

**CRIM KNOWLEDGE<sup>®</sup>**

**CRIMIKNOWLEDGE PRESENTS**

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# **NATURE v NURTURE**

## **A BESPOKE FULL DAY CRIMINOLOGY CONFERENCE**

### **CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

This unique event explores one of the biggest questions in Criminology: What causes people to commit crime?

Over the course of this one-day conference, there will be a range of interactive and engaging lectures from some of the UK's leading names in Criminology. Our keynote speaker and host on the day is one of the UK's most influential public criminologists, star of ITV's Bring Back Borstal and presenter of Channel 5's Killer Psychopaths, Professor David Wilson.

Professor Wilson will open the conference and give an introductory lecture entitled "What is Criminology?" This lecture will provide students with an introduction to the academic discipline of Criminology and discusses how the following lectures are all linked to the fundamental criminological question: why do people choose to commit crime?

Notably, our conferences include a question and answer session with Noel 'Razor' Smith, one of the UK's most prolific ex-bank robbers. Noel discusses in detail, his life story exploring the choices he made that lead to him spending over 30 years in prison.

Other speakers on the day include: Dr. Elizabeth Yardley, Director of the Centre for Applied Criminology at Birmingham City University; Professor Graham Pike, Professor of Forensic Cognition at the Open University; Craig Pinkney BA (Hons) MA (Crim), Lecturer in Criminology at University College Birmingham and Urban Youth Specialist; and, Liam Brolan, a PhD student in Criminology at Birmingham City University and founder of CrimiKnowledge.

Throughout the day, students will be encouraged to think critically about the material being presented so that they are able to formulate their own views and opinions on the topics in discussion.

# OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

CrimiKnowledge has access to some of the countries leading experts in Criminology, Psychology and Sociology. We pride ourselves on the quality and integrity of the speakers at our conferences.

Speaking exclusively at the Nature v Nurture bespoke one-day criminology conference will be:

## **Professor David Wilson:**

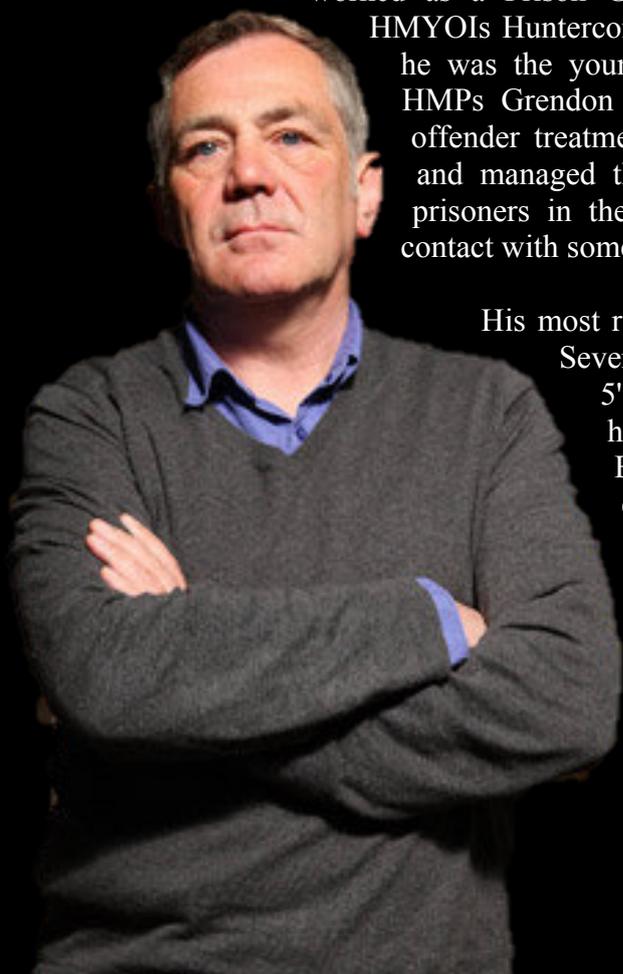
David Wilson is Professor of Criminology and the founding Director of the Centre for Applied Criminology at Birmingham City University. Prior to taking up an academic appointment in 1997, David was a Prison Governor and at 29 became the youngest governing governor in England.

He worked at Grendon, Wormwood Scrubs and at Woodhill in Milton Keynes - where he designed and ran the two units for the 12 most violent prisoners in the country, which brought him into contact with virtually every recent serial killer. David regularly appears in the print and broadcast media as a commentator and presenter.

David completed his PhD at Selwyn College Cambridge in 1983, and immediately joined HM Prison Service as Assistant Governor at HMP Wormwood Scrubs. He worked as a Prison Governor at a variety of establishments, including HMYOIs Huntercombe and Finsbury Wood – where at the age of 29 he was the youngest governing Governor in the country – and at HMPs Grendon and Woodhill. At HMP Grendon he ran the sex offender treatment programme, and at HMP Woodhill he designed and managed the two specialist units for the 12 most disruptive prisoners in the penal system. This experience brought him into contact with some of the most notorious criminals in the country.

His most recent TV appearances have included presenting The Seven Faces of Murder on ITV's This Morning, Channel 5's Killers Behind Bars - which David presented, and he will be seen presenting the new ITV1 series Bring Back Borstal in 2015 and a new series for Channel 5 called First Kill, Last Kill.

*“I am really looking forward to speaking at the upcoming CrimiKnowledge conferences. It is a great opportunity for A-Level students to actively participate in the topics in discussion – a valuable skill when studying at undergraduate level.”*



## Noel 'Razor' Smith:

Noel 'Razor' Smith (born in 1960, in London) has fifty-eight criminal convictions and has spent the greater portion of his adult life in prison. Whilst in prison he taught himself to read and write, gained an Honours Diploma from The London School of Journalism and an A-Level in Law. He has been awarded a number of Koestler awards for his writing and has contributed articles to the Independent, the Guardian, Punch, the Big Issue, the New Statesman and the New Law Journal. Smith served a life-sentence for armed robbery. His autobiography, *A Few Kind Words and a Loaded Gun* was published by Penguin in 2004. He then went on to write *A Rusty Gun: Facing Up To a Life of Crime* in 2010 after serving at the unique rehabilitation prison HMP Grendon, and moving to HMP Blantyre House and being released on May 12, 2010.

He grew up in the Holloway Road area and in Balham. He was first arrested for stealing apples and at that time had a positive view of the police. However, whilst playing truant from school at the age of 14 with a friend, he was picked up by the burglary squad and was beaten and tortured by them. They were then forced to confess to a series of burglaries that they had never committed. When the case came to court, he admitted to making-up the burglaries and the magistrate ordered the police to investigate, leading to the charges being dismissed and being recommended to sue the police. This then led to harassment by the police on several occasions, for example raiding the family home to the extent where they had no option but to drop the charges.

In his own words, he 'threw [himself] into crime'. 'It was like an all out war for me' and this led to Smith being sent to a detention center. At the age of 16 he appeared at the Old Bailey for armed robbery and possession of firearms and sentenced to 3 years. He used the contacts that he made during this sentence to become a professional robber, and spent his life as a professional criminal in and out of prison.

He committed over 200 bank robberies and was given a 26 year sentence, of which he served 11 years, and spent most of it reading.

He was released in 1997, but was jailed for life on the two-strikes act, after a robbery spree.

*"Having spoken at a CrimiKnowledge event in the past, I am excited about the opportunity to share my story again, but this time with students and teachers from across the country. I will try to answer as many questions as possible!"*



# ALSO SPEAKING...

## **Dr Elizabeth Yardley:**

**Reader in Criminology - Centre for Applied Criminology  
Birmingham City University**

Elizabeth began her academic career at Aston University, where she completed a BSc in Politics and Sociology before going on to embark upon her PhD, which explored marginalised young women's experiences of social policy. Upon completion of her PhD she worked as a Research Fellow at Aston, contributing to several research projects exploring society and social policy from a gendered perspective.

Following on from this, Elizabeth spent some time working in the private sector as a consultant, project managing a wide range of commissioned research for national and local clients including the British Red Cross, Alcohol Concern, Wolverhampton City PCT, Staffordshire County Council, Birmingham City Council, Wolverhampton City Council and Sandwell MBC.

## **Professor Graham Pike:**

**Professor of Forensic Cognition  
Open University**

Graham is Professor of Forensic Psychology at The Open University, where he is Director of both the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Criminology and Forensic Psychology. His research explores the psychology of eyewitness testimony, particularly how to use technology and new policing procedures to improve its accuracy.

## **Craig Pinkney BA (Hons) MA (Crim):**

**Lecturer in Criminology  
University College Birmingham - Urban Youth Specialist**

Craig Pinkney is a Criminologist, Urban Youth Specialist, Lecturer and director of Real ActionUK a charitable, outreach organisation based in Birmingham (UK), which specialises in working with disaffected youth. He is an experienced youth worker and has a BA (Hons) in Youth & Community Development and a Master's degree in Criminology.

Craig Pinkney has over 12 years experience as an outreach worker, transformational speaker, gang exit strategist, mediator, mentor and filmmaker. Craig Pinkney is well known for working with some of the cities most challenging young people, potentially high-risk offenders, victims of gang violence and youth who are deemed as hard to reach.

Note: Exact speakers on the day may vary subject to availability. Keynote speakers will remain the same.

# EVENT DETAILS:

## **London:**

**Date:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016

**Start Time:** 10:00

**End Time:** 16:00

### **Location:**

The Emmanuel Centre:  
Marsham Street,  
London,  
Westminster  
SW1P 3DW

## **Birmingham:**

**Date:** Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016

**Start Time:** 10:00

**End Time:** 16:00

### **Location:**

Edgbaston Stadium,  
Edgbaston Road,  
Birmingham,  
West Midlands,  
B5 7QU

## **Manchester:**

**Date:** Thursday 4th February 2016

**Start Time:** 10:00

**End Time:** 16:00

### **Location:**

Kings House Conference Centre,  
King's Church,  
Sidney Street,  
Manchester,  
M1 7HB

# MAKING A BOOKING:

## Price:

Tickets are £25.00 per student.

1 free teacher ticket for every 10 student tickets purchased.

Note: No deposit is required. The full amount must be paid at least 2 working weeks prior the event date. No refunds will be given. Payment can be made via BACS through PayPal or via invoice.

## To Make a Booking:

To order your tickets please send the following information by email or via post:

- The Date and Venue of the conference you wish to attend;
- Your name (organizer); the name and postal address and contact number of the school at which you work;
- The number of tickets required for students and teachers.

## Email:

[liam@crimiknowledge.com](mailto:liam@crimiknowledge.com)

## Post:

CrimiKnowledge Ltd.

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Birmingham  
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## Contact:

Twitter - [@crimiknowledge](https://twitter.com/crimiknowledge)

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