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## **Killing time: Introducing destructive boredom as a typology of youth boredom in Scotland**

A prisoner banging their head off a wall (Bengsston, 2012), a gang member initiating a fight (Miller, 2018), or a young person taking drugs and alcohol (Wiligang, 2014) are all examples of young people reacting to experiences of boredom. This presentation develops the concept of destructive boredom to explain young people's experiences of boredom which leads to them to extreme visceral time ruptures to escape feelings of boredom. This presentation brings together data from two constructivist grounded theory (Charmaz, 2006) studies. The first explored gang members relationships with 'boredom and the buzz' carried out in Scotland, 2010-2015. The second study funded by The Royal Society of Edinburgh 2022-2024, worked with young people with and without justice experience in Scotland to create a definition of youth boredom and the coping strategies they engage in. The first study used Svendsen's (2005) typologies of boredom to understand the process gang members go through in developing feelings of boredom and their visceral responses to it. Building on this, the second study further explored the development and responses to boredom that young people across Scotland experienced. From this, a youth definition of boredom was generated which introduced a new typology – destructive boredom. This concept explained the visceral, harmful acts that young people were engaging in. Youth's experiences of boredom in Scotland will be shared alongside the definition and typology developed throughout these two studies.

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