



APPG event looking at the experiences of crime and justice for Gypsies and Travellers

Wednesday 17th January 2024 10:30am – 12:30pm

Attlee Suite, Portcullis House, Parliament

Event Chair: Mary Foy MP (Co-chair of the APPG for Gypsies, Travellers and Roma)

Agenda (subject to change)

	10.30	Arrival with tea and coffee
Mary Foy MP	10.40	Welcome from event chair.
Professor Zoë James, University of Plymouth	10.45	A presentation of the key findings on victimisation, hate crime and perceptions of criminal justice agencies from the <i>Realities Checked: Gypsies and Travellers' Experiences of Crime and Justice</i> national research study.
Dr Rachel Stuart Lecturer in Criminology	11.00	Discussing the impacts of systemic violence experienced in many aspects of the lives of Gypsies and Travellers.
Josie O'Driscoll, CEO of GATE Herts and Report Racism Gypsy, Roma, Traveller	11.10	An overview of Report Racism GRT Project and the damaging impact that hate crime and discrimination has on Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people.
Stephen Walcott Senior Researcher, Runnymede Trust	11.20	The continuation of structural racism and its impacts, particularly in the criminal justice system.
	11.30	Q&A
Mary Foy MP	12.05	Concluding thoughts from event chair.
	12.10	Networking and use of interactive resources from the 'Realities Checked' project.



Speaker bios:

Professor Zoë James

Dr Zoë James is Professor of Criminology. Zoë's key research interests lie in examining hate from a critical perspective with a particular focus on the harms of hate experienced by Gypsies, Travellers and Roma. Zoë's research has explored how mobility, accommodation, policing and planning have impacted the lived experience of Gypsies, Travellers and Roma. Zoë is Co-Director of the International Network for Hate Studies and has published and presented her work nationally and internationally, most recently authoring a monograph *The Harms of Hate against Gypsies and Travellers: A critical hate studies perspective*.

Dr Rachel Stuart

Rachel is a criminology lecturer and researcher based at Brunel University. Rachel's positionality as an academic of mixed Traveller and Gypsy heritage has seen her focus on research that considers the policing and criminalisation of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities through an interdisciplinary lens. Rachel acted as a consultant and researcher on a project funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research, that investigated the uptake of COVID-19 preventative measures among Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. Rachel has helped reveal extreme levels of systemic violence experienced by the people taking part of the project, in terms of excessive policing and racism within the health care system and other public institutions.

Josie O'Driscoll

Josie is an Irish Traveller who has dedicated her career to advocating for the Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller people, combating discrimination, and promoting community ownership. Josie has taken on leadership roles in various governmental advisory and equality boards, and she founded and chaired GATE Herts, a not-for-profit charity led by Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller people. In her current role as Chief Officer, Josie continues to push for eliminating discrimination and disadvantage and her work with youth groups, mentees and partnership projects demonstrates her commitment to empowering and uplifting Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller people.

Stephen Walcott

Stephen is a Senior Researcher at the Runnymede Trust. Stephen has previously worked at the think tank Demos and at the Police Foundation where he built research expertise in race, policing and the criminal justice system. At Runnymede Stephen is currently leading on various research projects and contributing to policy work on economic injustice and health determinants.