

# Why Care about the Care Review?

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021

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# Professor Brid Featherstone

University of Huddersfield

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# The importance of voice

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‘Who is heard and who is not defines the status quo. Those who embody it, often at the cost of extraordinary silences with themselves, move to the centre; those who embody what is not heard .... are cast out. By redefining whose voice is valued, we redefine our society and its values’

Rebecca Solnit (2017) *The mother of all questions*, London, Granta (p, 18).



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# David Jackson

Author, Expert by care experience



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# Why care about the Independent Review of Children's Social Care?

**Patriche Bentick**

Senior Practitioner – Looked After Children and Care Leavers  
Team, LB of Camden

BASW's Black & Ethnic Professional Symposium

Linkedin: Patriche Bentick

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- Having trained at Goldsmith's College (University of London) and having practiced systemically at LB of Camden, community social work that is tailored to families, sits at the foundation of my practice.
- **BASW's Independent Review of Children's Social Care Steering Group is comprised of multi cultural practitioners who advocate for BASW members and their views.**
- Monthly meetings are held to ensure that the review is being held to account and all important aspects of Social Work will be explored.
- **The 10 priorities have been embedded throughout all of the steering group's responses and will ensure that they are included in the final recommendations.**

Why do I care  
about the  
Independent  
Review of  
Children's Social  
Care?

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- Social Workers have expressed concern surrounding a need for change. With this review, this is a chance for our concerns, thoughts and feelings to be heard.
- **As a review is taking place, change will occur. It is important that we take an active role to help shape this change, instead of allowing change to ‘happen to us’.**
- Social Workers and practitioners are often portrayed negatively, with stigma and stereotypes being unrealistic. This is a change for us to stand up for our profession and paint a true picture.
- **Most leaders are not qualified Social Workers or practitioners, therefore we need to advocate for the communities we work with highlighting what they need.**
- Social Workers and Local Authorities are not to blame for outcomes that could be deemed as negative. Further discussions surrounding the impact emotional/mental labour, political, economic, systemic and systematic issues have on our work.
- **To ensure that Anti-oppressive, Anti-discriminatory and Anti-Racist practice is embedded throughout current and future practice.**

Why Social  
Workers should  
care about the  
Independent  
Review of  
Children’s Social  
Care?

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# What does **all this** mean?

**We don't know.**

Legislation changes?

Funding changes?

Internal structure  
and  
responsibilities

Nationalising?  
One model of SW...  
Central systems for  
safeguarding children

Changes to the 'Social  
Work' role...  
Losing relationship-  
based practice

Deregulating/  
Outsourcing =  
Deskilling of SWs

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# How to Engage with the Care Review

[The independent review of children's social care website](#)

[BASW England's 10 priorities for the Review](#)

[BASW England's response to Case for Change](#)

[Social Work 2020-21 special ed](#)

[CareReviewWatchAlliance](#)

[Article 39/Together Trust Petition](#)

[Importance of the Keep Caring to 18 Campaign](#)

[Celebrating 30 Years of Partnership with the Children Act 1989](#)

- **Call for ideas**
- **250 words by 5pm on 15<sup>th</sup> Dec**
- <https://childrensocialcare.independent-review.uk/call-for-ideas/>