**Amanda-Rose O’Halloran (BA. MPhil.)**

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**Professional Profile**

I am a sociologist who has worked on research projects in Public Sociology, the hidden dimensions of inclusive growth strategies, abortion rights activism, and the sociology of emotion. I have an MPhil in Sociology from the University of Cambridge and a BA in Sociology from Nottingham Trent University. My research interests are in institutionalisation, the sociology of emotion, affect, shame, and feminist and postcolonial theory. I am also an experienced social care worker with more than 10 years’ experience working with vulnerable individuals, including women institutionalised in a Magdalene Laundry who wished to have more meaningful and socially valued life experiences. These roles required working closely with vulnerable individuals and their families as well as other healthcare professionals as part of a team and in an individual capacity. I am currently an Alumni Fellow at Nottingham Trent University. In this voluntary position I provide support and guidance to students who wish to go on to postgraduate study. I also co-organised Ireland’s first Working-Class Studies conference in November 2021 and the workshop ‘Abortion in Ireland (North and South): Access, Experience, and Provision’ in June 2023 hosted by the University of Lincoln and funded by the Foundation for the Sociology of Health and Illness.

**Relevant Career Summary**

**September 2021–August 2022 Working-Class Studies Association**

*Social Media Manager*

In this role I managed the social media accounts for WCSA. I maintained and updated their website, Twitter and Facebook. I also created engagement posts to increase membership and got the word out about organizational events and conferences as well as publications and individual member achievements and academic engagements.

*Key responsibilities*

* Creating text, image, and audio-based posts for all WCSA social media
* Creating content for the WCSA website
* Managing submissions
* Recruitment drive management
* Executive committee contributions

**June 2018–July 2018 Nottingham Trent University**

 *Graduate Researcher*

In the summer of 2018, I was awarded a studentship to work as part of a multidisciplinary team that included the work of two economics graduates and an architecture graduate. We investigated the hidden dimensions of inclusive growth in the Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire area. We utilised semi-structured interviews and ethnography.

*Key responsibilities*

* Considering inclusive growth strategies in the UK from a sociological perspective
* Writing a summary of sociological literature relevant to the project
* Collaborating with colleagues from different disciplines to build a cohesive understanding of the hidden dimensions of inclusive growth
* Devising and creating research tools and instruments
* Conducting ethnography and semi-structured interviews
* Collaborating with colleagues to write three blog posts and a newspaper article printed in the Nottingham Post based on our findings
* Designing and delivering a workshop in which we presented our findings to stakeholders from Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire

**June 2017 – September 2017 Nottingham Trent University**

 *Student Researcher*

In 2017 I was awarded a summer studentship investigating public sociology at Nottingham Trent University. This project was conducted through semi-structured interviews with undergraduate and postgraduate students, alumni, academic staff, and external partners and subsidised with a questionnaire. Interviews were transcribed, coded and thematically analysed.

*Key responsibilities*

* Writing a review of key literature in the field to inform the project
* Identifying the most appropriate methodological approach
* Designing research tools and instruments including a questionnaire and research questions
* Identifying the most relevant people to interview and contacting them
* Conducting, transcribing, and coding interviews using NVivo software
* Analysing data and writing a final report of research findings
* Presenting the findings on an academic poster at an event for student researchers
* Presenting findings at a department seminar
* Presenting findings at the 2018 British Sociological Associations annual conference

**October 2007 – November 2014 St. Margaret’s Centre, Donnybrook, Dublin 4**

 *Social Care Worker/Discovery Coordinator*

In this role, I supported Magdalene Laundry survivors to move out from the institution into their own homes and to find valued social roles in their new communities. This work focused on one-to-one engagement with women who had been institutionalised for most of their lives, many of whom had been diagnosed with intellectual disabilities. I explored opportunities for their independent living by supporting them to focus on their assets, interests, and skills.

*Key responsibilities*

* Using a systemic approach to discern an individual's skills, abilities, assets and interests, and conditions for success
* Incorporating the ethos of social role valorisation where all roles should endeavour to align with appropriate culturally valued positions in society enabling the person to work towards social inclusion
* Supporting individuals to achieve real and meaningful successes including, moving into their own homes and away from institutionalised settings, finding paying jobs, engaging in intimate relationships, and achieving more meaningful and engaged roles in their families and within their communities
* Working both autonomously and as part of a team
* Leading the individuals’ support teams who worked day-to-day with the people I supported

**Education and Qualifications**

* **Sociology of Reproduction MPhil, Distinction with 74% – University of Cambridge –** 2018-2019
* Focused on different aspects of biological and social reproduction from a sociological perspective
* Research modules undertaken included Qualitative Research Methods, Reading and Understanding Statistics, Conversation and Discourse Analysis, Comparative Historical Methods, and Critical Approaches to Discourse
* 74% awarded for MPhil Dissertation
* **Sociology Bachelor of Arts, First Class Honours with 80%** **– Nottingham Trent University –** 2015-2018
* Research modules undertaken included Sociological Research Methods in Action, and Social Methodologies
* The highest grade earned was an exceptional first in a Technology and Society module
* High first earned in dissertation and dissertation presentation
* Awarded ‘Most Enterprising Achievement’ at graduation in recognition of extracurricular academic achievement

**Research Dissemination and Conference Appearances**

I presented the findings from the 2017 studentship mentioned above at the 2018 British Sociological Association’s annual conference. I was also the first undergraduate student to present their original research at a department of social science seminar at NTU. These findings are also due to be submitted for publication in an academic journal by Academics at Nottingham Trent University. In the summer of 2018, the findings from my research investigating the hidden dimensions of inclusive growth in the Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire area were published in the Nottingham Post newspaper and presented at a workshop at the university. Three blog posts about our findings were written as a team and posted on the university’s website. I also had a blog post published on the Cambridge ‘[ReproSoc](http://www.reprosoc.com/blog/2019/1/29/a-sociological-critique-of-the-relationship-between-social-media-and-activism-in-the-repeal-movement)’ blog. I am currently adapting a portion of my MPhil dissertation for publication. My book review ‘Abortion and Democracy: Contentious Body Politics in Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay: Edited by Barbara Sutton and Nayla Luz Vacarezza’ was published in the Community Development Journal in February 2023.