

# Reframing Endometriosis: Power, Politics and Potential Futures

## Venue

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, 200  
Jennens Road, Birmingham, B4 7XR

## Programme\*

\*v. 28.06.23. Visit conference website for link to book tickets: [HERE](#)

### Summary

Endometriosis is a common yet poorly understood condition. Media and academic discourse often highlight failures in diagnosis as emblematic of gender biases in health. This conference focuses on practices of exclusion in past and present approaches to endometriosis as well as potential inclusive futures.

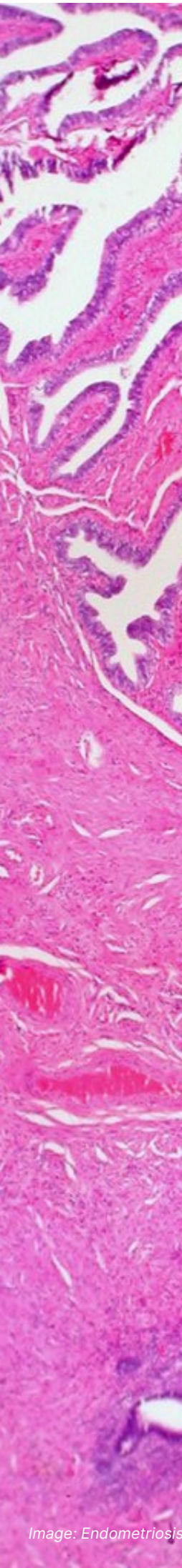
It brings together UK and international endometriosis social science and humanities researchers alongside, and in conversation with, prominent (bio)medical researchers, third sector representatives and independent researchers and authors. Award-winning illustrator, [Justyna Green](#), also joins the proceedings and will create a piece based on conference themes for later exhibition at the Wellcome Trust.

The way endometriosis is categorised is central to how it is understood and experienced. Speakers will discuss the historical legacies of endometriosis as a 'wandering womb' induced 'hysteria' and 'career women's disease'. They will consider intersecting systems of power and the marginalisation of gendered, racialised, and disabled bodies. And they will explore the socio-cultural-political implications of the latest medical research suggesting endometriosis is a systemic (whole body), rather than a solely gynaecological, disease.

### Conveners

- [Dr Annalise Weckesser](#) Reader in Medical Anthropology, Birmingham City U
- [Dr Véronique Griffith](#) MD/PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Manchester
- [Dr Andrea Ford](#) Senior Research Fellow, University of Edinburgh

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## Virtual Attendees

- A Zoom Meeting link will be provided shortly prior to the event (*for security, do not share link*)
- We plan to **engage virtual attendees via Q&A during panels and interactive exercises** (times noted in programme below)
- All times are British Summer Time (BST)

## In-Person Attendees

- The welcome and all panels take place in the **Recital Hall** of the **Royal Birmingham Conservatoire**
- Food/beverages served in 'The Lab' next to Recital Hall
- Venue address, directions, and accessibility info can be found [HERE](#)

Time (BST)	Day 1: Thurs, July 6th
09:30-10:00	Registration/Coffee (In-Person Attendees)
10:00-10:30	Welcome & <b>Interactive</b> Exercise (Virtual & In-Person)
10:30-12:15	<b>Panel 1:</b> Reframing Endometriosis Histories (Virtual & In-Person)
12:15-13:15	Lunch/Break
13:15- 15:00	<b>Panel 2:</b> Experiential & Marginalised Endometriosis Framings (Virtual & In-Person)
15:00-15:20	Break
15:20-16:00	<b>Interactive</b> Exercise (Virtual & In-Person) & Close of Day
16:00-17:00	Afternoon Tea Reception (In-Person Attendees)

# Day 1: Thurs, July 6th

## Welcome

[Professor Maxine Lintern](#), Acting Dean, Faculty of Health, Education and Life Sciences, Birmingham City University

Introduction, Dr [Annalise Weckesser](#)

Zoom Moderator: [Danielle Perro](#), PhD, Research Lead at Bloomful

## Interactive Exercise (via Padlet)

- *What are you hoping to get out of the conference?*
- *What key points need reframing around endometriosis?*

## Panel 1: Reframing Endometriosis Histories

*What has driven historical understandings of endometriosis and how have these changed or not over time?*

**Moderator:** [Dr Michell Chresfield](#) Assistant Professor, Cornell University

- [Prof Emeritus Elaine Denny](#) Birmingham City University, Author of [Pain](#)
- [Dr Jaipreet Viridi](#) University of Delaware
- [Dr Véronique Griffith](#) U of Manchester, Author of [Healers & Patients Talk](#)

## Panel 2: Experiential & Marginalised Endometriosis Framings

*What marginalised and/or experiential understandings of endometriosis have been neglected? What are the consequences of this neglect?*

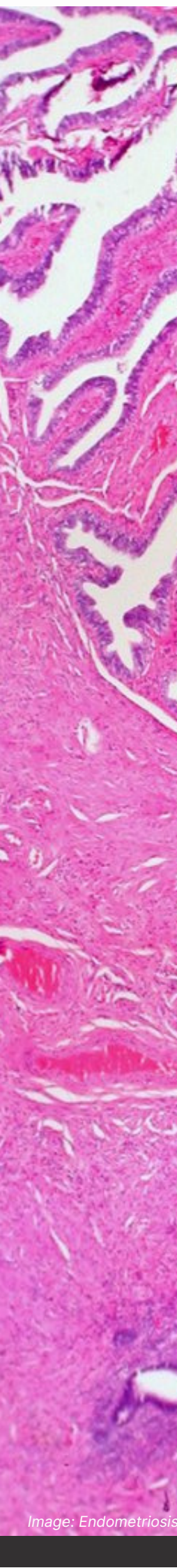
**Moderator:** [Dr Véronique Griffith](#) U of Manchester, Author of [Healers & Patients Talk](#)

- [Karen Havelin](#) Author of [Please Read This Leaflet Carefully](#)
- [Nikita Aashi Chadha](#) Trustee and Facilitator, Cysters
- [Dr Rizwana Roomaney](#) Stellenbosch University

## Interactive Exercise (via Padlet):

- *How has 'Day 1' reframed your thinking around endometriosis?*
- *Name one or more things from today that you will take forward in your research, practice, day-to-day life, or elsewhere...*

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Time (BST)	Day 2: Fri, July 7th
09:00-9:30	Welcome & <b>Interactive Exercise</b> (Virtual & In-Person)
09:30-11:15	<b>Panel 3:</b> Beyond Biomedical & Social Divides (Virtual & In-Person)
11:15-11:45	Coffee/Break
11:45 - 13:30	<b>Panel 4:</b> Future Framings of Endometriosis (Virtual & In-Person)
13:30-14:30	Lunch/Break
14:30-16:15	<b>Panel 5:</b> Speaking Differently About Endometriosis (Virtual & In-Person)
16:15-17:00	<b>Interactive Exercise</b> & Closing (Virtual & In-Person)

## Day 2: Fri, July 7th

### Welcome

[Professor Maria Uther](#), Associate Dean for Research Innovation and Enterprise, Birmingham City University

Introduction, Dr [Annalise Weckesser](#)

Zoom Moderator: [Danielle Perro](#), PhD, Research Lead at Bloomful

### Interactive Exercise (via Padlet)

- *What are you hoping to get out of Day 2 of the conference?*
- *What questions/issues (possibly raised on Day 1) are you hoping will be touched on today?*

# Day 2: Fri, July 7th cont.

## Panel 3: Reframing Social & Biomedical Divides (via Tech?)

What opportunities are there for working collaboratively across different backgrounds to bridge silos and improve care/understandings of endometriosis?

**Moderator:** [Dr Andrea Ford](#) University of Edinburgh

- [Professor Andrew Horne](#) University of Edinburgh
- [Lone Hummelshoj](#) Founder of [Endometriosis.org](#)
- [Dr Maria Temmes](#) Tampere University
- [Dr Sharon Dixon](#) University of Oxford

## Panel 4: Future Endometriosis Framings

From different disciplinary perspectives, what is most exciting about new, emerging understandings of endometriosis? What possibilities lie ahead?

**Moderator:** [Professor Stacey Missmer](#) Michigan State U/World Endometriosis Congress

- [Dr Hugh Taylor](#), Yale School of Medicine
- [A/Professor Kate Seear](#), La Trobe U, Author of [The Makings of a Modern Epidemic](#)
- [Prof Krina Zondervan](#), University of Oxford
- [Prof Nicky Hudson](#), De Montfort University

## Panel 5: Speaking Differently About Endometriosis

Why does the way we talk about endometriosis, and the language we use, matter? What new ways of talking about endometriosis could lead to the real-world changes that we need?

**Moderator:** [Dr Stella Bullo](#) Plymouth Marjon U & Language of Endometriosis

- [Emma Cox](#) CEO of Endometriosis UK
- [Lauren R. Kornegay](#) Founder/Executive Director of EndoBlack, Inc.
- [Deborah Bush](#) Founding Principal of World Endometriosis Organisations
- [Neelam Heera-Shergill](#) Founder of Cysters

## Interactive Exercise (via Padlet)

- *What do you see as the main 'take-home' messages of the conference?*
- *How do we begin to implement these going forward?*

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