

Running head: Human Rights and Psychology in the Rep. of Ireland

Date: 20.07.23  
Special Issue Invitation  
**Clinical Psychology Forum**



Photo credit: pexels.com <https://www.pexels.com/photo/woman-standing-on-a-flower-field-while-carrying-basket-full-of-lavender-flowers-5126997/>

**Human Rights and Psychology in the Rep. of Ireland: Aspirations for Everyday Practice and Introducing the Kyrie Farm Model**

Authors:

Elaine Rogers, University of Limerick Rep. of Ireland

Eoin Galavan, Health Service Executive Rep. of Ireland

Michelle Cowley-Cunningham, National Centre for Family Business, Dublin City University

&

Tony Wainwright, University of Exeter UK

**Acknowledgements:**

We are grateful to Prof Tony Wainwright for guidance on drafting this submission and we would also like to thank the Psychological Society of Ireland for supporting the work of the Special Interest Group in Human Rights & Psychology.

**Abstract** The Rep. of Ireland is introducing major human rights-based reform to its mental health laws. This article profiles the new legal landscape psychologists must navigate mindful of Ireland’s dark legacy of institutionalisation. The new rights-based approach aims to positively transform mental health service delivery where person-centred treatments are advocated as the ‘new normal’. Recent advocacy work to align with this new legal thinking by the Psychological Society of Ireland’s Special Interest Group in Human Rights & Psychology is introduced. Finally, we present an innovative best practice case promoting future rights-based delivery via the Socio-Ecological Model of Health – Kyrie Farm.

*Keywords:* UNCRPD, Assisted Decision Making Act 2015 (ADMA) in the Rep. of Ireland, The Socio-Ecological Model of Health

## **Human Rights and Mental Health in the Rep. of Ireland: A New Legal Landscape**

*“There is no health without mental health”* – UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health<sup>1</sup>

The Rep. of Ireland is undergoing major mental health law reform. The introduction of this new legal landscape will significantly impact clinical psychology practice. A human rights-based perspective advocating for person-centred treatments is guiding this transformation. Consider that the Rep. of Ireland’s Mental Health Act 2001 has long set out the legal criteria for involuntary detention for those with mental health difficulties. The Act also established the Mental Health Commission (MHC) as well as an Inspector of Mental Health Services stipulating safeguards for persons receiving treatment. This 2001 Act, and Mental Health (Amendment) Act 2015, was a significant improvement on their predecessor, the Mental Treatment Act 1945. It advocated to protect the rights of persons detained involuntarily in Irish mental health services, but was long bemoaned not to fully align satisfactorily to the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) (e.g., Mental Health Commission, 2023). As a result, an Expert Group Review (ERG) was established in 2012 to remedy the situation. The group consisted of clinical and legal experts, representatives from the Health Service Executive (HSE) and the Mental Health Commission (MHC), as well as opinion from the Irish Human Rights Commission (IHREC), alongside people with lived experience of mental health services. Its report was published in 2015 and made 165 recommendations, 70% of which strongly suggested changes to legislation were imperative. The Irish Government decided to draft a General Scheme of a bill to amend the Mental Health Act 2001 to accommodate. This process resulted in a shift towards rights-based approaches encouraging higher standards and good practices across the delivery model for all.

---

<sup>1</sup> [www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-health/right-mental-health](http://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-health/right-mental-health) (Accessed July 20th 2023)

That said, the ERG report and its recommendations predated the 2018 ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and the Assisted Decision Making Act 2015 (ADMA). Hence, a Sub-Committee on Mental Health of the Houses of the Oireachtas insisted on hearing from stakeholders about how best to accommodate the paradigm shift in any revised Act towards the UNCRPD. A critical aim was to ensure that persons with disabilities will have opportunity to access and participate in decision-making processes about services and treatments, including those directly concerning them. For the first time in legislative history, the jurisdiction is now coherently moving towards the legal empowerment of people who access mental health services to ‘make decisions about their own healthcare insofar as possible’ (Report on Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the Draft Heads of Bill to Amend the Mental Health Act 2001, Houses of the Oireachtas, Oct 2022, p.8).

### **Glimpsing Ireland’s Dark Legacy**

These changes to legislation are welcome, but we are ever conscious as mental health professionals that Ireland has a complex and ‘dark’ history with institutionalisation that continues to be felt by service users and providers (e.g., Carr et al., 2010). For example, some people with cognitive and mental health difficulties continue to live in institutional settings not of their choice, and in environments where they have little control over their daily lives (e.g., Coyne et al., 2015). Equally, many parents with cognitive disabilities lose custody of their children in the absence of dedicated community support (e.g., Coulter, 2018). Further, the continued conflicted existence of Irish Travellers and the suppression of their cultural heritage and minority rights, has long cast a shadow on the provision of adequate state service support (e.g., Mulcahy, 2012).

Only this year, legislation that speaks to the survivors of Mother and Baby Homes of the last century was signed into law (Mother and Baby Homes Payment Scheme Act, 2023). Ireland’s Mother and Baby Homes represented state-sanctioned, gender based violence, that involved traumatic human rights violations and led to much harm both for mothers and their babies, including the unmarked burial of hundreds of children in mass graves (e.g., Corless, 2021; Garrett, 2017; O’Rourke et al., 2018; Redmond, 2018). Present day survivors are just recently receiving offers of psychological and counselling services via the National Counselling Service and the TUSLA Tracing Office (i.e., TUSLA is the Rep. of Ireland’s child and family agency). This tragedy is in the early stages of unfolding, with the excavation, exhumation, and forensic DNA identification of children’s remains yet to come. Indeed, the chilling magnitude of the discovery has resulted in calls from many for retrospective investigation and public inquiry into similar homes for mothers and babies in Northern Ireland (BBC News Online, 2023).

Present day mental health service delivery for children and adolescents is no exception. At the time of writing reports on mental health provision within Children & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) has uncovered continuing grave deficiencies in resources, risk management and rights-based care (Finnerty, 2023; PSI, 2023). Moving forward, participation in decisions by service users is highly recommended for any modern mental health service regardless of life stage, including for children, adolescents and their families (e.g., Mental Health Commission 2023; Finnerty, 2023). The PSI is specifically advocating that ‘children and young people who attend specialist mental health services, such as CAMHS... have the

right to expect safe and effective support in a timely manner with their rights and needs at the centre of that care' (PSI, 2023, p.1). More than ever a rights-based approach is needed– one that integrates human rights, the norms and principles of equality, equity or even freedom from discrimination to the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of mental health policies and programmes (e.g., Mental Health Commission, 2023). After all, a person who is included and empowered to participate in decisions affecting their treatment will be better informed and able to engage with, or give critical feedback to, the services provided.

### **The UNCRPD and Person-Centred Approaches: Advocating for a New Normal**

The UNCRPD is the human rights instrument that is closest to the practice of psychology. It has changed the landscape and context, through which disability, including mental health as psycho-social disability, is understood and responded to in Ireland. The 2022 Report on the Pre-legislative Scrutiny of the Draft Heads of Bill to Amend the Mental Health Act 2001 (Oct 2022) now views mental health difficulties through the lens of psycho-social disabilities and promotes the relevance of the UNCRPD. Ireland, although belatedly, has ratified the UNCRPD in 2018, eleven years after becoming a signatory. A recent, abbreviated and illustrative timeline demonstrates the momentum of the increasing influence of human rights based approaches in Irish law and policy. In December 2015 the Assisted Decision Making Act 2015 (ADMA 2015) was signed into law. That persons whose decision making ability is in question, participate in decision-making processes, or be involved in any review about policies and programmes that directly concern them, has meant the development of several new services and supports including the Decision Support Service (DSS). The introduction of the DSS provides a tiered decision making support system to adults whose legal capacity is in question, or who may need decision making support. After several years in development, the DSS went live this year. Prior to this legislation, there was a lacuna whereby adults who were considered not to have decision making capacity had no access to a decision support framework. Decisions were made out of necessity by 'next of kins'. Presently a 'protection of liberty' legislation, as opposed to legislation of the 'deprivation of liberty', is in draft to assist the legal context further (Department of Health, Government of Ireland, 2019). As aforementioned, guiding principles of dignity, autonomy, participation, access to health, education and justice, now in the lexicon of many psychologists, were not evident in at least some service provision in the past, and continue to be absent or limited in some environments.

Within that context, the Mental Health Commission is the body that oversees this ethos via its operation as an independent statutory body established under the provisions of Mental Health Acts 2001-2018 (2001 Act). Its remit has been extended by Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015 (as amended) (2015 Act). For example, the Mental Health Commission's recent 'Supporting Change' Strategic Plan 2023-2027 promises a framework of implementation where equity of access and person-centred mental health care and decision support is a priority. Operationalising a best-in-class decision support service that maximises autonomy, via strong corporate mechanism, is predicted to drive standards to improve quality and the safeguarding of persons across service delivery.

Critically the strategy highlights the need for human rights training for mental health practitioners, and the need for lifelong learning on human rights and ethics. Of relevance to psychologists is that every mental health service provides or ensures that professionals have

had training in areas including, but not limited to, human rights (e.g., a practice or practitioner operates in accordance with current national and international human rights legislation; a Charter of Rights is visible to a service user; a Directory of Advocacy Services is up-to-date and available; service users can be informed of their rights on admission; the service is aware it is compelled to balance the competing rights of liberty v. security in order to fulfil its duty of care). Specifically, their strategy advocates for resources to focus on promoting and vindicating the human rights of people who use mental health services or those who may require decision making support.

Separately, the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) is a statutory regulator with strong human rights orientation and guidelines (HIQA, 2019). Aside from providing examples, they do not make it clear how training or continuing professional development is to operate within the psychology profession. In response, the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) has founded a Special Interest Group in Human Rights & Psychology (SIGHRP) to assist this mission.

### **Special Interest Group in Human Rights & Psychology SIGHRP**

The Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) is the professional body representing psychologists in Ireland. The PSI has long engaged in advocacy work that is aligned with human rights, social inclusion and social justice. Under the auspices of the PSI, The Special Interest Group in Human Rights and Psychology (SIGHRP) was established in Nov 2021. It provides a platform and point of connection for all those psychologists who are interested in how human rights intersect their research and practice.

From the outset, SIGHRP recognised human rights and psychology issues overseas and in an international context while being mindful of the legacy and continuing human rights issues at home. The potential areas of work for human rights groups and advocacy are therefore immense. The group is voluntary and the first steps are incremental but hopeful (e.g., Rubin & Flores, 2020). At the time of writing the core purpose of the SIG is to operationalise PSI's affirmation of the Human Rights statement under which the PSI functions through its membership in the European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA). Modelled upon the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights UDHR (1948), psychology's particularised statement of Human Rights was adopted both by the International Union of Psychological Science (2008) as well as by the PSI through membership of the EFPA. Cognisant aims and objectives are to promote: research in human rights and psychology; education of psychologists in human rights awareness, accountability, and action; and education of psychologists on human rights and legal perspectives (e.g., national and/or international legal frameworks and implementation infrastructure, case law precedents, conflict of laws). To date the group has engaged in developing resources, engaged in advocacy, and provided a platform for education/awareness raising. Three major achievements in the group's young existence link mental and physical health parity with participation rights<sup>2</sup> across implementation, professions-led policy and human rights law. For example:

---

<sup>2</sup> While there is no universal definition of human security, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has identified seven components of human security, including 'Health Security' (the ability of individuals and communities to access healthcare services and information, and to maintain good physical and mental health, e.g., parity of services), and 'Community Security' (the ability of individuals and communities to live in peaceful and

- a) *Time of War Resources*. The group produced rapid-response Psychological first aid (PFA) tools for those assisting and working with refugees and catalogued the outputs with the Psychological Society of Ireland's Time of War Resources, European Federation of Psychologists' Associations, and The Irish Red Cross (Martin et al., 2022; Ryan et al., 2022).
- b) *IUPsyS Policy Submission on International Crises*. The group and the Psychological Society of Ireland submitted a policy pronouncement regarding the invitation to contribute ideas on the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) responses in crises and emergencies (McDarby, Cowley-Cunningham & Rogers, 2022).
- c) *Children's Mental Health Submission to UN OHCHR*. The group made a stakeholder submission with the Psychological Society of Ireland to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights addressing Draft General Comment No. 26 on Children's Rights and the Environment (Cowley-Cunningham, Rogers, & Carey, 2023 on behalf of PSI).

It is important to acknowledge that within Ireland many psychologists are already creatively and enthusiastically responding to issues of human rights, social justice and social inclusion (Report of the National Psychology Project Team: Establishment of a National Psychology Placement Office and Workforce Planning 2021). The Irish health services too are responding. The HSE has also established a National Office for Human Rights and Equality Policy. At a broader level, the recent establishment of the Health Service Executive's (HSE) Social Inclusion Directorate aims to reduce inequalities in health and improve access for excluded groups. Their work is underpinned by social determinants of health, inclusion and health, and community development approaches. As the primary employer of psychologists in the Rep. of Ireland, this is the context in which many psychologists are now working. Moreover, the profession has grown in its understanding of trauma-informed care, and acknowledges that rights-focused and evidence-informed mental health service provision should be ecologically aware, holistic, compassionate and co-produced, alongside service users (National Quality Framework: Driving Excellence in Mental Health Services, 2023).

### **The Socio-Ecological Model of Health**

Being real about rights-based practice thus requires that we invoke the holistic models of health best equipped to promote it. A recent outline of the Social-Ecological Model of health and well-being delivered by the University of Minnesota (Michaels et al., 2022; see Online Resource <https://mch.umn.edu/resources/mhecomodel/>) underscores the breadth of understanding required beyond the medical lens, promoting a genuinely holistic view towards mental health and well being (see originally Bronfenbrenner, 1979; Wold & Mittelmark, 2018). Moreover, the World Health Organization describes health as a state of complete physical,

---

cohesive societies, where people have a sense of belonging and are able to participate in decision-making processes).

mental, and social well-being and not simply the absence of disease or infirmity (WHO The Global Health Observatory, 2023). Viewing a person's mental health difficulties through this broad based lens allows us to cooperatively explore their life experiences from a wide range of perspectives including the macro social impacts (e.g., racism or inequality): policy impacts like housing; community impacts like access to education or healthy food; organisational impacts like unsafe working environments or access to community services; core relationships like family stress or support; and individual level issues like coping skills, stress responses, developmental issues (e.g., Michaels, 2022). This understanding forms the basis on which to build a holistic mental health service within which specific interventions (e.g., psychological therapies, peer support, social care, occupational therapy for example) can be delivered. Recognising that healing and recovery are multifaceted, the onus is to create an Optimal Healing Environment (Sakallaris et al., 2015) in which rights-based practice can be fully realised. Best practice mental health services should aim not to constrain models to the public sector and equally embrace the voluntary and independent sectors. To demonstrate what such an approach would look like, we next outline Kyrie Farm which seeks to bring a holistic, recovery-oriented and rights-based service to the Rep. of Ireland.

### **Health and Participation Rights in Action: Introducing the Kyrie Farm Model**

Alternative models of mental health services can be seen as human rights in practice (see Ref: Report of Special Rapporteur p. 13, A/HRC/44/48 un.org and the World Health Organisation WHO Guidance on community mental health services: Promoting person-centred and rights-based approaches, 2021). An Irish example that seeks to embody the UN and WHO principles is Kyrie Farm. Kyrie Farm seeks to be a transformative initiative in the Irish mental health system that responds to the call for a shift to a rights-based, recovery-oriented and holistic approach to mental health support.

Based on a fifty-seven acre farm in rural Kildare, Kyrie Farm seeks to establish a thriving community inclusive of best possible approaches to human rights, human health, well being and mental health recovery. This is inspired by decades of research and a multitude of ancient knowledge that underscores the importance of a healthy natural environment in healing and recovery (e.g., Bratman, Hamilton & Daily, 2012; Jonas, 2018). Consulting with experts in native woodland and horticulture Kyrie Farm is establishing a regenerative farming culture, and rewilding approximately ten acres in restoring the native biodiversity of the land. This ecologically healthy and rich environment will be home to a community. Principles of informed consent, co-authoring and co-developing are integrated in all aspects of the process of development and service delivery. Peer support and experts by experience are central at all steps along the journey and all structures within the farm are established via this prism. The overarching approach includes bringing a broad based ecological, social, psychological emphasis drawing from up-to-date science and knowledge on recovery and healing. The approach begins with a healthy ecological environment. A return to an ecologically attuned, community spirit is at the heart of future development in mental health services, in health services and in our broader society (e.g., Pearson & Craig, 2014; WHO 2021). Further, community is widely regarded as a key ingredient in healing and recovery, and underpins the potential for a rights-based, person-centred, recovery-oriented ethos in mental health service (WHO 2021). The project contends that living in a complementary way with the natural

environment, tending to plants and animals, growing and preparing each other's food, participating meaningfully in farming life – are the foundations on which a healing recovery journey can be laid. This is an ancient wisdom, being brought to bear, with the help of modern scientific understandings (e.g., Twohig-Bennett & Jones, 2018).

### **Conclusion: Promoting Professional Awareness of Human Rights**

Despite these promising developments and innovative models there remains a way to go in providing rights-based mental health and well being across the sector in the Rep. of Ireland. Following in the footsteps of international colleagues within the psychology, the SIGHRP mandate asserts a clear role for psychologists to engage in human rights advocacy, to respect human rights in the application of their discipline, and to apply their knowledge and methods to the greater realisation of human rights (e.g., Huminiuk, 2022; Söderström et al, 2019; Wainwright, Plavšić & Hagedaars, 2022). To this end the SIGHRP is in professions-led consultation to draft a set of human-rights guidelines to aid psychologists in daily practice. We contend that the human rights-based approach centering the principles of physical and mental health parity and participation, along with a focus on social justice and inclusion, will better inform how psychologists respond and alleviate the psychological effects of crises for individuals, their families and communities (e.g., Cowley-Cunningham, Carey, & Rogers, 2023).

### **References**

An Roinn Sláinte (2014). *Report on the expert group on the review of the Mental Health Act 2001*. Retrieved from: <https://assets.gov.ie/> (20th July 2023)

*Assisted Decision Making Act 2015*, Retrieved from: <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2015/act/64/enacted/en/html> (8th June 2023)

Page, C. (2023). Mother and baby homes: ‘One of the greatest scandals’. Retrieved from: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-64087190> (12th August 2023)

Bratman, G.N., Hamilton, J. P., & Daily, G.C. (2012). The impacts of nature experience on human cognitive function and mental health. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, 1249(1), 118–136.

Bronfenbrenner, U. (1979). *The ecology of human development*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Carr, A., Dooley, B., Fitzpatrick, M., Flanagan, E., Flanagan-Howard, R., Tierney, K., White, M., Daly, M., & Egan, J. (2010). Adult adjustment of survivors of institutional child abuse in Ireland. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 34(7), 477–489.

Corless, C. (2021). *Belonging: A Memoir of Place, Beginnings and One Woman's Search for Truth and Justice for the Tuam Babies*. Ireland: Hachette Books.

Coulter, C. (2018). An examination of lengthy, contested and complex child protection cases in the district court. Dublin: Child Care Law Reporting Project. Retrieved from:



[www.childlawproject.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCLRP-Examination-of-Complex-Child-Protection-Cases-March-2018.pdf](http://www.childlawproject.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCLRP-Examination-of-Complex-Child-Protection-Cases-March-2018.pdf) (20th July 2023)

Cowley-Cunningham, M., Carey, A., & Rogers, E. (2023). The Climate Crisis, Climate Anxiety and Children's Rights: A Psychological Perspective on Human Health and Security. *Advance online publication on Project MUSE*. doi:10.1353/isia.0.a904850.

Cowley-Cunningham, M., Rogers, E., & Carey, A. (2023). The Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI)'s Special Interest Group in Human Rights and Psychology's submission to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child - General comment No.26 on the Rights of the Child and Climate Change. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights OHCHR, Submission no.: GC26-CS-psychological-society-ireland-2023-02-14

Coyne, I., McNamara, N., Healy, M., Gower, C., Sarkar, M., & McNicholas, F. (2015). Adolescents' and parents' views of child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) in Ireland. *Journal of Psychiatric & Mental Health Nursing*, 22(8), 561–569.

Department of Health, Government of Ireland. (2019). *The deprivation of liberty safeguard proposals: Report on the public consultation*. Retrieved from: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/3f88c4-the-deprivation-of-liberty-safeguard-proposals-report-on-the-public/> (21st July 2023)

Finnerty, S. (2023). *Mental Health Commission's Independent Review of the provision of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in the State by the Inspector of Mental Health Services*. Retrieved from: <https://www.mhcirl.ie/sites/default/files/2023-07/Mental%20Health%20Commission%20Independent%20Reviews%20of%20CAMHS%20services%20in%20the%20State.pdf> (26th July 2023).

Garrett, P. M. (2017). Excavating the past: Mother and Baby Homes in the Republic of Ireland. *British Journal of Social Work*, 47(2), 358–374.

Health and Information Quality Authority (HIQA). (2019). *Guidance on a human rights-based approach in health and social care services*. Retrieved from: <https://www.hiqa.ie/sites/default/files/2019-11/Human-Rights-Based-Approach-Guide.PDF> (21st July 2023)

Health Service Executive, National Social Inclusion Office. *Social Inclusion within the Irish Health Service Executive (HSE.ie)*. Retrieved from: [www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/primarycare/socialinclusion/about-social-inclusion/about-social-inclusion.html](http://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/primarycare/socialinclusion/about-social-inclusion/about-social-inclusion.html) (20th July 2023)

Houses of the Oireachtas Sub-Committee on Mental Health (2022). *Report on pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft heads of bill to amend the Mental Health Act 2001*. Retrieved from: [https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/committee/dail/33/joint\\_sub\\_committee\\_on\\_mental\\_health/reports/2022/2022-10-12\\_report-on-pre-legislative-scrutiny-of-the-draft-heads-of-bill-to-amend-the-mental-health-act-2001\\_en.pdf](https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/committee/dail/33/joint_sub_committee_on_mental_health/reports/2022/2022-10-12_report-on-pre-legislative-scrutiny-of-the-draft-heads-of-bill-to-amend-the-mental-health-act-2001_en.pdf) (7th June 2023)

Huminuik, K. (2023). The five connections: A human rights framework for psychologists. *International Journal of Psychology*, <https://doi.org/10.1002/ijop.12908>

Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (2022). *Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Submission to the Sub-Committee on Mental Health*. Retrieved from: <https://www.ihrec.ie/documents/submission-on-the-general-scheme-of-the-mental-health-amendment-bill/> (20th July 2023)

Jonas, W. (2018). *How Healing Works*. UK: Scribe.

Martin, E., Carey, A., Cowley-Cunningham, M., Rogers, E., Miller, I., Ryan, M., Mc Hugh, S., & Byrne-Lynch, A. (2022). *Not reLiving – but Living. Psychological first aid for refugee care: Helpful do's and don'ts. A rapid response tool to aid the public's assistance to Ukrainian refugees arriving in Ireland*. Catalogued with PSI Time of War Resources Toolkit 2023. Retrieved from: [https://www.psychologicalsociety.ie/source/SIGHRP%20-%20Rapid%20Response%20Psychology%20Tool%20Time%20of%20War%20Resources%20\(Final\).pdf](https://www.psychologicalsociety.ie/source/SIGHRP%20-%20Rapid%20Response%20Psychology%20Tool%20Time%20of%20War%20Resources%20(Final).pdf)

McDarby, V., Cowley-Cunningham, M., & Rogers, E., & Psychological Society of Ireland PSI (2022). *Psychological Society of Ireland pronouncement to the International Union of Psychological Science IUPsyS regarding responses in crises and emergencies*. Retrieved from: <https://www.psychologicalsociety.ie/source/PSI%20submission%20to%20IUPsyS%20Responses%20in%20Crises%20and%20Emergencies.pdf> (7th June 2023).

*Mental Health Act 2001* (Rep. of Ireland)

Retrieved from: <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2001/act/25/enacted/en/html> (20th July 2023)

Mental Health Commission, Rep. of Ireland. (2023). *'Supporting change' Strategic Plan 2023-2027*. Retrieved from: <https://www.mhcirl.ie/sites/default/files/2023-04/10876%20MHC%20Strategic%20Plan%202023-2027%20COMPLETED.pdf> (7th June 2023).

Mental Health Commission, Rep. of Ireland. (2023). *National Quality Framework: Driving excellence in mental health services*. Retrieved from: <https://www.mhcirl.ie/what-we-do/guidance/quality-framework-mental-health-services-ireland> (20th July 2023)

Mental Health Commission, Rep. of Ireland. (2023). *Independent Review of the provision of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in the State by the Inspector of Mental Health Services Promoting Quality, Safety and July 2023 Human Rights in Mental Health: Recommendations*. Retrieved from: <https://www.mhcirl.ie/sites/default/files/2023-07/CAMHS%20Recommendations.pdf>

Michaels, C., Blake, L., Lynn, A., Greylord, T., & Benning, S. (2022). *Mental health and well-being ecological model*. Center for Leadership Education in Maternal & Child Public Health, University of Minnesota–Twin Cities. Retrieved from: <https://mch.umn.edu/resources/mhecomodel/> (21st July 2023)

*Mother and Baby Home Payment Scheme Act 2023*. Retrieved from: <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/bills/bill/2022/97/> (20th July 2023).

Mulcahy, A. (2012). 'Alright in their own place': Policing and the spatial regulation of Irish travellers. *Criminology & Criminal Justice*, 12(3), 307–327.

Murray, R. M., Gallagher, P., & Galavan, E. (2019). An exploration into counsellors' experiences of using the collaborative assessment and management of suicidality among the homeless sector. *European Journal of Homelessness*, 14, 123–136.

O'Rourke, M., McGettrick, C., Baker, R., & Hill, R. (2018). *CLANN: Ireland's unmarried mothers and their children: Gathering the data. Principal submission to the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes*. Dublin: Justice For Magdalenes Research, Adoption Rights Alliance, Hogan Lovells, 15 October 2018.

Pearson, D. G., & Craig, T. (2014). The great outdoors? Exploring the mental health benefits of natural environments. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 5, <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2014.01178>

Redmond, P.J. (2018). *The adoption machine: The dark history of Ireland's Mother and Baby Homes and the inside story of how Tuam 800 became a global scandal*. Kildare, Ireland: Merrion Press/Irish Academic Press.

Psychological Society of Ireland. (2023). *The Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) welcomes the publication of the Mental Health Commission final report on Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services*. Retrieved from: <https://www.psychologicalsociety.ie/source/PSI%20press%20release%20on%20published%20MHC%20CAMHS%20Report.pdf> (26th July 2023)

Rubin, N. S., & Flores, R. L. (2020). *The Cambridge handbook of psychology and human rights*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Ryan, M., Cowley-Cunningham, M., Rogers, E., Miller, I., Martin, E., Carey, A., Mc Hugh, S., Byrne-Lynch, A. (2022). *Not ReLiving – But Living. Psychological First Aid for Refugee Care: Helpful Do's and Don'ts. Psychological First Aid (PFA) and Critical Resources for all those who assist and work with refugees and displaced persons*. Catalogued with PSI Time of War Resources Toolkit 2023. Retrieved from: <https://www.psychologicalsociety.ie/source/SIGHRP%20-%20Rapid%20Response%20Psychology%20Tool%20General.pdf> (20th July 2023)

Sakallaris, B. R., MacAllister, L., Voss, M., Smith, K., Jonas, W. B. (2015). Optimal Healing Environments. *Global Advances Health Medicine*, 4(3), 40–45.

Söderström, K., Hagedaars, P., Wainwright, T. & Wagner, U. (2019). Human rights matter to psychology—Psychology matters to human rights. *European Psychologist*, 24(2), 99–101.

Twohig-Bennett, C., & Jones, A. (2018). The health benefits of the great outdoors: A systematic review and meta-analysis of greenspace exposure and health outcomes. *Environmental Research*, 166, 628–637.

*UNCRC Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*. Retrieved from: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-persons-disabilities> (20th July 2023)

United Nations UN. (2022). *Report of the first children and young people's consultation on General comment No. 26*. Retrieved from: <https://childrightsenvironment.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Report-of-the-first-Children-and-Young-Peoples-Consultation.pdf> (8th June 2023).

*United Nations Development Programme UNDP*. Retrieved from: <https://www.undp.org> (20th July 2023)

Wainwright, T., Plavšić, M., & Hageaars, P. (2022). Psychologists for human rights, *Psihologijske teme*, 31(1), 119–137.

Wold, B., & Mittelmark, M. B. (2018). Health-promotion research over three decades: The social-ecological model and challenges in implementation of interventions. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*, 46(20\_suppl), 20–26.

World Health Organisation WHO. (2021). *WHO integrated people-centred care directive*. Retrieved from: [www.who.int/health-topics/integrated-people-centered-care#tab=tab\\_1](http://www.who.int/health-topics/integrated-people-centered-care#tab=tab_1) (8th June 2023)

### **Useful Resources:**

Rep. of Ireland' Assisted Decision-Making Act - Mental Health Commission  
[Ireland's Assisted Decision-Making \(Capacity\)... | Mason Hayes Curran \(mhc.ie\)](#)

Health Service Executive Webinar Series - Assisted Decision-Making Act (Capacity)  
[Webinar Series - Assisted Decision-Making Capacity Act 2015 - HSE.ie](#)

Clinical Psychology Today - The Assisted Decision-Making Act: Psychology Perspectives  
[The Assisted Decision-Making \(Capacity\) Act 2015: a discussion piece exploring some common questions arising for Psychologists. – Clinical Psychology Today \(wordpress.com\)](#)

RTE Documentary - Rep. of Ireland's Mother and Baby Homes Institutional Legacy:  
[The Missing Children - RTÉ Player \(rte.ie\)](#)

Socio-Ecological Model of health and well-being - University of Minnesota:  
Open Resource <https://mch.umn.edu/resources/mhecomodel/>

**Dr Elaine Rogers**  
Senior Clinical Psychologist  
*University of Limerick*



Elaine is a Chartered Clinical Psychologist of the Psychological Society of Ireland. She is a Senior Clinical Psychologist and Clinical Coordinator at the Department of Psychology, University of Limerick. Her research and practice interests include rights-based approaches.

**Dr Eoin Galavan**

Senior Clinical Psychologist

*Health Service Executive*



Eoin is Associate Fellow and Chartered Clinical Psychologist of the Psychological Society of Ireland, and Senior Clinical Psychologist in the Health Service Executive, Rep. of Ireland. Eoin has been a Director of Psychology at Work, Confer in Ireland, and Clinical Tutor in Psychology at Trinity College Dublin. Presently, he is a Board Member of the Kyrie Farm project. His research focuses on mental health provision and suicide prevention.

**Dr Michelle Cowley-Cunningham**

Postdoctoral Researcher

*Dublin City University*



Michelle is a Chartered Psychologist of the British Psychological Society. She began her career as an Irish Research Council doctoral scholar at Trinity College Dublin. Following a lectureship in applied psychology at the University of Southampton, she was awarded a Katzenbach Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Oxford to research the psychology of foresight and its connection to human rights. As postdoctoral researcher at DCU she

examines how sustainable business values affect creativity, well-being and succession in family business.