

Shakuntala Banaji is Associate Professor in the Department of Media and Communications at LSE, where she also serves as Director of Graduate Studies and programme director for the MSc Media, Communication and Development. She lectures on International Media and the Global South, Film theory and World Cinema, and Critical Approaches to Media, Communication and Development in the Department of Media and Communications at the LSE. She has published extensively on young people, children and media as well as gender, ethnicity and Hindi cinema, with articles on Hindi horror films and excluded youth and news consumption and children, social class and media in India recently published; and chapters on orientalism and racism in Media, and child stars in Hindi cinema forthcoming. She has also published on creativity, democracy, the internet and civic participation.

Her current research addresses the intersection between socio-political contexts, media, identities and participation. Her focus is on the lives of children and young people in different geographical and class contexts, with a critical take on the ways in which rhetorical conceptions of citizenship, development, engagement and digital media construct and position child and youth subjectivities. These themes are being pursued through two new projects. The European Commission Horizon 2020 Young 5a funded project, *CATCHEyoU - Constructing Active Citizenship with European youth: policies, practices, challenges and solutions*, which investigates media constructions, participatory practices and policy visions of youth active citizenship. And, *Personalised Media and Participatory Culture* (2015-2017) in collaboration with American University Sharjah, funded by the LSE Middle East centre's Academic Collaboration with Arab Universities Programme.