

Led by Eva A Sprecher and Eleanor S. Armstrong

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Ellie S. Armstrong:

Researcher in social studies of outer space (UDelaware / UCL)

PhD research on Space Science exhibitions in London science museums, and informal science education around space science.

Research interests: space science, museums, science education, informal education, social justice, intersectional methodologies, queer feminisms

Eva A Sprecher:

PhD student at UCL (Psychoanalysis Unit) examining experiences of fostering relationships.

Research Assistant at the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families working on a randomised-controlled trial of a foster care intervention (Reflective Fostering)

Research interests: foster care, lived-experience, social care, mixed-media data, participatory work



- → Previous collaboration on "Fresh Voices"
- → Funding call shaped our discussion together
- → Initial discussions around "cultural understanding" theme, but took strategic steps on "Justice and Equity"
- → Led to <u>advocacy not just</u> <u>understanding</u>.







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Being over-researched and remaining under-served is an under-researched health determinant.

3:42 PM · Nov 24, 2020 · Twitter Web App

Care-experienced people are generally "over researched but underserved"





- 1. To facilitating conversation and communication between the foster care community and individuals who organise informal (science) education (e.g. science communicators, facilitators, ECRs)
- 2. To coproduce, develop, and evaluate a framework for the use of zines as a tool for conversations between groups with power differentials.
- 3. To increase competence, confidence, skillsets, and knowledge of informal educators in working inclusively with the foster care community
- 4. To provide experiences of trust, engagement and representation of the foster care community in a research project



What were we going to do? What did woodo?



2019: Ethical approval, identifying collaborators, advertisement, training peer researchers, recruitment of care experienced participants, bookings and recruiting to educator workshops

2020: notify attendees to educator workshop, run participant voice zine making workshops, exhibition of zine make in workshops, run educators workshop (inc. peer researchers and Q&A), evaluation, archiving the project online, presenting at conference

anticipated timeline: Aug 2019-June 2020.

2019: went according to plan

2020: Young person's workshop then lockdown 2 days later. Research aspect completed remotely and zine-making done by care-experienced artist and researchers rather than participants (based on data). Brought on-board collaborators Dr Delyth Edwards and Rosie Canning and rescheduled workshop remotely (November 2020)

2021: Publish and disseminate findings, follow up with educators on commitments

actual timeline: Aug 2019 - Jan 2021





Challenges:

COVID-19 Pandemic

- → Workshop activities limited
- → Face-to-face data collection limits
- → Timelines for project affected
- → More challenging to physically bring foster care community and informal researchers together

Communication and collaboration - on whose terms?

- → Barriers to engaging in visual methods
- → Level of engagement and collaboration to be determined individually

Relationship-building remotely

Protecting academic publication vs. easy sharing

Reflections:

Allowing participants the option to delegate tasks or engagement at a certain point

Objectives can stay constant while the activities of a project may change drastically

Need for focus on action and commitments rather than 'story mining'

Holding yourself accountable to participants and collaborators (especially when it is inconvenient!)



Three key digital tools



Teams:

- Hosting meetings with collaborators
- Hosting the final workshop with informal educators
- Special features use of breakout rooms (!), option for subtitling

Canva:

- Use for pulling together data and artwork into a zine format
- Special features: existing design templates, easy importing and editing of images, produces high quality PDFs, easily shareable designs with no specialist software, excellent free package

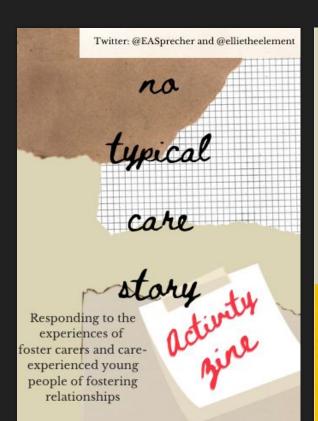
Twitter:

- Used to identifying and reaching out to collaborators (workshop co-designers and the artist) and some recruitment
- Special features: allows researchers to 'give of themselves' in advance of asking for participation or collaboration



Thank you for listening





What is No Typical Care Story about?

There are many young people living in foster care in the UK in the care of foster carers. Foster carers, young people who have experience of foster care, researchers and professionals connected to foster care all agree that relationships in foster care are very important. But what are the relationships between young people in foster care and their foster carers actually like?

In this project we listened to foster carers and young people with experience of foster care to learn from their experiences of relationships in foster care.

In No Typical Care Story we share some of what these people shared with us along with some illustrations created by a careexperienced artist inspired by what was said.

Please consider your own wellbeing while learning with us

This project was funded by: UCL Culture Train & Engage UCL Grand Challenges Small Grants



Prompts & responses

Dr. Delyth Edwards and Rosie Canning have developed questions inspired by the data from this study, to direct informal educators in museusms, heritage, and science communication

Throughout this zine there are **prompts** to help you think about how you engage and support care-experienced people and their families in public settings and your professional work.

At the end of the zine are a series of pages with activities for you to work through having read these experiences, and reflected on your own work and life experiences.

We used this zine as part of an activity workshop on the 27th November 2020, you can learn more about this workshop on our website.

www.zinevoices.com

You can learn more about our contributors here: Dr. Delyth Edwards: @delythsedwards Rosie Canning: @Rosie_Canning



This resource was created in collaboration between Eva A Sprecher,
Dr Eleanor S Armstrong, Ikesha Tuitt, Debbie Hill, Dr Delyth
Edwards, Rosie Canning, and our anonymous care-experienced artist
contributor, and of course the participants in this research work who

Young people: Pete, Freddy, Frank, Stefan, Kayla, Alex, Leigh, Jade

Foster carers: Chloe, John, William, George, Aleks, Jo, Nathalie, Bella, Louise*

The research for this project was approved by the UCL Ethics Committee (14653/002) and supervised by Dr Michelle Sleed and Dr Nick Midgley

> For any questions about this project please email: eva.sprecher.16@ucl.ac.uk

*Please note all participant names are pseudonyms