

**BSA Regional Postgraduate Event:  
'Close to home: moral dilemmas, ethical practice and  
complexities of reflexivity in ethnographic research.'**

Friday 3 June 2016, London School of Economics  
Key note speakers: TBC

**Event Outline**

Ethnography as a methodological tool is founded in a long tradition of social science research and over the past decade ethnography has moved once again to forefront of sociological concern. Considered one of the few research methods able to escape the shackles of the academy in full form, in recent months ethnographic accounts have both topped the best sellers lists internationally alongside attracting much academic and lay commentary and critique (Goffman, 2015; Martin, 2015; Mckenzie, 2015). Central to such debates is the concern and question regarding who is permitted to conduct ethnographic research citing the occupational hazard ethnographers risk in eroticising or misrepresenting their research subjects and sites.

Appreciating the diverse forms that ethnographic research can take, this event explores the role of the researcher in ethnographic research, reflecting on the challenges the researcher faces in the collection and presentation of data.

The event opens with the question of how the researcher can facilitate critical thought and provide valuable contribution to the discipline, whilst avoiding inaccuracies or enacting symbolic violence, however unintentional. Critically reflecting on the concept of reflexivity, the event looks to investigate power dynamics alongside the emotional experience of the research field.

**Call for Papers**

The scope of the day is wide ranging and we invite oral and visual contributions addressing the broad theme of the practice of ethnographic research. We welcome non-traditional presentations and delegates may wish to adopt the use of Pecha-Kucha presentations, posters, video, poetry, storytelling, photography, digital imaging and performance.

**We encourage contributions on the following thematic topics:**

- 'Being Native': the practice and ethics of researching your own community
- The complexities of reflexivity and the role of the emotional ethnographer
- Partisanship and 'underdog ethnography'
- Voice and the academy: who can speak for whom?
- Deconstructing and understanding of the role the ethnographer
- Moral and ethical dilemmas of ethnography
- Pop sociology and the academy

**Please email abstracts (up to 250 words) to [e.beecham@lse.ac.uk](mailto:e.beecham@lse.ac.uk) by Monday 25 April 2016** with a short biography alongside any special technological requirements. Presentations will be between 15-20 minutes, followed by discussion.

**Registration**

BSA Member Registration £10, Non-Member Registration £25. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Available places at this event are limited to 35 people so please only register if you can 100% attend. Small number of travel bursaries available.

To book a place please go to: <http://portal.britsoc.co.uk/public/event/eventBooking.aspx?id=EVT10539>

Any questions regarding this event should be sent to Nell Beecham ([e.beecham@lse.ac.uk](mailto:e.beecham@lse.ac.uk)) and Carli-Ria Rowell ([C.R.Rowell@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:C.R.Rowell@warwick.ac.uk)).