

## **CoramBAAF Research Group Seminar**

**18 May 2017, 2.00 – 4.00pm**

**Coram Campus, 41 Brunswick Square, London WC1N 1AZ**

**Dr Jeanette Cossar**

**Professor Gillian Schofield**

**School of Social Work, University of East Anglia**

**‘A study of the experiences and identity development of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning young people in care, and the support they receive’**

This ESRC funded national study included a literature review, mapping survey of local authorities in England, narrative interviews with 46 young people, interviews with 26 foster carers and focus groups with professionals. Findings relating to the type of services and care planning available nationally to meet the needs of this group, young people’s experiences of growing up LGBTQ in care including managing stigma, the support role of foster carers, and the different challenges relating to gender identity and sexual orientation will be explored.

**And**

**Dr Katherine Shelton**

**School of Psychology, Cardiff University**

**‘The experiences and support needs of children and their families in the first year of an adoptive placement’**

The success of adoption placements is critical for the well-being of children and their families. Yet there remains an acknowledged lack of evidence regarding the factors that influence early-placement success. Research led by Wales Adoption Study team is working to address this knowledge gap and identify individual, family-based and structural factors associated with early adoption placement success as well as factors that may obstruct or otherwise threaten placement stability. My presentation will summarise some of the key findings from the study including: how families have fared in the first 12 months post-placement, children’s psychological health, what type of post-adoption support has been sought as well as experiences of life story work and engagement with professionals. These findings will serve as a platform for a discussion about how best to address the challenges faced by the Welsh National Adoption Service.

**Followed by discussion**

Event only open to members of CoramBAAF’s Research Group

If you would like to attend please contact Danielle Sawyer: [danielle.sawyer@corambaaf.org.uk](mailto:danielle.sawyer@corambaaf.org.uk) or 020 7520 7521