

The CEIEC invites you to a public seminar:
***Joint Learning Initiative on Children and Ethnic Diversity: an
international seminar***

presented by:

Professor Paul Connolly, Queens University

Professor Frances Aboud, McGill University

Wednesday 18th February 2009 5.15-6.15pm | Jim Potter Room, Old Physics Building, University of Melbourne

The Joint Learning Initiative on Children and Ethnic Diversity (JLiced) is a global network of leading researchers, policy-makers and practitioners that aims to reduce ethnic divisions and conflicts and build socially inclusive and respectful communities through the promotion of effective early childhood programs.

The JLiced will do this by:

- **Dissemination** – providing an international platform for the sharing and disseminating of existing research and practice with regard to ethnic diversity and young children
- **Research** – undertaking research to increase our understanding of the ways in which ethnic divisions and conflict impact upon the lives of young children and their families and communities
- **Community Development** – supporting local early childhood organizations, communities and researchers to work in partnership to develop new and innovative early childhood programs aimed at addressing the negative effects of ethnic divisions and conflict
- **Evaluation** – evaluating the effectiveness of early childhood programs in order to contribute to the development of an international evidence base of what types of programs have been found to work for particular children and communities in specific contexts.

Professor Paul Connolly is Co-Director of the JLiced and **Professor Frances Aboud** leads a learning group on program evaluation. This seminar will provide participants with the opportunity to learn more about the JLiced and to engage with leading international scholars researching ethnic diversity in young children's lives and hear about their current work in the area. An opportunity not to be missed.

Paul is Professor of Education at Queen's University Belfast and also Director of the NFER at Queen's Centre for Educational Research (www.qub.ac.uk/nfer). Paul is also Co-Director (along with Tony Gallagher) of the Joint Learning Initiative on Children and Ethnic Diversity (<http://www.jliced.org/>) as well as being Director of Improving Children's Lives, an inter-disciplinary and cross-university initiative at Queen's being established with an initial investment of £2.1 million. Paul has researched and published extensively in the area of race, ethnicity and young children. Much of his research has been ethnographic and concerned with exploring young children's experiences and perspectives and the ways in which race, ethnicity, gender and social class articulate with one another in young children's lives. His books include: *Racism, Gender Identities and Young Children* (1998, Routledge); *Researching Racism in Education* (with Barry Troyna, 1998, Open University Press); and *Boys and Schooling in the Early Years* (2004, Routledge). Paul is also interested in the use of quantitative methods in research with young children and, particularly, the use of experimental and quasi-experimental designs in the evaluation of early childhood programs. He is the founding editor of a new journal – *Effective Education* – to begin publication in March 2009 (Routledge Journals). Further information on his research and publications can be found at: <http://www.paulconnolly.net>

Frances is a professor of Psychology at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. Over the years, she has studied the development of prejudice as well as programs to reduce it. In this context, she has also studied cross-ethnic friendship and ethnic identity, along with name-calling and other forms of inter-group bullying. A second line of research is on early childhood care and education in developing countries, particularly Bangladesh, where she has helped to improve and evaluate preschool and parenting programs for rural children. She has a number of publications on these topics along with two books.

Further information: www.education.unimelb.edu.au/ceiec or www.jliced.org

Enquires and RSVP to: Kate Alexander via email (klal@unimelb.edu.au) or phone (8344 7780)