

Karen Throsby

Obesity surgery

We'd like to talk to you...

at our Weight Loss Surgery Open Sessions.

When: Saturday 27th October, 2007
11:00am to 2:00pm
Thursday 1st November, 2007
6:00pm to 8:00pm

Where: Nuffield Hospital Derby
Ryknield Road, Derby
DE23 4SN

Call **0800 121 8838** to find out more or to let us know that you'd like to come along.

 Nuffield Hospitals
www.nuffieldhospitals.org.uk

My research focuses on the issue of obesity and its surgical management. I am also interested in the contemporary discourse of the “obesity epidemic” and the impact this framing has on the ways in which fat bodies are treated, both socially and medically.

Obesity Surgery, Cosmetic Surgery and more...

“Since having my band I haven't felt that I'm missing out because I can still eat what I like - just smaller portions saving me money on food - its the best investment I could have made for my health and wellbeing”

Francine Hodges,
Southend-on-Sea.



Francine Hodges,
Gastric Band and
Tummy Tuck Patient
Weightless 11 Stone

Obesity Surgery

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Researcher
info/contact:

Karen Throsby

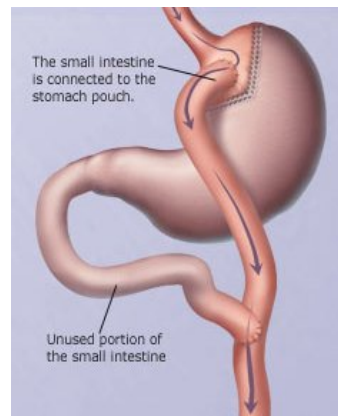
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Research Methods

My research draws on a range of qualitative methods. I have conducted a series of interviews with people who have had obesity surgery, and I am about to surgery begin a year of ethnographic in an NHS obesity surgery clinic. I am also analysing published weight loss autobiographies, and hope to apply for funding over the next year to conduct a media analysis of obesity surgery.



Key Findings/Ideas

- **Obesity, and especially at “extreme” levels, is constructed as a moral failing which produces pressing obligations to “do something about it”.**
- **Obesity surgery is risky, and often involves ongoing side-effects such as vomiting, but also offers people a very real chance of significant and sustainable weight loss.**
- **Obesity surgery is a profoundly gendered intervention, not only because it is performed primarily on women, but also in the ways that it is experienced and accounted for.**
- **Those undergoing obesity surgery have a unique perspective on the “war on obesity”, not only as its most vilified objects, but also because they have extensive experience of the vast panoply of weight loss interventions (and their failure).**