Modern Slavery:
Prediction, Prevention, Policies

This is a joint event between the Centre for Statistics and the Edinburgh Futures Institute aiming to promote collaboration between social scientists and statisticians who are interested in research in the area of tackling modern slavery related issues, including prediction of the hidden population size, prevention, and related policies. The keynote speaker is Sir Bernard Silverman and there are short talks showcasing the research done at the University of Edinburgh in this area.

Some seed funding may be available for the development of collaborative interdisciplinary projects with the Centre for Statistics. Please see this link for more information.

Date: Wednesday 3rd May 2023

Location: Lecture Theatre B- School of Mathematics- James Clerk Maxwell Building (JCMB)- Peter Guthrie Tait Road- King's Buildings Campus- Edinburgh- EH9 3FD
(Please see JCMB on the campus map, Lecture Theatre B is on the third floor)

Programme of the day:

9:30- 9:45	Welcome
9:45- 10:25	2 short talks
10:30- 11:30	Keynote seminar and Q&A
11:30- 11:45	Coffee break
11:45- 12:25	2 short talks
12:25- 12:30	Closing remarks and group photo
12:30- 13:30	Lunch and informal discussions

Keynote Seminar:

Statistics and the fight against Modern Slavery
Sir Bernard Silverman FRS

Abstract: Florence Nightingale used statistical arguments to address pressing human welfare issues of her day, but was it evidence-based policy or policy-based evidence? Did that matter? Does reflection on her work give us any guidance for problems of today? Statistics have been a pivotal component of the fight against Modern Slavery, in ways I will discuss. But how reliable are they? And how should we treat statistics that are of dubious accuracy?

Modelling approaches in this field often involve choosing from a very large number of possible models using some criterion. How can we take account of that model choice when finding error bands, rather than just conditioning on the model chosen?

Short Talks:

9:45- 10:05	**Data Futures: Learning from Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse** Deborah Fry; Personal Chair of International Child Protection Research; Institute for Education, Community and Society, and Childlight
10:05- 10:25	**Violence Against Children: Measurement, Challenges & Action** Catherine Maternowska; Professor of Violence Prevention for Young People; Institute for Education, Community and Society
11:45- 12:05	**Multiple Systems Estimation: Dealing with Censored Data** Ruth King; The Thomas Bayes Chair of Statistics; School of Mathematics
12:05- 12:25	**Common Methodological Challenges in Multiple Systems Estimation** Serveh Sharifi; Lecturer in Mathematical Data Sciences; School of Mathematics