

One-Day Workshop: Archives to Action: Historical Evidence for Policy Reform in Marital Breakdown, Domestic Abuse, and Child Welfare

Virtual Event (Online)
Tuesday 20 January 2026

| Workshop opens at 09.00 | |
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| 09.20 – 10.00 | Welcome and Key Project Findings |
| Session One 10.00-11.00 | Fair Shares? What financial arrangements do divorcing couples make in the twenty first century? Jenny Birchall (Fair Shares Project, University of Bristol) |
| | Accessing Justice: Financing Divorce in England and Wales, 1858-1949 Jennifer Aston and Diane Ranyard (Northumbria University) |
| Break | |
| Session Two 11.30-13.00 | Lessons from the Past: Shaping our Futures Kate Perry-Jones (Welsh Women's Aid) |
| | Articulating Abuse: Evidence from the Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, 1858-1914 Jennifer Aston (Northumbria University) |
| | The Ramifications of Abolishing Marital Coercion: Convicting Our Criminally Coerced Women Defendants Vanessa Bettison and Nicola Wake (Northumbria University) |
| Lunch Break | |
| Session Three 14.00-15.30 | Locating women's lives at The National Archives Jessamy Carlson (The National Archives) |
| | Children in the Archive: Hearing Children's Voices Jennifer Aston (Northumbria University) & Saif Ullah (CAFCASS) |
| | Clues in the Catalogues: Detecting Diversity in the Archives Lizzy Baker (North East Museums) |
| Break | |
| 16.00-16.45 | Open Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborations - Methodologies - Interdisciplinary synergies - Future events and facilitation |
| 16.45-17.00 | Closing Remarks and End of Workshop |