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.
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