

Calum Webb

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

BA(Hons) MA(Dist) PhD

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Summary

My research focuses on the association between social divisions, social policy, and the child welfare system. I am a specialist in advanced quantitative methods, particularly multilevel and structural equation modelling using secondary administrative and survey data, and bring a range of data science skills to research projects. I have worked on large studies, such as the Nuffield Foundation funded Child Welfare Inequalities Project, and small projects that lead to rapid evidence generation and impact, such as the BASW Anti-Poverty Practice Guide and the Child Welfare Inequalities Project App. My research has been funded by the ESRC, the Nuffield Foundation, Research England, and others.

Since 2018, I have published 12 articles in peer-reviewed journals, including *the British Journal of Social Work*, *Children and Youth Services Review*, and the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*. My research has been presented internationally to both academic and practitioner conferences. My work has been cited by and presented to the Department for Education, the Social Care Institute for Excellence, the British Association of Social Workers, the Chief Social Worker for England, Ofsted, and more. My research achieves high impact and is the basis of a REF2021 Impact Case Study, with every local authority in England using the CWIP App and the BASW Anti-Poverty Practice Guide being distributed to more than 20,000 social workers.

I am an external member of the *Cafcass* Research Advisory Committee and a technical advisor to the Department for Education's Children's Social Care Analysis & Research Unit. I have also been a consultant for directors of children's services at multiple local authorities, as well as other research institutions. I have taught quantitative methods, statistical analysis, and social policy to undergraduates and postgraduates studying sociology, occupational psychology, social policy, social work, and social research, including core modules on accredited programmes. I am a proficient user of R, Mplus, SPSS, and Stata.

Education

The University of Sheffield

PHD SOCIOLOGY

Sheffield

2015 - 2019

- Thesis: Constructing a reliable and valid measure of multidimensional poverty. Awarded without corrections. ESRC White Rose Scholarship.

The University of Sheffield

MA SOCIAL RESEARCH (DISTINCTION)

Sheffield

2014 - 2015

- Dissertation: Children's outcomes and labour market activation: the potential of structural equation modelling and multivariate statistics for evidence based policy making. ESRC White Rose Scholarship.

The University of Sheffield

BA(HONS) SOCIOLOGY (FIRST CLASS)

Sheffield

2011 - 2014

- Dissertation: Online support groups, bipolar disorder, and the patient-professional relationship: an unobtrusive observation.

Employment

Department of Sociological Studies, The University of Sheffield

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE & UNIVERSITY TEACHER

Sheffield

2015 - Current

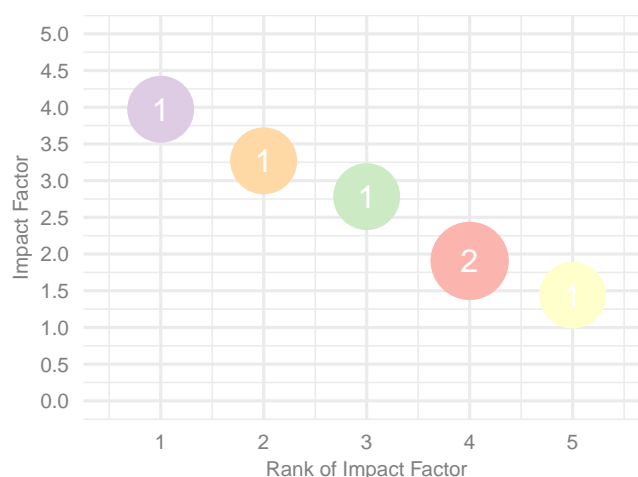
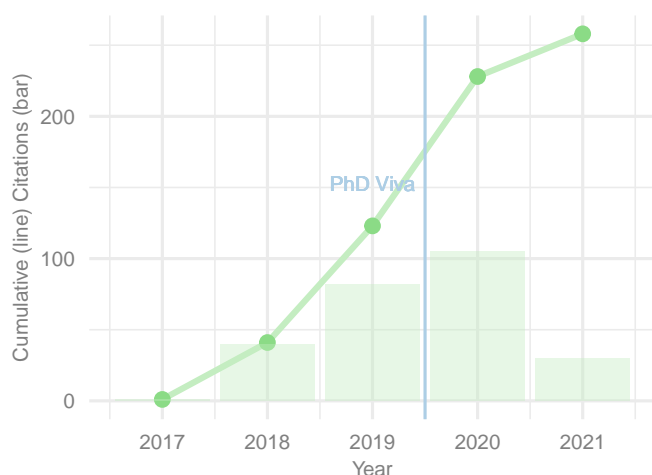
- Leading Artificial Intelligence & Social Work: Strengthening Partnerships and Coproducing Priorities with BASW England
- Led analysis of children's services expenditure data in England and quantitative mixed methods lead for English case studies on the £0.55million Nuffield Foundation funded research project.
- Led analysis of survey data for the Family Rights Group's Care Crisis Review.
- Consultant methodologist for £0.26million research project analysing systemic drivers of demand in child protection.
- Impact case study co-author.
- Developed the Anti-Poverty Practice Guide for Social Work with the British Association of Social Workers.
- Worked in partnership with Sheffield City Council using national survey data to develop a policy learning tool for anti-poverty policy design.
- Published 12 journal articles in high impact journals.
- Developed the Child Welfare Inequalities Project App (www.cwip-app.co.uk) and the Mapping Overlaps Gadget (<https://webb.shinyapps.io/MappingOverlapsGadget/>) to consolidate and visualise local data.
- Co-founded the AI in Housing, Welfare, and Social Care Network.

- Research project exploring ethics and governance processes in Clinical Psychology doctoral research projects.

Membership of Professional Bodies

- Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society
- Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy
- Member of the Social Policy Association
- Member of the British Society for Population Studies

Publications



Authors	Year	Title	Journal	Citations
R Hood, B Featherstone, P Bywaters, A Gupta, A Bilson, K Morris, C Webb	2021	Evidence for system reform needed to address the socio-economic drivers of demand and reduce inequalities in child welfare provision.	Parent, Families and Allies Network.	0
R Hood, A Goldacre, C Webb, P Bywaters, S Gorin, K Clements	2021	Beyond the toxic trio: exploring demand typologies in children's social care	The British Journal of Social Work.	0
C Webb, P Bywaters, J Scourfield, C McCartan, L Bunting, G Davidson, K Morris	2020	Untangling child welfare inequalities and the 'Inverse Intervention Law' in England	Children and Youth Services Review.	5
C Webb, P Bywaters, J Scourfield, G Davidson, L Bunting	2020	Cuts both ways: Ethnicity, poverty, and the social gradient in child welfare interventions	Children and Youth Services Review. 117, 105299	3
R Hood, A Goldacre, S Gorin, P Bywaters, C Webb	2020	Identifying and understanding the link between system conditions and welfare inequalities in children's social care services	Kingston University and St Georges, University of London.	3
C Webb, P Bywaters, M Elliott, J Scourfield	2020	Income Inequality & Child Welfare Interventions in England and Wales	Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health.	1
W Mason, K Morris, B Featherstone, L Bunting, G Davidson, C McCartan, P Bywaters, C Webb	2020	Understanding out of home care rates in Northern Ireland: a thematic analysis of mixed methods case studies	The British Journal of Social Work.	0
C.J. Webb, R. Thomas	2020	The Child Welfare Inequalities Project App	https://www.cwip-app.co.uk .	0
P Bywaters, J Scourfield, C Webb, K Morris, B Featherstone, G Brady, C Jones, T Sparks	2019	Paradoxical evidence on ethnic inequities in child welfare: Towards a research agenda	Children and Youth Services Review. 96, 145-154	13
W Mason, K Morris, C Webb, B Daniels, B Featherstone, P Bywaters, N Mirza, J Hooper, G Brady, L Bunting, J Scourfield	2019	Towards full integration of quantitative and qualitative methods in case study research: insights from investigating child welfare inequalities	Journal of Mixed Methods Research.	6
CJR Webb	2019	Constructing a Reliable and Valid Measure of Multidimensional Poverty	University of Sheffield.	1

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Authors	Year	Title	Journal	Citations
M Lhussier, N Forster, K Haighton, M Egan, C Woodhead, C Webb, L Poole, SM Carr, S Dalkin, H Brown	2019	Setting the agenda for further research on health and welfare	European Journal of Public Health. 29 (Supplement_4), ckz186. 333	0
R Sen, C Webb	2019	Exploring the declining rates of state social work intervention in an English local authority using Family Group Conferences	Children and Youth Services Review. 106, 104458	0
P Bywaters, G Brady, L Bunting, B Daniel, B Featherstone, C Jones, K Morris, J Scourfield, T Sparks, C Webb	2018	Inequalities in English child protection practice under austerity: A universal challenge?	Child & Family Social Work. 23 (1), 53-61	85
K Morris, W Mason, P Bywaters, B Featherstone, B Daniel, G Brady, L Bunting, J Hooper, N Mirza, J Scourfield, C Webb	2018	Social work, poverty, and child welfare interventions	Child & Family Social Work. 23 (3), 364-372	75
CJR Webb, P Bywaters	2018	Austerity, rationing and inequity: trends in children's and young peoples' services expenditure in England between 2010 and 2015	Local Government Studies. 44 (3), 391-415	40
R Sen, K Morris, G Burford, B Featherstone, C Webb	2018	'When you're sitting in the room with two people one of whom... has bashed the hell out of the other': Possibilities and challenges in the use of FGCs and restorative approaches ...	Children and Youth Services Review. 88, 441-449	13
W Mason, N Mirza, C Webb	2018	Using the framework method to analyze mixed-methods case studies	SAGE Publications Ltd.	13
I Trowler, S White, C Webb, JT Leigh	2018	Care proceedings in England: the case for clear blue water	University of Sheffield.	3
P Bywaters, C Webb, T Sparks	2017	Ofsted ratings do reflect local authority deprivation and spending	Community Care. 18	4
K Morris, W Mason, P Bywaters, B Featherstone, B Daniel, G Brady, L Bunting, J Hooper, N Mirza, J Scourfield, C Webb		Social work, deprivation and child welfare interventions	.	0

Teaching

Institute	Module Name	UG/PG	Role	Year
The University of Sheffield	Social Work Interactive Resources Library (SWIRL)	Postqualifying	Module Convener	2020-2021
The University of Sheffield	Quantitative Research and Fundamental Statistics	Postgraduate	Module Convener	2019-2020
The University of Sheffield	Statistics for Occupational Psychologists	Postgraduate	Module Convener	2018-2019
The University of Sheffield	How to Lie with Statistics	Undergraduate	Module Convener	2018-2019
The University of Sheffield	Introduction to Quantitative Research	Postgraduate	University Teacher	2017-2018
The University of Sheffield	Doing Quantitative Social Research	Undergraduate	University Teacher	2017-2018
The University of Sheffield	How to Lie with Statistics	Undergraduate	Module Convener	2017-2018

Research Projects

Funder	Project	Year	Role	Funding
ESRC Impact Accelerator Account	Artificial Intelligence & Social Care: Strengthening Partnerships and Coproducing Priorities in Social Work	2020	PI	£45,173

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Funder	Project	Year	Role	Funding
Nuffield Foundation	Re-analysing the CWIP quantitative dataset using multilevel modelling	2019	Co-I	£35,400
Sheffield University Student's Union	Understanding the needs of Chinese students on postgraduate taught programmes	2019	PI	£1,000
Research England Higher Education Innovation Fund	The Child Welfare Inequalities Project App (CWIP App)	2019	PI	£9,981
iHuman, Sheffield	Shaping the next generation of AI-enhanced social housing and social care systems (seed funding)	2019	Co-I	£4,800
Research England Higher Education Innovation Fund	AI in Housing, Welfare, and Social Care Extending Participation Funding	2019	PI	£1,470
Nuffield Foundation	Identifying and understanding the link between system conditions and welfare inequalities in statutory children's social care services	2018	Consultant	£263,652
Nuffield Foundation	Care Crisis Review	2018	Research Associate	
Crook Public Service Fellowship	Care Proceedings in England: The Case for Clear Blue Water	2018	Research Associate	
Nuffield Foundation	Identifying and Understanding Inequalities in Child Welfare Intervention Rates (Child Welfare Inequalities Project)	2015	Research Associate	£557,705
ESRC Innovation, Impact and Knowledge Exchange	Innovation, Impact and Knowledge Exchange (IIKE) Collaborative R&D Award: Developing a policy learning tool for anti-poverty policy design and assessment.	2015	Co-I	£12,722
ESRC	Constructing a Valid and Reliable Multidimensional Measure of Poverty	2014	1+3 White Rose DTC PhD Scholarship (PI)	

Conference Papers & Invited Talks

Conference	Presentation/Paper	Year
Research in Practice	ILL: Inequalities in the Social Gradient (Invited Talk)	2021
Practice and Research Together, Canada	Cuts Both Ways: Ethnicity & Deprivation in Child Welfare Interventions (Invited Talk)	2021
ExChange Wales CASCADE #BlackLivesMatter Webinar Series	Ethnic, socioeconomic, and intersectional inequalities in child welfare intervention rates (Invited Talk)	2021
Nottingham Trent University Virtual Institute of Advanced Studies UN75 Conference	Making evidence meaningful for local services using data tools: the Child Welfare Inequalities Project App (Invited Talk)	2020
Lancaster University Data Science Institute	Curiosity driven, accessible tools for democratising data: social work and children's services (Invited Talk)	2020
Derbyshire Managers Development Session	Using the Child Welfare Inequalities Project App (Invited Talk)	2020
Nuffield Family Justice Observatory/Camden Council	The Family Justice System, disparity and disproportionality - is it all in the data? (Invited Talk)	2020
Department for Education	In Defence of Ordinary Help: Local Authority Spending and Children in Need (Invited Talk)	2020
Huddersfield University	Who comes into care and where? The intersection of ethnicity and deprivation (Invited Talk)	2020
European Conference for Social Work Research 2019	Does social work reinforce inequalities? Findings from the Child Welfare Inequalities Project.	2019
Research in Practice: Link Officer's Annual Meeting 2019	The Child Welfare Inequalities App. (Invited Talk)	2019
Sociological Studies Annual Postgraduate Research Conference: Branching Out.	'Where the Axe Falls: Trends in Children's and Young Peoples' Services Expenditure in Austerity'.	2017
Leeds Centre for Interdisciplinary Childhood & Youth Research (LCYR): Child and Youth poverty: contexts, concepts and consequences	Complex Inequality & Education Policy: The case of the 'North-South divide' in School Results in England.	2016

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Conference	Presentation/Paper	Year
Sociological Studies PGR Annual Conference: Breaking Boundaries.	Researching concepts quantitatively: The use of latent variable modelling for measuring multidimensional poverty.	2016

Reports, Blogs & Web Applications

Output	Title	Organisation	Year
Blog	Child protection and removal: the hidden inequality	Department of Sociological Studies Research Blog	2020
Blog	The Digital Divide: Data Storytelling and the Voices of People Living in Poverty	ATD Fourth World UK Blog	2020
Blog	The biggest problem with the funding formula for Children's Social Services isn't that it's too inequitable, it's that it's too relative.	Personal Blog (calumwebb.uk)	2020
Blog	Policy and Practice or Structural Inequality? Challenging the popular interpretation of the NAO's 2019 report on pressures on children's social care.	Personal Blog (calumwebb.uk)	2020
Blog	Anti-racist and anti-poverty social work must be both: Child Welfare Inequalities at the intersection of race and class	Personal Blog (calumwebb.uk)	2020
Blog	Socioeconomic inequalities in child welfare interventions are five times stronger in unequal and affluent local authorities than they are in equal and deprived local authorities. Why	Personal Blog (calumwebb.uk)	2020
Blog	A few lines of code separate quantitative analysis from predictive analytics	Personal Blog (calumwebb.uk)	2020
Blog	Children's Services Spending: Where has the axe fallen?	INLOGOV Blog	2018
Periodical	There is clear evidence that links deprivation, expenditure and quality in children's services.	Community Care	2018
Periodical	Ofsted ratings do reflect local authority deprivation and spending.	Community Care	2017
Report	The Anti-Poverty Practice Guide for Social Work.	British Association of Social Workers	2019
Report	The Troubled Families Programme: What kinds of projects does DCLG policy incentivise?		2019
Report	Understanding the Needs of Chinese Postgraduate Taught Students	University of Sheffield	2019

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Output	Title	Organisation	Year
Report	Care Proceedings in England: The Case for Clear Blue Water.	Crook's Public Service Fellowship	2018
Report	Care Crisis Review: Professionals survey results.	Family Rights Group	2018
Report	Care Crisis Review: Care-experienced young people and adults survey results.	Family Rights Group	2018
Report	Care Crisis Review: Family survey results.	Family Rights Group	2018
Web Application	The Child Welfare Inequalities Project App: Version 2		2020
Web Application	The Mapping Overlaps Gadget		2020
Web Application	The Mapping Overlaps Gadget: Education		2020
Web Application	The Child Welfare Inequalities Project App		2019