developing age-friendly communities in Manchester
April 2016
A research study to improve the quality of life in low-income ageing communities in Manchester led by Manchester Institute for Collaborative Research on Ageing (MICRA) won the Working in Partnership award at the National Coordinating Centre for its involvement of older people as co-researchers.

Manchester Migration Lab
January 2016
The Manchester Migration Lab brings together more than 70 researchers who are working on migration issues across the University, and seeks to promote Manchester's migration research to academic, policy and practitioner audiences.

60 years of development studies
September 2018
2018 marks 60 years of development studies at The University of Manchester. The 1980s saw a shift towards diplomas and master's degrees from our Overseas Administrative Studies department, with staff increasingly active as consultants for a number of government and non-government agencies.

Launch of Manchester Urban Institute (MUI)
May 2017
With cities playing an increasingly important role in addressing many of the most pressing global challenges, the University created the Manchester Urban Institute – one of the largest urban-focused research institutes, emphasising the University's commitment to addressing global inequalities.

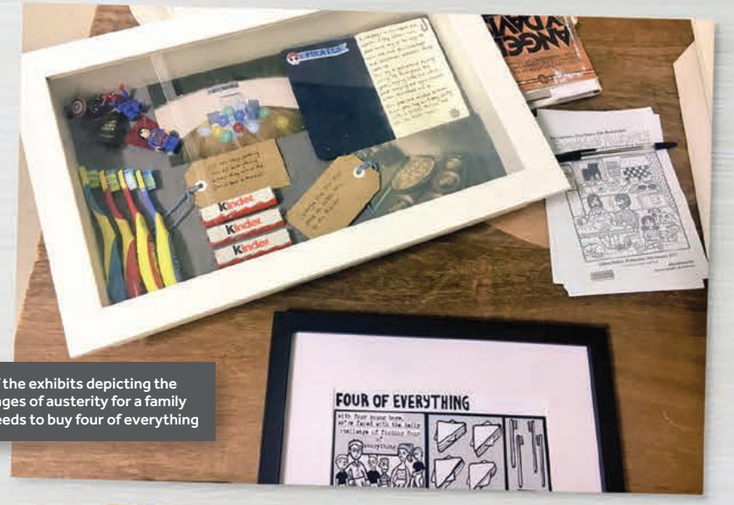
2010 — 2020

‘Everyday Austerity‘ exhibition

Dr Sarah Marie Hall produced the ‘Everyday Austerity’ exhibition which has toured the UK as the culmination of her two years of ethnographic research with six families in Greater Manchester.

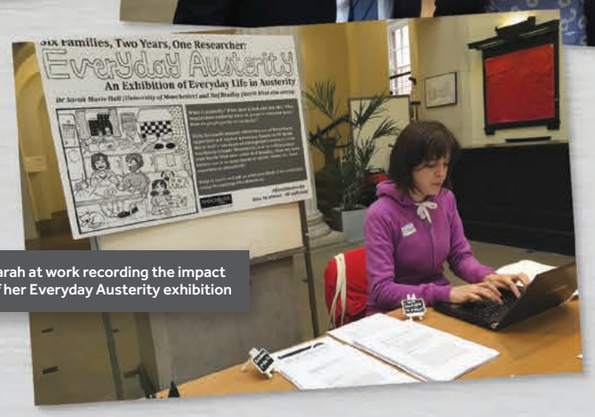
North-west artist Stef Bradley illustrated Sarah’s research into personal accounts of the day-to-day social impact of recent government spending cuts on communities and families in the region with the support of an Engaging our Communities faculty award.

Dr Sarah Marie Hall
Human Geography Lecturer
Manchester Urban Institute
www.everydayausterity.wordpress.com
@Sarah_M_Hall

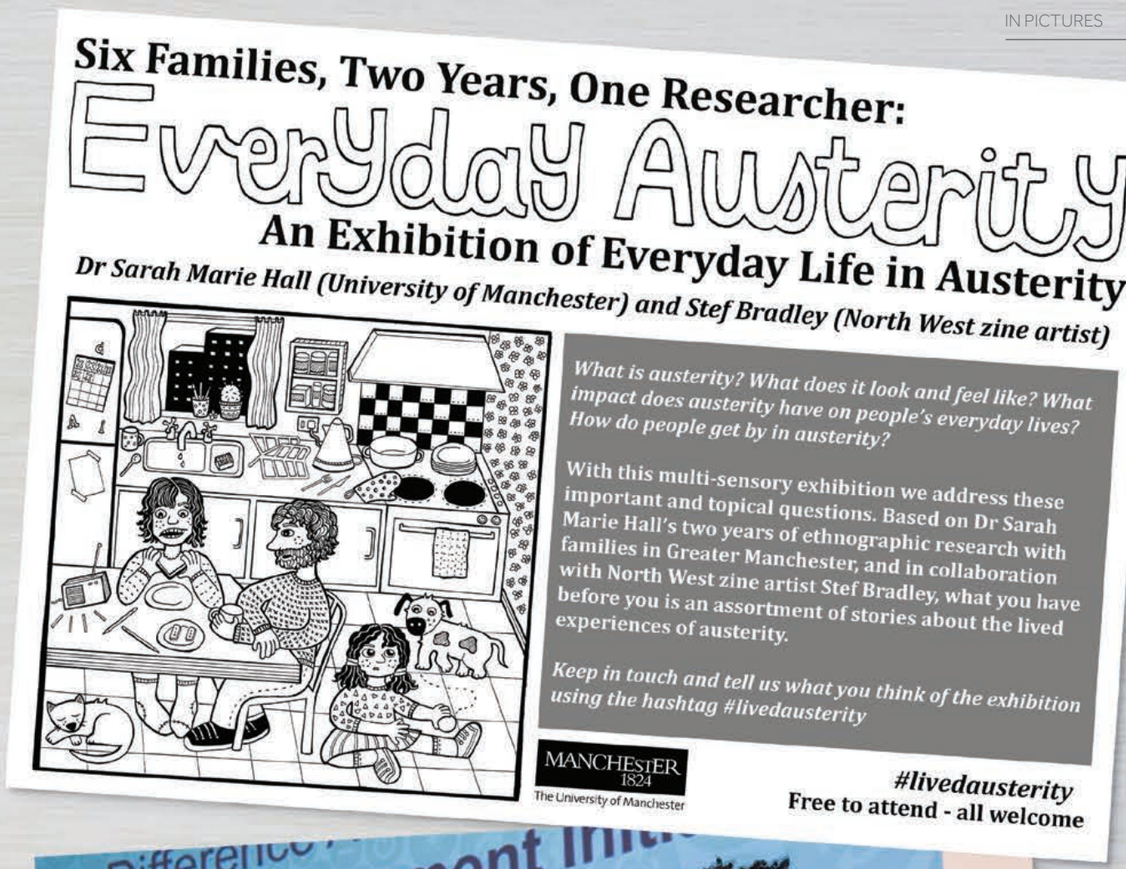


One of the exhibits depicting the challenges of austerity for a family that needs to buy four of everything

The Right Honourable Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, visits one of Sarah’s exhibitions



Sarah at work recording the impact of her Everyday Austerity exhibition



Sarah receives a Making a Difference Award for outstanding public engagement from the University’s chancellor, Lemn Sissay

The first Human Development Report for Greater Manchester

Professor Jill Rubery talks about being one of the authors of the first Human Development Report for Greater Manchester – a report which researched inequalities by gender, ethnicity, social class and locality across the city's ten boroughs to highlight critical human development issues at different life stages.

Viewing human development through the life course perspective illuminates these challenges as the chances available to individuals at key life stages. The support they receive from the social and economic environment to make transitions can have long-term consequences.

Meeting the challenge of supporting people at key life transitions is critical for Greater Manchester to achieve its stated ambition of a more inclusive growth in which no one is held back or left behind.

Although socio-economic gaps in development at age five are reducing, they are still very large. But life chances aren't fully determined by age five. We argue for a 'cradle to career' approach, looking at development from 0 to 19 and beyond.

Most of the health inequalities that one observes, and other forms of inequality, are all down to differences in the labour market. They are down to how people experience different stages of the life course and, for instance, the kind of support they receive from the education market throughout their lives.

What the research also showed was that at each life stage, and for the working population as a whole, there was a high degree of polarisation of scores across the local authorities in Greater Manchester. Trafford, Stockport and Bury are the only three authorities where the majority of index scores are above the national benchmark. Not one of the seven other boroughs exceeds the benchmark on any aggregate index score.

Not only is devolution opening up a new political space for rethinking priorities and policies, but also the characteristics of Greater Manchester provide a window on the complexities of the human development challenges and possibilities for British society as a whole. Greater Manchester is a melting pot of communities and cultures, divergent legacies and opportunities and inter-generational as well as inter-area differences.

The report says that narrow notions of economic well-being, such as Gross National Product, also hides the impacts of uneven growth and distribution on large parts of the society. This means rethinking investment criteria to take into account social goals and outcomes, and rejecting short-term cost benefit analyses that discount the longer term benefits of preventive measures.

Our hope is not just that the findings of this report will increase understanding of the issues we face in Greater Manchester and their scale, but that the life course and human development approaches that we have taken will provide tools for thinking about how these issues might be approached, and what it is that would count as success. ●

The study was a collaboration between the European Work and Employment Research Centre at Alliance MBS and the Inclusive Growth Analysis Unit within the Manchester Urban Institute at The University of Manchester.

Jill Rubery
Professor of Comparative Employment Systems

Director, Work and Equalities Institute

Alliance Manchester Business School

www.mbs.ac.uk

@MBSnews

> **"Most of the health inequalities that one observes, and other forms of inequality, are all down to differences in the labour market."**

Damian Grimshaw
Professor of Employment Studies

Alliance Manchester Business School

www.mbs.ac.uk

@MBSnews

> **Compounded by two generations of trade union decline, employment-related inequalities have significantly widened.**

How perforated industrial relations worsen inequalities in the UK workplace

Professor Damian Grimshaw shares highlights from his chapter with Research Associate, **Mat Johnson**, for the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) latest book, *Inequalities and the World of Work: What Role for Industrial Relations and Social Dialogue?*

Inequality plays an instrumental role in shaping the character of work and employment, particularly norms governing flexibility and security.

Our chapter in the recent ILO publication is entitled 'Inequality at work in the United Kingdom: How perforated industrial relations worsen inequalities and hold back progress on equalities'. In it, we identify four core features of the UK's industrial relations model and consider the interaction with inequalities over the past two decades, with a focus on the post-global financial crisis years.

We consider the outcomes for modes of flexibility and security, with a focus on the strength of the unilateral managerial prerogative that arises from the UK's perforated industrial relations model – characterised by fragmented collective bargaining structures and limited workplace mechanisms for worker voice – and its relatively weak employment rights framework.

In particular, we identify the ways in which austerity policies have combined with the model, and led to a failure to generate a fairer distribution of economic gains among the workforce.

Compounded by two generations of trade union decline, employment-related inequalities have significantly widened. These are reinforced by the complex and often opaque organisation of services and manufacturing along supply chains, involving practices of subcontracting that often heighten worker precarity.

Addressing inequalities in employment is one of today's most pressing social questions and unions, employers and government should collaborate to make labour markets more inclusive and equal. There is a real need to extend employment rights and welfare state protections to all workers and address biases in wage distribution.

While the rate of job growth following the global financial crash is impressive and unemployment relatively low, this veils ongoing qualitative shifts in the nature of work, and in the labour market in terms of protections for workers.

High levels of inequality have long been prevalent in UK society, with numerous employers designing jobs paid at or just above the minimum wage. Mid-pay jobs in the manufacturing and public sectors have also been downsized over time – while already very high earners continue to enjoy accelerated pay rises.

This has led to too many low paid jobs, too many workers dependent on top-up welfare benefits, too much job insecurity caused by zero-hours contracts, outsourcing and self-employment, and overly limited pay and career prospects over the longer term.

These shifts both reproduce high level inequality and feed off workers' unequal socioeconomic conditions. Furthermore, while low-income households have historically been worst-affected by poor labour market regulation, middle-income groups are increasingly feeling the negative impacts too.

Righting this going forward requires a radical change of mindset and political acceptance that workers require more than the ad hoc interventions of government.

If we are to move towards a fairer distribution of the rewards from work, we need meaningful government commitment to regulation of pay and working conditions, and greater support for workers attempting to negotiate fair deals with their employers. ●

International Labour Organization

Retirement marks a widening stress gap between low-level workers and those at the top

Many health risks are associated with stress. **Professor Tarani Chandola's** research study on social inequalities, retirement and stress puts a focus on social imbalances that extend beyond working conditions.

Tell us about your research in this area?

There is a common perception that people at the top of the occupational hierarchy are the most stressed. We actually found the reverse. Stress, at least in terms of biological stress responses, is higher the lower down the occupational hierarchy you go. Retirement did not reduce these differences in stress levels, but actually increased them.

We analysed changes in people's stress levels before and after retirement in a follow-up study of over 1,000 older workers in the British civil service. We measured stress levels by taking salivary cortisol samples across the day, from awakening until bedtime.

Why did your research focus on civil servants?

The civil service is hierarchical, which was useful for researching occupational differences. Civil servants also tend to have much better working conditions than workers in general. Finding such an association between stress and occupational status in this relatively privileged group suggests the problem is much greater in other occupations, where working conditions for people in low-status jobs are far tougher.

Were you surprised by your research results?

Yes, the fact that low-level workers' stress levels did not improve upon retirement as much as those in the top jobs was a surprise. We thought poor working conditions were the main driver of higher levels of stress among low-status civil servants, and once people retired and stopped working in those jobs, their stress levels would improve. This suggests that the poor working conditions are not the only driver of the increased stress levels for those at the bottom of the occupational hierarchy. Rather, other factors such as financial security and adequate pension arrangements may play an important role in determining stress levels in retirement.

What do your findings mean for retirees?

Higher levels of the stress hormone, cortisol, are associated with poor sleep, increased risk of cardiovascular disease, and a range of metabolic processes that increase the risk of diabetes and obesity.

Most studies on reducing stress focus on individual behavioural changes such as physical activity, diet and meditation. Our study shows that wider social determinants, such as occupations and pensions, are also key. Changing occupational imbalances, such as making pension arrangements fairer for all workers, may be an important way to correct these social inequalities and their impact on health. ●

> "Changing occupational imbalances, such as making pension arrangements fairer for all workers, may be an important way to correct these social inequalities and their impact on health."

Tarani Chandola
Professor of Medical Sociology
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What history can teach us about humanitarianism

Dr Eleanor Davey was awarded a prestigious Fonds Croix-Rouge Française Research Award in 2016. Here she tells us what this means to her and talks about some of the research that interests her most.

What is the Fonds Croix-Rouge Française Research Award?

The Fonds Croix-Rouge Française (French Red Cross Foundation) supports research on humanitarian action. Their mission is to challenge boundaries between academia and practice, and between francophone and anglophone networks, and to foster connections across the global north and south. Their research prizes reflect these agendas and also highlight the work of emerging researchers.

What does the award mean for you?

The award came after the publication of my book, *Idealism beyond Borders: The French Revolutionary Left and the Rise of Humanitarianism, 1954–1988*. The Fonds Croix-Rouge Française isn't specifically focused on history, or even the humanities, so to receive a research award from them was especially encouraging for its message about the value of historical perspectives. It's also significant that research foundations in the humanitarian sector support work that emphasises the political dimensions of aid.

What is your book about?

My book traces the origins of the 'sans-frontiériste' movement – the version of humanitarianism named for and epitomised by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) – and its relationship with revolutionary third-worldist activism. It looks at how one came to eclipse the other as the dominant way of approaching suffering and injustice in the developing world.

One of my aims was to emphasise the entanglement of this process; I really wanted to get away from the idea of the 'backlash' as a way of viewing this story.

MSF was founded in 1971, and the sans-frontiériste model rose to prominence across the 1970s. It emphasises a direct action model, a willingness to challenge borders, and the need to speak out against abuses.

As it gained influence, the sans-frontiériste movement displaced a constellation of earlier engagements on the far left that had taken revolutions in the developing world as their goal and inspiration but which successively fell to disillusionment.

A lot of the key advocates of humanitarianism and human rights in this period were also very strong critics of revolutionary politics. Yet the relationship between third-worldism and humanitarianism is a complex one: part legacy, part continued dialogue, with more points of interaction and influence than a simple narrative of opposition.

Why do you think this kind of study matters for aid work today?

For one thing, looking at the history of humanitarian ideas helps to challenge the attitude of exceptionalism that, whether explicitly or not, tends to set humanitarianism apart from other forms of engagement. And I've tried to show how at key moments there was a close relationship between debates about field interventions by humanitarian organisations and the wider political and intellectual climate in which those organisations were operating – not only abroad but in their countries of origin.

What about history more generally?

Many analyses of humanitarian action restrict their frame of reference to a very recent past. The drive to analyse situations where relief work is ongoing, or the wish to capitalise on hard-won expertise before it is dispersed, are good reasons for doing so. Yet this foreshortening limits the analytical resources available and skews the terms of debate with potentially significant implications.

Recently we've also seen a lot of a kind of reverse problem: lots of arguments about the 'lessons' of history which choose selectively from the past to justify particular actions in the present. The more we have well-informed discussions that draw on past experience, the more we can challenge our assumptions and blind spots in the present. I learned a lot about this when working on history with the Overseas Development Institute's Humanitarian Policy Group, and I hope that my research at the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute can continue to be part of this dialogue. ●

Dr Eleanor Davey
Lecturer in History of Humanitarianism

Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute

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FONDS croix-rouge française
LES PRIX DE RECHERCHE

The shifting geography of global inequality

Will within-nation inequalities continue to overshadow between-country policy challenges? **Dr Rory Horner** explains that if converging trends across individuals in the world persist, then the relative importance of within-nation inequalities to global inequalities will increase.

The last two decades have seen a remarkable shift in the pattern of global income inequalities. For the first time since the Industrial Revolution, a trend of economic convergence between individual world citizens has been identified. The global Gini, a measure of income inequality across all individuals in the world, fell from 69.7 in 1988 to 66.8 in 2008, and again to 62.5 in 2013.

Highly populous China and India are recognised as major drivers of this decline, and countries in sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America have also played a role. In light of such trends, and in contrast to two centuries of what was referred to as "divergence, big time" between developed and developing countries, some economists have pointed, somewhat optimistically, to aspects of a "great convergence".

Unfortunately, reduced inequality between countries has coincided with growing inequalities within many countries (see Figure 1) in both the global north and south. In-country inequalities are now mostly higher than in 1990. The large emerging economies of China, India and Russia have in particular experienced significant increases in income inequality since moving to more market-based economic systems.

While many in both developed and developing countries are experiencing very little by way of economic progress, the very richest people in the world have seen their incomes and wealth grow significantly. The January 2017 Oxfam report found that just eight men collectively own a level of wealth equivalent to that of the bottom half of the global population, 3.6 billion people.

It's true that many in emerging market economies have experienced significant income growth from a low starting point. But, although the number of those living in extreme poverty (a very low bar) has reduced to less than 10% of the world's population as people move to a status of "precarity", consumption floor analysis suggests that the poorest of the poor have seen little benefit.

Will within-nation inequalities continue to overshadow between-country policy challenges? Within-nation inequalities tend to have upper bounds – including redistribution measures which curb increases in inequality. Even if degrees of inequality within nations stagnate, if converging trends across individuals in the world continue, the relative importance of within-nation inequalities to global inequalities will increase.

Such trends raise possibilities of what was referred to in a recent World Social Science Report as "a partial substitution of inequality within countries for the inequality between countries". These trends are especially significant given that people tend to weight relative inequality (to those in closer proximity, such as within their own country) higher than absolute inequality (to the whole world, in this case).

Given growing nationalism, we can expect that foreign sources (trade, migrants) will be more likely to be blamed for inequality in countries in the north. Moreover, powerful foreign actors can amplify the domestic causes of inequality in the south, thus dodging responsibility and the need to address inequalities at the international level.

Despite suggestions of a global convergence, addressing global inequalities must continue to prioritise people in the global south who still face the biggest challenges. However, it also needs to take increasingly seriously those "left behind" in the global north, who may be better off than most in the south, but have experienced little gain for a long time.

Their marginalisation is not only extremely problematic in terms of social justice, and supporting peace and stability, but if it continues to give rise to strong nationalism, it could augment a variety of global inequalities. ●

Dr Rory Horner
Lecturer in Globalisation and Political Economy
ESRC Future Research Leader and Hallsworth Research Fellow
Global Development Institute
www.gdi.manchester.ac.uk
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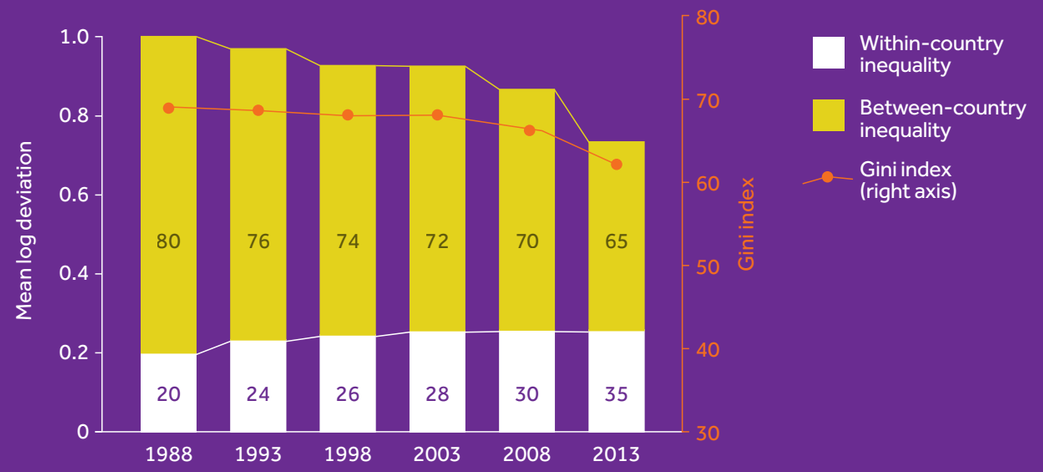
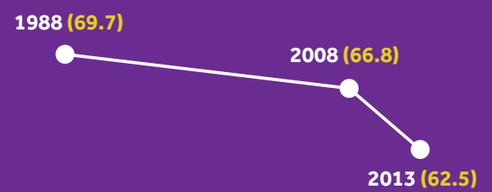
Figure 1.
Global inequality, 1988–2013



Source: World Bank (2016) *Taking on Inequality*, p81

The global Gini (measure of inequality) has been falling



Eight men own a level of wealth equivalent to that of the bottom half of the global population (3.6 billion people)

Source: January 2017 Oxfam Report

Reduced inequality between countries

is coinciding with

increased inequalities within many countries

People perceive...

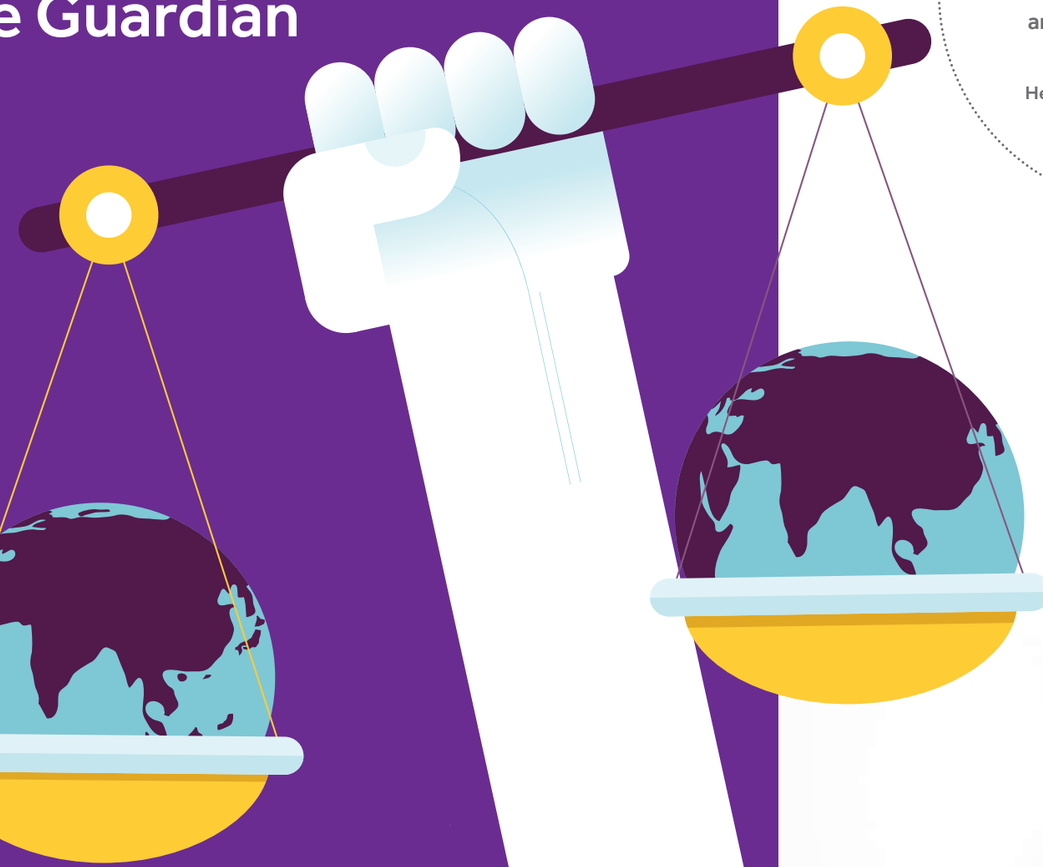
relative inequality (within their own country)

higher than

absolute inequality (the whole world)

‘Taking on Inequalities’: An event with the World Bank, Oxfam and the Guardian

The University of Manchester brought together the Guardian, World Bank and Oxfam for a panel discussion entitled ‘Taking on Inequalities: Why now and where to start?’ in May 2017. The panel took questions and shared academic research, policy and campaigning perspectives on how and where to start as we tackle global inequalities.



The discussion was chaired by:

Anna Leach
Deputy Editor of the Guardian’s Global Development Professionals Network and an alumna of The University of Manchester

The panel featured:

Carolina Sanchez
Senior Director
The Poverty and Equity Global Practice
World Bank

Dr Rory Horner
Researcher
Global Development Institute (GDI)
The University of Manchester

Rebecca Gowland
Head of UK Campaigns
Oxfam

Read more and view the film recording at:

www.bit.ly/TOI17Ss

OXFAM

theguardian

THE WORLD BANK

> “Unless our messages and solutions for inequality are more tangible and accessible we will see a move towards greater populism and greater nationalism.”
>
> Rebecca Gowland
> Head of UK Campaigns, Oxfam

Rebecca Gowland
Head of UK Campaigns
Oxfam

Anna Leach
Deputy Editor of the Guardian’s Global Development Professionals Network and an alumna of The University of Manchester

Dr **Rory Horner** (left) of the GDI with **Carolina Sanchez** (right) of the World Bank speaking at The University of Manchester’s ‘Taking on Inequalities’ event

> “A lot of the debate we see around inequality today is driven by globalisation’s distributional impacts across and within countries.”
>
> Carolina Sanchez
> Senior Director, The Poverty and Equity Global Practice, World Bank

Making states more effective and development inclusive

The Effective States and Inclusive Development Research Centre (ESID) is a Department for International Development (DFID) funded partnership devoted to understanding the politics behind a range of development issues with a regional focus on sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Research Fellow **Pablo Yanguas** tells us more.

Dr Pablo Yanguas
Research Fellow

Effective States and Inclusive Development Research Centre (ESID)

Global Development Institute

www.effective-states.org

@PabloYanguas

Why do inequalities persist over time? How do elite interests shape developmental trajectories? When are the vulnerable included in policymaking? These are some of ESID's key questions.

Our goal is not determining how to fit the best technical solutions to local contexts, but identifying and explaining the political drivers of reform and obstruction, and their impact on southern states' abilities to find their own paths out of poverty, inequality, stagnation, or institutional fragility. Our basic framework draws on theories that explore what lies behind particular institutional choices, with an emphasis on the kinds of political settlements reached by elites through deals or bargains.

This approach requires in-depth qualitative investigation of each development context, but it has also yielded some key broader insights as to why, for example, political elites are more likely to pursue transformational and inclusive policies in Rwanda than in Ghana – and why some sectors of the Ugandan state are captured by the regime while others are insulated from political interference.

Sectors cannot be studied in isolation, and policy domains must be seen as intertwined with elite priorities and ruling ideologies. Our economic growth projects have refined our understanding of episodes of economic acceleration and deceleration and provided a novel framework for analysing state-business relations across the rent space. Our service delivery projects have identified the incentives and ideas behind basic care policies like maternal health or primary education.

Our social protection project has explored the conditions in which cash transfer models based on the Latin American experience can take root and become sustainable in African countries, highlighting the role and limits of donor influence. Our gender project has found a new way to map the coalitions that push for girls' education and domestic violence legislation, illuminating avenues for change within otherwise patriarchal cultures.

Our primary research has seeded more than 60 working papers, peer-reviewed and publicly available on our website. In terms of policy, our research on the political determinants of growth has informed DFID's own analytical framework. Meanwhile, our country-specific work has contributed to public debates about social policy, democratisation and natural resource management.

In our second phase of research from 2017–2019, we will deepen our understanding of elite settlements, social protection, gender equality and governance innovations. We're working with key thinkers to determine the various forms of inclusion that lead to developmental achievements and contribute to the politics of change, developing analytical tools for our partners in donor agencies, governments and coalitions to enable them to enact change. ●

esid Effective States and Inclusive Development
identifying routes to social justice

UKaid
from the British people

The political dynamics of illegal mining in Ghana

Some of our research for ESID highlights the inherently political nature of illegal mining in Ghana and suggests that any anti-illegal mining crusade that fails to tackle the political drivers of the problem is unlikely to succeed.

An estimated 85% of small-scale miners in Ghana operate on an illegal basis and the media has been dominated by discussions about the dangers of illegal mining. In March 2017, the Ghana Water Company warned that the spate of pollution incidents linked to illegal mining was putting the county's water supply at risk.

So far, policymakers have focused on largely technocratic solutions, such as simplifying and decentralising the licensing regime and the provision of alternative livelihood opportunities for displaced communities. These approaches have failed because the political drivers of the problem have often been ignored.

As electoral competition has become more intense, opposition parties have often bolstered the position of illegal miners in order to make those in power unpopular and gain partisan political advantage. Once in power, these same parties are unwilling to risk losing support by addressing the problems caused by mining.

Illegal mining has persisted in Ghana, not because of weak state capacity – as some have claimed – but primarily because of political leniency and law enforcement corruption.

Our research highlights such issues and delves into the root causes of these behaviours to enable positive change for the future.

Dr Joanne Jordan
Honorary Research Fellow
Global Development Institute
www.gdi.manchester.ac.uk
@JoanneCJordan

The role of climate change in inequality

Dr Joanne Jordan teamed up with the University of Dhaka to produce a Pot Gan performance which engaged policymakers, researchers and slum dwellers with the everyday realities of climate change in informal settlements of Dhaka, Bangladesh.

What is your research?

My work on climate change resilience tries to understand how local communities perceive climate change, what impact climate change has, how that impact varies between different vulnerable groups, and finally, what are the various response strategies they have developed. More broadly, I'm trying to answer why people act the way they act. Why do they make particular decisions? So a lot of my research involves having in-depth conversations in the field and using a storytelling approach to try to understand motivations. From there, I'm interested in why the impact and responses are so different – the differential can give us a huge insight into why some people are more vulnerable than others.

Why is it important to study climate change vulnerability at the local level?

If you look at any international or national intervention, whether it's going to be accepted, modified or completely rejected by the locals depends on its fit within their understandings of climate change and their everyday realities. So to create effective climate resilience strategies, it's crucial to really understand how the community works, which requires a lot of fieldwork and examination gender histories as well as cultural and power dynamics.

What is a Pot Gan?

A Pot Gan is a traditional folk medium that combines melody, drama, pictures and dancing. Ours was developed in cooperation with the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies at the University of Dhaka. Crucially, a Pot Gan is not a static piece of theatre. It is an interactive event that challenges the audience to actively engage with the topic – here, the personal experiences of slum dwellers affected by climate change.

Why did you develop this performance?

I spent months in an informal settlement of Dhaka talking to more than 600 people in their homes, workplaces, local tea shops and on street corners to understand how climate change is linked to or creating problems in their everyday lives and how they are trying to find solutions to those problems. The Pot Gan is my attempt to give some of the research back to the community I studied rather than parachute in, gather data and run away – so one of the performances of the Pot Gan took place in the settlement where I did all of my fieldwork interviews.

The Pot Gan performances were also filmed to produce 'The Lived Experience of Climate Change: A Story of One Piece of Land in Dhaka' which was directed by Green Ink, a new media studio in Dhaka. It's been seen by more than 100,000 people online and at interactive screening events and won The University of Manchester's 2017 Making a Difference award for outstanding public engagement. The project also made it to the 2016 final of awards by the National Co-ordinating Centre for Public Engagement.

How does your research address global inequalities?

Currently, mainstream work on reducing inequality doesn't take into account the different risks that people face as a result of climate change, so the interventions that are aimed at reducing inequality are likely to be less effective. Inequality also affects how people respond to climate change. My research looks at how those responses differ and why – questions that can point to what kinds of interventions will help even the playing field. ●

Advancing women's rights in an unequal world: A personal perspective

Oxfam International's Executive Director **Winnie Byanyima** completed her undergraduate degree at The University of Manchester. In 2016 she was awarded an honorary doctorate and delivered the annual Foundation Day lecture.

I arrived here on a rainy Manchester day, a refugee fleeing the brutal regime of Idi Amin in Uganda. Amin had come to power when I was 12 years old and his repression was so often aimed at us women and girls, from sexual crimes by soldiers to arbitrary rulings against lipstick, miniskirts or wigs.

Throughout our teens we lived in fear of being kidnapped or assaulted. So, although I was studying aeronautical engineering, I spent most of my time in The John Rylands Library's anthropology section. I read anything I could on social justice and political struggles in the global south, from the Sandinistas to the Vietnamese and Mozambican revolutionaries.

I came to this University a refugee and I went home a revolutionary – a spark burning inside me for political change. Like many young people, university was my first opportunity to find my politics, my voice. In the last week of my exams I was contacted by the National Resistance Army in Uganda, asking me to sign up. My response was immediate: "Let me finish my two exams, then I'll join you."

This was a feminist move in more ways than simply me bucking a gender stereotype. Joining a resistance reflected my realisation that the political oppression and inequality I had experienced was inherently gendered, and that the revolution must be gendered too. And so it was, in time. When we won, when I took my place in Parliament, I was able to work with other women to ensure a constitution with women's rights at its heart.

From inherited wife to school teacher to Member of Parliament, my family story is one of emancipation at breakneck speed. It shows a trend across generations for more political and public action. My grandmother's struggle was inherently private; my mother worked with peers to improve the fortunes of the next generation of girls. And me? I have made my own way, but I stand on their shoulders.

I've devoted my life to organising politically with women, in Africa and now globally. I do that proudly leading Oxfam – a collective movement of organisations around the world that exists to challenge the misuse and abuse of power. Our goal is a just world without poverty and it is a fight we are determined to win – step-by-step, and always in solidarity with others.

In many ways, my story is reflective of wider progress for women in Africa. Many of Africa's formal laws and policies for women's rights are some of the best in the world. Of all the world's regions, sub-Saharan Africa has made the most substantial progress in the last 20 years towards women's political representation – increasing from 9.7% to 24%. Not nearly enough, but progress.

Many social norms that harm women remain unchanged and go unchallenged. Formal laws and constitutional rights may exist, but they do not yet reach into many communities, households or businesses. Women still face discrimination, violence and early marriage. Nearly half of all African women experience physical or sexual violence, or both.

Social norms are changing too slowly, but it is economic inequality that threatens to choke our struggle totally and fling it into reverse. The global economic system is built on fundamental inequalities between men and women: the control of resources, discrimination in employment and earnings, and divisions in social and economic participation.

To strengthen women's rights we must turn the global economic system upside down. It's not enough to expect women to work harder for a fundamentally unequal economy. We have to ask how the economy can work better for women. ●

This is an edited version of Winnie's Foundation Day lecture at The University of Manchester in 2016

OXFAM

Winnie Byanyima
Executive Director of Oxfam International

Alumna and Honorary Doctor of The University of Manchester

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Research Institutes

Our Institutes connected to the Faculty of Humanities are at the forefront of addressing global inequalities...

Cathie Marsh Institute for Social Research (CMI)
This Institute is a centre for excellence in quantitative social science. It offers innovative and rigorous empirical answers to important contemporary social and political questions and empowers others to do the same. CMI's research environment is highly interdisciplinary and combines scholars from across the social sciences.
www.cmist.manchester.ac.uk

Global Development Institute (GDI)
This Institute is the largest dedicated to development research and teaching in Europe and is also home to the Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Doctoral College. The results of the most recent Research Excellence Framework ranked GDI first for impact ranking in development studies in the UK, with many of our researchers deemed to be 'world-leading'.
www.gdi.manchester.ac.uk

Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI)
This Institute leads the study of humanitarianism and conflict response, global health, international disaster management and peace building at the University. Bringing together the disciplines of medicine and the humanities, HCRI aims to facilitate improvements in crisis response on a global scale, while providing a centre of excellence for practitioners in emergencies and conflicts.
www.hcri.manchester.ac.uk

Manchester Institute for Collaborative Research on Ageing (MICRA)
MICRA is recognised as a leading international centre for research on ageing. It conducts multidisciplinary research into fundamental questions about ageing and supports a community of over 100 active academics, bringing together international experts and leading researchers working across the field.
www.micra.manchester.ac.uk

Manchester Urban Institute (MUI)
This Institute generates world-class research and achieves high levels of engagement and impact by bringing together work from across the arts and humanities, the social sciences, business and health. The Institute has a combined focus on both the global north and global south and is committed to an increased understanding of the global urban condition – past, present and future.
www.mui.manchester.ac.uk

Sustainable Consumption Institute (SCI)
This Institute brings insight and clarity to a key aspect of the sustainability challenge: the role of consumption. Cutting-edge research responds to multiple sustainability challenges, from climate change and resource scarcity to social inequality and environmental injustice across a variety of areas, including food, energy, housing and transport.
www.sci.manchester.ac.uk

Work and Equalities Institute (WEI)
Two Alliance Manchester Business School research centres, the European Work and Employment Research Centre (EWERC) and the Fairness at Work Research Centre (FairWRC), have united their strengths to become the Work and Equalities Institute. The WEI develops interdisciplinary approaches to addressing core policy and intellectual challenges across work, employment and equalities. It supports four key themes: business transformation and work futures; fair treatment at work; inequalities and the life course; and regulation and representation.
www.mbs.ac.uk/WEI

"The University of Manchester is proud that the Faculty of Humanities leads our global inequalities research beacon. Along with internal and external partners, our research is addressing some of the biggest global challenges of our times."

Professor Colette Fagan
Vice-President for Research

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Created by the Division of Communications and Marketing

Royal Charter Number RC000797
M1889 07.17