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Y the need for research?

w.j.mason@shef.ac.uk



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What is the value of youth work research?

1. Reflexivity
2. Innovation
3. Utilising Universities
4. Invigorating sessions with participatory research design
5. Evidencing distinctions between youth work in principle and youth work in practice

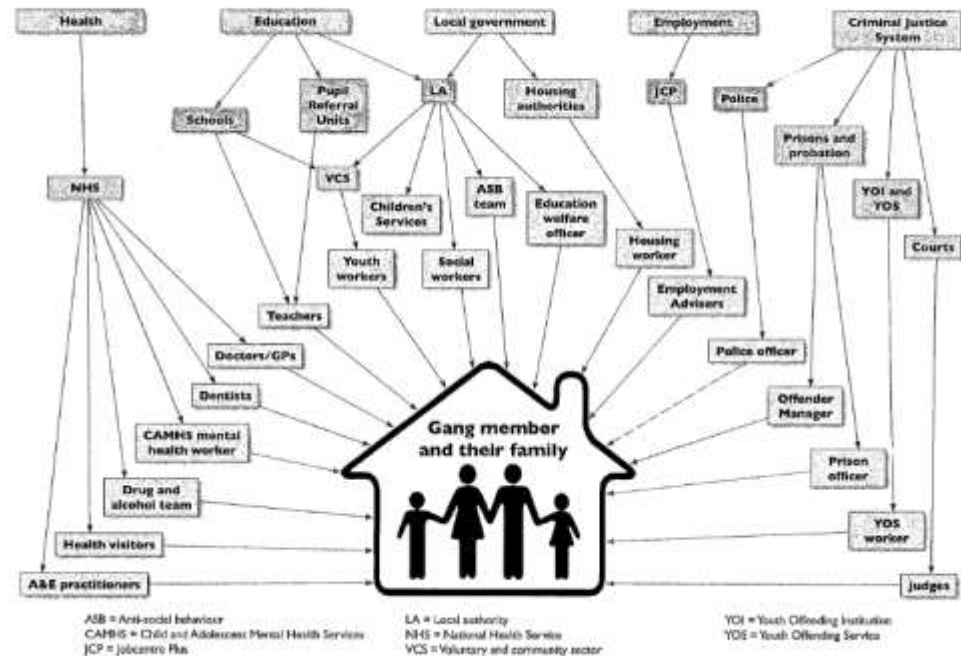


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Youth work in principle and youth work in practice

- Partnership working

Figure 1 Map of local agencies in contact with a typical gang member's family



Source: Home Office (2011)



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Youth work in principle and youth work in practice

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Kel: Because it's with authorities, a lot of youth workers these days, young people say that they're involved in police activities, and the trust goes down the hill. We try to upkeep that trust and keep it going, we don't want to lose any trust with the young people. It's hard to get and you keep that bond for a long time.

Will: So it's important to sort of, keep a clear line between what you do as a youth worker and more formal authorities like the police?

Kel: Yeah yeah you have to keep a line



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What challenges need to be considered?

1. Research fatigue
2. Insularity
3. Methodological obstinacy
4. Policy agendas
5. Resources



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Conclusive points: how can we develop the research base?

- Where possible, research should be:
 - Clear about its intentions
 - Collaborative / participatory
 - Relevant
 - Methodologically innovative
 - Inclusively disseminated



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Thanks

Questions?