Children’s burden or benefit?
Using young people to promote ideas of the future
A workshop for historians and civil society practitioners

3 September 2015, 9am-4pm
River Room, Strand Campus, King’s College London
www.kcl.ac.uk/campuslife/campuses/strand/Strand.aspx

9am: Coffee and registration

9.30am Welcome and overview: Why children and the future?

9.45-10.45am: Children and a post-war future

How were children mobilised to represent the future in the Second World War Britain? Laura King, University of Leeds

How did the Vichy government in Second World War France involve children in the pursuit of its goals? Lindsey Dodd, University of Huddersfield

General discussion

10.45-11.45am: Children and charity campaigning

Children and campaigning, Matt Ruuska, War Child

Storygathering for charities, Catherine Raynor, Mile91 founder and director

11.45-12.15pm: Coffee and Q&A/general discussion

12.15-12.45pm: Group discussions
Small group discussion of emerging questions: how do children represent the future in the past and present, by whom, and why?

12.45-1.45pm: Lunch
1.45-3pm: Future citizens? Children and gender roles

What do toys tell us about children's roles in the British Empire in the wake of the Second Boer War (1899-1902)? Vicky Crewe, University of Cardiff

Gender training: what are toys and toy adverts teaching children about what it means to be a boy or a girl? Jess Day, Let Toys Be Toys

Girls' rights and campaigning in the UK and beyond, Kerry Smith, Plan UK

Q&A / general discussion

3-3.30pm Group discussions
Small group discussion of emerging questions: what consequences does the use of children have for them and us?

3.30-3.45pm: Coffee/Juice

3.45-4.15pm: Reflection and next steps

4.15-5pm: Wine reception

We have some bursaries for postgraduate students and non-profits wanting to attend this event. Please contact Laura King (l.king@leeds.ac.uk) if you would benefit from this scheme.

The workshop is part of Agents of Future Promise, an AHRC-funded project that seeks to understand the causes and consequences of the ideological use of children in culture and politics in Britain and France, 1880-1950. Save the Children and War Child are partners in the project, with historians Dr Laura King (Leeds), Dr Vicky Crewe (Cardiff) and Dr Lindsey Dodd (Huddersfield).