

Digital Futures?

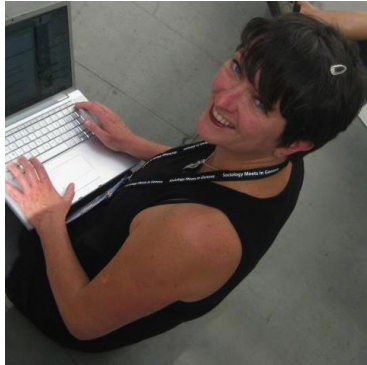
BSA Presidential Event 2018



22 November 2018

Churchill Room, The Treasury, Whitehall, LONDON

SPEAKER PROFILE



JACQUELINE O'REILLY

Title: Work in the Digital Age: Challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution

Bio: Jacqueline O'Reilly is Professor of Comparative Human Resource Management at the University of Sussex Business School. She is co-editor of the book 'Work in the Digital Age' (2018), 'Youth Labor in Transition' (2018) and 'Youth Employment: the STYLE Handbook' (2018). She was coordinator of a EU funded large-scale research project STYLE: Strategic Transitions for Youth Labour in Europe (www.style-research.eu) (2014-17), and UK lead on the EU funded project NEGOTIATE, examining how young people deal with early career insecurity (www.negotiate-research.eu) (2015-18). Her research focuses on the digital transformation of work, international comparisons of gender, ethnic and labour market transitions across the life cycle and on labour market policy evaluation.

Statement:

- Current public debate about the impact of digital technology at work is hampered by considerable hyperbole and speculation. The key policy challenges of digital technologies at work affect job creation and job quality, digital skills formation, labour productivity, emerging inequalities and social protection (Neufeind et al. 2018). We lack systematic and comparative analyses of employers' strategies and practices, workers' attitudes and experiences, in-depth studies that unpack what the use of algorithms and data-driven work constitutes in practice, and the wider societal implications for regulatory governance.
- We need to understand how the UK compares with best cases from other countries. This contribution will provide a brief outline based on evidence from the recently published book 'Work in the Digital Age' drawing on some examples from the EU and Canada.

- Academic engagement with policy makers, businesses and NGOs has been an essential dimension of all my research projects. To identify real problems examined through sound empirical evidence is essential to identify and inform policy making.

Selected links

- Neufeind, M., J. O'Reilly and F. Ranft (2018) (eds.) *Work in the Digital Age: Challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution* (London: Rowman and Littlefield). <https://policynetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Work-in-the-Digital-Age.pdf>
- O'Reilly, J., Leschke, J., Ortlieb, R., Seeleib-Kaiser, M. and Villa, P. (2018) (eds.) *Youth Labour in Transition: Inequalities, Mobility and Policies in Europe* (New York: Oxford University Press) <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/youth-labor-in-transition-9780190864798?cc=gb&lang=en&>
- O'Reilly, J., C. Moyart, T. Nazio and M. Smith (2017) (eds.) 'Youth Employment: STYLE Handbook' (Brighton: CROME). E-book - <https://style-handbook.eu/>
- Zuccotti, C. V. and O'Reilly, J. (2018) 'Ethnicity, Gender and Household Effects on Becoming NEET: An intersectional analysis' *Work, Employment and Society*. Article first published online: January 16, 2018
<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0950017017738945>