

Ongoing research :

How do Circles work? Exploring and evaluating the experience of Core Members

Country leading the research: UK (PhD)

Other countries involved in the study: N/A

Aim of the study: To explore and evaluate the individual experience of men who have sexually offended and are involved in a Circles project throughout the UK, in order to understand how and why Circles work and how they contribute to the desistance process.

Brief summary of design: The study will consist of a quantitative and qualitative evaluation of the experience and potential change in Core Members over the life of a Circle. Core Members currently in Circles or starting new Circles nationally will be asked to participate. Participants will be asked to write narratives about their time in the Circle at different stages. These will be facilitated by the Circle Co-ordinator. In order to measure the psychological factors relating to desistance the Core Members will also be asked to fill out 4 short published questionnaires (65 items in total).

Expected start date: Already piloted in Yorkshire and Humberside Circles and expected to roll out to other projects from April 2014

Expected end date: April 2016 (PhD end) Data collection complete by October 2015

Researchers: [Rebecca Milner](#) (Supervisor: [Dr Jo Clarke](#))

Correspondence address: Rebecca.milner@york.ac.uk

Research institution(s) involved: [University of York](#)

Funded by: The study is a self-funded PhD