

IRISH CONFERENCE  
*of* HISTORIANS

XXXII



# SEX

## SEXUALITY & REPRODUCTION

.....  
HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES

PROGRAMME



UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE CORK

THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup>  
TO SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup>

APRIL  
2018



**Irish Committee of  
Historical Sciences**

## **IRISH COMMITTEE OF HISTORICAL SCIENCES**

The Irish Committee of Historical Sciences was founded in March 1938 to provide for the representation of Irish historical interests on the Comité International des Sciences Historiques/International Committee of Historical Sciences (CISH/ICHS). Our purpose is to represent historians and the historical discipline in Ireland, to

promote historical scholarship and public engagement with history, to advocate for the discipline, to provide a forum for discussion, to promote and disseminate research and encourage students and early career researchers.

### **Constituent societies**

Archives and Records Association (Ireland)

Catholic Historical Society of Ireland

Church of Ireland Historical Society

Comhaltas na gCumman Staire – Irish History Students' Association

Economic and Social History Society of Ireland

Eighteenth-Century Ireland Society

Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement

History of Science, Technology and Medicine Network Ireland

History Teachers' Association of Ireland

History Teachers' Association of Northern Ireland

Irish Association of Professional Historians

Irish Genealogical Research Society

Irish Historical Society

Irish Legal History Society

Irish Society for Archives

Irish Labour History Society

Methodist Historical Society of Ireland

Military History Society of Ireland

Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland

Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland

Society for the Study of Nineteenth-Century Ireland

Sports History Ireland

Transnational Ireland Network

Ulster Society for Irish Historical Studies

Women's History Association of Ireland

8.40 - 9.10am

## Registration – information – meet & greet

ORB common area, ground floor

9.15 -11.00am

### Kane G18

#### Religion and repression: Ulster, Pakistan and Poland

**Leanne Calvert** (*University of Hertfordshire*)

'No member pertaining to his body was ever in her': policing male sexual behaviour in the Ulster Presbyterian community, 1750-1830

**Amanullah De Sondy** (*University College Cork*)

'No veil on my head, no shoes on my feet – I ran outside!': Madam Noor Jehan's challenge to muscular Islam

**Agnieszka Laddach** (*Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń*)

A social image versus historical sources – the case of Fr. Prof. Janusz Stanisław Pasierb, Poland

### ORB G27

#### Marital matters: nuns, soldiers and gentry

**Jenny Coughlan** (*Independent*)

Comparing Bede and Gregory of Tours on Issues Relating to Married Women Entering the Religious Life in the Early Middle Ages: the Case of Queens Æthelthryth and Rade Gund

**Olivia Martin** (*NUI Galway*)

'You and I were never shy! We did know each other so well beforehand': evolving marital relationships in lesser-gentry Connaught families, 1754-1904'

**Aoife Bhreathnach** (*Trinity College, Dublin*)

'Making the army their home': marriage in nineteenth-century Irish garrison towns

### ORB 101

#### Miscellany: UCC postgraduate panel

**Kristina Decker** (*University College Cork*)  
Reinforcing Ideas of Female Decorum: the letters and writings of Mary Delany (1700-88)

**Kelsey Rall** (*University College Cork*)  
'Not my niece!' Re-thinking spinster scholarship

**Rebecca Crunden** (*University College Cork*)  
Lesbianism and the US Military in the Korean War Era

Abstracts, pp. 4-8

11.00 - 11.15am

## Tea & coffee

ORB common area, ground floor

11.20 am-12.15 pm Kane G18

Official conference opening, followed by

### KEYNOTE LECTURE 1

**Ruth M. Karras**

The Myth of Masculine Impunity: male adultery and repentance in the Middle Ages

Abstracts, p. 1

12.15 - 1.20pm

## Lunch

ORB common area, ground floor

1.30 - 3.15pm

ORB 101

### Sex and textuality in medieval and early modern Ireland

**Sharon Arbuthnot** (Queen's University, Belfast)

The Lost Vocabulary of Medieval Irish Sex and Reproduction

**Salvador Ryan** (St Patrick's College, Maynooth)

Sexual Impropriety in 13th-century Ireland: tales from the *Liber Exemplorum* (c. 1275)

**Liam Ó Murchú** (Independent)

Sex and Sexuality in the Gaelic Literature of Thomond, c. 1780

ORB G27

### Family planning and sexual-health activism, 1960s-90s

**Deirdre Foley** (Dublin City University)

'Too Many Children'? Family Planning and *Humanae Vitae* in Dublin, c.1961-72

**Laura Kelly** (University of Strathclyde)

'It was something that had to be done': the IFPA youth group and sexual-health activism in Ireland, c.1984-94

Kane G18

### Midwives and 'handywomen'

**Laurence Geary** (Independent)

Popular and Professional Midwifery Practices in Ireland in the Long Nineteenth Century

**Philomena Gorey** (University College Dublin)

Municipal gospel or necessity? Belfast Corporation and the regulation of midwives, 1911-18

**Elaine Sugrue** (University College Cork)

'We will keep on agitating until prosecutions are enforced against some of these "quacks."': the Irish Nurses' Union and the campaign against untrained midwives, c. 1920-30

Abstracts, pp. 9-12

3.15 - 3.30pm

### Tea & Coffee

ORB common area, ground floor

3.35 - 5.15pm

ORB 101

### Mistresses, cuckolds and sexual depravity: early modern perspectives

**Dave Edwards** (University College Cork)

The Many Mistresses of the Black Earl of Ormond – a cost-benefit analysis

**Michael Keane** (Independent)

The Execution of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Castlehaven for Crimes of Sexual Depravity

**Nicola J. Pearce** (University of Hull)

Cuckoldry in Political Propaganda in the Exclusion Crisis, 1679-81

Kane G18

### Male sexual relations: colonialism, convicts and the Holocaust

**Luke Taylor** (University of Toronto)

Speaking of Buggery in Colonial New South Wales

**Barra Ó Donnabháin** (University College Cork)

Unnatural Practices and Silence: sexual relationships between male convicts in the Victorian era

**Florian Zabransky** (University of Sussex)

Male Jewish Sexual Relations During the Holocaust

ORB G27

### Sex, sexuality and the Irish revolution

**John Borgonovo** (University College Cork)

'Separation women' and Gender Politics in First-World-War Ireland

**Mary McAuliffe** (University College Dublin)

Having no use at all for men': same-sex relationships among Irish women revolutionary and feminist activists

**Niall Murray** (Independent)

Love on the Battlefield? Marriages between veterans of the Irish revolution

Abstracts, pp. 13-17

5.30 - 6.15 pm Boole 1

## KEYNOTE LECTURE 2

Sheila Rowbotham

William Bailie: from a Belfast basket workshop to Boston free-lovers in the 1880s and 1890s

Abstracts, p. 1

8.30pm

### Music, drink and jollity

Mr. Bradley's Bar, Barrack Street.

9.00 - 9.30am

## Registration – information – meet & greet

ORB common area, ground floor

9.30 - 11.15am

**ORB 101**

### Abortion, Assisted Human Reproduction and Ireland

*Don O'Leary (Independent)*

Assisted Human Reproduction: Vatican pronouncements and Irish Catholic responses

*Mark Benson (Queen's University, Belfast)*

Abortion for 'social' reasons in Northern Ireland, 1900-68

*Linda Connolly (NUI Maynooth)*

Abortion Politics in the Republic of Ireland, 1970-2018

**ORB 244**

### Rape and sexual violence

*Sylvia Broeckx (University of Sheffield)*

Race, Rape and Justice during the American Civil War

*Theresa O'Keefe (University College Cork)*

'Our bodies are used like a weapon': sexual violence, gender and the state during the Northern Irish Troubles

*Ciara Molloy (Trinity College, Dublin)*

The Politics of Rape in 1980s Ireland

**ORB 132**

### Prostitution, censorship and the city

*Peter Hession (University College Dublin)*

Sex and the City: displacing prostitution in post-Famine Cork

*João Pena (University of*

*Amsterdam/Federal University of Bahia)*

Prostitution Policies in Brazil and the Netherlands: rights, surveillance and urban space

*Michela Turno (Independent)*

Ghosts on Stage: silencing sexuality and violence in Italy, 1960-80

Abstracts, pp. 18-22

11.15 - 11.30pm

## Tea & Coffee

ORB common area, ground floor

11.35 - 12.15 pm **Boole 1**

### KEYNOTE LECTURE 3

*Michael G. Cronin*

Sex, class and hegemony in twentieth-century Ireland

Abstracts, p. 2

12.15 - 1.30pm

## Lunch

ORB common area, ground floor

## 1.30 - 3.15pm

### ORB 101

**Rethinking sexology: new perspectives on sexual science (1890-1960)**

**Sarah Jones** (*University of Exeter*)  
'The Mysteries of Sex Frankly Revealed!': popular sexology in print before 1940.

**Jen Grove** (*University of Exeter*)  
Sexologists as collectors of historical erotica in the first half of the twentieth century

**TJ Zawadzki** (*University of Exeter*)  
'On the margins of Freudism': Stanisław Kurkiewicz and early sexology in Poland

### Kane G18

**The long nineteenth century: infanticide, foundling hospitals and social purity work**

**Aisling Shalvey** (*University of Strasbourg*)  
The Insanity Defence in Infanticide Cases in Manchester 1880-1889

**Sarah-Anne Buckley** (*NUI Galway*)  
'After I told him, he left for Havana': narratives of Irish emigrant women in the London and New York Foundling Hospitals, 1850-1902

**Martin Walsh** (*University of Limerick*)  
'Keep your mind well occupied [and] crowd out the devil': social purity work and young working-class men in Ireland and Britain, 1875-1918

### ORB 132

**Maternal bodies**

**Eiko Saeki** (*Hosei University, Tokyo*)  
The placenta and the ambivalent relations between maternal-foetal bodies in Tokugawa Japan (1603-1868)

**Rachel Bennett** (*University of Warwick*)  
'Inmates of an entirely different class': regulating the maternal body in the nineteenth-century Irish prison

**Judy Bolger** (*Trinity College, Dublin*)  
Breastfeeding in nineteenth-century Ireland

### ORB 123

**Free State? Sex, sexuality and reproduction in post-independence Ireland**

**Sandra McAvoy** (*Independent*)  
Contraception is in itself intrinsically evil, and a direct violation of natural and divine law

**Sile Healy Hunt** (*Independent*)  
Impaired morals, sexual deviancy and illegitimacy: the Public Dancehalls Act 1935

**Conor Heffernan** (*University College Dublin*)  
More Sinned Against than Sinning? Building the Body Beautiful in 1930s Ireland

Abstracts, pp. 23-29

## 3.15 - 3.30pm

### Tea & Coffee

ORB common area, ground floor

## 3.35 - 5.15pm

### Kane G18

**Gendered troubles in post-independence Ireland**

**Máire Leane** (*University College Cork*)  
Disciplining gendered troubles: discursive and symbolic representations of adolescent sexualities in the new Irish state

**Liam O'Callaghan and David M. Doyle** (*Liverpool Hope University*)  
Gender, Sexual Morality and the Death Penalty in Independent Ireland, 1923-44

### ORB 101

**Eugenics and feminism**

**Merle Wessel** (*University of Greifswald*)  
An Unholy Union? Eugenic Feminism in the Nordic Countries, c. 1890-1940

**Mary Muldowney** (*Independent*)  
Moya Woodside – a compassionate eugenicist?

### ORB 123

**Perspectives on historical child sexual abuse**

**Kate Gleeson** (*Macquarie Law School, Sydney*)  
Sex, race and postcoloniality: implications for redress and reparations for child sexual abuse

**Sinéad Ring** (*University of Kent*)  
Resisting the Harms of 'Innocence' through Memories: an alternative history of child sexual abuse in Ireland

### ORB 132

**Documenting Irish LGBT history**

**Sonya Mulligan and Ger Moane**  
*Outitude*: documenting Irish lesbian herstory (with excerpts from the forthcoming documentary)

**Edmund Lynch**  
*A Different Country*: Ireland's LGBT history (with excerpts from the award-winning documentary)

Abstracts, pp. 30-33

## 7.30pm

### Conference Dinner

Isaac's Restaurant, MacCurtain Street.

9.20 - 9.40am

**Registration – information – meet & greet**

ORB common area, ground floor

9.45 - 11.45pm

**ORB 255**

**Queering Irish History: revealing, preserving and sharing LGBT histories**

*Orla Egan* (University College Cork/Cork LGBT Archive)

Queer Republic of Cork: the development of Cork's LGBT community and of the Cork LGBT Archive

*Páraic Kerrigan* (NUI Maynooth)

Projecting a Queer Nation: mainstreaming queer identities on Irish documentary film

*Patrick McDonagh* (European University Institute, Florence)

'The circumstances peculiar to organising gay people in the West are indeed a quare lot': Gay and Lesbian Activism in 1980s Galway

*Sara R. Philips* (Transgender Equality Network of Ireland)

Living in the Shadows: trans identities in Irish history

*Fiachra Ó Súilleabháin* (University College Cork)

'Coming out, Letting Go': gay fathers' narratives in Ireland

**ORB 203**

**Pornography, sexualisation and sex advice**

*Alicja Gontarek* (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin)

Image sexualisation of Romani women in the interwar Polish press

*Ciara Meehan* (University of Hertfordshire)

'Has he called you frigid lately?' Sex advice in 1960s Irish women's magazines

*Caroline West* (Dublin City University)

The Lovelace Legacy: lessons learnt from the world's first 'porn star'

**ORB G27**

**Representations of mothers and motherhood**

*Clodagh Tait* (Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick)

The Mammy Returns: revenant mothers in Irish folklore

*Heather Laird* (University College Cork)

'I don't know what any o' yours ud do without your ma': common tropes in the representation of working-class motherhood in Irish literature

*Lorraine Grimes* (NUI Galway)

'Such cases seem very annoying to you': the representation of Irish unmarried mothers in Britain, 1926-59

*Helga Krüger-Kirn and Leila Zoe Tichy* (Philipps University of Marburg)

Motherhood and Gendered Parental Positions in Germany

Abstracts, pp. 34-40

12 noon - 1.00pm **Boole 1**

## KEYNOTE LECTURE 4

*Jeffrey Weeks*

**Doing Sexual History**

(followed by conference closing).

Abstracts, pp. 2-3

# IRISH CONFERENCE of HISTORIANS

## 1953-2018

The Irish Committee of Historical Sciences has held a conference of historians annually since 1939, both to transact routine business and to hear papers on historical subjects. Before 1953 these conferences took the form of an afternoon session in Dublin at which a paper on an Irish subject was read, usually by an Irish historian, before an audience consisting of members of the history faculties of the Irish universities, teachers of history in Irish schools, and others interested in historical scholarship. In July 1953 a conference

on a larger scale was held in Dublin: it lasted for three days, ten papers were read, the subjects were not confined to Irish history, and the speakers included several visiting scholars. The marked success of this experiment caused the committee to decide that in future a conference of the new type should be held every second year. The proceedings of twenty-eight of the conferences have been published under the series title *Historical Studies*. For a variety of reasons, this year's conference is the first since 2013.

2018	ICH XXXII Sex, Sexuality & Reproduction: historical perspectives <i>University College Cork</i>	1995	ICH XXII, Religion and Rebellion <i>University College Dublin</i>	1973	Irish Conference of Historians XI <i>University College Galway</i>
2013	ICH XXXI, Unravelling Violence: Historians, Narratives and Meanings <i>University College Dublin</i>	1993	ICH XXI, Women in History <i>Queen's University, Belfast</i>	1971	Irish Conference of Historians X <i>University College Cork</i>
2011	ICH XXX, Death and Dying <i>NUI Maynooth</i>	1991	ICH XX, Men, Women and War <i>Magee College, University of Ulster</i>	1969	Irish Conference of Historians IX <i>University College Dublin</i>
2009	ICH XXIX, Power and History <i>University of Limerick</i>	1989	ICH XIX, Ideology and the Historians <i>Trinity College, Dublin</i>	1967	Irish Conference of Historians VIII <i>Queen's University, Belfast</i>
2007	ICH XXVIII, Empires and their Contested Pasts <i>Queen's University, Belfast</i>	1987	Irish Conference of Historians XVIII <i>University College Galway</i>	1965	Irish Conference of Historians VII <i>Trinity College, Dublin</i>
2005	ICH XXVII, Intelligence, Statecraft and International Power <i>Trinity College, Dublin</i>	1985	ICH XVII, The Writer as Witness: Literature as Historical Evidence <i>University College Cork</i>	1963	Irish Conference of Historians VI <i>Magee College, University of Ulster, Derry</i>
2003	ICH XXVI, Culture, Place and Identity <i>Magee College, University of Ulster</i>	1983	ICH XVI, Radicals, Rebels and Establishments <i>Maynooth University</i>	1961	Irish Conference of Historians V <i>University College Galway</i>
2001	ICH XXV, Explaining Change in Cultural History <i>NUI Galway</i>	1981	ICH XV, Parliament and Community <i>University College Dublin</i>	1959	Irish Conference of Historians IV <i>University College Cork</i>
1999	ICH XXIV, Information, Media and Power through the Ages <i>University College Cork</i>	1979	ICH XIV, The Town in Ireland <i>Queen's University, Belfast</i>	1957	Irish Conference of Historians III <i>Queen's University, Belfast</i>
1997	ICH XXIII, Luxury and Austerity <i>St Patrick's College, Maynooth</i>	1977	ICH XIII, Minorities in History <i>New University of Ulster</i>	1955	Irish Conference of Historians II <i>Trinity College, Dublin / University College Dublin</i>
		1975	ICH XII, Nationality and the Pursuit of National Independence <i>Trinity College, Dublin</i>	1953	Irish Conference of Historians I <i>Trinity College, Dublin / University College Dublin</i>