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Postgraduate Symposium Series: Ethical Dilemmas in Educational Research (Staffordshire)

Discussants: Dr Gill Forrester, Dr Julie Stirrup

Dr Gill Forrester is Associate Professor of Education in the School of Life Sciences and Education at Staffordshire University. Gill leads the Professional Doctorate in Education (EdD) and supervises PhD and EdD students. She has twenty years' experience of conducting research and publishing within the field of education using different methodologies and qualitative methods. Her preferences are for ethnographic approaches, interactionist and social constructionist methodologies, and she utilises different interview types ranging from individual semi-structured, individual biographical/life-story approaches and focus groups as ways of eliciting the lived experiences, perceptions and perspectives of a range of research participants. Gill's PhD and subsequent work have enabled important themes on the complex relationship between externally determined change and the professional practice of teachers and headteachers to develop into a major area of interest. Notably, her work has made a contribution to policy sociology through critical analysis of policy texts and the generation of oral accounts within a conceptual framework which allows for a wider and deeper understanding of the interplay between neoliberalism, national policy endeavours and the lived experience of those policies in practice. She is co-author, with Professor Dean Garratt, of the book *Education Policy Unravelling*.

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Dr Julie Stirrup lectures in Physical Education and Sports Pedagogy at Loughborough University, England. Her research interests include issues relating to equity and identity, embodiment, and education within the early years and throughout the schooling process. Within her research, Julie has utilised various qualitative data collection methods to access children's voices. She has explored several ethical issues which arise when working with children, particularly those in the early years