Guest lecture

Professor Nancy Lombard, Glasgow Caledonian University

The personal is political: Feminism, Scotland, domestic abuse and justice work

26 th October 2026, **14.15–15.15**

Venue: Linna, K103

In Scotland feminists have been an important driving force not simply in placing the issue of domestic abuse on the public and political agenda, but in successfully establishing the issue as a gender-based problem. The lecture will begin by examining Lombard's early role in this process.
Scotland's record of accomplishment in tackling issues such as stalking and coercive control has been identified as an exemplar. However, it is important to recognise that the Scottish Criminal Justice System (SCJS) is not designed inherently, to meet the needs of those victimised. Lombard will highlight her research with victim-survivors and her construction of the term 'Justice Work' to identify a significant and common experience for the majority of participants detailing her work with both the Scottish Government and Scottish Sentencing Council.

She concludes with an overview of her current research examining how victim-survivors frequently experience stress and frustration due to conflicting court processes and expectations and how the findings aim to transform court processes and improve outcomes for victim-survivors.



Nancy Lombard is a Professor in Sociology and Social Policy. Her research pushes theoretical boundaries providing an innovative contribution to the understandings of the global issues of gender and violence and has demonstrable impact. Her findings have led to policy change and investment in gender equality programmes across health, education and the voluntary sector. Professor Lombard has recently completed work funded by the Scottish Government exploring women's experiences of the criminal justice system when reporting domestic abuse and stalking and with the Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service examining what victim-survivors think about the sentences received by perpetrators of domestic abuse. She was a partner in a three year Horizon project across nine countries in Europe looking at Innovative Solutions to Eliminate Domestic Abuse (ISEDA). Her current research examines the intersections between the criminal and civil courts in cases of domestic abuse. Nancy is also a disability advocate and sits on the board of Independence, an inclusive dance company based in Glasgow.