LECTURE ABSTRACT:
This presentation will take a critical look at whether women law-breakers should be considered offender-victims or victim-offenders. Using data drawn from a range of studies in the UK, including research empirical findings of her own (and with reference to comparative data), the paper will highlight the need to address issues relating to victimization, whether this be in relation to women caught up in human trafficking or women caught up in shoplifting. The argument will be that we need to address broad pathways into crime and broad notions of justice in dealing with women in the criminal justice system, and that ultimately, justice reinvestment is required. That is, with proper attention to women’s broad crime related (criminogenic) needs then we can reduce the use of imprisonment, and work towards a type of ‘justice’ which carries legitimacy. Along the way Loraine will refer to some positive policy steps in England and Wales to change things, but will also point to the fact that sometimes it is a case of ‘three steps forwards and four steps backwards’.

SHORT RESUME: Loraine Gelsthorpe is Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Deputy Director, and Director of the newly established Centre for Community, Gender and Social Justice at the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge, UK, and a Fellow at Pembroke College. She worked in psychiatric nursing and residential child care for a short period before developing an academic career, and maintains strong interests in social work practice. Her academic work has revolved around women, crime and criminal justice, youth justice, and community penalties – having previously led major research on what used to be called Community Service Orders and on Pre-sentence Reports. Loraine is also Director of the Cambridge ESRC Doctoral Training Centre across the Social Sciences within the University of Cambridge, and Joint Founder and Convenor of CAMMIGRES (an interdisciplinary network of researchers within the University doing work on migration). She is also the current President of the British Society of Criminology and chairs the European Society of Criminology Working Group on Gender, Crime and Justice.
Loraine’s recent and current work includes: criminal justice responses to human trafficking, migration and crime, women and sentencing, and criminal justice and the arts – looking particularly at through the gate possibilities. She is a trustee of Women’s BreakOut – a national network of women’s community centres (http://www.womensbreakout.org.uk).

Loraine is also a (UKCP registered) psychoanalytical psychotherapist in her spare time. Selected publications for your interest: all available on Loraine’s University website page: http://www.crim.cam.ac.uk/people/academic_research/loraine_gelsthorpe/

- Provision for Women Offenders in the Community (2007) (with G. Sharpe and J. Roberts), London: Fawcett Society

Loraine’s most recent book is: Restorative Justice and Family Violence (edited by Anne Hayden, Allison Morris, Loraine Gelsthorpe and Venezia Kingi) (Ashgate, June 2014)