

## Dr Blair Williams

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### Qualifications

- 2020 PhD, School of Politics and International Relations, Australian National University.  
Dissertation: *From Tightrope to Gendered Trope: A comparative study of the print mediation of women Prime Ministers*.  
Primary Supervisor: Emeritus Professor Marian Sawer.  
Associate Supervisors: Professor Helen Keane and Professor Fiona Jenkins.
- 2015 Discourse Analysis, IPSA Methods Summer School Program, National University of Singapore.
- 2014 Bachelor of Arts (Honours, First Class), Gender Studies and Social Analysis and Politics and International Relations, University of Adelaide.

### Academic Employment

- 2020 – Associate Lecturer, School of Politics and International Relations, Australian National University.
- 2019 Research Assistant, Dr Chris Wallace, Australian National University, Canberra.
- 2018 – 2019 Editor, *Pop Politics Aus Blog*. Australian National University, Canberra.
- 2018 – 2019 Research Assistant, Dr Michael de Percy and Dr Heba Batainah, University of Canberra, Canberra.
- 2017 – 2018 Research Assistant, Dr Belinda Edwards, University of New South Wales, Canberra.
- 2017 Research Officer, Dr Maria Maley, Australian National University, Canberra.

### Grants, Awards and Prizes

- 2020 Research Grant (\$5,058), The Australian National University.
- 2020 Gender Institute PhD Thesis Prize (\$1,000), The Australian National University.
- 2018 International Visitor Scheme Grant (£500), Political Studies Association UK (PSA).
- 2018 Vice-Chancellor's HDR Travel Grant (\$1,500), The Australian National University.
- 2015 ANU University Research Scholarship (Annual Stipend for a maximum of 3.5 years of Postgraduate study, \$91,000).
- 2014 Business and Professional Women Prize, most outstanding student in Honours Gender Studies, The University of Adelaide.
- 2013 Summer Research Scholarship (\$1,200), The University of Adelaide.

### Academic Publications

#### Journal Articles:

- Johnson, Carol and Blair Williams. 2020. 'Gender and Political Leadership in a Time of COVID'. [Politics & Gender](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2020. 'A Tale of Two Women: A comparative media analysis of UK Prime Ministers Margaret Thatcher and Theresa May'. [Parliamentary Affairs](#) 0: 1–23.
- Williams, Blair. 2017. 'A Gendered Media Analysis of the Prime Ministerial Ascension of Gillard and Turnbull: He's "taken back the reins" and she's "a backstabbing" murderer'. [Australian Journal of Political Science](#) 52 (4): 550–564.

#### Books:

- Williams, Blair. *From Tightropes to Gendered Tropes: Sexist media representations of women prime ministers*. (In progress).

#### Book Chapters:

- Williams, Blair. Forthcoming. 'The Murdoch Presses: Representation of Masculinity and Femininity in Leadership'. In *Gender and Australian Political Leadership*, edited by Zareh Ghazarian and Katrina Lee-Koo. Sydney: NewSouth.
- Williams, Blair and Marian Sawyer. 2018. 'Rainbow Labor and a Purple Policy Launch: Gender and Sexuality Issues'. In *Double Disillusion: The 2016 Australian Federal Election*, edited by Anika Gauja, et al. Canberra: ANU press.

*Encyclopaedia Entries:*

- Williams, Blair. 2020. 'Margaret Thatcher'. In *The International Encyclopedia of Gender, Media, and Communication*, edited by Karen Ross. Wiley Blackwell.
- Williams, Blair. 2020. 'Julia Gillard'. In *The International Encyclopedia of Gender, Media, and Communication*, edited by Karen Ross. Wiley Blackwell.
- Williams, Blair. 2020. 'Helen Clark'. In *The International Encyclopedia of Gender, Media, and Communication*, edited by Karen Ross. Wiley Blackwell.

*Book Reviews:*

- Williams, Blair. 2018. 'Book Review: Gender, Politics, News: A Game of Three Sides'. [\*Feminist Media Studies\* 18 \(2\): 333–334.](#)

*Under Review:*

- Williams, Blair. 'It's a Man's World at the Top: Gendered Media Representations of Julia Gillard and Helen Clark'. *Revise & Resubmit*.

*Working Papers:*

- Williams, Blair and Marian Sawyer. "'Feminists have lost the plot": Murdoch's Anti-Gender Crusade in The Australian (2010-2020)'.
- Williams, Blair. 'The Family Trope: A comparative analysis of the gendered print mediation of women Prime Ministers'.
- Williams, Blair. 'The Queering of Women Prime Ministers: A Visual Analysis of Gendered Political Cartoons'.
- Williams, Blair. 'Pacing the Political Tightrope: A Gender Performative Analysis of Julia Gillard and Tony Abbott'.

**Engagement**

*Public Writing:*

- Williams, Blair. 2020. "'Expect sexism": A gender politics expert reads Julia Gillard's Women and Leadership'. [\*The Conversation\*](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2020. 'Are women leaders really better?'. [\*Essays on Equality: COVID-19 Edition\*](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2020. 'Key figures in Australian political history: Julia Gillard, the leader who would 'not be lectured'. [\*The Conversation\*](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2020. 'A Tale of Two Women: A comparative media analysis of UK Prime Ministers Margaret Thatcher and Theresa May'. [\*Pop Politics Aus\*](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2020. 'It's Reigning Men: Media portrayal and betrayal of 2 women PMs'. [\*BroadAgenda\*](#).
- Williams, Blair and Kim Huynh. 2020. 'He says, she says: am I being sexist?'. [\*The Canberra Times\*](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2020. 'From Tightropes to Gendered Tropes: A comparative study of the print mediation of women Prime Ministers'. [\*Women's Policy Action Tank Blog\*](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2019. 'Feminist or misogynist? Boris Johnson's "woman problem"'. [\*Broad Agenda\*](#).
- Price, Jenna and Blair Williams. 2019. 'Queensland paper backtracks after using violent imagery to depict Annastacia Palaszczuk'. [\*The Conversation\*](#).

- Williams, Blair and Louise Chappell. 2019. 'The "unmarried head prefect" and other tired tropes: How the media stereotyped Gladys Berejiklian'. [BroadAgenda Blog](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2018. 'The maelstrom of the leadership spill: Julie Bishop and the glass cliff'. [BroadAgenda Blog](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2018. 'Media coverage of the UK's female prime ministers has become more gendered from Thatcher to May'. [Pop Politics Aus](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2018. 'Media coverage of the UK's female prime ministers has become more gendered from Thatcher to May'. [Global Institute for Women's Leadership](#).
- Williams, Blair and Marian Sawyer. 2018. 'Rainbow Labor and a purple policy launch: Gender and sexuality in the 2016 federal election'. [BroadAgenda Blog](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2017. 'He's "taken back the reins" and she's "a backstabbing murderer"'. [BroadAgenda Blog](#).
- Williams, Blair. 2017. 'Julia Gillard, gender and the media: Treading the tight-rope'. [VIDA Blog: Australian Women's History Network](#).

*Public Talks and Seminars:*

- 2020 'Feminism & the Humanities: Postgraduate Workshop & Networking Lunch', invited panellist, ANU, Canberra, March 2020.
- 2019 'Why the media is sexist towards women political leaders', [TEDx](#), Macquarie University, Sydney, September 2019.
- 2016 'Gillard and Turnbull: Media Analysis', ANU Learning Centre, public lecture, Canberra, October 2016.
- 2016 'He's "Taken Back the Reins" and She's "a Backstabbing Murderer": A comparative media analysis of the Prime Ministerial ascension of Julia Gillard and Malcolm Turnbull'. Invited talk. *University of Duisburg-Essen*, Germany, July 2016.

*Radio:*

- 2020 – Federal Political Correspondent, *ABC North and West SA*.
- 2019 – Federal Political Correspondent, *Radio Adelaide*.

- ABC Northern Tasmania. Drive. 26 February 2020. 'Interview with Blair Williams'.
- Mix 106.3 FM Canberra. News. 26 February 2020. 'A study from the ANU has determined media coverage of female politicians is getting worse'.
- 2MCE. National Radio News. 26 February 2020. 'Former Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard says the media is largely to blame'.
- Radio National. Drive. 25 February 2020. ["The women beside the men": Media obsession with female PMs](#)'.
- ABC Radio Canberra. Drive. 27 November 2019. ["20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Helen Clark's PM ascension: Talking women in politics"](#)'.
- ABC Radio Canberra. Sunday Afternoon. 17 November 2019. ["One Liners: Gillard's Misogyny Speech"](#)'.
- BBC Radio. Up All Night. 25 May 2019. ["Interview: Gendered media coverage of Theresa May"](#)'.
- Radio Adelaide. Breakfast. 20 May 2019. ["Politics: What can we expect for the next 3 years?"](#)'.
- SBS Radio. 13 May 2019. 'Expertise interview on Women Electoral Lobby's election scorecard on gender equality policy'.
- ABC Radio Adelaide. 27 December 2018. '2018 A Year That Was: Interview on Sexism in Australian Politics'.
- ABC Radio Darwin. 30 November 2018. 'Interview on Women Politicians and Sexism in Australian Parliament'.
- Radio 1 SRF. News Bulletin. 27 September 2018. 'Interview on Sexism in Australian Politics'.
- Radio 1 SRF. News Bulletin. 27 September 2018. 'Interview on Racism in Australian Politics'.

ABC Canberra Radio. News Bulletin. 19 June 2018. 'Interview on Vigil for Eurydice Dixon'.  
ABC South East Radio. News Bulletin. 29 September 2016. 'Interview on Gillard, Turnbull,  
Clinton and media'.  
Triple J. News Bulletin. 28 September 2016. 'Interview on Gillard, Turnbull and the media'.

*Television:*

Gillard, Julia. 9 October 2019. '[More or less sexist](#)'. Peston ITV.  
SBS World News. Feature. 17 April 2019. 'Expertise interview on the youth vote in the 2019 Australian  
Federal Election'.  
Ten News. News Bulletin. 4 July 2018. '[Expertise interview on Senator Leyonhjelm's Sexist Remarks  
towards Hanson-Young](#)'.

*Print Media:*

Topsfield, Jewel. 2020. '["Forewarned is forearmed": Lunch with Julia Gillard](#)'. *Sydney Morning Herald*. 31  
July.  
Armitage, Rebecca and Lucia Stein. 2020. '[Joe Biden's running mate will be only the third woman to run  
for VP, but the first with a decent shot of winning](#)'. ABC News. 30 July.  
Thomas, Sophie. 2020. '["Gender still doesn't explain everything, nor nothing": Julia Gillard](#)'. *Women's  
Agenda*. 6 May.  
Workman, Alice. 2020. '[Strewth!](#)' *The Australian*. 4 March.  
Tu, Jessie. 2020. '[Gender bias in female PM coverage is worsening](#)'. *Women's Agenda*. 28 February.  
Zaglas, Wade. 2020. '[Research suggests western media is undermining female leaders' legitimacy](#)'.  
*Campus Review*. 28 February.  
Purtill, James. 2020. '[Media's gendered stereotyping was worse for Gillard than Thatcher 30 years earlier,  
research shows](#)'. *ABC News*. 25 February.  
ANU Media. 2020. '[Media obsession with female PMs' gender worsening](#)'. *ANU Newsroom*. 25 February.  
Bhandari, Subel. 2020. '[Australians are angry with their prime minister on bushfire efforts](#)'. *DPA  
International*. 5 January.  
Allman, Kate. 2019. '[Phoenix rising: Julia Gillard on life after politics](#)'. *LSJ Online*. 6 December.  
Price, Jenna. 2019. '[The ALP has a long way to go on gender equality](#)'. *The Canberra Times*. 18 October.  
Price, Jenna. 2019. '[Labor, the men who run it and their "female worker bees"](#)'. *The Sydney Morning  
Herald*. 17 October.  
Jewell, John. 2019. '[Theresa May and her uncomfortable relationship with the media](#)'. *Wales Online*. 26  
July.  
Mao, Frances. 2019. '[2019 election: Why politics is toxic for Australia's women](#)'. *BBC News*. 16 May.  
Baker, Nick. 2018. '[What does Julia Banks' resignation say about the Liberal party?](#)' *SBS News*. 30 August.  
Price, Jenna. 2018. '[All this talk of leadership changes, and barely a whisper about women](#)'. *The Sydney  
Morning Herald*. 23 February.  
Walker, Aaron. 2016. '[Gillard and Turnbull: a case study in gender bias in Australian media](#)'. *UNSW  
Newsroom*. 28 September.  
Walker, Aaron. 2016. '[Gillard and Turnbull: a case study in gender bias in Australian media](#)'. *ANU  
Newsroom*. 28 September  
Faruqi, Osman. 2016. '[New Research Confirms The Media Was Pretty Bloody Sexist When Covering Julia  
Gillard](#)'. *Junkee*. 28 September.  
Scott, Elise. 2016. '[Gillard copped media gender bias: report](#)'. *News.com*. 28 September.  
Scott, Elise. 2016. '[Gillard copped media gender bias: report](#)'. *Yahoo*. 28 September.  
Su, Reissa. 2014. '[Julia Gillard's Negative Media Treatment Turns Off Women to Enter Politics](#)'.  
*International Business Times*. January 15.  
Shepherd, Tory. 2014. '[More women turning off politics after Julia Gillard was badly treated](#)'. *The  
Advertiser*. 14 January.

- Panahi, Rita. 2014. '[Misogyny!](#)'. *Herald Sun*. 16 January.
- Shepherd, Tory. 2014. '[More women turning off politics after Julia Gillard was badly treated](#)'. *Herald Sun*. 14 January.

*Podcasts:*

- Policy Forum. 18 November 2019. *Democracy Sausage*. '[Women in politics special](#)'.
- Policy Forum. 3 December 2018. *The Brief Podcast*. 'Women in politics: Creating space for female representation'. <https://www.policyforum.net/the-brief-women-in-politics/>

**Teaching**

- 2020 – Associate Lecturer, School of Politics and International Relations, Australian National University:  
*Race, Ethnicity and Representation*  
*Gender and Politics*  
*Refugee Politics: Displacement and Exclusion in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries*
- 2019 Co-Lecturer and Course Coordinator, Australian National University:  
*Race, Ethnicity and Representation.*
- 2016 – 2019 Sessional Tutor:  
 Student experience survey (SELTS) average: 4.7/5  
*Race, Ethnicity and Representation*. Australian National University, Canberra.  
*Refugee Politics: Displacement and Exclusion in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries*. Australian National University, Canberra.  
*Communication and Media Research*. University of Canberra, Canberra.
- 2017 – 2019 Guest Lecturer, Australian National University:  
*Gender and Politics*  
*Politics in Britain*  
*Media Politics: Political leaders, media moguls, journalists and audiences*  
*Race, Ethnicity and Representation*  
*Research and Writing in Political Science.*

**Conference presentations**

- 2019 'It's a Man's World at the Top: Gendered Media Representations of Julia Gillard and Helen Clark', Australian Political Studies Association (APSA) Conference, Flinders University, Adelaide.
- 2019 'It's a Man's World at the Top: Gendered Media Representations of Julia Gillard and Helen Clark', European Conference of Politics and Gender (ECPG), University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam.
- 2018 'The Queering of Women Prime Ministers: A Visual Analysis of Gendered Political Cartoons', International Political Science Association (IPSA) Conference, Brisbane.
- 2018 'The Grocer's and Vicar's Daughters: A comparative media analysis of UK Prime Ministers Margaret Thatcher and Theresa May', International Political Science Association (IPSA) Conference, Brisbane.
- 2018 'The Grocer's and Vicar's Daughters: A comparative media analysis of UK Prime Ministers Margaret Thatcher and Theresa May', Political Studies Association (PSA) Conference, Cardiff University, Cardiff.
- 2017 'Tale of Two Women: A comparative media analysis of UK Prime Ministers Margaret Thatcher and Theresa May', Australian Political Studies Association (APSA) Conference, Monash University, Melbourne.

- 2017 ‘Tale of Two Women: A comparative media analysis of UK Prime Ministers Margaret Thatcher and Theresa May’. European Conference of Politics and Gender (ECPG), University of Lausanne, Lausanne.
- 2017 ‘Julia Gillard and the Sexist Australian Voter: Exposing a hidden variable bias’. Political Studies Association (PSA) Conference, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow.
- 2016 ‘He’s “Taken Back the Reins” and She’s “a Backstabbing Murderer”’: A comparative media analysis of the Prime Ministerial ascension of Julia Gillard and Malcolm Turnbull’. Australian Political Studies Association (APSA) Conference, UNSW, Sydney.
- 2016 ‘He’s “Taken Back the Reins” and She’s “a Backstabbing Murderer”’: A comparative media analysis of the Prime Ministerial ascension of Julia Gillard and Malcolm Turnbull’. International Political Science Association (IPSA) Conference, Poznan.
- 2016 ‘He’s “Taken Back the Reins” and She’s “a Backstabbing Murderer”’: A comparative media analysis of the Prime Ministerial ascension of Julia Gillard and Malcolm Turnbull’. Oxford Women’s Leadership Symposium, University of Oxford, Oxford.
- 2016 ‘He’s “Taken Back the Reins” and She’s “a Backstabbing Murderer”’: A comparative media analysis of the Prime Ministerial ascension of Julia Gillard and Malcolm Turnbull’. Australian Women and Gender Studies Association (AWGSA) Conference, Griffith University, Brisbane.
- 2015 ‘Pacing the Political Tight-Rope: A Gender Performative Analysis of Julia Gillard and Tony Abbott’. Transforming the Field of Study - ANU Gender Institute Conference, Canberra.
- 2015 ‘The Future of Gendered Representations in Politics: Julia Gillard, Gender Performativity and the Media Diatribe’. Australian Political Studies Association (APSA) Conference, University of Canberra, Canberra.

### **Service To Profession**

- 2020 Judging Panellist in Politics & International Relations, The Global Undergraduate Awards.
- 2020 National Tertiary Education Union’s (NTEU) ACT Women's Action Committee academic representative.
- 2016 – Executive Board Member, IPSA RC19 Gender Politics and Policy.
- 2016 – Social Media Coordinator, IPSA RC19 Gender Politics and Policy.
- 2016 – Social Media Coordinator, APSA Women’s Caucus.
- 2017 – Reviewer: *Australian Journal of Political Science*; *Politics & Gender*; *Feminist Media Studies*; *European Journal of Politics and Gender*; *Social Science Quarterly*; *Canadian Journal of Political Science*.