

# FOR EXPOSING BRITAIN'S SOCIAL EVILS 2018

### EMBARGOED UNTIL 00:01HRS, TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018

Longlists for The Orwell Prize 2018 were announced today, featuring the Orwell Prize for Exposing Britain's Social Evils, sponsored and supported by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. The Orwell Prize is Britain's most prestigious prize for political writing.

- The Orwell Prize for Exposing Britain's Social Evils supports and encourages original, insightful and impactful reporting on social issues in the UK.
- The Prize rewards multi-media stories which are reported across one or more platform, including reporting via social media, audio (including podcasts), video, photojournalism and journalistic writing.
- Diverse list features entries from BuzzFeed and Manchester Evening News alongside features from ITV Granada, and rapper and documentary maker Professor Green.
- Stories on issues ranging from child poverty to the housing crisis. "The recurring themes were ones Orwell would have recognised" (Felicity Lawrence, judge).

### The longlist for The Orwell Prize for Exposing Britain's Social Evils 2018 is:

- The Lost Childhoods David Cohen (Evening Standard)
- Her Name Was Lindy Andy Davies, Anja Popp, Dai Baker (Channel 4 News)
- The Mounting Scandal of London Housing Associations John Harris (The Guardian)
- The Reality of Child Poverty Dan Hewitt & Mat Heywood (ITV Granada)
- The New Arrivals Kate Lyons (The Guardian)
- **Professor Green: Living in Poverty** Stephen Manderson & Chris McClaughin (Garden Productions for BBC THREE & BBC ONE)
- The Housing Crisis Anna Minton (Freelance)
- On the Edge Sarah O'Connor, John Burn-Murdoch and Christopher Nunn (Financial Times)
- **Behind Locked Doors** Joe Plomin (BBC Panorama)
- This Man Had His Leg Broken in Four Places Because He Is Gay Patrick Strudwick (BuzzFeed UK)
- Four young black men die: were they killed by the police? Mark Townsend (The Observer)
- **Spice** Jennifer Williams (Manchester Evening News)

## THE ORWELL PRIZE

The judges for the Orwell Prize for Exposing Britain's Social Evils 2018 are **Campbell Robb** (Chief Executive, Joseph Rowntree Foundation), **Farrah Storr** (Editor, *Cosmopolitan*), journalist and winner of the 2017 Prize, **Felicity Lawrence** and **Nicholas Timmins** (Senior Fellow at the King's Fund and former public policy commentator at the *Financial Times*).

Campbell Robb of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation said:

"This longlist is diverse, thoughtful, brave, challenging and above all absorbing. As a first time Orwell judge my job was extremely difficult, but these twelve really stood out and spoke to the values which Orwell represents so powerfully."

Felicity Lawrence, winner of The Orwell Prize 2017 said:

"There was an impressive range of entries... this year and the recurring themes were ones Orwell would have recognised - the lasting impact of poverty, the brutal realities of prejudice, the long arm of Russia, and our callous treatment of the down and out."

The Orwell Prize for Exposing Britain's Social Evils, sponsored and supported by the JRF, is named in recognition of the task Joseph Rowntree gave his organization to 'search out the underlying causes of weakness or evil' that lay behind Britain's social problems.

The shortlist for The Orwell Prize for Exposing Britain's Social Evils will be announced at The Bath Festival, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The winners of each £3000 prize will be announced at The Orwell Prize ceremony at the RSA, London, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

This is the fourth year The Orwell Foundation has awarded The Orwell Prize for Exposing Britain's Social Evils: previous winners include Alison Holt for her reporting of care of the elderly and vulnerable and Nicci Gerrard for her writing about Dementia *The Observer*.

### **ENDS**

#### Notes to Editors

- 1. The Orwell Foundation is a registered charity (1161563) providing free cultural events and resources for the public benefit. Every year, the Foundation awards The Orwell Prize, Britain's most prestigious prize for political writing, to the work which comes closest to George Orwell's ambition 'to make political writing into an art'. There are three prizes: for Books, Journalism and Exposing Britain's Social Evils.
- 2. The Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) is an independent social change organisation working to solve UK poverty. Through research, policy, collaboration and practical solutions, we aim to inspire action and change that will



- create a prosperous UK without poverty. For more information go to www.jrf.org.uk
- 3. The Orwell Prize 2018 is for work published in the calendar year 2018. For more details and rules of entry please visit <a href="https://www.orwellfoundation.com">www.orwellfoundation.com</a>
- 4. The Orwell Foundation is supported by Political Quarterly, Richard Blair (George Orwell's son), the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and private donations. The Foundation is based at University College London, home to the Orwell Archive and the annual Orwell Lecture. Recent Orwell lecturers include Ian Hislop, Ruth Davidson and author and comedian A. L. Kennedy.

For more information about The Orwell Prize for Exposing Britain's Social Evils, and images, please contact Jeremy Wikeley at <a href="mailto:jeremy.wikeley@orwellfoundation.com">jeremy.wikeley@orwellfoundation.com</a> or 020 3108 1618