



QUALITATIVE RESEARCH IN MENTAL HEALTH

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Anne Kraye

Research Fellow, Centre for Mental Health and Society, Bangor University, United Kingdom

My name is Anne Kraye, and I am a senior researcher and a member of the Centre for Mental Health and Society at Bangor University in North Wales, UK. My background is in public health but my introduction to social sciences about eight years ago changed my thinking and approach to research. My research interests centre on mental health, and in particular the overlap between health and social care and participatory methodologies. I was one of the co-investigators of SASHI (South Asia Self-Harm Initiative), a five-year project funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund. As the qualitative lead, I was responsible for developing and implementing qualitative research elements, building qualitative capacity of researchers, and data analysis and dissemination. I have worked collaboratively in previous UK projects, for example when exploring anti-social behaviour and mental health with the police and people with lived experience, but the SASHI project added a number of different challenges and questions, including cultural sensitivity, power and resource imbalances, what type of knowledge counts and so on. I also teach and supervise students from different ethnic and geographical backgrounds and am a member of the Medical and Health Sciences Academic Ethics Committee. The workshop will be informed by all these experiences but I will draw more heavily on my work with SASHI.