

Publics and their Health: Historical Perspectives, Future Directions
28-29 June 2018
Institute of Historical Research, London

Call for Papers

Who or what is the public within public health? How have publics and their health changed over time and place? What makes 'public health', public? Surprisingly little attention has been devoted to these crucial questions. At this conference, we aim to explore the changing nature of public health, and the public which it serves, at different times and in various locations. We welcome contributions from any discipline that takes a historical perspective to thinking about publics and public health in the past, present and future.

We invite papers on topics such as:

- The nature of the public and its relationship to health
- The role of emotion in understanding publics and their health
- Conceptions of place, publics and public health
- Methodological approaches to understanding publics
- The changing nature of public health problems
- Tactical approaches to altering public behaviour
- Public involvement, participation and resistance
- Attempts to speak for and to the public
- The relationship between public and private health and self-care
- Problem, risky and at risk publics
- Limits to the public, non-publics and citizenship

Proposals that address the themes of the conference in any historical period or geographical context are encouraged. Presentations will be limited to 20 minutes in length. We also welcome panel submissions of up to three speakers. Please submit proposals, including a 300-word abstract and speaker's contact details to placingthepublic@gmail.com by 9 February 2018.

The conference will be free to attend and reasonable travel expenses for speakers will be covered.

This conference is part of the Wellcome Trust funded project [Placing the Public in Public Health: Public Health in Britain, 1948-2010](#). The project is based in the [Centre for History in Public Health](#) at the [London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine](#).

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