



'Getting with the Programme'

Workshop 1: History & Contemporary Practice

11 February 2015 13:00 – 16:30

Pennington Room, Grey College, Durham University

The Troubled Families Programme is one of the coalition government's highest profile social policies, aiming to 'turn around' the lives of 120,000 of the most 'troubled families' in England. Recently expanded to include 400,000 more families, the programme has been heralded as a success and as a new way of working which meets both the needs of the families involved and 'the taxpayer', keen to see spending on such families reduced.

This workshop will be split into three sections, with speakers from four different universities: the first part will explore the history of the concept of 'troubled families', looking at how the state's interest in family life has evolved over time, including a specific focus on the similarities between the practices of workers helping the 'problem families' of the 1950s and those involved in the Troubled Families Programme today; the second part of the workshop will examine how workers are implementing the Troubled Families Programme in two different local authority areas in England, drawing on empirical research which has been conducted with the authorities, focusing on the issues of young people within the programme and the differences between discourse and practice within the programme; the final part of the workshop will allow for discussion, responses and feedback from audience members, with a view to influencing what might happen next.

We expect demand for this free event to be very high and places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment. The workshop is open to all and we hope that practitioners, policy makers, researchers and students will all be interested in attending. For more information on the speakers, the format of the event and to book a place at this event, please [click here](#)

If you have any queries regarding the event, please contact s.j.crossley@durham.ac.uk

This event is supported by a grant from the Social Policy Association



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- 13:00** **Welcome**
- Professor Linda McKie, Durham University
- 13:15** **Session 1: History of the concept of 'troubled families'**
- Professor Roger Smith, Durham University
 - Michael Lambert, Lancaster University
- 14:15** **Break**
- 14:30** **Session 2: Contemporary practice in the Troubled Families Programme**
- Sue Bond-Taylor, Lincoln University
 - Dr. Aniela Wenham, York University
- 15:30** **Session 3: Discussion and feedback (exact format dependent on numbers)**
- Professor Lena Dominelli, Durham University
- 16:30** **Close**