

# Talking about... crime in the 'new world'

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# Lived Experience

## What is so important about lived experience?

In qualitative phenomenological research, lived experience (LE) refers to a representation of the experiences and choices of a given person, and the knowledge that they gain from these experiences and choices.

The focus of this research was to identify the way in which those with lived experience of crime, deviance and social control were able to adapt to the current crisis and identify areas within Criminal Justice and the security sector where innovation was being shown by LE actors.

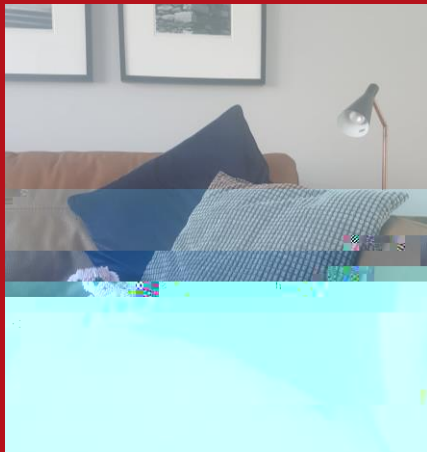
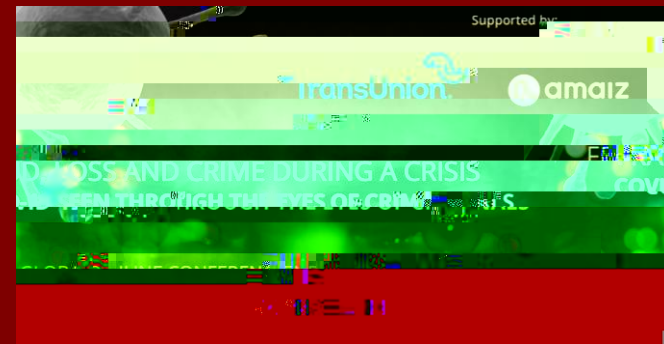
## The research study

I interviewed 18 people with lived experience of crime, deviance and social control who also identified themselves as working within the CJS or security sector. I also performed ethnographic research (online), examining online events, social media accounts and blog posts organised or written by LE actors in these areas. From these interviews and digital ethnography, I identified two case studies to examine in closer detail. Including interviews with others within the organisation, further ethnography and co-production of academic writing.

# Background: Innovation & Adaptation

## We Fight Fraud Live

WFF created an 8hour live webinar detailing the criminal opportunity of Covid-19 from the perspective of ex-criminals, ethical hackers, and fraud and financial crime experts.



## Our Empty Chair

OEC ran, and continues to run, a social media campaign to highlight the experiences, concerns, worries and fears of the families waiting for prisoners outside the prison gates.



# We Fight Fraud Live

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FRAUD, LOSS AND CRIME DURING A CRISIS

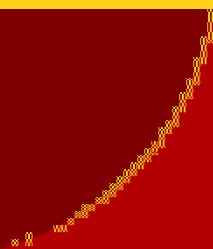
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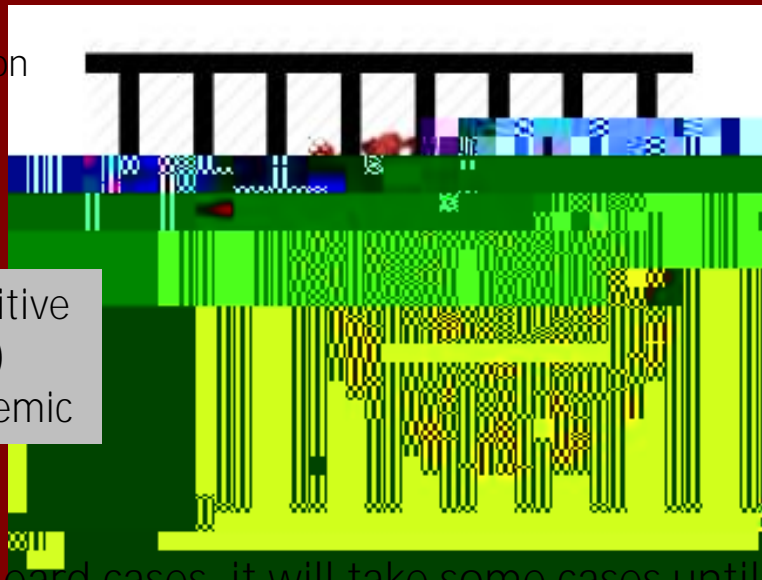
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# The Criminal Opportunity: Covid-19 in Prison

Pledged to release  
prisoners, but  
only released  
before scheme closed  
in August

Prisoners currently in prison  
(England & Wales)



prisoners have died  
due to COVID-19, in  
December 2020 alone

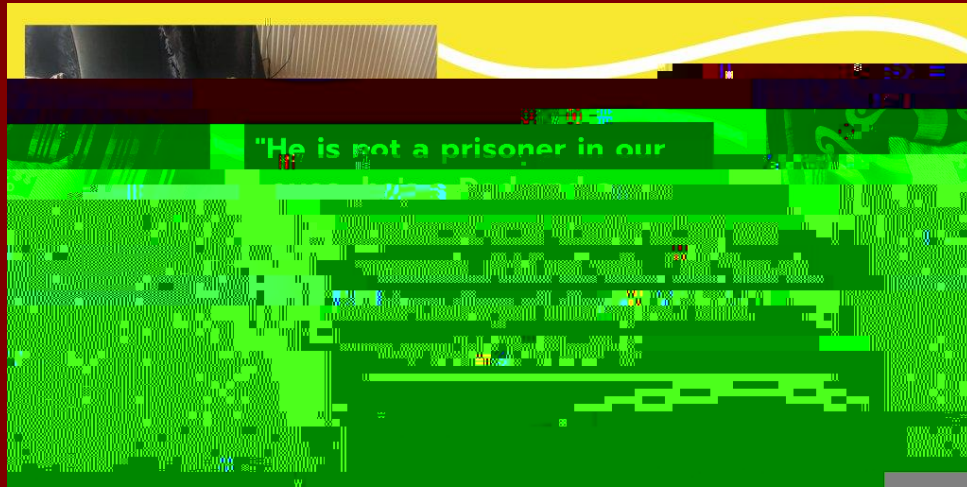
prisoners testing positive  
(week ending 11<sup>th</sup> Jan)  
since start of pandemic

unheard cases, it will take some cases until to be heard  
of the prison population are on remand awaiting trial

Between

children have a parent in prison

# Our Empty Chair





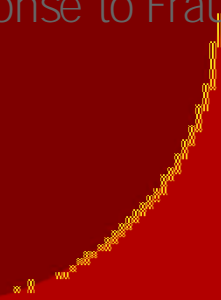
# Mobilising Lived Experience

Both case studies showed that additional work needs to be done by those with expertise and knowledge that stems from lived experience before this knowledge can be heard. Once heard, further work needs to be done to prove the LE actor and the knowledge that they have to offer is legitimate. The basis of this is the stigma attached to LE of crime, deviance and social control.

## Moving forward

Beck, J & Harding, N (Forthcoming) 'The aesthetic labour of undoing stigma'

ESRC IAA funded collaboration between Lancaster university Law School and WFF  
 "Rapid Response to Fraud and Economic crime"



# Any questions?



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