Julie Foster

Doctoral Researcher

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Current Status

Fifth year, part time

Research Topic

Did Education Make a Difference? The impact education on the outcome of working-class individuals in Birmingham in the 19th century.

Research Summary

Using documentation from the Bluecoat school in Birmingham from 1780-1881 and national primary source material, this research will aim to examine the impact of education received by pupils at the Bluecoat charity school in Birmingham to ascertain whether it encouraged social mobility.

Previous studies on social mobility have used data from the census records and marriage certificates to demonstrate that working class mobility existed nationally, but there are few studies which use records from individual schools, to explore associations with education at a micro-level.

Statistical analysis will incorporate both quantitative and qualitative techniques and deliberation will be given to measuring difficult characteristics such as the aspiration of the scholar and the parents.

Research Interests

- History of Education
- Social mobility
- The use of quantitative analysis in historical research

Research Supervisors

Professor Ian Grosvenor (/staff/profiles/education/grosvenor-ian.aspx) and Dr Kevin Myers (/staff/profiles/education/myers-kevin.aspx)

Funding

Self funded

Conferences

Poster presentation at the *History of Education Conference, Winchester, 30 November - 2 December 2012*

Poster presentation at the Research Poster Conference, *University of Birmingham, 19 June 2012*

Did Education make a difference? The impact Education on the outcome of working-class individuals in Birmingham in the 19th century. Presentation at the *EERA Histories of Education Summer School 2010, Lisbon (Portugal), 7-10 June 2012.*

Did education make a difference? The impact of education on the outcome of working-class individuals in B'ham (19th C). Presentation at the EERA *Histories of Education Summer School 2010, Ghent (Belgium), 10-12 June 2010.*

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