



SLAVERY AND UNFREE LABOUR

A Faculty of Humanities &
Social Sciences Research Theme

2020-2021

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences has recognised a set of themes across a range of disciplines around which we will concentrate our research activities.

By supporting collaborative, interdisciplinary communities of researchers with shared interests, we can ensure the University and Faculty continue to produce world-class, valuable research that has real impact locally, nationally, and internationally.

The Faculty research themes are:

- Slavery and Unfree Labour
- Digital Humanities
- Humanities and Social Sciences of Health, Medicine and Technologies
- Children and Childhood
- Sustainable Cities (The Heseltine Institute)
- Transforming Conflict

Use of Imagery

We have been careful to ensure truthful and appropriate use of the images in this document. We wanted to avoid racialised depictions of slavery, and/or culture and people. As a result, we have avoided the use of stock imagery to present a more accurate portrayal of our work. All of the images used belong to the project teams and/or specific researchers. We would kindly request that our readers bear in mind the purpose of the images we have used, and the intention behind such use.

SLAVERY AND UNFREE LABOUR

The University of Liverpool is home to a broad range of research into different examples of slavery and unfree labour across a variety of historical periods and geographical locations. These range from the classical era through empire to contemporary instances of forced labour or human trafficking; from the study of slavery and slavery-like practices, to the investigation of the impacts and legacies of these practices.

The study of slavery and unfree labour involves a range of disciplines and subject fields. These include history, politics, law, archaeology, sociology, psychology, literature and the arts. The very act of defining different forms or types of slavery has legal, ethical and political implications. This is reflected in the incorporation of 'unfree labour' in this theme, widening the conversation to encompass those engaged with research around exploitation in the labour market.



Kwame Akoto-Bamfo's outdoor sculpture dedicated to the memory of the victims of the Transatlantic slave trade on display at the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama. Photo: Dr Stephen Kenny.

SLAVERY AND UNFREE LABOUR PROJECTS

Antislavery and Human Trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa

Led by theme lead Professor Alex Balch, the Antislavery Knowledge Network is exploring how the arts and humanities can shift antislavery efforts towards a more community-engaged focus.

The £2 million project, funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) as part of the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) works extensively with researchers, organisations, and communities across 7 countries, to build partnerships and deliver effective solutions which demonstrate the importance of culture, language, identity and local context as the foundation for addressing development challenges.



West African AKN Phase 2 Project Partners in Accra, Ghana

Before Tuskegee Racism, power and the culture of medicine under American slavery and Jim Crow segregation

Before Tuskegee is a research project by the University of Liverpool's Dr Stephen Kenny exploring the disturbing connections between slavery, racism, and medicine in nineteenth- and early twentieth-century America. The project dissects the long dark history of medicine under American slavery and Jim Crow segregation using four main areas of focus. The first level of analysis maps the landscape of and origins of white medical power, excavating the deep-rooted and profoundly racist nature of medical education, research, and everyday practice under

chattel slavery and highlights the wealth and career opportunities that so-called 'Negro medicine' brought. The second layer demonstrates the enormous scale and intensity of the profession's medical exploitation of enslaved subjects, seen especially in the practices of human experimentation using Black research subjects. The third element explores the grim continuities of 'dark medicine' in the era of post-slavery segregation, as racialized medicine increased in scale, intensity, ambition and rewards. Finally, the project examines the memories and legacies of racialized medicine and medical exploitation which continue to complicate and undermine the Black struggle for social justice and health equity.

'Dark Tourism' in Comparative Perspective: Sites of Suffering, Sites of Memory

This project – led by Charles Forsdick in Liverpool – brought together researchers from the UK, France and Australia to explore, in comparative perspective, the relationship between memory, place, cultural heritage and public understandings of suffering. The research offered a cross-cultural and interdisciplinary approach to the field of dark tourism, focusing in particular on former sites of death and incarceration, and explored the increasing engagement with these locations by the tourist industry. It complemented the study of places of convict incarceration and those relating to the Holocaust and the genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda with attention to heritage sites linked to Atlantic slavery. The team undertook fieldwork in Ghana and Louisiana, and continue to share the findings for their work with a wide range of international audiences.

Clothes, Chocolate and Children: How does the new political economy of transparency enhance the well-being of workers and children in the developing world?

'Clothes, Chocolate and Children: Realising the Transparency Dividend' ran from March 2018 to February 2019, led by Professor Alex Balch. It examined the effects of new requirements on businesses operating in the UK (introduced under the Modern Slavery Act, 2015) on exploitation in supply chains using a comparative research design. The project focused on two sectors – cocoa and garments - where there are well-known issues around exploitation and child labour. The team conducted fieldwork in four case study countries - Bangladesh, the Dominican Republic, Ghana and Myanmar - and spoke to over 250 workers and stakeholders. Data was also gathered in the UK via collection and analysis of corporate Modern Slavery statements and interviews with large firms.

In the cocoa sector in Ghana and the Dominican Republic, the research identified some key misconceptions of how 'child labour' is framed and understood, with a lack of understanding of the situation faced by child workers and other risks for the sector. In the garment sector, the project found consistent patterns of overwork, underpayment, insults and abuse and a lack of responsible engagement by buyers. This is within a context of a failure to implement labour laws and hostility towards worker organising, for example through trade unions.

The findings paint a picture of supply chains characterized by poverty, poor working conditions and business models which negatively impact workers' experiences. Despite high-profile 'anti-slavery' activities carried out by major brands in garment supply chains, the project found limited reference to the enhancement and responsible enforcement of local labour laws as part of this work. The final report recommended that the UK government could play a pivotal role to play in focusing overseas development work on supporting efforts to ensure the coverage and enforcement of labour law.



Working with colleagues in Ghana on the Clothes, Chocolate and Children project

The Legacy of Slave Narratives in Contemporary Black British Fiction

This book project, by Lucienne Loh, is based around exploring the ways in which contemporary fiction by Black British writers "write-back" to the slave narratives of the late eighteenth-century. In particular, it focuses on the way in which "writing back" involves foregrounding white women's sensibilities within the wider eighteenth-century culture of sensibility and the way these affective vectors were structured through the vast profit driven machinery of the transatlantic slave trade. This monograph project covers a range of writers including Caryl Phillips, Fred D'Aguiar, Bernardine Evaristo, Andrea Levy and David Dabydeen. It also feeds into a larger interdisciplinary project on the legacies of transatlantic slavery in contemporary British and African-American culture and has involved

collaborations with the University of Georgia-Athens as well as the University of Ghana in Accra.

Access to Legal Advice and Representation for Survivors of Modern Slavery

Led by the University of Liverpool's Dr Samantha Currie, this project on modern slavery survivors' access to legal advice and representation is funded by the Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre. With particular focus on two case study regions in England – the North West and the East Midlands – the project aims to gain an in-depth understanding of the extent of access to legal support for survivors *and* how valuable such access can be in terms of outcomes. The research takes a socio-legal partnership approach with external academic and practice-based collaborators, including the Rights Lab (University of Nottingham), the Anti-Trafficking and Labour Exploitation Unit (ATLEU) and Garden Court North Chambers.



J. Marion Sims statue on the State Capitol grounds in Montgomery. Photo: Dr Stephen Kenny

Racism, Sexism, and Power: Histories, Myths and Legacies of James Marion Sims

Racism, Sexism, and Power is a collaborative project, between Dr Stephen Kenny and Professor Vanessa Northington Gamble (George Washington University), that compiles and evaluates a comprehensive body of documents, scholarship, and commentary on the life and career of the 19th-century surgeon-enslaver - and once internationally renowned, but now infamous - gynaecologist, J. Marion Sims. The aim of the project is to enable a deeper and broader understanding of the Sims story; to appreciate its significance for American history, politics, and society; to apply the lessons of this history to a broad range of learning contexts, especially those of social history, citizenship, memory, medical education, and racial justice; and to provoke further

discussion and research among scholars at all levels. The project also considers the recent public history of Sims, in particular, activist responses to his memorialization in different sites and contexts, such as those of New York, Columbia, South Carolina, and Montgomery, Alabama where the Sims statues are located.

Tackling modern slavery in global supply chains

The latest research led by Dr Joanne Meehan and Dr Bruce Pinnington is a high-profile programme of research in collaboration with the Crown Commercial Service, the UK Cabinet Office, the UK Home Office, and the Ethical Trading Initiative to understand and evidence the impact of the Transparency in Supply Chain (TiSC) legislation across government supply chains. Projects include analyses of firm's published statements and also rich empirical case research working with firms' key decision makers in various functions to provide insight on motivations, prioritisation, diffusion mechanisms, commercial challenges, and the consequences of modern slavery policies. The research takes a critical analysis of the conditions that contribute to the risks of modern slavery and the commercial practices that allow it to persist. Tensions, ambiguity, transparency, and power are key themes underpinning the research. This research supports two PhD students, ESRC-funded Olly Kennedy, and Nathan Davies.



International collaboration with Government and NGO colleagues

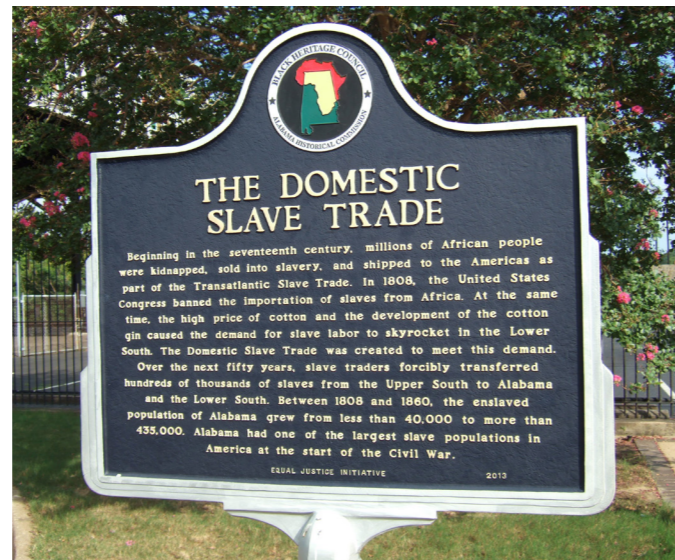
How can regional policy support national agendas to tackle modern slavery

This research in partnership with the Liverpool Combined Authority and the Heseltine Institute for Public Policy, Practice and Place, led by Dr Joanne Meehan and Olly Kennedy, aims to uncover firms' attitudes and awareness to modern slavery in the Liverpool City Region. Building upon their larger programme of work with the UK Home Office and Crown Commercial Service, this research project examines whether there is an opportunity for a place-based approach to modern slavery, where regional policy can support the national legislation of the Modern Slavery Act (2015). The analysis explores if firms care about modern slavery and how they morally bound their attention on the

issue. Jo and Olly have been invited to work with policymakers to co-design a modern slavery action plan under the region's 'Build Back Better' agenda.

The Changing Visibility of Modern Slavery During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

Funded by the Modern Slavery Policy and Evidence Centre, and led by Professor Alex Balch with Olly Kennedy and Helen Bryant, this rapid research involves a series of interviews with First Responders alongside analysis of available National Referral Mechanism (NRM) data, to explore causal explanations and identify changing patterns in the visibility of modern slavery in the UK during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Home Office reported a 14% fall in the number of potential modern slavery victims identified in the UK through the NRM for the first quarter of 2020, and a further 23% fall in the second quarter. This raises questions about changing scale, patterns and types of exploitation, and about referring practices and processes. Considering the additional risks identified for particular social groups during the pandemic, under lockdown measures, and with the prospect of a radically altered economic outlook, understanding the meaning and significance of these figures represents an urgent research question. The findings of this research may also provide essential early warning for policymakers to adapt and prioritise in the months and years to come.



Historic marker to the domestic slave trade in Montgomery.
Photo: Dr Stephen Kenny

Profiles of American Incarceration

Too many lives are hidden, and too many lives, mainly African Americans, are only visible through the prism of criminal justice. This project led by Barry Godfrey and funded by National Endowment for the Humanities used digital humanities expertise in the UK together with experts on race and imprisonment to provide a resource that uncovers hidden lives. Data from Georgia, 1817 – 1970 showed how former-slaves and their children (and grandchildren) were swept into prison as soon following the American Civil War, establishing a pattern

of injustice that cascades down the generations and which still endures today. The team now intend to work with academics in Georgia and archivists in Alabama to create a database of race and imprisonment across the American South.

The Overseers of Slavery: Supervisors, Enslaved Laborers, and the Plantation Enterprise, 1619-1800

Laura Sandy's book is a study of plantation overseers, whose management of enslaved labourers was crucial to plantation enterprises in the southern colonies of British North America and the early American republic, 1619-1800. Conceptually, the necessity of recovering the histories of hereto marginalized individuals, in order to understand fully the operation of plantation slavery, was a central concern of this research. This includes not only the (white) overseer but also his family, especially his wife and daughters, who, this research reveals, also performed significant, if to date wholly unrecognised, supervisory roles on the plantation. Similarly, this work demonstrates the actual significance the enslaved overseer, a figure whose presence has been largely dismissed in the existing literature, and whose career can illuminate a great deal about race relations, authority and power in colonial society. Laura's book illuminates new and fundamental themes in the study of the micro-politics of slavery, race and class in the colonial world and will appeal to specialists in the social, economic, and cultural history of slavery, colonial America, the American Revolution, Atlantic history, labour history, migration history, legal history, and the history of imperialism.

CONTRIBUTORS

TRANSATLANTIC SLAVERY

Charles Forsdick

James Barrow Professor of French



Charles has published widely on travel writing, colonial history, postcolonial literature, dark tourism and the memorialization of slavery. He is also a specialist on Haiti and the Haitian Revolution, and has written about representations of Toussaint Louverture. Recent publications include: *The Black Jacobins Reader* (Duke University

Press, 2016) and *Toussaint Louverture: A Black Jacobin in the Age of Revolutions* (Pluto, 2017). He is Co-Investigator on the Anti-Slavery Knowledge Network and is a member of the Conseil scientifique of the French Fondation pour la mémoire de l'esclavage

Barry Godfrey

Professor of Social Justice



Barry has researched inequalities in criminal justice using longitudinal data for over twenty years. His books have focused on the use of the law against women, changes in sentencing over time, and the use of unfree labour in colonial societies. He is committed to democratising data for historians and social scientists and working with

archives to digitise criminal justice data. His latest collaborations aim to bring prison data on formerly enslaved people to a wider public audience, allowing the stories of unjustly treated people to be told.

Stephen Kenny

Lecturer, 19th and 20th century North American History



Stephen has published extensively on the intersections and legacies of slavery, race, and medicine in the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, *Endeavour*, the *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*, *Social History of Medicine*, and *The Southern Quarterly*. He has contributed essays on race and anatomy, slave hospitals,

and disability and the American Civil War for *Bodies Beyond Bodies: Moving Anatomies, 1750-1950* (Leuven University Press, 2017); *Hospital Life: Theory and Practice From the Medieval to the Modern* (2013); and *Life and Limb: Perspectives on the American Civil War* (Liverpool University Press, 2015). Work on his research has also appeared in *The Conversation*, *The Smithsonian Magazine*, *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, on New Orleans Public Radio, and WURD 900, a Philadelphia-based Black radio station. A Leverhulme Trust funded study of 'Dark Medicine: racism, power and the culture of American Slavery' is the basis of his forthcoming monograph, *Before Tuskegee*, while together with Vanessa Northington Gamble, Stephen is also working on an edited collection that explores the histories, myths and legacies of the infamous enslaver-surgeon, J. Marion Sims'

Lucienne Loh

Senior Lecturer in English Literature



Lucienne's theoretical interests are varied, but include nationalism/transnationalism, race, identity, globalisation and the nexus between politics and literature. Her first monograph, *The Postcolonial Country in Contemporary Literature* (2013) explored contemporary texts and cultural representations which engage

with legacies of the British Empire in the British countryside and in postcolonial rural spaces. She is currently working on a research project on slave narratives and representations of slavery in the contemporary Black British novel. Her current impact work involves collaborations with heritage institutions to create new forms of transnational audience interpretation at heritage properties which seek to target a more global audience.

Eve Rosenhaft

Professor of German Historical Studies



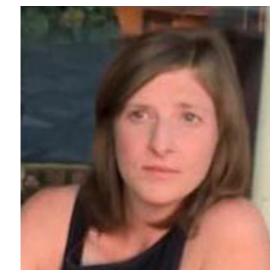
Eve has taught and published widely on aspects of German social history since the eighteenth century. Her interests in slavery and unfree labour are reflected in her research on Black history (including the entanglements with transatlantic slavery and abolition the presence of enslaved Africans in

Germany) and the Holocaust (where she is particularly interested in the Romani genocide). She was part of the editorial team for *Hitler's Slaves. Life Stories of Forced Labourers in Nazi-Occupied Europe* (New York and Oxford, 2010). Recent publications include *Black Germany: The Making and Unmaking of a Diaspora Community 1884-1960* (Cambridge, 2013); *Slavery Hinterland. Transatlantic Slavery and Continental Europe 1680-1850* (Woodbridge, 2016); *Moralizing Commerce in a Globalizing World: Multidisciplinary Approaches to a History of Economic Conscience, 1600-1900* (Oxford, 2021); *Legacies of the Romani Genocide since 1945* (London, 2021).

Laura Sandy

Lecturer in the History of Slavery

University Co-Director of the Centre for the Study of International Slavery



Laura teaches undergraduate modules on colonial America, American slavery, Civil Rights, and comparative slaveries. She joined the University of Liverpool in October 2015 having previously held full-time posts at Oxford Brookes University and Keele University. Laura's ESRC funded PhD and Post-Doctoral award supported research on American

slavery and led to the publication of works which review the lives of overseers (free and enslaved) and their wives on colonial slave plantations in Virginia and South Carolina. Her first book is entitled *"The Overseers of Early American Slavery: Supervisors, Enslaved Labourers, and the Plantation Enterprise."* She is also the editor of a collection of essays, *"The Civil War and Slavery Reconsidered: Negotiating the Peripheries."* Her work has involved archival research across the United States looking at slavery, plantation management, resistance, free people of colour, voluntary enslavement, the theft of enslaved people, and the laws of slavery. Her most recent work investigates the illegal trafficking of the enslaved in North America in the 18th and 19th centuries. Laura has advised on museum exhibitions and given talks on her research to historical societies, institutions, and schools in the UK, Europe, and the United States.

MODERN SLAVERY

Ekaterina Balabanova

Reader in Political Communication



Katia's work focuses on the relationship between media and human rights and research into the ways that business, government and NGOs communicate about human rights issues. The theme of slavery and unfree labour connects with her interest in the ethical dimension of public debates over migration, refugees and fast fashion. In

2020, Katia completed a Knowledge Exchange project with a leading online fashion retailer examining the backlash on social media over working conditions and environmental costs. She has previously conducted evaluations of communication campaigns of international refugee organisations. Current work includes an exploration of the reporting of 'slave auctions' in Libya in Europe and Africa, analysis of modern slavery and human rights statements by businesses, and research into the role of social media in campaigns resisting government policies on migrants and refugees.

Alex Balch, Theme Lead

Professor in Politics and International Relations



Alex's research focuses on the politics and policy of immigration, and on efforts to combat forced labour and human trafficking. He is on the Senior Management Board of the UK's Policy and Evidence Centre on Modern Slavery and Human Rights. He currently leads the Antislavery Knowledge Network which seeks to

apply innovative methods to tackle modern slavery across Sub-Saharan Africa, funded by the UK Government's Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) via the national Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). He is also associate director of the African Programming And Research Initiative To End Slavery (APRIES) which is hosted at the University of Georgia (Athens) with the ResilientAfrica Network at Makerere University, Uganda. His work has included a number of research collaborations and independent evaluations of policies and programmes run by government, business and NGOs. Recent work includes co-development of projects to improve outcomes for those who have been identified as victims of modern slavery and guidance to enhance safeguarding in international development research.

Helen Bryant

Project Administrator in the Antislavery Knowledge Network



Helen completed a MA in Museum Studies in 2014 and has research interests in heritage, migration and labour. Recently, she has been focusing on partnership building in the development sector and how the arts and humanities can provide a critical approach to development funding in order to engage in sustainable and equitable partnerships in the Global South. Previously she worked as a Projects' and Contracts Officer in grants and contracts in the FE sector, focusing on projects which worked with local NGOs in providing training for low skilled workers. She also worked in Collections Management for local museums in Liverpool and in her native California.

Seán Columb

Senior Lecturer in the School of Law and Social Justice



Seán's research interests include modern slavery, people smuggling and transnational crime, more generally. His current research examines how the organ trade fits into the anti-trafficking framework, its link to organised crime and the wider political economy. He has published numerous articles on this topic in peer leading journals, including the British Journal of Criminology and Law and Society Review. He is the author of Trading Life: Organ Trafficking, Illicit Networks, and Exploitation. Seán's research is empirically driven and interdisciplinary, drawing on law, criminology and anthropology. His research on the organ trade has featured in the Guardian, Reuters, BBC, The Times, DW, Al-Hurra TV, Le Monde and De Morgen, amongst others.

Samantha Currie

Senior Lecturer in the School of Law & Social Justice



Samantha's current research focuses on engagement of survivors of trafficking and 'modern slavery' with law and policy processes, with a particular focus on the nexus between migration and modern slavery. She is leading a Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre project on access to legal advice and representation for survivors of modern slavery. From January 2021 she will take up a British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship to conduct a socio-legal investigation into the role of lawyers who represent victims

of trafficking. Recently, Samantha has collaborated with colleagues on a British Academy-funded project on transparency in supply chains in the food and garment industries. She has also conducted a doctrinal study of how victims of trafficking are encountering and engaging with decision-making procedures in the UK.

Nathan Davies

PhD Researcher



Nathan is a procurement practitioner with over 15 years in industry. Decided to specialise in Procurement at an early stage of his career and specialised in the subject as part of a Business Degree at Liverpool John Moores University, obtained an MBA from the University of Chester and now working on a PhD at the University of Liverpool.

Believes in professional development and following best practice. This is demonstrated with Chartered Fellowship of both the Chartered Management Institute and the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply. His current research is looking at the social impacts that procurement can influence, such as Modern Slavery and Social Value.

Olly Kennedy

PhD Researcher



Olly is a current PhD researcher at the University of Liverpool Management School funded by the ESRC, and Research Theme Champion for Slavery and Unfree Labour. Alongside his research he is the Co-Founder of the Liverpool Fashion Summit and an Associate at the Modern Slavery Policy and Evidence Centre. Olly's research

is focused on behaviour change in corporate modern slavery practices and his research interests include metaphor, boundaries, and political philosophy. His work is in partnership with the UK Home Office and Crown Commercial Service, and with the Liverpool Combined Authority to address modern Slavery in the Liverpool City Region. Olly is also working with colleagues at the Heseltine Institute for Public Policy, Practice and Place, and with partners in the Middle East. He holds an MBA and Six Sigma Black Belt, and works as a behaviour change consultant.

Lennon Mhishi

Postdoctoral Research Associate in Politics



Lennon is currently part of a project, led by Professor Alex Balch, exploring how the arts and humanities can be utilised in tackling contemporary forms of slavery in various African countries. Prior to joining the University of Liverpool, Lennon has conducted ethnographic research in Harare, Johannesburg, and London. His

doctoral work in anthropology, at SOAS University of London, explored the migrant and diasporic experiences of music, identity and belonging amongst Zimbabweans in London, whilst foregrounding these experiences as part of the genealogy of African and Black presence and expressive culture in Britain.

Simon Maskell

Professor of Autonomous Systems Electrical Engineering and Electronics



Simon sits at the interface between Engineering, Computer Science and Statistics. His research focuses on developing next-generation algorithmic solutions that can automate the analysis of complex and ambiguous multi-source data to inform important and challenging decisions. The applications pertinent to this research

span, for example, defence, security, manufacturing and health. In the context of modern slavery, applications include analysis of shipping in international waters and analysis of vehicle movement. In both cases, the aim is to identify behaviours that are indicative of involvement in modern-day slavery such that law enforcement organisations can respond in an focused (and so resource-effective) way. Simon's fundamental approach is to embrace the scale of data and computation that is often available but also to use Bayesian inference to explicitly capitalise on domain experts' prior knowledge when analysing the data.

Joanne Meehan

Senior Lecturer in Strategic Purchasing



Jo is an experienced researcher in the fields of procurement and supply chain management following eleven years in procurement management for a global blue-chip organisation. Jo's research interests include modern slavery, corporate power, responsible procurement, and social value. She is engaged with the Liverpool

Combined Authority Fair Employment Charter reference group and the Fair City Procurement group for the Liverpool City Region. Jo is an Associate Editor for the Journal of Purchasing and Supply Management and champions the journal's 'business-not-as-usual' research. Jo sits on the working group for the University of Liverpool's Sustainable Development Responsible Consumption and Production and is a regular public speaker in the procurement field committed to challenging business responsibilities and delivering impactful research.

Freya O'Brien

Senior Lecturer in the Department of Psychology



Freya specialises in Forensic and Investigative Psychology. Her topics of research and teaching include a range of issues related to missing people (e.g. the public's memory for appeals, predicting risk from harm, the spatial behaviour of missing people, the impact of COVID19 restrictions on missing reports), modern day slavery

and trafficking for exploitation (e.g. the link with missing), and sexual offences (e.g. behavioural models, case linkage, offender profiling). She has worked with several UK law enforcement agencies, including the Metropolitan Police and the National Crime Agency, and chaired the 4th International Conference on Missing Children and Adults in 2019. Freya has recently completed a project with UK police force, examining the attrition of modern day slavery cases from the criminal justice system. She wishes to expand this work to address this issue at a national and international level.

Bruce Pinnington

Lecturer in Operations Management



Bruce is a lecturer in operations management and a former practitioner with extensive experience in supplier relationship management and outsourcing. Dr. Pinnington's research interests centre on the human element in business to business (B2B) relationship management, and research contexts include modern slavery and social value.

Demi Smoloktou

PhD Researcher



Demi Smoloktou is a sustainability professional with rounded experience in all sustainability issues, economic, social and environmental. With over 12 years of experience in industry, Demi has designed and led sustainability agendas and programmes for large organisations in agriculture, construction, hospitality, food service

and fashion. Areas of her expertise cover corporate responsibility, responsible sourcing, sustainability (net zero & circularity) and human rights in operations within organisations and supply chains. Demi holds a BSc in Accounting and Finance and has also completed two master's degrees; MSc Corporate Environmental Management and MSc Development and International Cooperation- Social Public Policy. She is a part-time PhD researcher at the University of Liverpool, School of Histories, Languages and Cultures and part of the Centre for study of International Slavery. She focuses on modern slavery in supply chains, global production networks, and global value chains, providing analyses on modern working practices and human rights. Her research addresses anti-slavery legislation and implementation, as well as different forms of contemporary forced labour as a management practice. Her work aims to discuss the vulnerability of the transport and logistics (T&L) industry to labour exploitation and whether the modern slavery transparency agenda can help the sector to improve employment standards and working conditions..

Dame Sara Thornton DBE QPM

Honorary Professor of Modern Slavery



Dame Sara Thornton is the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner responsible for encouraging good practice in the prevention and detection of modern slavery and the identification of victims. She was Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police from 2007 -2015 and the first Chair of the National Police Chiefs' Council from 2015-2019. She is chair

of the National Leadership Centre's Advisory Board and an Honorary Air Commodore in the Royal Air Force. She is Honorary Professor in Modern Slavery at the Centre for the Study of International Slavery, University of Liverpool.

Leona Vaughn

Derby Fellow in Politics



Dr Leona Vaughn is an equalities and human rights professional whose previous positions include Chief Executive of Anthony Walker Foundation, National Policy Advisor for Crown Prosecution Service and Trustee of Liverpool FC Foundation. In her current role as Research Fellow at the University of Liverpool, her interests are

in anticolonial methodologies for researching slavery and unfree labour which centre minoritised groups in knowledge production. Leona was the Post Doctoral Research Associate working with teams in Bangladesh, Myanmar, Ghana and Dominican Republic for the British Academy funded project 'Clothes, Chocolate and Children: Realising the Transparency Dividend' at University of Liverpool (Politics Department), which explored the impact of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 on supply chains in these countries. She has written on 'risk', 'safeguarding', 'child labour', 'modern slavery' and 'childhood radicalisation' and her current research project is on the racialisation of risk narratives for COVID-19 prevention in Ghana, Kenya & South Africa.

Alex Williams-Woods

PhD Researcher



Alex is in the final stages of her PhD in the Politics department at the University of Liverpool. The title of her thesis is "Abolition and Agenda: the role of ideas in the development of the UK anti-trafficking governance regime". In Alex's research, she demonstrate how the problem of human trafficking/ modern slavery has been constructed

in the UK policymaking arena, particularly how the discourses of immigration, labour market regulation and sex work have influenced its construction. During my thesis she have also worked on several small scale projects, publishing work on the implications of precarious immigration status for survivors, and been involved with and led reviews of several programs within the anti-trafficking NGO sector.

SLAVERY AND UNFREE LABOUR: OUR PARTNERS

Centre for the Study of International Slavery



The Centre for the Study of International Slavery (CSIS) supports and shares leading research about human enslavement and its legacies. Founded in 2006 as a partnership between the University of Liverpool and National Museums Liverpool, the Centre works together with other universities and organisations to develop scholarly and public activities related to slavery in its historical and contemporary manifestations. Liverpool is a stimulating home for CSIS activities.

In the past Liverpool was a major slaving port with ships and merchants dominating the transatlantic slave trade in the second half of the eighteenth century.

Today, the city's International Slavery Museum serves as a starting point for different forms of engagement with slavery and abolition across time and space.

Since 2014 the centre has hosted an annual lecture given by world authorities on the history of slavery, the legacy and cultural representations of enslavement, and contemporary forced labour. Speakers have included award winning filmmaker Amma Asante and Kevin Hyland, the UK's first independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner. In 2016 CSIS celebrated its tenth anniversary.

International Slavery Museum



A [unique museum](#) looking at aspects of historical & contemporary slavery, as well as an international hub for resources on human rights issues.

The International Slavery Museum opened in August 2007 and by December 2016 had welcomed more than 3.8 million visitors. It is the only museum of its kind to look at aspects of historical and contemporary slavery as well as being an international hub for resources on human rights issues.

Its aim is to address ignorance and misunderstanding by looking at the deep and permanent impact of slavery and the slave trade on Africa, South America, the USA, the Caribbean and Western Europe, and to increase our understanding of the world around us.

The Crown Commercial Service (CCS)



Crown Commercial Service

The Crown Commercial Service (CCS) is a UK Government agency responsible for central government procurement. Over £13 Bn worth of goods and services are now procured through CCS frameworks from over 5,000 suppliers. CCS

is sponsored by the Cabinet Office and is responsible for achieving savings for central government and the wider public sector, but also for providing advice and for establishing procurement policy. In the context of this research, CCS is interacting with the Cabinet Office to establish industry best practice, and with the Home Office Modern Slavery Unit in establishing improvements in the practices of central government suppliers and their supply chains.

MSPEC

MODERN SLAVERY & HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY & EVIDENCE CENTRE
Led by the Bingham Centre

The Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre is a consortium of universities and

Independent Research Organisations with a track record in world-class work on modern slavery. It is hosted by the Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law (part of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law) and consists of the Rights Lab at the University of Nottingham, the Wilberforce Institute at the University of Hull, the Centre for the Study of International Slavery at the University of Liverpool, the Bonavero Institute on Human Rights at the University of Oxford and The Alan Turing Institute.

The Centre is funded and actively supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), with input from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), with funding awarded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) from the Strategic Priorities Fund as a result of collaboration with the UK Home Office.

University of Ghana, Legon



The University of Ghana, the premier university and the largest university in Ghana was founded as the University College of the Gold Coast by Ordinance on August 11, 1948 for the purpose of providing and promoting university education, learning and research.

As the leading university in Ghana, the University aims to produce the next generation of thought leaders to drive national development. Through our research institutes and other centres of learning and research, faculty members are involved in studies that support policy making for national development, often in collaboration with other international institutions.

University of Georgia, APRIES



African Programming And Research Initiative To End Slavery (Apries) is housed at the University of Georgia, comprising of researchers at the University of Georgia (US) and the University of Liverpool (UK). Collaborators include the ResilientAfrica Network at Makerere University in Uganda.

Estimating the prevalence of people experiencing modern day slavery in Sub-Saharan Africa is challenging due to locating the hard to reach populations and limited methodological approaches to accurately measure the problem. APRIES's mission is to better understand the complex system of modern slavery and take action for policy and best practices to prevent and end slavery.

APRIES recognises that modern slavery is a complex, multi-sector social problem that no single entity can tackle alone. Survivors' voices are essential in prosecution, protection, prevention, and policy for successful anti-human trafficking efforts. Collective Impact approaches are used in researching, programming, and policy intervention to achieve the common goal of measurably reducing modern day slavery in selected regions.

SLAVERY AND UNFREE LABOUR: WHY LIVERPOOL?

The city of Liverpool itself has strong historical links with the subject, widely recognised as playing a prominent role in the transatlantic slave trade, the largest example of forced migration in human history.

The University of Liverpool benefits greatly from its unique relationship with the International Slavery Museum (ISM), with which it has collaborated since 2006 through the jointly run research centre: the [Centre for the Study of International Slavery \(CSIS\)](#).

These relationships and resources have led to communities of scholars coming together to focus on four main strands of research:

- the history of different periods of slavery and their abolition;
- the study of representation in art and literature – building on traditions of postcolonial literary studies and cultural history;
- the memorialisation and commemoration of slavery, for example exploring the role of public history and heritage; and
- contemporary forms of unfree labour and the role of state and non-state actors

“Liverpool is exactly the right place to study the historical forms of slavery, but also the legacies of slavery today. My work is often in collaboration with NGOs and with policy makers, because I'm interested in influencing the way that the government and others deal with contemporary forms of slavery.

“We've done lots of workshops and events to bring in people from all walks of life to the city to talk about how we can do things better, how we can improve the chances of those who experience this form of crime.”

Professor Alex Balch

Slavery and Unfree Labour Research Theme Lead

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www.liverpool.ac.uk/humanities-and-social-sciences/research/research-themes/slavery-unfree-labour/

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