

Evan Odell

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Education

MSc in Comparative Social Policy

University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

2014 – 2015

Visiting Student

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

2013 – 2014

BA (Honours) in Political Science

Laurentian University, Sudbury/Barrie, Canada

2009 – 2014

Skill Highlights

- Quantitative research, primarily with R
- Qualitative research and analysis
- \LaTeX
- Data visualisation, both static and interactive
- Broadcast and print media interviews

Professional Experience

Researcher

Disability Rights UK

June 2016 - present

- Responsible for policy work on employment issues, and research on any additional issues prioritised by Disability Rights UK. This included writing briefing papers for internal and external use, responding to consultations, monitoring government policy developments and work from other sources.
- Produced statistical briefing papers and presentations based on my analysis of a range of sources, using national and international surveys and administrative data.
- Primary researcher and annual report author evaluating “Bridge to Work”, a City Bridge Trust-funded programme of training, work experience and employer engagement to increase young disabled people’s employment. The evaluation focuses on changes in employer attitudes and overall impact on participant employment.
- Lead researcher and programme manager for project on £40,000 research project on young people’s attitudes to disability, conducted with the Centre for Education and Youth. I recruited and managed a steering group of young disabled people to determine the focus of the project and provide feedback on our research questions and findings.
- Undertook small, mixed-method research projects on healthcare inequalities, the effectiveness of peer support interventions, attitudes to inclusive education, and the potential impact of different disability benefit reforms.
- Delivering training and presenting research work to external audiences.

Instructor in Health Studies

Queen’s University, Bader International Study Centre

May 2019

- Designed and taught “Disability Studies: Issues, Research and Policy”, a final-year undergraduate course with a particular focus on employment issues and comparative analysis of welfare states.

Data Analyst (Freelance)

London Business School

June 2018 – October 2018

- Analysed speeches in Hansard to identify differences in the topics and language style between male and female Labour MPs, and between female Labour MPs selected through open or all-women shortlists.
- Designed a methodology using structured topic models, and wrote out my methods and produced data visuals and statistical tables for use in a future paper on the subject.

Performance and Impact Officer

The Future Leaders Trust

October 2015 – June 2016

- Conducted primary and secondary analysis of school performance data, disseminated results internally through presentations and internal reports, and externally through press releases.
- Co-authored the first original research report published by the Trust, responsible for data collection and methodology, and contributed to the writing of the report.

Research and Teaching Assistant

Laurentian University

October 2012 – April 2013

- Responsible for locating, summarising and organising research material for two professors in Political Science and English Literature, respectively.

Projects

Bridge to Work Programme Evaluation

Primary researcher and annual report author

January 2018 – December 2023

Funder: City Bridge Trust

£100,000

Disabled People Accessing Community-Based Activities

Lead researcher and report author

February 2020 – March 2020

Funder: NHS Personalised Care Group

£10,000

Access to Advice Services in London

Data analyst and report author

December 2019 – February 2020

Funder: Nuffield Foundation

£5,000

Inclusive Education and Co-Production

Principle investigator

December 2018 – June 2019

Funder: European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities

£4,000

Young People's Attitudes to Disability

Lead researcher and report author

April 2018 – August 2019

Funder: Disability Research on Independent Living & Learning (DRILL)

£40,000

Professional Memberships

- Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society
- Fellow of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce

Publications

Peer Reviewed Articles

Odell, E. (2017). Lonely schools: The relationship between geographic isolation and academic attainment. *Educational Research*, 59(3), 257–272. DOI: [10.1080/00131881.2017.1339285](https://doi.org/10.1080/00131881.2017.1339285)

Reports and Preprints

Hale, C., Benstead, S., Lyus, J., **Odell, E.**, & Ruddock, A. (2020). Energy Impairment and Disability Inclusion. The Centre for Welfare Reform.

centreforwelfarereform.org/uploads/attachment/681/energy-impairment-and-disability-inclusion.pdf

Odell, E. (2020). Getting it right the first time: Financial penalties to improve disability benefit assessments. *LawArXiv*. DOI: [10.31228/osf.io/jksyp](https://doi.org/10.31228/osf.io/jksyp)

Odell, E. (2019). Special or Unique: Young People's Attitudes to Disability. Disability Rights UK. drilluk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/DR-UK-Special-or-Unique-August-2019.pdf

Aston, J., Bennett, L., Murphy, H., **Odell, E.**, & Stevens, T. (2019). External evaluation of the Bridge to Work Programme. City Bridge Trust.

citybridgetrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Bridge-to-Work-Year-1-report.pdf

Odell, E. (2018). Disability, Rights and Vulnerability in British Parliamentary Debate. *SocArXiv*. DOI: [10.31235/osf.io/tqf5j](https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/tqf5j)

Theobald, K., & **Odell, E.** (2015). Isolated schools: Out on a limb. Future Leaders Trust.

future-leaders.org.uk/documents/195/Isolated_schools_Out_on_a_limb.pdf

R Packages

Odell, E. (2020). threesixtygiving: Download Charitable Grants from the '360Giving' Platform. github.com/evanodell/threesixtygiving

Odell, E. (2019). guardianapi: Access the 'Guardian' newspaper open data API.

github.com/evanodell/guardianapi

Odell, E., & Tierney, N. (2019). ukpolice: Download Data on UK Police and Crime.

github.com/evanodell/ukpolice

Odell, E. (2019). cqcr: Access 'Care Quality Commission' Data. github.com/evanodell/cqcr

Odell, E. (2018). nomisr: Access Nomis UK Labour Market Data. *Journal of Open Source Software*, 3(27), 859. DOI: [10.21105/joss.00859](https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.00859)

Odell, E. (2018). fixerapi: An R Client for the 'Fixer.io' Currency API.

github.com/evanodell/fixerapi

Odell, E. (2018). refuge: Locate Trans and Intersex-Friendly Toilets. github.com/evanodell/refuge

Odell, E. (2017). hansard: Accessing Westminster Parliament Data. github.com/evanodell/hansard

Odell, E. (2017). mnis: Easy Downloading Capabilities for the Members' Name Information Service. github.com/evanodell/mnis

Odell, E. (2017). parlitools: Tools for Analysing UK Politics. github.com/evanodell/parlitools

Datasets

Odell, E. (2019). Hansard Speeches V2.6.1 [dataset]. DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.780985](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.780985)

Referees

- Liz Sayce, JRF Practitioner Fellow, International Inequalities Institute, London School of Economics. liz@lizsayce.me.uk
- Michael Johns, Associate Professor of Political Science, Laurentian University. mjohns@laurentian.ca