

Forensic and criminological psychology



Our research interests represent the full breadth of forensic psychology. For example, we research topics including child maltreatment and family violence, intimate partner violence, group-perpetrated violence, sexual offending, assessment and treatment of offenders, policing and crime analysis, jury decision-making, eyewitness testimony, supporting vulnerable witnesses, public perceptions of crime, crime scene behaviour (of offenders and victims), and crime desistance.

Our research is both theoretical and applied in nature. We work with a number of different industry and government partners and work collaboratively with other academic institutions. (See more details of [our partners](#) (</research/activity/psychology/forensic/cfcp/partners/index.aspx>)). Our research has impact; it is cited in legal proceedings, and has resulted in changes in governmental, and third sector arrangements (e.g., in the assessment and treatment of offenders), in the UK, and elsewhere.

Current research includes:

- Investigating whether we can accurately detect serial offenders based on their crime scene behaviour;
- Determining the nature and extent of misperceptions of rape victim and rapist offender in the general population;
- Investigations of the neurobiological/neurochemical bases of offending;
- Restorative Justice approaches to treatment;
- Applications of mindfulness techniques to the treatment of offenders;
- Furthering theoretical debate into the aetiology of intimate partner violence;
- Understanding patterns of family violence perpetration and the co-occurrence of partner and child maltreatment in the family;
- Investigating the role of risk and protective factors in the occurrence and re-occurrence of child maltreatment, including the role of resiliency and attachment in both offending and non-offending samples.

You can find more information and details of our recent publications on the [Centre for Forensic and Criminological Psychology pages](#) (</research/activity/psychology/forensic/cfcp/index.aspx>).