

<b>Institution:</b> University of Cambridge		
<b>Unit of Assessment:</b> UoA 28 History		
<b>Title of case study:</b> Historical Child Abuse in Policy and Public Debate		
<b>Period when the underpinning research was undertaken:</b> 2013-2018		
<b>Details of staff conducting the underpinning research from the submitting unit:</b>		
<b>Name(s):</b>	<b>Role(s) (e.g. job title):</b>	<b>Period(s) employed by submitting HEI:</b>
Dr Lucy Delap	Reader in Modern British and Gender History	2015 – ongoing
Dr Caroline Lanskey	Lecturer in Criminology and Criminal Justice	1/9/2018 – ongoing [as lecturer – previously a research associate of Institute of Criminology, Cambridge].
<b>Period when the claimed impact occurred:</b> 2013-2018		
<b>Is this case study continued from a case study submitted in 2014?</b> N		
<b>1. Summary of the impact</b> (indicative maximum 100 words) <p>A collaborative research project led by historians at the Universities of Cambridge, Sheffield and Edinburgh has promoted deeper understanding of the experiences of child sexual abuse [CSA] in England and Wales between 1918 and 1990. Project researchers have offered new perspectives to public enquiries, and informed media, civil service and practitioner debates. The impact of understanding the historical context to CSA in a holistic fashion has allowed the public inquiries to deliver more workable and informed outcomes. Research has helped policy makers understand the kinds of accountability and levels of safeguarding of children that could realistically have been expected in the past, to improve corporate memory and contemporary safeguarding, and to explain the record of inaction and inattention to disclosures of abuse.</p>		
<b>2. Underpinning research</b> (indicative maximum 500 words) <p>History &amp; Policy, a knowledge-exchange project directed by Lucy Delap (2013-16), was invited to brief Kate Lampard QC to assist her investigation into the offending of Jimmy Savile on NHS premises in 2013. Lampard received expert testimony from 8 historians, including Delap, Louise Jackson (University of Edinburgh), and Adrian Bingham (University of Sheffield). She noted the 'invaluable insight into the parameters of acceptable behaviour, societal norms and the culture of the NHS' obtained, which helped her investigation 'avoid hindsight bias and added significantly to the rigour, thoroughness and fairness of investigation reports.' Building on their complementary historical expertise, Jackson, Delap and Bingham subsequently collaborated on an investigation into the press reporting, practitioner responses to and criminal justice framework for CSA. The project broke new ground in a systematic sampling of a range of newspaper reporting of CSA, spanning local and national newspapers between 1918 and 1990. A database of over 700 individual instances of CSA provided crucial data on the historical changes to the reporting and prosecution of CSA, as well as campaigns to counter it.</p> <p>As part of this project, Delap undertook a study of disclosures of CSA that can be gleaned from personal memoirs and oral histories, assessing the impact and disclosure patterns associated with abuse where it did not lead to formal complaints or criminal justice</p>		

interventions [R1]. This research helped build a profile of the circumstances under which abuse is disclosed, by and to whom, and with what consequences. This research informed the seminars with policy makers and practitioners.

Better understanding of this landscape allowed the researchers to carry out additional searching of the records of practitioners such as moral welfare and social workers, police, young offender institutions, schools and children's homes, leading to a policy briefing [R1] and engagements with wider publics and the media [R2 and R3]. In addition, the project developed the first amalgamated criminal justice statistics that trace the treatment of CSA cases in the courts over the period 1918-1970, which concluded that the scale of offending went unrecognised due to the uncoordinated use of prosecutions organised around gender rather than age. It resulted in a jointly-authored article [R4], which tracked the changing duty of care across the education sector, as well as early efforts to monitor offending through the 'blacklisting' framework. The work of Delap, Jackson and Bingham led to the award of the Royal Historical Society's Public History Prize (Public Debate and Policy) in 2018.

An overlapping group of researchers (Jackson, Delap, and from the Institute of Criminology in Cambridge, Dr Caroline Lanskey, Prof Loraine Gelsthorpe and Mr Ben Jarman) were commissioned in 2017 by the Historical Child Abuse Team [H-CAT] at HM Prisons and Probation Service to undertake a review of safeguarding practices and the institutional culture of the secure estate between 1960 and 2016 [R5]. By consulting inspection reports, reviewing complaints and accountability procedures and unearthing press and parliamentary debates, the researchers provided a comprehensive review of abuse of children related to the changing operational cultures, resourcing, and institutional checks and balances governing prisons, local authority Secure Children's Homes, Young Offender Institutions and Secure Training Centres. This research also deployed comparative perspectives by cross referencing the equivalent work done internationally by inquiries and Royal Commissions. This research, H-CAT subsequently testified, 'assisted HMPs to structure its approach to responding to witness statement requests, preparing its witnesses in giving oral evidence and recommend improvements ahead of the public hearing' of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse [IICSA].

### 3. References to the research (indicative maximum of six references)

[R1] Delap, "Disgusting details which are best forgotten": Disclosures of Child Sexual Abuse in Twentieth Century Britain' *Journal of British Studies*, 57:1 (2018), pp.79-107 [Altmetric 19, 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for outputs published at this date]. <https://doi.org/10.1017/jbr.2017.181>

[R2] Bingham, A, Delap, L, Jackson, L & Settle, L (2015), 'Sexual abuse: A hidden history' *History Today*, vol 65, no. 10. <http://www.historytoday.com/adrian-bingham/sexual-abuse-hidden-history>

[R3] Bingham, A, Delap, L, Jackson, L & Settle, L (2015) 'These outrages are going on more than people know', *History & Policy*, Opinion Article, <http://www.historyandpolicy.org/opinion-articles/articles/these-outrages-are-going-on-more-than-people-know>

[R4] A. Bingham, L. Delap, L. Jackson and L. Settle (2016) 'Historical child sexual abuse in England and Wales: the role of historians', *History of Education*, 45.4, 411-29. [Altmetric 10, 84<sup>th</sup> percentile for outputs published at this date]. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0046760X.2016.1177122>

[R5] Ben Jarman , Lucy Delap , Louise Jackson , Caroline Lanskey , Hannah Marshall and Loraine Gelsthorpe, Safeguarding children in the secure estate: 1960-2016, October 2018, <https://www.crim.cam.ac.uk/documents/safeguarding-children-report>

[R6] Delap, 'Child welfare, child protection and sexual abuse, 1918-1990' *History and Policy* (July 2015) [14,533 unique page views at 29 Mar 2019]  
<http://www.historyandpolicy.org/policy-papers/papers/child-welfare-child-protection-and-sexual-abuse-1918-1990>

[R1, R4, R5 and R6] were all peer reviewed and published in international journals. [R2] presented the research to a mass audience, and [R3] represents a summation of this research expertise intended for a policy audience. These items therefore meet the 2\* minimum quality requirement.

Grant Funding: Economic and Social Research Council [Urgency Grant 20140715, 2014-5, PI Prof Louise Jackson, CoI Prof Adrian Bingham and CoI Dr Lucy Delap, £124,187.25

#### 4. Details of the impact (indicative maximum 750 words)

*Confidential material is in italics.*

The beneficiaries of this research have been policy makers in criminal justice, staff of public inquiries and practitioners in policing, social work, education and voluntary action, via professional development training, networking events and commissioned, bespoke seminars. The media and wider public debates on CSA have also been beneficiaries of a significantly enriched historical context as a result of the research.

Four major areas of impact:

##### 1) IICSA workshops and published reports

**Text removed for publication**

IICSA has now published a Rapid Evidence Assessment [E8] with the aim of summarising existing secondary research on CSA. It referenced 'Bingham and colleagues' on 15 occasions, and drew attention in particular to findings on the provenance and discursive construction of ideas of CSA (p. 31), archaic prosecution strategies (p. 33), treatment in the media (p. 41) and links to homosexuality reform agendas (p. 85).

##### 2) Child abuse in specialist music schools

Delap participated in a policy workshop held at the Institute of Musical Research on Sept 15<sup>th</sup> 2015, to discuss her research findings with representatives of the specialist music schools. The historical research was complemented by findings in sociology and musicology, presented by colleagues Dr Ian Pace (City University) and Dr Anna Bull (King's College London). Responding to the recent convictions of several conservatoire music educators, workshop participants sought to understand how cultures of impunity might have developed within music education, allowing abuse of children and young people to go unreported and unpunished. The Director of the Institute of Musical Research commented after the 2015 event held with specialist music schools: 'The workshop touched on some of the most important issues in music education. The discussion suggested ways in which looking at the history of music institutions, as well as their current best practice, can help us understand and root out abuse.' [E4]

A representative of Trinity College London who attended the September workshop reported back to their executive board. In response, Trinity have now established a link with the NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit in order to review their safeguarding policies in light of new considerations arising from workshop discussions. The research was also cited (p. 74) in the report of the Universities UK taskforce on sexual violence in universities [E9].

##### 3) Prisons and Probation Service Historical Child Abuse Team (H-CAT)

Delap acted as consultant on a contract research project for Her Majesty's Prisons and Probation Service (HMPPS) H-CAT, to undertake a review of the infrastructure of child protection within the juvenile secure estate between 1960 and 2016. The review informed the response made by HM Prisons and Probation Service to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, enhanced HMPPS's institutional memory, and suggested avenues for improved practice of child safeguarding. The team presented the research at the H-CAT Single Point of Contact Conference (25 July 2018) to an audience of regional HMPPS employees. After the presentation of research findings, the Intelligence & Information Manager (Historic) Child Abuse Team, HMPPS commented: 'The research provided invaluable insight into the estate's chronology ... [It] has deepened the HMPPS understanding of the historic configuration of the youth estate. ... the research team were able to provide insight into new themes that may not have been apparent without such a wide-scoping exploration which drew upon international experience and a wealth of literature. The research was shared with the Youth Custody Service, Directors and key staff to encourage dialogue regarding learning and improvements.' [E6]

#### 4) Engagement with policymakers, practitioners and the media

In addition, following widespread dissemination of the project findings, team members received invitations from policy makers and practitioners to help contextualise and understand historic CSA cases. This led to the following presentations to practitioners: Delap and Bingham, 'Child Abuse and Developments in Law and Practice', Independent Police Complaints Commission Development day on Child Abuse and Child Sexual Exploitation (Feb 2016)

Delap, L. 'Hearing the voices of victims and survivors', St Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre (April 2016)

Delap, L. 'Disclosures of child sexual abuse: historical perspectives', Sue Lambert Trust and Norwich Child Safeguarding Board (Nov 2017).

Jackson, Delap and Bingham, Lessons from history: contextualising historical child sexual abuse and safeguarding, Farrer & Co [a legal firm specialising in safeguarding], 25 June 2018

After Delap's presentation in Nov 2017 to the Norfolk Child Safeguarding Board, Sue Lambert, the Trust Director, commented: 'The people I have spoken to found your presentation extremely interesting, and for many quite illuminating as well, with many lessons for today from what has gone before. I certainly found it fascinating, and I think it will be useful for me when being asked about what is currently perceived as a 'surge' in incidence of sexual abuse in recent years.' [E5]

Since 2015, **media engagements** relating to the project included:

Delap, BBC Radio 4's Today Programme on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2015 (reaching roughly 7 million listeners daily).

Delap, Channel 5 News on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

Delap, L., Research advice, interview and broadcast appearance on 30-minute radio programme, 'Speaking Out', hosted by Sarah Dunant/When Greeks Flew Kites', first broadcast on BBC Radio 4, 26 Nov 2017.

#### 5. Sources to corroborate the impact (indicative maximum of 10 references)

[E1] text removed for publication

[E2] text removed for publication

[E3] text removed for publication

[E4] Email from Professor of Music, RHUL, to Anna Bull, 16 September 2015.

[E5] Email from the Director of the Sue Lambert Trust to Lucy Delap 8 Dec 2017

**[E6]** Email from the Intelligence & Information Manager, (Historic) Child Abuse Team, HMPPS, to Caroline Lanskey, 22 Jan 2019.

**[E7]** Lampard, et al. Themes and lessons learnt from NHS investigations into matters relating to Jimmy Savile (2015). Delap's contributions to Kate Lampard's investigation into the offending of Jimmy Savile are cited at p. 37-8 section 7.8

**[E8]** IICSA Rapid Evidence Assessment, Lovett et al, Deflection, denial and disbelief: social and political discourses about child sexual abuse *and their influence on institutional responses*, Feb 2018

**[E9]** A submission by Delap, Bull and Pace to the Universities UK taskforce on sexual violence in universities, which was summarised in the UUK final report, *Changing the Culture*, p. 74

**[E10]** Media Appearances