



# Human Reproduction Study Group Annual Conference

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017

Convenors: Dr Kylie Baldwin, Dr Cathy Herbrand

Plenary Speaker: Professor Jacqui Gabb

## Unsettling lesbian motherhood: Critical reflections over a generation (1990-2015)

The UK is recognised as one of the most progressive countries for LGBTQ rights in Europe. In this paper I will explore how advancements in equality rights and positive social attitudinal changes have been experienced by lesbian mothers over a generation (1990-2015). I reflect on moments where sexuality and relationships become meaningful to draw attention to the factors that shape queer motherhood. This highlights the need to problematize coupledness and unpicks the conflation of temporal progression, progressive rights and narratives of progress. Autobiographical moments are combined with data from empirical research to open up discussion on the subject and also facilitate reflection on how we understand and come to know queer parenthood.

[Professor Jacqui Gabb](#) is Chair of Sociology and Intimacy at The Open University, UK. Interests centre on interdisciplinary approaches for researching and theorizing intimacy, sexuality and family life. She has completed RCUK-funded projects on lesbian parenthood, intimacy and sexuality in families, and post-divorce fatherhood.

Findings from her recent study on long-term couple relationships have been published in a self-help handbook *The Secrets of Enduring Love* (Penguin, Random House, 2016) and 'translated' into online relationship resources for young people and an eLearning pack for teachers. Academic publications include *Couple Relationships in the 21st Century* (Palgrave, 2015) and *Researching Intimacy in Families* (Palgrave, 2008).

### Conference Details

The conference will take place at [De Montfort University](#), Leicester in Trinity House Chapel and Boardroom.

The city of Leicester is located an hour from London and is easily accessible by both rail and road and is well served by East Midlands and Birmingham airport.

If there is interest a post-conference meal will be organised for Tuesday evening

**Registration Fees:** Student BSA member £30 / Student non-BSA member £35  
BSA member £40 / Non-BSA member £45

For more information about the event please contact: [reprostudygroup@gmail.com](mailto:reprostudygroup@gmail.com)

Register Online at:

<https://portal.britsoc.co.uk/public/event/eventBooking.aspx?id=EVT10643>