

Join the SRA

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS IF YOU ARE ALSO APPLYING FOR SRA MEMBERSHIP. PROVIDE NEW CONTACT DETAILS IF YOU WANT TO BE LISTED/ CONTACTED AS A MEMBER UNDER A DIFFERENT ADDRESS TO THAT GIVEN FOR TICKET REQUESTS.

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (IN FULL INC. POSTCODE)

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

Which address would you like listed in our membership directory, ticket request address ☐ or correspondence address ☐?

Employment Category:

■ Employment full time (01)

■ Employment part time (02)

■ Self-employed – full time (03)

■ Self-employed – part time (06)

■ Student – (04)

■ Unwaged – (05)

■ Retired – (06)

About how long have you worked in social research?

■ Less than 1 year (01)

■ 1yr+ but less than 3 yrs (02)

■ 3yrs+ but less than 5yrs (03)

■ 5yrs+ but less than 10yrs (04)

■ 10yrs+ but less than 15yrs (05)

■ 15yrs+ but less than 20yrs (06)

■ 20yrs or more (07)

ALL CANCELLATIONS MUST BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING BY EMAIL OR POST TO THE OFFICE by Tuesday 21 November 2006. An administration fee of £10 will be charged for refunds made as a result of cancellation up to 21 November 2006, after which no refund will be made as the full fee is payable.

You should write your name and the event name on the back of your cheque. If a remittance advice is issued to us, please ensure that your name and the event name are quoted.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:

Gemma Pikett, Administration Office, Social Research Association,
175-185 Gray's Inn Road, LONDON, WC1X 8UP

Or

Apply electronically, either by requesting a booking form from admin@the-sra.org.uk or by completing the booking form on our website www.the-sra.org.uk and e-mailing it to the office.

e-mail: admin@the-sra.org.uk

tel: 020 7812 0634

The Plenary and Panel speakers:

Ian Diamond, Chief Executive of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

Professor Ian Diamond joined the ESRC in January 2003. He was previously at the University of Southampton where he was Deputy Vice-Chancellor. A social statistician, his work has crossed many disciplinary boundaries, most notably working in the area of population but also in health, both in the developed and less developed world, in environmental noise and with local authorities. His has collaborated with many government departments including the Office for National Statistics, the Department for International Development, the Department of Transport and the Department for Work and Pensions.

Greg Philo, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Applied Social Sciences, University of Glasgow

Professor Greg Philo is the Research Director of the Glasgow University Media Unit (Glasgow Media Group). He has published many books and articles on the role of the media and cultural reception. Research in the past has centred on media presentations of industrial disputes and trade unionism, the Falklands War and Northern Ireland. Current research includes ESRC and other externally-funded research projects on political advertising, images of health and illness (including mental illness), migration and 'race' as well as risk and food scares.

John Curtice, Department of Government, University of Strathclyde

Professor John Curtice is Professor of Politics at Strathclyde University and a Research Consultant to the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen). He has conducted a wide range of research into social and political attitudes via the British and Scottish Social Attitudes survey and the British Election Study. Recent publications include co-editor of British Social Attitudes: the 23rd report (forthcoming) and of Has Devolution Delivered? (Edinburgh University Press, 2006). He is also a frequent commentator on public opinion and elections in the broadcast and printed media.

John McFall MP, Chairman of the Treasury Select committee

Rt Hon John McFall is the Labour and Co-operative Party MP for West Dunbartonshire. He has been an MP since 1987 and has been the former Deputy Shadow Secretary of State for Scotland (with responsibility for Industry, Highlands and Islands, fisheries and forestry, economic affairs, employment and training, home affairs, transport and roads), the former Lord Commissioner of HM Treasury and former Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Northern Ireland Office. He has been the Chairman of the Treasury Select committee since 2001 of which recent enquires have included: looking at the issue of Independence for statistics, the design of a National Pension Savings Scheme and the issue of Globalisation.

Nancy Kelley, Head of International and UK Policy, Refugee council

Nancy Kelley is currently the Head of UK and International Policy at the Refugee Council and is responsible for a team of policy advisors which work on a range of issues from refugee protection to support arrangements for unaccompanied asylum seeking children. Before joining the Refugee council, Nancy was the Senior Policy Officer at Barnardo's, and took responsibility for chairing the multi-agency Refugee Children's Consortium.

Dermot Scott, Director of the European Parliament's UK Office

Dermot Scott is the Director of the European Parliament's UK Office (London) having previously worked as the Head of the Dublin office of the European Parliament, and Head of the European Parliament Office in Scotland. He is the author of numerous articles and pamphlets on European affairs. He currently heads a staff of 18 working at the European Parliament's office in the UK which exists to provide information to the public, the media, government, regional agencies and the business community about the role and activities of the Parliament itself and the European Union more generally.

SRA Annual Conference:

Challenging myths, researching reality – the role of social research

Understanding and explaining the society we live in is a key task for social researchers. This year the SRA's annual conference "Challenging myths, researching reality – the role of social research" provides an opportunity to focus on some of the problems faced by social research when investigating and presenting complex social issues. This includes the challenge of presenting an evidence based account of an issue in an environment increasingly favouring the more anecdotal or populist approach associated with some interest groups and elements of the media.

Through key note speakers and eight workshop sessions, the conference aims to promote discussions about the nature of social research and the role it plays in informing the research and policy community as well as the general public.

In the morning, Ian Diamond will examine the capacity of social research to challenge misconceptions of social issues, whilst John Curtice and Greg Philo will address the issue of how social and political attitudes, perceptions and actions are formed, including examining the role social research and the media plays in shaping people's understanding of "reality".

In the afternoon, eight workshops delivered by research experts from academia, government and the private sector will provide opportunities to examine robust evidence on headline (and often myth laden) topics such as community cohesion, user involvement in health services and attitudes to poverty and rural disadvantage. Other workshops will identify and discuss some of the methodologies, analytical tools and technologies that can be used to enhance our understanding of the world.

Finally a panel of expert users of social research including the Director of the European Parliament's UK Office, the Head of UK and International Policy at the Refugee Council and the Chair of the Treasury Select Committee will discuss their use of social research to combat some of the common myths and misperceptions in their policy fields.

Social
Research
Association

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SRA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2006

Challenging myths, researching reality – the role of social research

Registration starts at 9.30 am

SRA General Meeting (members only) at 10.00 am

Followed by:

SRA Annual Conference at 10.30 am

Wednesday 6th December 2006

Brunei Gallery, SOAS, University of London

Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG



MORNING – Registration starts 9.30am				
10.00am	SRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING			
10.30am	CONFERENCE OPENING Welcome and Introduction from the Chair, <i>Barbara Doig, SRA Chair</i> <i>Ian Diamond, Chief Executive of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)</i> Professor Diamond will address the role and capacity of social research to challenge misconceptions of social issues.			
11.30am	<i>Greg Philo, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Applied Social Sciences, University of Glasgow</i> Professor Philo will address the issue of the role the media plays in shaping people's understanding of “reality”. <i>John Curtice, Department of Government, University of Strathclyde</i> <i>Myths and Reality in Social Attitudes</i> Panel discussion with comments and questions from the floor.			
12.30pm	LUNCH			
AFTERNOON				
1.30pm	Workshops Session A			
	Workshop 1: Housing and Rural Communities Private landlords and tenants – their real issues and concerns <i>Afi Adjei and Maggie Davidson, Building Research Establishment</i> Challenging the Myth of the Rural Idyll: Using Market Segmentation Techniques to Understand Rural Attitudes to Disadvantage <i>Ruth Bradshaw, Thematic Studies Manager, Commission for Rural Communities</i>	Workshop 2: Community Cohesion Refugees are abusing our system, aren't they? <i>Siddig Elzailaee, Researcher, Working Lives Research Institute, London Metropolitan University</i> Whose ‘problem’ is cohesion anyway? Challenging misconceptions about social integration and community cohesion <i>Dr Adele Smaill, Community Cohesion Evaluation Officer, Strategy and Resources, Oldham MBC</i>	Workshop 3: <i>Healthy Involvement</i> The Patient Advisory and Liaison Service as a catalyst for change: Myths and realities of the implementation of the NHS user involvement agenda <i>Sarah Booker, Research Fellow, Faculty of Health & Social Care, University of the West of England</i> Obesity, social control and the tyranny of health <i>Dr Michael Gard, Charles Sturt University, Australia and Carnegie Research Institute, Leeds Metropolitan University, UK</i>	Workshop 4: <i>Understanding Poverty and Managing Money</i> Managing money in older age: Are pensioners really as financially excluded and vulnerable as commentators suggest? <i>Annie Irvine and Katharine Nice, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York and Peter A. Kemp, Department of Social Policy & Social Work, University of Oxford</i> The Reality or Myth of Poverty – a Method for Applying Objectivity to Poverty Studies <i>Wendy Olsen and Jamie Morgan, Cathie Marsh Centre for Census & Survey Research, University of Manchester</i>
2.50pm	TEA			
3.20pm	Workshops Session B			
	Workshop 5: Binge Drinking ‘Binge drinking’ in the UK: the recent history of a confused concept. <i>Rachel Herring, Research Fellow and Virginia Berridge, Professor, Centre for History in Public Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London; Betsy Thom, Reader, School of Health and Social Sciences, Middlesex University.</i>	Workshop 6: <i>Shifting public beliefs about poverty</i> Shifting public beliefs in the UK about poverty <i>Julian Thompson and Sarah Castell, Ipsos MORI HotHouse</i>	Workshop 7: <i>Approaching Stereotypes</i> Approaching stereotypes and myths in social surveys: the example of British Social Attitudes <i>British Social Attitudes Team, NatCen</i>	Workshop 8: <i>Challenging myths and stereotypes</i> Using the ONS omnibus survey to challenge myths and stereotypes <i>Chris Dowsett, Research Officer, Social & Vital Statistics, Office for National Statistics</i>
4:15pm	PANEL DISCUSSION Challenging myths, researching reality - the role of social research <i>Chaired by Ceridwen Roberts, Vice Chair of the SRA</i> <i>John McFall MP, Chairman of the Treasury Select committee</i> <i>Nancy Kelley, Head of International and UK Policy, Refugee council</i> <i>Dermot Scott, Director of the European Parliament's UK Office</i>			
5:20pm	DRINKS RECEPTION			

Booking Form

Please reserve one place at the following rate, for the SRA Annual Conference 2006, to be held on Wednesday 6 December 2006 at the Brunei Gallery, SOAS, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG:

TICKETS FOR SRA MEMBERS:

- tickets at £140.00 each for the conference

TICKETS FOR NON SRA MEMBERS (INCLUDING MEMBERSHIP):

- ☐ Full Time workers: Membership at £55 a year and a place at £140 (total fee £195 per delegate)
- ☐ Part Time workers or Retired: Membership £40 a year and a place at £140 (total fee £180 per delegate)
- ☐ Full time Student or Unwaged: Membership at £20 a year and a place at £140 (total fee £160 per delegate). (Please provide a copy of your student ID if your require student membership).

If I live outside the UK, I will add a further £10 to my subscription.

GENERAL ATTENDANCE:

- tickets at £195 each for conference

The conference fee includes all day access to the event, conference pack, lunch and tea/coffee and drinks reception. Fees do not include travel costs or accommodation.

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*Please invoice me for £

Purchase order No is		(if applicable)
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(if you are paying by invoice you can return this form by email attachment)

*please delete as appropriate

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Booking Form *continued*

In the afternoon, I would like to attend the following workshops:

Session A (please number 1-4, with 1 as your most preferred option)

- Housing and Rural Communities
- Community Cohesion
- Healthy Involvement
- Understanding Poverty and Managing Money

Session B (please number 1-4, with 1 as your most preferred option)

- Binge Drinking
- Shifting public beliefs about poverty
- Approaching Stereotypes
- Challenging myths and stereotypes

The SRA will endeavour to place you in your preferred workshops, but this cannot be guaranteed as spaces are limited. Places in the workshops will be awarded on a first come first served basis.