

# Mikaela Brough

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## Profile

A PhD researcher in the CDT in Cyber Security for the Everyday at Royal Holloway, University of London. My interests are in social aspects of security and privacy.

## Education

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|----------------|---|
| 2022 – Present | <b>Royal Holloway, University of London</b> – Egham, UK<br>PhD in Information Security<br>Centre for Doctoral Training in Cybersecurity<br>Supervisors: Prof. Rikke Jensen, Prof. Martin Albrecht |
| 2020 – 2021    | <b>University of Oxford</b> – Oxford, UK<br>MSc in Social Anthropology<br>Supervisor: Dr. Ina Zharkevich <i>1:1 Distinction</i> .   |
| 2015 – 2019    | <b>McGill University</b> – Montreal, Canada<br>BA in History and Art History, Minor in Political Science<br><i>GPA: 3.6.</i>  |

## Publications

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|------|--|
| 2022 | <b>Father-toddler bonding during the Covid-19 lockdown: Qualitative insights from 17 families in Britain</b><br>Paula Sheppard, Mikaela Brough<br><i>Social Sciences</i> |
| 2022 | <b>Fertility Decision-Making in the UK: Insights from a qualitative study among British men and women</b><br>Mikaela Brough, Paula Sheppard<br><i>Social Sciences</i>    |

2021     **Review of “Benno Herzog, Invisibilization of Suffering: A Moral Grammar of Disrespect”**  
Mikaela Brough  
*Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford*

2024     **Several titles submitted / under review**

## Awards and Funding

2022     International PhD Funding with Living Stipend (Department of Information Security, Royal Holloway, University of London)  
*Awarded through the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council of UK Research and Innovation. Grant: 2751135.*

2022     Prof David Parkin Prize in Ethnographic Materials (School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography)  
*Awarded to the best use of ethnography in an MSc Dissertation. Amount: £200*

2021     Distinction (School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, University of Oxford)

2019     Distinction (Canadian Equivalent) (McGill University)

## Research experience

June 2023 –     **PhD Fieldwork**  
present     Supervisors: Dr. Rikke Bjerg Jensen (Royal Holloway), Professor Martin Albrecht (Kings College London)  
Ethnographic fieldwork in the UK and the Southern Philippines for PhD thesis. Recruitment, Data Collection (interviewing, participant observation, focus groups, workshops, etc.).

August 2021 –     **Research Assistant**  
January 2022     Principal Investigator: Dr. Paula Sheppard (University of Oxford)  
Qualitative research project on UK fertility gap/decline. Summary of findings available [here](#) and [here](#). Recruitment, Data Collection, Data Analysis, Writing, Editing, Publishing.

June 2018 –     **Salapia Exploration Project**  
August 2018     Mentors: Dr. Darian Totten (McGill University), Dr. Roberto Goffredo (Università degli studi di Foggia)

## Teaching experience

September 2023 – present	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> Department of Information Security, Royal Holloway Selected Courses: Security Management, Introduction to Cryptography
January 2024 – present	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> Department of Computer Science, Royal Holloway Selected Courses: Programming Fundamentals, User-Centred Design, Databases
January 2018 – July 2018	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> HSM Adult Education Centre Course: English as a Third Language

## Talks / Conferences

August 2024	<b>Presenter and Workshop Lead</b> – Talking about Information Security <i>Various (x4 venues), Cebu, Philippines.</i>
April 2024	<b>Presenter</b> – On the Virtues of Information Security in the UK Climate Movement <i>ReCAP, Re-imagining Cryptography and Privacy, Massachusetts, USA.</i>
April 2024	<b>Presenter and Participant</b> – Navigating the high / low risk binary in information security research <i>Looking for Everyday Security, London, England.</i>
June 2023	<b>Presenter</b> – Exploring Secure Messaging and Perceptions of Risk: A Literature Review <i>STS Italia, Bologna, Italy.</i>
April 2022	<b>Presenter</b> – Fertility Decision Making in the UK: Insights from a qualitative study across British social classes <i>European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association conference at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany.</i>

## Relevant industry experience

2016 - 2020	<b>Researcher (Boxing Cats Productions)</b> – Toronto, Canada
Summer 2020	<b>Canadian Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance Officer (First Canadian Title)</b> – Oakville, Canada

## Reviewing

September 2022	<b>Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health</b> Peer review
September 2023	<b>USENIX Security Symposium</b> Peer review

## Other

### Programming Languages

- *Proficient in:* Python, R
- *Familiar with:* C, Java

### Research and Soft Skills

- *Methodology:* Proficiency in qual data collection and analysis (interviewing, participant observation, focus groups, thematic analysis), proficiency in discourse analysis (both qual and quant), good knowledge of quant data collection and analysis (surveys, questionnaires, statistical analysis, data visualisation using R), good knowledge of Participatory Action Research (PAR) methods.
- *Communication and outreach:* Proficiency in communicating across disciplines, public speaking to a variety of audiences, fostering participant relationships, recruitment across cultural lines, and ethically engaged research principles and practices.
- *Collaboration:* Good knowledge of how to position and communicate a qual project within a mixed methods or interdisciplinary project, proficiency in working collaboratively with research participants on shared goals outside research (real-world impact).
- *Theory:* Proficiency in all major anthropological / sociological theories from past 100 years, contemporary ethnographic theory, cultural history of CS, contemporary debates in CS.

## **IT Skills**

- *Networking*: Good knowledge of network protocols, architecture
- *Cryptography*: Good knowledge of standard cryptographic protocols and key management
- *Operating systems*: Proficiency in OS fundamentals (memory management, file systems, how to configure and manage settings) on Mac, Windows, and Linux
- *Scripting*: Good knowledge of scripting languages (Bash, Python, Powershell)
- *Front end*: Fair knowledge of JavaScript, CSS, and HTML
- *Other*: Good knowledge of frequentist statistics, SQL databases

## **Languages**

English (fluent), Italian (advanced), French (intermediate), Cebuano Bisaya (basic)