

Digital Futures?

BSA Presidential Event 2018



22 November 2018

Churchill Room, The Treasury, Whitehall, LONDON

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Sonia Livingstone

Title: How families are preparing for a digital future and how policy could better support them.

Bio: Sonia Livingstone DPhil (Oxon), FBA, FBPS, FAcSS, FRSA, OBE is a professor in the [Department of Media and Communications](#) at the London School of Economics and Political Science. She is author of 20 books on children's online opportunities and risks, including "[The Class: Living and Learning in the Digital Age](#)." Taking a comparative, critical and contextualised approach, her research examines how the changing conditions of mediation are reshaping everyday practices and possibilities for action, she researches media audiences, especially children's and young people's risks and opportunities, media literacy, and rights in the digital environment. She currently directs the projects "[Children's Data and Privacy Online](#)," "[Global Kids Online](#)" (with UNICEF) and "[Parenting for a Digital Future](#)". Recipient of many honours, she has advised the UK government, European Commission and Council of Europe, among others, on children's internet safety and rights in digital environments. Sonia is chair of the LSE's [Truth, Trust and Technology Commission](#), a former President of the International Communication Association, and founder of the 33 country [EU Kids Online](#) research network. See www.sonialivingstone.net and @Livingstone_S

Key statement for the day: Evidence is vital if policy making is to focus when the need is and to avoid perverse consequences. I believe researchers should engage in dialogue with policy makers throughout the policy development process from conceptualising the problem to evaluating the possible solutions. My research with children and families also brings often-unheard voices into processes that affect them.

Selected publications

- Blum-Ross, A. and Livingstone, S. (2016) *Families and screen time: current advice and emerging research*. LSE Media Policy Project, Media Policy Brief 17. LSE: London, UK. Available at <http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/66927/>
- Livingstone, S. (2017) Risks to children online are increasingly problematic. Is the new internet Safety Strategy the solution? *LSE Media Policy Project*. Available at <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/mediapolicyproject/2017/10/23/risks-to-children-online-are-increasingly-problematic-is-the-new-internet-safety-strategy-the-solution/>
- Livingstone, S. (2018) The value of children's privacy in the regulation of personal data protection. *InterMedia*, 46(2): 18-23. Available at <http://www.icom.org/intermedia/intermedia-july-2018/children-a-special-case-for-privacy>