

**Narrative Report submitted in response to the travel grant provided by the Centre
for European Studies at Carleton University. Funding Recipient: Angeline Jones, MA
Candidate in Social/Cultural Anthropology**

In the academic year spanning 2011-2012, I received funding from the Centre for European Studies at Carleton University to support sociocultural fieldwork I conducted in Glasgow, Scotland, in order to collect data required for the completion of my Master's thesis.

My research explored why Scotland has comparatively poor health compared to the rest of Western Europe, a phenomenon which has earned the moniker of 'the Glasgow Effect'. Due to time restrictions and the enormity of this subject matter I focused on one particular area; mature women and alcohol. My research explored what women living in Glasgow know about alcohol and the extent to which these women's knowledge, practices, attitudes and beliefs towards alcohol consumption may be implicated in the 'Glasgow Effect'. Further, the project explored how social, economic and other factors impinge on women's health and how these are implicated in women's alcohol consumption, and whether or not this has a direct effect on Scotland's health.

This research required the application of two particular anthropological methods. The first was participant observation. I lived in a neighbourhood in Glasgow for 3 months, observing behaviours of those around me in public places, taking field notes to record what I observed. The second form of methodology was semi-structured interviewing, whereby I held interviews with willing participants with the aid of an interview guide. The participants were between the ages of 25-64, had lived in Glasgow for a minimum of 5 years and came from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds. The interview guide was structured to allow the interviewees to express themselves in their own terms. These interviews were conducted either individually or as group interviews depending on the preference of those being interviewed. Confidentiality and anonymity were assured for those willing to participate and thirteen women were interviewed in total. All forms of interview were audio recorded, with myself taking notes as well.

I would like to thank the Center for European Studies at Carleton University for providing me with the funding to help me to undertake this MA research project. The funding provided helped to cover travel to Glasgow and living expenses. I offer my sincere gratitude for this support as it helped me to live in Glasgow, thereby allowing me to employ the participant observation method, the cornerstone of anthropological research. The data collected on this research trip and the experiences of living in Glasgow will now be used to complete my Master's thesis and inform further research that I intend to pursue on this subject matter at the PhD level once the Masters has been successfully completed.

With sincere thanks,

Angeline Jones