The work of the North East Race Crime and Justice Network with a specific focus on our collaborative research with women.

Ijjou Thompson and Maggie O’Neill
O R I G I N S ,  P U R P O S E   A N D   R O L E   O F   T H E
R C J R R N

The ‘Race’, Crime and Justice Regional Research Network (RCJRRN) (All 5 regional Universities are involved- Durham, Newcastle, Northumbria, Sunderland and Teesside).

The group undertakes independent and commissioned research, and analyses and comments on policy and practice issues in relation to the experience of ethnic minorities in the region of the criminal justice system, broadly defined.
Origins & People

- Set up in 2010/11 by O’Neill & Craig (Durham), Cole (Northumbria) and Antonopoulos & Wattis (Teesside)
- First collaborative research funded by the Ministry of Justice - Race, Crime and Justice: mapping Black Minority Ethnic (BME) and refugee groups and communities in the NE region (2011-2012).
- Chair: Gary Craig. Current members: Rick Bowler, Gary Craig, Ian Fitzgerald, Jenny Johnstone, Maggie O’Neill, Ijjou Thompson, Louise Wattis
- Honorary member: Caitlin Nunn -2 year co-fund fellowship from La Trobe University (2015-2017)
- RCJ PhD scholars supporting the network from Ustinov College, DU. Raven Bowen and Vicky Meaby.
The Network has the following aims:

- To conduct independent and commissioned research on Race, Crime and Justice in the North East (NE)
- To consult with local community groups regarding issues of race crime and justice
- To provide a forum for discussing policy and legislative changes and responding to consultations
- To host workshops and conferences on specific issues affecting local BME, refugees groups and communities
- To facilitate research projects that link theory, policy and practice and are relevant to all our members
- To contribute to public debate, policy and practice in this field
- To contribute to the theoretical and rigorous scholarly analysis in this field
RESEARCH TO DATE

- ‘Race, crime and justice in the North East Region’ (Gary Craig and all)
- Community safety and access to justice for refugees and asylum seekers in the North East Region (Maggie O’Neill and Bankole Cole)
- A place called Townsville: Rural racism in a North East context (Ijjou Thompson)
- Mapping the Chinese population in the North East region (Zhifeng Tong)
- The experience of BME prisoners in the region (Jenny Johnstone)
- Evaluation of Angelou Centre's Therapeutic Care and Support Programme (TCSP) in Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Bankole Cole)
Published in association with the Group

- *Between destitution and a hard place* (Fiona Cuthill, Omer Siddiq Abdalla and Khalid Bashir)
- *Written out of the picture: child poverty and refugees* (Steve Crossley and Georgina Fletcher)
CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Conferences
- A regional conference and performance by Open Clasp theatre company *Asylum, Migration and Community*
- A regional event and consultation that led to the development of the NEREF
- A regional event in collaboration with CARA and regional Refugee Forum North East
- Today’s regional conference in collaboration with Northumbria PCC.

Workshops/Seminars
- *Ethical issues in participatory arts and cultural research was based upon the women, well-being and community research with RRFNE and Purple Rose Stockton*
- *Engaging with communities: Arts and performance-based collaborative training*
- A seminar on *Modern slavery and Trafficking and Chinese Diaspora in the NE* (Ustinov RCJ Scholars).
Welcome New Members

Membership is open to all those who have an interest in Race Crime and Justice. The Network welcomes representatives from public bodies, third sector organisations, academia and individuals engaged in work in this area.
COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH WITH WOMEN