

**I Seminário Internacional**

# **Juventudes, Educação e Cidadania: Retratos Contemporâneos**

## **Youth, Education and Citizenship: contemporary portraits**

### **On growing old while studying youth: What role for subcultures for a Parliamentarian (or anyone) in 2016?**

This presentation takes in media studies, sociology and politics in its exploration of my own trajectory in youth studies spanning over 20 years now. I began my personal involvement in youth research when looking at the rave scene in Cambridge for an undergraduate dissertation back in 1993. In my talk I will look at the waxing and waning fortunes of the youth research concept of “subculture” and the parallel representations of young people in popular culture at the same time. From the 90s to the current day we have seen fads and fashions replace one another in music and sartorial style as well as the theoretical fortunes of youth in academic vogue.

I used to worry about having grown old while studying youth but now my career has taken a new twist. The paper will conclude with pondering my place following my election to the UK Parliament in 2015 and the role of the legislator in youth culture: are these contradictory or complimentary?

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