BIOGRAPHIES

Katie Gilbert

Katie Gilbert is an award-winning advertising consultant and charity executive. Katie was a senior consultant at M&C Saatchi World Services before joining the charity sector working for a creative arts charity and a global nutrition charity. Since then, she has served the constituency of Glasgow Central for around 8 years, supporting people to achieve their full potential in the community. Katie is passionate about leveraging the skills and knowledge of advertising to improve the health and social issues. In 2014, Katie joined M&C Saatchi World Services to focus solely on leveraging advertising campaigns for commercial brands to help achieve social change.

Helen L. Ball

Helen L. Ball is Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Infancy & Sleep Centre (DISC) at Durham University. She founded Basis, the Baby Sleep Information Source in 2012 at Durham University. She is the author of the book “Sleeping with Babies: The Science Behind the Practice” (2015) and editor of “Sleeping Well: From Newborn to Five: A Guide for Parents” (2017). Her research examines the sleep ecology of infants and their parents including interactions of infants and their parents during sleep, infant sleep development, attitudes and practices regarding infant sleep, behavioural and physiological responses to sleep limiting factors, and cultural and biological interactions. She contributes to national and international policy and practice guidelines on infant care.

Helen qualified as a medical doctor from Southampton University and spent six years as a clinician in the UK and South Africa, before entering a career in public health. He spent a further seven years in South Africa with the University of Cape Town and the Health Systems Trust supporting the post-apartheid transformation of South Africa’s health care system. In 2000, he was awarded a Masters of Public Health with honours from the University of Witswatersrand and in 2002 a PhD in Global Public Health from The Institute of Population Health Sciences in Queen Mary University London. He was elected a Foreign Associate of the US Institute of Medicine and, in 2015, he was awarded the WHO Director-General’s Health Leaders Award for outstanding leadership in global health and the Roux Prize in recognition of innovation and excellence in global health research.

Richard Horton

Richard Horton is Editor-in-Chief of The Lancet. He qualified in physiology and medicine with honours from the University of Birmingham in 1986. He joined The Lancet in 1988 and was its South Africa correspondent for seven years. He was Deputy Editor from 1994 to 1997 and was appointed Editor-in-Chief in 1997. He was elected a Foreign Associate of the US Institute of Medicine and, in 2015, he was awarded the WHO Director-General’s Health Leaders Award for outstanding leadership in global health and the Roux Prize in recognition of innovation and excellence in global health research.

David McCoy

David McCoy is the Evidence to Policy Research Lead at the United Nations University International Institute for Global Health, United Nations University, Canada. His research focuses on how to improve the evidence base for the implementation of policies that aim to improve health, including the Children’s Acts in the United States, Ireland and Canada, and the national policy and practice implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across a range of issues from undernutrition and early child development to water, sanitation and hygiene in schools. His research includes a focus on increasing newborn and child health outcomes in low- and middle-income countries through research in hospitals, the community, and his lab, and he contributes to national and international policy and practice guidelines on infant care.

Kathriona Devereux

Kathriona Devereux is an Irish broadcaster and science communicator with programming for Irish and international broadcast. Outside of her professional life, she is a volunteer breastfeeding counsellor with an Irish civic society parent support organization.

Guddi Singh

Guddi Singh is a TV broadcaster and author, specialising in health. As a TV broadcaster, Guddi has appeared on BBC, Channel 4, ITV, Al Jazeera and Sky News. She has appeared on numerous television shows, including The Sunday Politics Show and The Newsnight Review, and has worked as a spokesperson for the National Centre for Creative Health, as well as for UNICEF and the Lancet. He was a co-founder of Independent SAGE which aims to bring science into government decision making. Guddi is passionate about social justice and health equity, and her work has given her a global and critical perspective on health from all levels. She has experience at the World Health Organization and Health Education England, as well as medicine and public health — Guddi is well placed to bring a holistic approach to Covid response.

Anthony Costello

Anthony Costello is Professor of Developmental Origins of Health and Disease at the Institute for Child Health, University College London. He is a world leader in research on the early origins of health and disease with over 700 peer-reviewed publications and over 25,000 citations. From 2003 to 2009, he was a Senior Research Scientist at the Harvard School of Public Health and a Senior Fellow at the International Policy Research Institute. From 2009 to 2015, he was Director of the Policy Research for Nutrition, Education, and Child Protection at the United Nations Children’s Fund, and prior to that was Research Director of the Institute for Child Health in London. He is the co-founder of Independent SAGE which aims to bring science into government decision making. Anthony is a co-founder of the Children in All Policies 2030 programme supported by WHO, and speaks on a variety of topics related to public health, including childhood obesity, population health, and the evaluation of social and economic policies in order to promote positive health outcomes.

Alison Dowling

Alison Dowling is a Scottish Labour politician. Since 2015, she is Member of Parliament for Glasgow Central. Prior to her election as an MP, she served as Glasgow Councillor for the Calton Ward in the East End. Alison was the Glasgow SNP Council Group’s spokesperson on Land and Environmental Services, and she takes a keen interest in research and development and science and technology, including the potential of 5G in the city and green energy. Since then, she has served the constituency of Glasgow Central for around 8 years, supporting people to achieve their full potential in the community.

Katie O’Grady

Katie O’Grady is a member of the public policy team managing the SAGE and Rota (with Ben Murrell), and advising on policy and practice in relation to COVID-19. She is a Research Fellow at the Institute for Child Health in London and a former Research Associate at the Centre for Maternal and Child Health. She is a member of SAGE’s education sub-group and is also an Associate Editor for Sleep Health, journal of the US National Sleep Foundation (all voluntary positions). Katie recently completed an MSc in child health policy at the Institute of Population Health Sciences in Queen Mary University London. She has a BA (Hons) in politics and history from the University of Birmingham and an MA in international policy and practice guidelines on infant care.

David Field

David Field is a professor of global public health at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. He is the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of SAGE, a global independent scientific advisory group that provides evidence on COVID-19 to governments and the public. Prior to the pandemic, he was a professor in public health at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and a member of WHO’s committee on COVID-19, where he has contributed to the development of international policy and practice guidelines on infant care. He was a key member of WHO’s Child Health and Maternal Health research group, which led the development of the Future & Higher Education in 2018. He is also a co-founder of the Child Health Nutrition Knowledge Network, which is a global platform for research and knowledge on child health and nutrition.