

The Hublic Sphere
Episode Two Show Notes
Justice for Magdalenes: Reflections on Power
By: Clare Moriarty

In this episode I talked to three leading scholars of carceral institutions in recent Irish history. We discuss the season's theme, 'Power,' in the context of issues relating to gender and Irish institutions, private contracts for so-called "care" schemes and the power of education and personal narrative. We also address the relationships between academia, advocacy and activism.



Memorial seat; St Stephen's Green Park, Dublin.

The speakers have each played significant roles in the groups Justice for Magdalenes and Justice for Magdalenes Research. Justice for Magdalenes (JFM) was established in 2003. JFM's key objectives were to secure an official apology from the Irish State and to establish a compensation scheme for survivors of

the relevant institutions. “JFM was a not-for-profit, totally volunteer-run survivor advocacy group, advocating on behalf of women who spent time in Magdalene Laundries” (‘About JFMR’: <http://jfmresearch.com/aboutjfmr/>). Following the achievement of their primary goals, JFM was dissolved and Justice for Magdalenes Research (JFMR) was established to continue related work in advocacy and public education. “The members of JFMR have been assisting survivors in a personal capacity since before May 2013 and continue to do this work” (‘About JFMR’: <http://jfmresearch.com/aboutjfmr/>).

People

Claire McGettrick; Irish Research Council Postgraduate Scholar, UCD Sociology; Co-Founder, Justice for Magdalenes Research/Adoption Rights Alliance; @cmcgettrick (twitter)

Katherine O’Donnell; Associate Professor, History of Ideas, UCD School of Philosophy; @Ka_ODonnell (twitter)

Maeve O’Rourke; Lecturer & Director of Human Rights Law Clinic, Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway; @maeveorourke (twitter)

Clare Moriarty; Irish Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow, TCD Philosophy; Fellow for Public Philosophy, The Forum; @quiteclare (twitter)

Resources

<http://jfmresearch.com/aboutjfmr/> Justice for Magdalenes Research Website

<http://clannproject.org/> CLANN Project: Ireland’s Unmarried Mothers and their Children

<http://jfmresearch.com/home/restorative-justice/dublin-honours-magdalenes/> Dublin Honours Magdalenes webpage, with links and report.