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Welcome to the British Sociological Association
Annual Conference 2014 at the University of Leeds

The theme of the 2014 conference is ‘Changing Society’. It is a pleasure to announce that Steve Fuller, Evelyn Ruppert and Monica Prasad will each address the conference in three thought-provoking plenaries on this main theme.

In addition to these plenaries, delegates have the opportunity to attend presentations on a wide range of topics. The conference is organised in streams designed to represent the major areas of research with which sociologists are engaged. These streams are open to any topic on which people are currently working, enabling delegates to meet with colleagues in their areas of interest and explore a variety of topics as well. Many of the streams also include a Stream Plenary, which brings key speakers together to reflect on the conference theme from particular sociological perspectives.

There are also a number of open streams (Frontiers) providing a forum for new, innovative and multidisciplinary work. This year these streams include topics such as digital sociology, activism in sociology, disability studies and many more, further enriching the wealth of topics to be explored. This conference format results in a rich and challenging programme and it is hoped that this every delegate will find the same this year.

A conference of this magnitude and breadth is due to the efforts of many committed individuals. Great thanks are due to all those who have helped with the organisation of the conference, particularly the convenors of the conference streams:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cities, Mobilities, Place and Space (CIT)</th>
<th>Robin Smith, Cardiff University</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culture, Media, Sport and Consumption (CUL)</td>
<td>Gaynor Bagnall, University of Salford</td>
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<td>Garry Crawford, University of Salford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Families and Relationships (FAM)</td>
<td>Val Gillies, London South Bank University</td>
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<td>Yvette Taylor, London South Bank University</td>
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<td>Frontiers (FRO)</td>
<td>David Mellor, Oxford University</td>
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<td>Lifecourse (LIF)</td>
<td>Wendy Martin, Brunel University</td>
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<td>Julia Twigg, University of Kent</td>
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<td>Medicine, Health and Illness (MED)</td>
<td>Sally Brown, Durham University</td>
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<td>Catherine Will, University of Sussex</td>
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<td>Methodological Innovations (MET)</td>
<td>Graham Crow, University of Edinburgh</td>
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<td>Rights, Violence and Crime (RIG)</td>
<td>Victoria Canning, Liverpool John Moores University</td>
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<td>Giorgia Dona, University of East London</td>
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<td>Natalie Hammond, University of Sheffield</td>
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<td>Hannah Miller, Kingston University</td>
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<td>Risk, Globalisation, Climate Change and Beyond (RIS)</td>
<td>Jessica Paddock, Cardiff University</td>
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<td>Science and Technology Studies (STS)</td>
<td>Anne Kerr, University of Leeds</td>
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<td>Paul Martin, University of Sheffield</td>
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<td>Social Divisions/Social Identities (DIV)</td>
<td>Rachel Hale, University of Nottingham</td>
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<td>Jamie Halsall, University of Huddersfield</td>
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<td>Aaron Winter, University of East London</td>
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<td>Sociology of Education (EDU)</td>
<td>Nicola Ingram, University of Bath</td>
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<td>Sociology of Religion (REL)</td>
<td>Titus Hjelm, University College London</td>
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<td>Jo McKenzie, Durham University</td>
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<td>Theory (THE)</td>
<td>Gurminder K Bhambra, University of Warwick</td>
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<td>Tom Brock, Manchester Metropolitan University</td>
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<td>Work, Employment and Economic Life (WOR)</td>
<td>Maria Adamson, University of East London</td>
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<td>Ben Fincham, University of Sussex</td>
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<td>Lynne Pettinger, University of Essex</td>
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</table>

We would also like to express our appreciation for the support of our sponsors and exhibitors for their continued support. The Sports Hall will include exhibitions from many organisations who offer services and information for conference delegates. Please take some time between sessions to visit these exhibitors.
Welcome

Main Conference Sponsor

SAGE
www.sagepub.co.uk

Teaching Prize Sponsor

The Higher Education Academy
www.heacademy.ac.uk

Exhibitors

- British Sociological Association
- SAGE
- The Higher Education Academy
- Ashgate Publishing
- ATLAS.ti
- Authors Licensing & Collecting Society (ALCS)
- Berghahn Books
- Cambridge University Press
- Emerald Group Publishing
- Global China Press
- John Wiley & Sons
- Maney Publishing
- Palgrave Macmillan
- Routledge, Taylor and Francis
- The Policy Press

Finally, thanks to everyone for travelling to Leeds and contributing to a conference we all hope will be enjoyable and stimulating.

Rampaul Chamba, David Mellor, Kay Peggs, Roland Potter, Milena Stateva, Kate Woodthorpe
BSA Annual Conference Organising Committee
Delegate Information

The BSA Annual Conference 2014 is being hosted by the University of Leeds. Conference registration and exhibition space can be found in Sports Hall 1, Sports Centre (The Edge), South Entrance, Willow Terrace (just off Calverley Street), University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT. Sessions will take place on the University of Leeds campus in the Conference Centre and the Roger Stevens Building.

REGISTRATION/HELP DESK

BSA staff will be available in the Sports Hall to register delegates at the following times:

- **Wednesday 23 April**: 08:30 - 17:00
- **Thursday 24 April**: 08:30 - 17:00
- **Friday 25 April**: 08:30 - 17:00

At registration you will be given your conference pack, including the conference programme & abstract book and your conference badge.

If there is a balance outstanding on your conference booking, you will have to settle the account before your registration pack will be issued. There will be no exceptions.

During the conference your conference badge must be worn at all times for security reasons and meal provision.

Staff will be available in Sports Hall 1 to answer any delegate queries/enquiries. Further information points are located within the Sports Hall, Conference Centre and Roger Stevens Building.

CONTACT AT THE CONFERENCE

There will be a message board situated near the registration desk in the Sports Hall where delegates can leave messages for each other.

Alternatively, urgent messages can be left by telephone to the BSA Events mobile phone: [+44] (0)7825 157 068

These messages will be displayed on the conference message board.

LOCAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

On foot
The university is situated 1.2 miles, approximately 15-20 minutes walk, from Leeds Rail Station. Delegates should walk towards the South Entrance on Willow Terrace (just off Calverley Street).

Buses
There are a number of bus services in Leeds. Visit the West Yorkshire Metro website [www.wymetro.com](http://www.wymetro.com) and First Leeds [www.firstgroup.com/ukbus/leeds](http://www.firstgroup.com/ukbus/leeds) for timetables and general information.

The City Bus stops at the bus and train stations and the southern end of the university campus (near the back of Leeds General Infirmary A&E, Calverley Street) every 10 minutes from 6:30am - 7:30pm Monday to Saturday.

Taxi
Delegates should request to be dropped off at the Sports Centre, South Entrance, Willow Terrace (just off Calverley Street), University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT.

- **Streamline Telecabs**: [+44] (0)113 244 3322
- **Leeds Bradford airport taxis**: [+44] (0)113 821 4816
- **ATL**: [+44] (0)113 285 2200
- **City Cabs Leeds**: [+44] (0)113 246 9999

Parking
Although no parking is available on campus, there is ample space available in the nearby Woodhouse Lane car park: [http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/Leeds-City-Centre-shopper-and-visit...](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/Leeds-City-Centre-shopper-and-visit...)

More information on car parking in Leeds can be found online: [http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/Parking-in-Leeds.aspx](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/Parking-in-Leeds.aspx)

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is **not** included in your conference registration. Please consult with your accommodation provider for all information.
Delegate Information

If you have not yet booked accommodation, you may wish to contact Leeds Tourist Information Bureau (Visit Leeds) to see what options are available [www.visitleeds.co.uk](http://www.visitleeds.co.uk) or telephone [+44] (0)113 242 5242.

**MEALS AND REFRESHMENTS**

**Tea and Coffee**
Referrals will be served in the Sports Hall 1. Please make full use of the various service points to avoid queues.

- **Wednesday 23 April 2014** 08:30 - 17:00
- **Thursday 24 April 2014** 08:30 - 17:00
- **Friday 25 April 2014** 08:30 - 17:00

**Lunch**
Your conference badge must be worn at all times for security reasons and for meal provision. All registered delegates can collect lunches from the food points in Sports Hall 1. To avoid queues delegates are encouraged to make use of the full range of meal times:

- **Wednesday 23 April 2014** 13:00 - 15:00
- **Thursday 24 April 2014** 12:00 - 14:00
- **Friday 25 April 2014** 12:00 - 14:00

**Conference Dinner**
The conference dinner will take place at 19:15 in the Refectory on Wednesday 23 April. The dress code is casual. Staff will be checking dinner bookings on arrival at the dinner venue. Please check your conference booking confirmation to find out if you have registered and paid to attend the dinner.

The conference dinner must have been pre-booked by 13:00 on Monday 14 April 2014.

**Special Dietary Requirements**
Special dietary requirements, vegetarian and vegan meals have all been pre-booked as on your booking form. If you have requested a special diet, please inform the catering staff when you collect your meals.

**Other Meals**
There are a variety of options for evening meals in Leeds. There are a number of bars and restaurants not far from the university. No evening meal will be provided other than the Conference Dinner (pre-booking required).

**LUGGAGE STORAGE**
During the conference, free-of-charge luggage storage is provided in the Sports Hall. The opening times are as follows:

- **Wednesday 23 April 2014** 08:30 - 19:00
- **Thursday 24 April 2014** 08:30 - 20:15
- **Friday 25 April 2014** 08:30 - 19:00

**INTERNET ACCESS**

**Internet Café**
A small internet café is located on the ground floor of the Roger Stevens Building. There are a limited number of computers allowing free internet access for delegates. During busy times, when other delegates are waiting to use the computers, please limit your use to five minutes. Log-in details can be collected from the conference registration desk in Sports Hall 1, or from the conference steward at the entrance to the Roger Stevens building.

**Wireless Internet Connection**
Wireless internet is available across the university campus, enabling delegates to use their own laptops to connect to the internet. Delegates will be provided with login details at registration. **Please use your own laptop if you wish to use this facility as neither the venue nor the BSA will provide them.**

**eduroam**
The University of Leeds is an eduroam-enabled institution. eduroam is the roaming infrastructure used by the international research and education community.

Being part of eduroam allows users to access a wireless network at a host institution who are also connected to eduroam using the same credentials (i.e. username and password) the users would use if they were at their home institution.
Delegate Information

institution. As an end-user, you will only be able to use eduroam if your institution provides an electronic identity (e.g. account for network access). If you have not been provided with this information you will need to contact your home university administrator and ask for an account. You (or your network administrator) will have to configure your computer to enable eduroam access.
Sociological Futures

A new book series from the British Sociological Association in partnership with Routledge

The BSA, with a membership of over 2500, is the professional association for sociologists and sociological research in the United Kingdom. With its extensive network of members, the BSA hosts an annual conference and regular events staged by over fifty active study groups and forums. Study group topics range from auto/biography to youth, climate change to violence against women, alcohol to sport, and Bourdieu to Weber.

This book series, inspired by the vibrant wealth of BSA symposia on a wide variety of sociological themes, will not only enable the fruits of these events to reach a wider audience, but also offers a new outlet for sociologists at all career and publishing stages, from the well-established to emerging sociologists, BSA or non-BSA members, from all parts of the world.

The series welcomes proposals for monographs and edited collections on a wide range of topics related to sociology and sociological research and will feature contemporary work that is theoretically and methodologically innovative, with local or global reach, as well as work that engages or reengages with classic debates in sociology bringing new perspectives to important and relevant topics.

Edited by a team of experienced sociological researchers, and supported by the BSA, the series aims to be a flagship for new and innovative theories, methods and approaches to sociological issues and debates and ‘the social’ in the 21st century.

Series Editors
Eileen Green, Professor Emerita, Teesside University, former Publications Director BSA, Vice Chair of the BSA
John Horne, Professor of Sport and Sociology, University of Central Lancashire, Deputy Publications Director BSA
Caroline Oliver, Senior Researcher, Centre on Migration Policy and Society (COMPAS), University of Oxford, Publications Director BSA
Louise Ryan, Professor of Sociology and Co-Director of the Social Policy Research Centre, Middlesex University, Publications Director BSA

Submitting a Book Proposal
The Series Editors welcome suggestions for topics and book proposals at any time. For queries, a blank proposal form or to submit a proposal, contact Alison Danforth, BSA Publications Officer alison.danforth@britsoc.org.uk

We accept proposals for monographs and edited collections with a focused theme. Proposals will be peer reviewed. Finished texts are expected to be approximately 70,000-80,000.
Conference Programme at a Glance
### CONFERENCE PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE – WEDNESDAY

**Wednesday 23 April 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:30 onwards</td>
<td>Conference Registration</td>
<td>Sports Hall 1</td>
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<td>Film Screening of ‘Personally Speaking: A Long Conversation with Stuart Hall’</td>
<td>G11, Conference Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:30 - 11:30</td>
<td><strong>Paper Session 1</strong></td>
<td>Conference Auditoriums 1-2, Roger Stevens Lecture Theatres 01-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 - 12:00</td>
<td><strong>Break</strong></td>
<td>Sports Hall 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 - 13:30</td>
<td><strong>Paper Session 2</strong></td>
<td>Conference Auditoriums 1-2, Roger Stevens Lecture Theatres 01-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:30 - 14:30</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
<td>Sports Hall 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>BSA Annual Members' Meeting</strong></td>
<td>Conference Auditorium 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:30 - 16:00</td>
<td>Welcome to the conference <strong>Plenary: Steve Fuller</strong></td>
<td>Conference Auditorium 1</td>
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<td>Presentation of the BSA's Distinguished Service to British Sociology Award</td>
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<td>16:00 - 16:30</td>
<td><strong>Break</strong></td>
<td>Sports Hall 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td><strong>Paper Session 3</strong></td>
<td>Conference Auditoriums 1-2, Roger Stevens Lecture Theatres 01-20</td>
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<td>18:15 - 19:15</td>
<td><strong>Stream Plenaries</strong></td>
<td>Conference Auditoriums 1-2, Roger Stevens Lecture Theatres 01&amp; 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:15</td>
<td><strong>Wine Reception</strong></td>
<td>Refectory</td>
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<td>20:00</td>
<td><strong>Conference Dinner</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Teaching Prize Award Presentation</strong></td>
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<td>09:30 - 10:30</td>
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<td>Conference Auditoriums 1-2, Roger Stevens Lecture Theatres 01, 02 &amp; 20</td>
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<td>10:30 - 11:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Sports Hall 1</td>
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<td>11:00 - 12:30</td>
<td>Paper Session 4</td>
<td>Conference Auditoriums 1-2, Roger Stevens Lecture Theatres 01-20</td>
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<td>12:30 - 13:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Sports Hall 1</td>
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<td>BSA Specialist and Study Group Meetings</td>
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<td>13:30 – 15:00</td>
<td>Paper Session 5</td>
<td>Conference Auditoriums 1-2, Roger Stevens Lecture Theatres 01-20</td>
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<td>15:00 - 15:30</td>
<td>Break, Poster Presentations</td>
<td>Sports Hall 1</td>
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<td>15:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Paper Session 6</td>
<td>Conference Auditoriums 1-2, Roger Stevens Lecture Theatres 01-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:15 - 18:45</td>
<td>Plenary: Evelyn Ruppert, Philip Abrams Memorial Prize</td>
<td>Conference Auditorium 1</td>
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<td>18:45 - 20:00</td>
<td>Publishers’ Reception, Poster Prize Presentation</td>
<td>Sports Hall 1</td>
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<td>Long Conversation with Stuart Hall’</td>
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<td>09:00 - 10:30</td>
<td>Roundtable Sessions</td>
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<td>Paper Session 7</td>
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<td>Stevens Lecture Theatres 01-20</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>Study Group Convenors Lunch</td>
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<td>13:30 - 15:00</td>
<td>Plenary: Monica Prasad</td>
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<td>Paper Session 8</td>
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<td>Stevens Lecture Theatres 01, 02 &amp; 20</td>
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<td>Stream Plenary</td>
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<td>Theory Stream Plenary</td>
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<td>09:30-11:30</td>
<td>Latimer, J. E.</td>
<td>Starkey, C.</td>
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## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME GRID - THURSDAY

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<td>09:30-10:30</td>
<td>Stream Plenaries</td>
<td>Conf Aud 1, Conf Aud 2</td>
<td>Li, Y., Bloch, A., Davy, Z., Leonard, P., Garratt-Glass, E.</td>
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<td>10:30-11:00</td>
<td>Refreshments</td>
<td>RSLT 01, RSLT 02</td>
<td>Reed, K., Byrne, M., Fouskas, T., Ward, M., Khattab, N., Hugman, C.</td>
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<td>11:00-12:30</td>
<td>Paper Session 4</td>
<td>RSLT 03, RSLT 04</td>
<td>Scambler, N., Demireva, M., Moskal, M., Iyer, P., Williams, G., Achatz, J.</td>
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<td>11:00-15:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>RSLT 05, RSLT 06, RSLT 07</td>
<td>Dimond, R., Ginger, S.J., Vickers, T., Velayutham, S., Wright, H.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:30-17:00</td>
<td>Paper Session 6</td>
<td>RSLT 05, RSLT 06, RSLT 07</td>
<td>Chabot, C., Smith, A., Wadia, K., Hornei, I., Tulle, E.</td>
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<td>17:15-18:45</td>
<td>Plenary: Evelyn Ruppert</td>
<td>RSLT 05, RSLT 06, RSLT 07</td>
<td>Dobson, R., Warde, A.</td>
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<td>Publisher’s Reception</td>
<td>RSLT 05, RSLT 06, RSLT 07</td>
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**Key**
- **RSLT**: Roger Stevens Lecture Theatre
- **CIT**: Cities, Mobilities, Place and Space
- **CUL**: Culture, Media, Sport and Consumption
- **FAM**: Families and Relationships
- **FRO**: Frontiers
- **LIF**: Lifecourse
- **MED**: Medicine, Health and Illness
- **MET**: Methodological Innovations
- **RIG**: Rights, Violence and Crime
- **RIS**: Risk, Globalisation, Climate Change and Beyond
- **STS**: Science and Technology Studies
- **DIV**: Social Divisions / Social Identities
- **EDU**: Sociology of Education
- **REL**: Sociology of Religion
- **THE**: Theory
- **WOR**: Work, Employment and Economic Life
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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<tr>
<td>08:30</td>
<td>Frontiers Plenary 2: Presidential Event on the Scottish Referendum</td>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<th>Speakers</th>
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<td>DIV3: Quinlan, A.; Gunson, J.; Tubaro, P.; Yousaf, F.N.; Morrison, I.; Benton, E.; Farnsworth, V.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Paper Session 6</td>
<td>STS: Murtagh, M.; Temple-Mall, E.; Biggs, M.; Chamberlain, M.; Tamayo-Gomez, C.; Ersanilli, E.; Curran, D.; Cohen, R.</td>
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<th>Time</th>
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<td>18:45</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td>Whitworth, R.; King, J.; Balz, P.; Phillips, T.; Rimell, A.; Morgan, N.; Rahman, A.</td>
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<td>Closing Remarks</td>
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<td>09:00-10:30</td>
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<td>A Report on the Step-changes in Travel</td>
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<td>12:30-13:30</td>
<td>Lunch Study Group Convenor's Lunch</td>
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<td>13:30-15:00</td>
<td>Plenary: Monica Prasad</td>
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**Key**
- **RSLT**: Roger Stevens Lecture Theatre
- **Conf Aud**: Conference Auditorium
- **EDU**: Sociology of Education
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<td>Speculation in Social Science</td>
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Although Auguste Comte’s ‘religion of humanity’ is often derided as an eccentric outlier to sociology’s disciplinary history, in fact perspectives broadly sympathetic to Comte’s aim of steering the future of our species travelled under the banner of ‘sociology’ throughout the 19th century and were prominent when the first British chair in the field was established at the LSE in 1907, even though in the end only a very modest version of this aspiration prevailed. A consequence of this history – which had parallels in France and Germany – is that sociology developed in studied detachment from biology and technology, the two fields that have arguably transformed the human condition at both the micro- and the macro-levels most decisively over the past 250 years. Seen in world-historic perspective, academic sociology’s horizons seem remarkably cramped in comparison to what was on offer when ‘sociology’ was a term that was contested by the spawn of Comte. An especially vivid glimpse of this broader vision for the field may be found in H.G. Wells’ presentation to the early Sociological Society, with its invocation of the great 19th century political utopians as well as its adumbration of eugenics and other themes that found a natural home in 20th century ‘science fiction’. A hundred years later, largely thanks to science and technology studies (STS), sociologists are now empirically attuned to the role that biology and technology play in defining the human condition – but is there a disciplinary vision to match these developments? It is striking that much of STS is explicitly anti-sociological and especially scathing of the field’s ‘anthropocentrism’. However, ‘humanity’ has more often been the name of a yet-to-be-realized normative ideal than an already existing privileged species. That ideal – one that joins Christian eschatology, Enlightenment theories of progress and transhumanist dreams of ‘enhancement’ in common cause – is increasingly called ‘uplift’, a concept with roots in both science fiction and bioethics. I shall argue that sociology needs to engage seriously with this concept not only to reconnect with its original spirit but also, and more importantly, to remain relevant as a discipline in the coming century.


Fuller has spoken in more than 30 countries, often keynoting professional academic conferences, and has been a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts since 1995. He was awarded a D.Litt. by Warwick in 2007 for significant career-long contributions to scholarship. He was appointed to the Auguste Comte Chair in Social Epistemology in 2011, and is a Fellow of the UK Academy of Social Sciences, as well as a member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts (Division I: Humanities).

His writings have been translated into twenty languages. His book Kuhn vs Popper was named book of the month (Feb 2005) by the US magazine, Popular Science. The Intellectual was named a book of the year by the UK magazine...
New Statesman for 2005, and Dissent over Descent was named book of the week by Times Higher Education in July 2008. He contributed an answer to the 2014 Edge annual question, ‘What scientific idea is due for retirement?’ (His answer was ‘Human being = Homo sapiens’.) One site where his work is regularly featured and pursued by others is the Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective, maintained by Jim Collier at Virginia Tech.

Since coming to Warwick in 1999 (from Durham, where he had held the chair in sociology and social policy), Fuller has supervised several Ph.D. students, taught on the Doctoral Training Programme and the MA in Social Research. He teaches on the Social and Political Thought MA and convenes the MSc in Science, Media and Public Policy. At the undergraduate level, he has taught the social theory of law, sociology of knowledge, media sociology and social theory more generally. He welcomes students working in the sociology of knowledge, history, philosophy and sociology of science, the nature the university and intellectual life, and normative issues relating to recent developments on the impact of science and technology on the political order, especially concerning our changing conceptions of the biological and what it means to be human.

You can follow Fuller on twitter: @profstevefuller

Chair: Milena Stateva, The Tavistock Institute
FOR SOCIOLOGIES OF DATA

The proliferation of data in our times is changing societies. This calls for practicing sociologies of data in ways that don’t treat data as though it were produced outside social relations and struggles. My objective in advocating for sociologies of data is to attend to the numerous actors, technologies, methods, practices and power relations that are ordering, classifying, excluding, enabling and making who we are, how we are governed and what we know about ourselves as subjects, citizens and societies. Although practicing sociologies of data is one way of approaching these issues, in an age when data have become intensely commodified, followed, and acted upon this has also become a responsibility.

Evelyn Ruppert is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology at Goldsmiths, University of London. She was previously a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Research on Socio-cultural Change (CRESC) and co-convened a research theme called The Social Life of Methods. She is currently PI of an ESRC funded project, Socialising Big Data and recently awarded an ERC Consolidator Grant for her project, Peopling Europe: How data make a people (ARITHMUS). She is also founding and editor-in-chief of a new SAGE journal, Big Data & Society: Critical Interdisciplinary Inquiries, to be launched in June 2014.

Chair: David Mellor, University of Oxford
British Sociological Association
Philip Abrams Memorial Prize
Nominees 2014

Parveen Akhtar
British Muslim Politics: Examining Pakistani Braderi Networks
Palgrave Macmillan 978-1-137-27515-8

Sara Farris
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BRILL 978-90-04-25408-4

Xiaodong Lin
Gender, Modernity and Male Migrant Workers in China: Becoming a 'modern man'
Routledge 978-0-415-62657-6

James Rosbrook-Thompson
Sport, Difference and Belonging: Conceptions of human variation in British sport
Routledge 978-0-415-62655-2

Kehinde Andrews
Resisting Racism: Race, inequality and the Black supplementary school movement
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Carrie Friese
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Anthony Lloyd
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Carrie Birch
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Dariusz Gafijczuk
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Tom Campbell
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Sypros Themelis
Social Change and Education in Greece: A Study in Class Struggles Dynamics
Palgrave Macmillan 978-0-230-33822-7

Matt Dawson
Late Modernity, Individualization and Socialism: An Associational Critique of Neoliberalism
Palgrave Macmillan 978-1-137-00341-6

Rachel Hurdley
Home, Materiality, Memory and Belonging: Keeping Culture
Palgrave Macmillan 978-0-230-23028-6

Dave O'Brien
Cultural Policy: Management, value and modernity in the creative industries
Routledge 978-0-415-81759-2

Imogen Tyler
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Statelessness and Citizenship: Camps and the creation of political space
Routledge 978-0-415-63135-8
Sharon Elley

Understanding Sex and Relationship Education, Youth and Class: A Youth Work-Led Approach
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Charlotte Faircloth

Militant Lactivism? Attachment parenting and intensive motherhood in the UK and France
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Hannah Jones

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Policy Press ~ 978-1-44731-003-7

Xiaodong Lin

Gender, Modernity and Male Migrant Workers in China: Becoming a 'modern' man
Routledge ~ 978-0-415-62657-6

Victoria Redclift

Statelessness and Citizenship: Camps and the creation of political space
Routledge ~ 978-0-415-63135-8
IS NEOLIBERALISM OVER? FREE MARKET POLICIES IN THE U.S.

By neoliberalism I mean a set of policies built around a faith in the free market, and a strong distrust of state intervention. In the United States, we have witnessed a rise in policies of this sort in the last three decades, starting with the presidency of Ronald Reagan. In his first inaugural address Reagan said quote “government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem”; in his lighter moments, Reagan’s joke was “The nine most terrifying words in the English language are: I’m from the government, and I’m here to help.” Reagan’s anti-government approach to government has been a stable presence in American politics ever since. We saw it catch fire again under the presidency of George W. Bush, and we have seen it flare up most recently in the rise of the Tea Party. But there are reasons to wonder whether this era of American neoliberalism might be drawing to a close. For example, nearly half of the American public now holds a negative image of the Tea Party and its extreme anti-government stance, compared with only a third who view it favorably. And Republicans have lost the popular vote in five of the last six presidential elections, and they hold one house of Congress today partly thanks to gerrymandering. So, has this era of American history come to a close? Is neoliberalism over?

Monica Prasad is professor of sociology at Northwestern University. She studies how societies create and regulate markets, from the state regulations of the Progressive era to the fair trade labeling and carbon taxes of today. In her book *The Politics of Free Markets* (winner of the 2007 Barrington Moore Award) she investigates why the movement to minimize government regulation of markets—“neoliberalism”—was so much stronger in the U.S. and Britain than in France and West Germany.

Her new book *The Land of Too Much* (winner of several awards including the American Sociological Association’s Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award) develops a demand-side theory of comparative political economy to explain the surprisingly large role of the state in the U.S., its origins in the 19th century revolution in agricultural productivity, and its consequences for undermining a European-style welfare state and leaving U.S. economic growth dependent on “mortgage Keynesianism.”

Chair: John Holmwood, University of Nottingham
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Human Animal Studies and Constructions of the Public

Hobson-West, P.
(University of Nottingham)

There is increasing debate within the field of human-animal studies about the relationship between academic research, advocacy, and social change. Unlike detailed case studies which show the diversity of individual constructions of animals, some scholars rely on generalised statements about societal views. For example, authors use phrases like ‘moral orthodoxy’ or ‘current worldview’ to imply the widespread adherence to a particular set of beliefs about animals. Drawing on the use of animals in laboratory science as an example, this paper will explore whether such generalisations are accurate or justified. This will be achieved through a focus on the concept of ‘publics’. In studies of controversial topics, sociological research has consistently demonstrated the way in which publics, and public opinion in particular, get used by social movements and policy actors as a strategic resource. The aim of this paper is to encourage reflection on the extent to which scholars working in human-animal studies may also utilise a particular view of the public as a tactic for enhancing the legitimacy of their claims. We will argue that such critical reflection is a necessary step on the route to consideration of whether and how we should try and promote social change.

The Politics of Human Animal Studies: Analyses and Interventions

Cudworth, E.
(University of East London)

Sociology has come relatively late to the field of Human Animal Studies. Early sociological interventions in the field were often informed by a critical perspective, in particular feminism but also Marxism and critical race studies. There have also been less critical routes taken by sociological animal studies using approaches such as actor-network theory and symbolic interactionism. All these initiatives have made important contributions to the project of ‘animalizing sociology’ and problematizing its legacies of human-exclusivity. However, despite questioning contemporary social formations of species and suggesting a need for change, the link between analysis and political strategy is uncertain.

This paper maps the field of sociological animal studies through some examples of critical and mainstream approaches and considers their relation to advocacy. Whilst those working in critical sociological traditions may appear to have a more certain political agenda, an analysis of ‘how things are’ does not always lead to a coherent position on ‘what is to be done’ in terms of social movement agendas or policy intervention. In addition, political concepts deployed in advocacy such as rights, ‘liberation’, welfare and quality of life are problematic when applied beyond the human. Even conceptions less entrenched in the liberal humanist tradition such as embodiment, care and vulnerability are difficult to operationalize. What ‘animal sociologists’ might think is as varied as the potential interventions to secure change. Aims and tactics are always contested, but there are also possibilities for coalition and solidarity around certain claims for change, a number of which are considered.

Human Animal Studies and Policy Change

Molloy, C.
(Edge Hill University)

After a lengthy period during which media studies, arguably, lost its way in the cul-de-sac of postmodernism, relativism, apolitical posturing and the nihilistic celebration of the vacuous, there has been lately a return to questions of ideology and political economy approaches. Such perspectives draw heavily on media studies’ sociological traditions to engage critically with questions about the ways in which popular media shapes and informs the ideas, values and attitudes of a society and excludes the voices of those without economic power. In the case of nonhuman animals their ubiquity across all media platforms allows only for a voiceless presence that rarely, if ever, is allowed to remind us about the systems of exploitation and cruelty that continue to thrive under contemporary capitalism. A
critical media studies can open up a space for speciesist media discourses to be interrogated. However, whilst there is no doubt that critical approaches can indeed raise questions and challenge existing structures how can media critique connect to policy change? This paper will outline some recent examples of media research and critique that are informed by a critical animal studies agenda and which offer recommendations for policy change. It will also discuss the strategies and challenges involved in reaching decision-makers.

Chair: Rhoda Wilkie (University of Aberdeen)

Families and Relationships 2
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 20
TROUBLED FAMILIES: CHANGE AND CONTINUITY IN INTERGENERATIONAL PROBLEMATIZING

In the recent Government spending review one of the few areas to receive an increase in funding was the ‘troubled families’ initiative. This reflects a longstanding national and international preoccupation with perceived intergenerational transmission of disadvantage and the attribution of crime and disorder to dysfunctional family relationships.

This stream plenary will explore these themes via the format of a panel session featuring cutting edge sociological research, historical insights and grounded experience. Speakers include:

Levitas, R.
(University of Bristol)
Professor Levitas is a renowned and high profile sociologist and critic of Government statistics on troubled families. Author of ‘There may be trouble ahead: what we know about those 120, 000 ‘troubled families’.

Shildrick, T. and Macdonald, R.
(University of Leeds and Teesside University)
Professor Shildrick and Professor Macdonald are authors of ground-breaking and much cited sociological research dispelling the myth that ‘cultures of worklessness’ are passed down through the generations.

Welshman, J.
(Lancaster University)
Dr Welshman is author of a range of articles and books on ‘problem families’ and their history since 1880 which provide a powerful insight into the manifestation of this theme through the years and its relationship to broader social and economic trends.

This stream-plenary panel will resonate with the conference theme of ‘Changing Society’ by exploring changes and continuities in the way the trope of the problem family is currently being articulated.

Sociology of Religion
CONFERENCE AUDITORIUM 1
ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY: THE LOSS AND RECOVERY OF RELIGIOUS LITERACY IN THE WELFARE STATE

Dinham, A.
(Goldsmiths, University of London)
Professor Dinham is director of the Faiths and Civil Society Unit at Goldsmiths and is policy advisor to both faith-based agencies and policy bodies, including the Faith Based Regeneration Network and the CoExistence Trust in the
House of Lords, as well as advising central government on issues of public faith. He has been Peace Studies Fellow at the University of Calgary (2009-2010) and Director of the Faiths and Civil Society Network of the Association of Commonwealth Universities. He is also currently Programme Director for the HEFCE ‘Religious Literacy Leadership in Higher Education’ programme. Professor Dinham has published extensively on faith in the public realm, including the recent volume ‘Faith and Social Capital After the Debt Crisis’ 2012 which drew on new research, theory and critical analysis to explore the contribution of faith-based social action to contemporary Britain, particularly significant at this time when the state is leaving gaps in social provision that faith-based agencies are being expected to fill.

Theory

CONFERENCE AUDITORIUM 2

THEORISING SOCIAL CHANGE

This stream plenary addresses the conference theme of ‘Changing Society’, focusing particularly on general social theoretical accounts that analyse questions of social change and social stability. Speakers include:

Kapoor, N.
(University of York)

McGoey, L.
(University of Essex)

Chair: Tom Brock (Manchester Metropolitan University)
Disability is at the centre of contemporary social developments in relation to inequality, entitlement and eligibility. Whether disability involves the need to change society or the disabled person has been an important area of debate in disability studies and one that should not be ignored. The conference represents an important opportunity to further develop important critical debate in this area of great contemporary social relevance.

Disability Studies and the Social Model of Disability: The Unintended and Unanticipated Consequences of an Emancipatory Paradigm

Watson, N.
(Glasgow University)

The social model of disability, emancipatory research and the Independent Living Movement, all concepts associated with disability studies have come about as a direct result of its close relationship with the disabled peoples movement. These ideas and others have been employed to critique the structures that exclude disabled people and helped to generate a sense of injustice and have added fuel to an emancipatory movement. Some of the most significant changes in disability policy in the UK such as the Disability Discrimination Act and the rolling out of Direct Payments can be linked directly to these concepts. Whilst there have been some great successes the impact of the financial crises has seen the possibility for retrenchment and there is a danger that some of the ideals and demands of disability studies are now being employed by those who seek to reduce the role of the state in the delivery of care and support, cut costs and withdraw benefits to legitimate their actions. Direct payments for example have unwittingly acted as a key driver for the end of socialised social care. This paper will chart the emergence of disability studies, reconstructing the ideas that have underpinned it and seek to shed light on some of the challenges faced today. It will use the work of Nancy Fraser and argue that the changing world economy and responses to the economic collapse necessitates a new approach to tackling disablement and promoting justice.

Disability and the Normative Trajectory of Sociological Careers

Wilde, A.
(University of Bangor)

This paper is based on autoethnography and (Critical Discourse) analysis of job specifications for posts in Sociology over a 10 year period. It will also draw on material closely related to the sociological community in the UK, e.g. Network newsletter. Exploring assumptions made of disability, impairment, age, gender, achievement, and notions of the ‘ideal candidate’, the paper will examine the expectations made of academics in sociology and explore some of the implications of a ‘non-disabled’ academic ‘gaze’ for the shaping of the sociological community. It will highlight potential barriers to access for disabled sociologists and raise questions about the implications for the practice of sociology in the UK and the place of Disability Studies within it.

‘I May Not Have a Social Imagination, But I Have a Sociological One’: Sociology and the Empowerment of Insider Voices Within Autism Studies

Milton, D.
(University of Birmingham)

In recent years there has been an increase in sociological accounts of autism, often from academics who are also parents of autistic children (Nadesan, 2005; Waltz, 2012). However, recent reports have shown a lack of funding for research into the social issues faced by autistic people and their families, along with a lack of participation and collaboration with autistic people themselves (Pellicano et al. 2013). This presentation will reflect on a number of projects and initiatives that seek to begin to redress this balance, in which the author of this paper has participated in. These projects include an action research project involving the setting up of an online study group in sociology run by and for autistic adults (Milton and Moon, 2012); being on the editorial board of a new journal set up by autistic scholars (Autonomy, 2012); and how these initiatives have led to the setting up of the ‘Theorising Autism’ project, which
involves a yearly seminar day led by autistic scholars, and the publishing of further journal articles (Milton and Bracher, 2013). This presentation will discuss the achievements of these projects, including how one person involved in the projects described the experience as ‘life changing’, as well as the barriers faced in regard to critical autistic voices, or even a sociological view being expressed within mainstream literature on the subject, one that is dominated by biomedical and psychological perspectives.

Frontiers 2
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 20

BSA PRESIDENTIAL EVENT ON THE SCOTTISH REFERENDUM AND THE FUTURE OF THE UK AND SCOTLAND

N.B. This event will run through the advertised break and will end at 11:00

The Scottish Independence Referendum: The Terms of the Debate
Jeffery, C.
(University of Edinburgh)

Higher Education in the Scottish Referendum Debate
Riddell, S.
(University of Edinburgh)

Young Voters and the Scottish Referendum
Eichhorn, J.
(University of Edinburgh)

Chair: Sue Scott (Member of the Advisory Group for the ESRC Programme on the Future of the UK and Scotland)

Lifecourse
CONFERENCE AUDITORIUM 1

CLASS, RETIREMENT AND INEQUALITY IN LATER LIFE: FINDINGS FROM THE ENGLISH LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF AGEING

Nazroo, J.
(University of Manchester)

We have seen a rapid and continuing growth in life expectancy. This, coupled with the baby boomer cohort heading into post-retirement life, has led to significant policy concern over the financial pressures resulting from an increasing proportion of older, non-productive and dependent people. Indeed, the study of ageing has historically taken retirement as the key marker of old age and conceived of this as a transition into an economically dependent situation coupled with declines in social status and health. This focus, however, neglects the complexity of the retirement transition – perhaps reflecting a destandardisation of the lifecourse – and the heterogeneity of later life experiences – reflecting how process of social stratification have led to the differential accumulation of resources over the lifecourse. It also neglects the ways in which later life experiences may be transforming, and socially transformative, as the population ages, identified, for example, by Laslett's description of the 'Third Age' as post-work life characterised by opportunity, leisure and self-fulfilment. Such observations raise important questions on how and why the nature of later life is changing, how this relates to period and cohort influences, and how processes of stratification persist into later life. They also challenge the current policy focus on dependency and intergenerational justice, instead suggesting a focus on opportunity and inequality. This paper uses data from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing to empirically examine some of these questions, with a particular focus on the influence of socioeconomic inequalities on transitions and outcomes in later life,

James Nazroo is Professor of Sociology, Director of the Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research (CCSR), and co-Director of the Manchester Institute for Collaborative Research on Ageing (MICRA), all at the
University of Manchester. He initially trained in Medicine and Sociology, then studied at Royal Holloway and Bedford New College for a MSc in Sociology of Health and Illness (1989), and finally studied for his PhD in Sociology at UCL (1999). Before coming to Manchester, he was Professor of Medical Sociology at UCL.

Issues of inequality have been the primary focus of his research activities, which have centred on gender, ethnicity, ageing, and the intersections between these. His research on ageing has been concerned to understand the patterns and determinants of social and health inequalities in ageing populations, with a particular interest on the ‘transmission’ of inequalities across the lifecourse, patterns of ‘retirement’, formal and informal social and civic participation, and how class operates post-retirement. He has conducted studies on quality of life for older people among different ethnic groups in the UK, on inequalities in health at older ages, and on routes into retirement and the impact of retirement on health and wellbeing. He is PI of the fRaill programme, an interdisciplinary study of inequalities in later life, and co-PI of the English Longitudinal Study of Aging, which is a multi-disciplinary panel study of those aged 50 and older, and part of an international ‘family’ of very similar studies.

Theory
CONFERENCE AUDITORIUM 2
MORPHOGENESIS UNBOUND: CRITICAL REALISM AND CHANGING SOCIETY

In this stream plenary session Margaret Archer will discuss her recent work on ‘morphogenetic society’. Building on the broader morphogenetic approach developed over three decades, this new phase of her work seeks, along with an international and interdisciplinary network of collaborators, to understand our changing society in a way which goes beyond an empiricist focus on ‘flows’ and ‘networks’ to isolate the generative mechanisms responsible for the intensification of social change that has been a subject of both popular and academic discourse. This session complements the conference theme in two ways, offering an analysis of how society is changing but also of the mechanisms through which society can be changed. It represents the first large scale and systematic engagement with questions of social change from a critical realist perspective, as well as constituting a major new direction in the work of an extremely influential social theorist.

Social Divisions / Social Identities
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 02
PARTICIPATION, PEDAGOGY AND THE PERSISTENCE OF CLASS: ADMISSIONS AND TEACHING SOCIOLOGY IN A SELECTIVE HE INSTITUTION

Recent excellent research studies into class differentials in access to, experience of, and success in, Higher Education have produced valuable evidence and enhanced understanding of social mobility outcomes. Our presentation is intended to provide further illustration of the workings of some of the detailed process and social mechanism that reproduce class in this sector. These include disappointed expectations of the ‘student experience’ as marketed by universities; the academic effects of class-based friendship choices; issues of success and access for pre-entry Summer School students; and the dynamics and discourse of the admissions process.

As three sociologists, our account is inevitably sociological, but rather than expressing this in a fully theorised sociological format, our discussion of class, education and identity will concentrate on our direct experience as social agents in a selective system.

Coulson, S.  
(Newcastle University)

Garforth, L.  
(Newcastle University)

Payne, G.  
(Newcastle University)
In addressing the conference theme of ‘Changing Society’ the CITIES stream plenary considers contemporary conditions of possibility of the urban and critically explores current and historical and current drivers and limitations of social change. Whilst discussions of ‘the city’ have been characterised by grand theory and themes there has, recently, been a turn toward a more everyday urbanism. This approach entails a good deal more than simply understanding how grand scale (trans)formations impact upon, or might be found in the everyday but, rather, seeks to demonstrate how (urban) sociology might approach its ‘big issues’ from a local, quotidian perspective. Thus, in critically exploring the contribution of an everyday urbanism, the papers examine the everyday as a site for meaningful social change and resistance and as a contested space in its own right. In sum, the papers seek to understand a changing society, and explore possible interventions that sociology might contribute, from the street-level of social organisation.

Cosmopolis London: Narratives of Collective Identity, Belonging and Exclusion in Late Victorian London

Parker, S.
(London School of Economics and Political Science and University of York)

This paper examines the emergence of a cosmopolitan metropolis during a period of significant immigration into London between 1871 and 1901 and explores how parliament, government, the popular press, prominent essayists and writers, and social reformers constructed narratives of belonging and otherness in the context of increasing labour and social unrest and working class enfranchisement. Drawing on the work of social theorists including Hacking, Bourdieu and Waquant the paper concludes by reflecting on the long term consequences of 19th century migrant urbanisation for governmentalities of embordered subjectivity and civic inclusion/exclusion.

Lowry at the Tate: the everyday, the extraordinary and the pastoral

Millington, G.
(University of York)

Discussion about the L.S. Lowry exhibition at Tate Britain, held during the summer and autumn of 2013, has been dominated by critic’s opinions of the artistic merit of this idiosyncratic painter. There has been little interest in the sociological context of the exhibition, save for a few passing, but telling, comments on why the Tate chose to ignore Lowry for so long. There has been even less scrutiny of the urban context of the exhibition; the irony that paintings of messy, tragic, heroic everyday urban life in Greater Manchester from the mid-20th century were being exhibited in (and therefore juxtaposed with) the corporate centre of global London. In many ways, the fascination (or nostalgia) for past urban life and earlier metropolitan modernities exemplified by the exhibition is evidence of Henri Lefebvre’s argument in The Urban Revolution that although the central city has imploded—transformed into a centre of decision-making, commerce and ‘museumification’—images and representations of ‘the city’ ‘can perpetuate itself, survive its conditions’. City-ness persists through its signs, its phantasmas and this is especially the case in command and control centres like London. Yet Lowry’s signifiers of urban life are especially stranded in the sterile environs of the Tate, cut adrift in search of a signified object, the city. Lowry’s paintings of the everyday appear, in this context, extraordinary. Taking stock also of the great merchandising effort that accompanied the exhibition, it could be argued that the event makes a fetish of the urban (and working class) content of Lowry’s images, reconfiguring them within what Julian Stallabrass calls an ‘urban pastoral’. The combined effect of these relatively new ways of seeing the city contribute to a ‘blind field’ in relation to the relentless churn of contemporary urbanization and its attendant effects that, in turn, prevents us from recognising the ‘everyday’ in our present urban condition.
Locating Everyday Public Space
Hall, T. and Smith, R. (Cardiff University)

It can be argued that a city is its streets and public spaces, and that the life of a city can be read from the qualities of (everyday) experience these spaces afford; a number of classic accounts of city life make this claim, both directly and indirectly. Contemporary readings of city streets and urban public space continue this tradition, among which one strand of analysis directs attention to an alleged attenuation and privatisation of public space. In this paper we consider the ways in which both private and public space are experienced by the rough sleeping homeless and by street-based outreach teams tasked to work with those who have gone public with their needs and difficulties – but who are not always so easy to find; being homeless in the centre of a city entails involves exposure and visibility but also evasion and concealment. Cities provide a number of ways in which to hide away and be left alone, and we use this paper to tease out some variations on this theme. This leads us to a reassessment of the meaning of public space, and to comments on urban care, unconcern, disrepair and cleaning.

Representing Communities: Developing the Creative Power of People to Improve Health and Wellbeing
Williams, G. (Cardiff University)

Each of the devolved nations of the UK publishes and uses statistically based indexes which rank ‘places’ in terms of how poorly the people in particular communities are faring in relation to health, education, employment and other key indicators. Although such ‘representations’ are often designed to draw attention to areas of ‘need’ and guide policy development and government investment, they have the additional, unintended consequence of creating ‘geographies of lack’, ‘non-places’, places that are not ‘proper’, and communities that are mythologized in ways that perpetuate negative imaginings of people as ‘passive, stuck and disconnected’. Such ‘reputational geographies’ can have profound socio-economic as well as emotional consequences for the people who live there. In this lecture I draw on research that is currently underway which aims to establish how community representations produced through creative arts practices (e.g. story-telling, performance, visual art) could be used to inform health-related policy and service development. I will discuss how such alternative representations may be able to resist negative ‘reputational geographies’ and offer instead multi-layered, community-generated understandings of the challenges to, and the resources for, promoting health and well-being.

Social Life of Methods
As an inaugural conference session for the BSA Digital Sociology study group, this round table discussion explores digital methods and their implications for sociological research. Our theme follows a recent special issue of Theory, Culture & Society discussing the ‘social life of methods’ which has attracted much attention and discussion. A number of contributors and editors from the issue have agreed to speak as part of the event:

Halford, S. (University of Southampton)
Lupton, D. (University of Canberra)
Marres, N. (Goldsmiths, University of London)

Savage, M. (London School of Economics and Political Science)
Uprichard, E. (University of Warwick)
All the speakers have made significant contributions to the work on the social life of methods, and to the developing field of digital sociology. Furthermore, the topics under discussion have wider purchase for sociology as a whole at a time of disciplinary uncertainty in a context of rapid social change.

The roundtable will cover a diverse range of topics under the broad theme of the ‘social life of methods’ including the ‘crisis of empirical sociology’, the significance of ‘big data’, the history of sociological methods, the digital turn in social life and the problems and prospects for a critical social science under contemporary circumstances. This session will not only address the conference theme of ‘changing society’ but will do so in a way which explores how the repertoires of social research are both shaping and being shaped by these broader changes within social life.

Chair: Evelyn Ruppert (Goldsmiths, University of London)

**Sociology of Education**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 20**

**UK EDUCATIONAL POLICY CHANGE AND ITS IMPACT**

The education system in the UK has seen rapid changes over the last few years at all levels from pre-school to further and higher education. These policies are adversely impacting on the most disadvantaged creating a more and more unequal system. This session will discuss these changes in line with the overall conference theme of changing society.

**Rights, Violence and Crime**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 01**

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

The BSA Violence against women study group was launched in 1985 at the BSA conference. Many of the papers from this conference were published as part of Hanmer and Maynard’s *Women, Violence and Social Control* collection in 1987. This was followed by *Women, Violence and Male Power* edited by Hester, Kelly and Radford in 1996; *Women, Violence and Strategies for Action* edited by Radford, Friedberg and Harne in 2000; and *Researching Gender Violence* edited by Skinner, Hester and Malos in 2005. These four books, between them, mark a significant body of feminist scholarship on sociological approaches to male violence against women. As we consider how we as sociologists change society, within a society that has undergone such radical shifts, it seems an ideal moment to reflect back on the changes seen over the last thirty years of the BSA study group; it’s her story documented through these books.

This plenary session will invite editors and authors of these four books to reflect on the changes they have (or have not) seen since publication. Original authors who are still conducting cutting edge research in the field of violence against women will be paired with a postgraduate researcher/ early career academic who is researching the same topic, to reflect on changes made and changes still desired in the field of violence against women. This plenary session, whilst speaking clearly to the conference theme and reflecting on ‘changing society’ will also be an opportunity to demonstrate how the Violence against Women group was and still is highly influential, has continuity, and also nurtures up and coming talent.

Hester, M.  
(University of Bristol)  
Kelly, L.  
(London Metropolitan University)  
Mcdonald, G.  
(University of Bath)  
Smith, O.  
(University of Bath)
British Sociological Association
Annual Members’ Meeting

Wednesday 23 April 2014
13:30 – 14:30
Conference Auditorium 2

Chairperson: Howard Wollman, Chair of the BSA Council

The Annual Members’ Meeting is the principal mechanism by which members can register their views on services and strategy within the British Sociological Association (BSA). It is also an opportunity to discuss matters concerning the state of the discipline more widely.

Members of the BSA Council will speak to the Annual Review, explaining the current strategy and will invite members’ comments on the ways in which the Association is achieving its objectives.

All members are welcome
SPECIAL EVENTS

Film Screening of ‘Personally Speaking: A Long Conversation with Stuart Hall’
Throughout the Conference
CONFERENCE CENTRE G11

In this stimulating and eloquent four-hour interview, conducted by the literary journalist Maya Jaggi and directed by Mike Dibb, Hall reflects on his life and career, talking personally and in depth about the trajectory of his work and how it has intersected with broader political movements. Film provided by the Media Education Foundation (www.mediaed.org).

Running Order: Jamaica: Family and Culture; Coming to England; The New Left and New Left Review; Early Teaching; Richard Hoggart and CCCS; Cultural Studies and the Diasporic Experience; Marriage and Feminism; Policing the Crisis and Thatcherism; Neo-liberalism, Globalization & the Economic Recession; The Obama Phenomenon; Questions of Identity; Difference & Multiculturalisation; Race, Diaspora & Art; Race & Modernism; A New Politics of Representation; Permanent Disturbance: A Migrant’s Fate.

Learning from Stuart Hall: Activism Inside and Outside the University
Thursday 24 April 2014 15:30 - 17:00
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 18

PRESIDENTIAL EVENT WITH THE ACTIVISM FORUM AND THE RACE AND ETHNICITY STUDY GROUP

A panel and discussion around key themes from Stuart Hall’s work and their contemporary relevance: the role of the university; authoritarian populism; postcolonialism and the politics of identity. Speakers include:

Radice, H.  
(University of Leeds)  
McLennan, G.  
(University of Bristol)

Bhambra, G.K  
(University of Warwick)  
St Louis, B.  
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

Kapoor, N.  
(University of York)

Chairs: Lisa McKenzie (London School of Economics and Political Science) and Nirmal Puwar (Goldsmiths, University of London).

Photographing Everyday Life: Ageing, Lived Experiences, Time and Space
Throughout the Conference
SPORTS HALL 2

Martin, W. and Pilcher, K.  
(Brunel University)

A key focus for research is to promote impact and enhance public engagement by communicating our research findings with multiple and diverse audiences. This has led to creative ways to disseminate social science data, for example, via the means of the arts and humanities. Towards the end of an ESRC funded project Photographing Everyday Life: Ageing, Lived Experiences, Time and Space we created and disseminated our key findings via an interactive photographic exhibition. The photographic exhibition was a collaboration with Brunel Arts Centre, and an independent Artist, and involved the active engagement of our participants. The research involved a diverse sample
Special Events

of 62 women and men aged 50 years and over who took photographs of their different daily routines to create a weekly visual diary. This diary was then explored through in-depth photo-elicitation interviews to make visible the rhythms, patterns and meanings that underlie habitual and routinised everyday worlds. Within the exhibition we created a series of installations, mosaics, photographic images and digitised displays with the aim to portray our research findings in an interactive, creative and engaging way. We also collected ideas, images, insights and feedback from the audiences who interacted with the exhibition. In this display we show some aspects of our photographic exhibition, invite participants to engage with images on daily life and ageing, as well as reflect on the possibilities and limitations of this type of dissemination.

Consult the Editors
Throughout the Conference
SPORTS HALL 1

The Editors of the four BSA-affiliated Journals will be available to speak to delegates throughout the conference. Maybe you have an idea for a paper you are developing, or maybe you would like more details about the aims and scope of one of the journals. You may wish to browse some previous issues of the journals and see what has been recently published. If so, come along to the BSA Journals exhibition in Sports Hall 1.

Meet the Convenors:
Activism in Sociology Forum, Early Career Forum, Postgraduate Forum, Sociologists Outside Academy and Teaching Group
Throughout the Conference
SPORTS HALL 1

The BSA Postgraduate Forum Convenors, the Early Careers Forum Convenors, the Sociologists Outside Academy Group and the Teaching Group Convenors will have exhibition stands in Sports Hall 1 and will be on hand throughout the conference to answer any questions and to meet conference delegates.

BSA Group Events

A number of BSA Study Groups and various other groups will be holding events outside of paper sessions, during lunch hours. All of these are listed below and all delegates are welcome to attend

First time Conference Attendees
Specialist Group Meeting Thursday 24 April, 12:30 - 13:30 Roundtable 1

Postgraduate Forum
Specialist Group Meeting Thursday 24 April, 12:30 - 13:30 Roundtable 2

Early Career Researchers' Forum
Specialist Group Meeting Thursday 24 April, 12:30 - 13:30 Roundtable 3

Sociologists Outside Academy Group
Specialist Group Meeting Thursday 24 April, 12:30 - 13:30 Roundtable 4

Animal Human Study Group
Study Group Meeting Thursday 24 April, 12:30 - 13:30 Roundtable 9

Bourdieu Study Group
Study Group Meeting Thursday 24 April, 12:30 - 13:30 Roundtable 5
Special Events

Disability Study Group
Study Group Meeting Thursday 24 April, 12:30 - 13:30 Roundtable 6

Race and Ethnicity Study Group
Study Group Meeting Thursday 24 April, 12:30 - 13:30 Roger Stevens Lecture Theatre 03

Social Network Analysis Group (SNAG)
Study Group Meeting Thursday 24 April, 12:30 - 13:30 Roundtable 7

Psychoanalysis and the Psychosocial
Study Group Meeting Thursday 24 April, 12:30 - 13:30 Roundtable 8

Publishers’ Reception
Thursday 24 April 2014, 18:45 - 20:00
SPORTS HALL 1

Wine and non-alcoholic drinks will be available to delegates while you browse the exhibitions.
Everyone welcome.

Throughout the conference, exhibitions will be located in Sports Hall 1 and 2. Stand staff will be available to speak to delegates for the duration of the conference as well as during the Publishers’ Reception.

Ashgate Publishing
ATLAS.ti
Authors Licensing & Collecting Society (ALCS)
British Sociological Association
Berghahn Books
Cambridge University Press
Emerald Group Publishing
Global China Press
The Higher Education Academy (Teaching Prize Sponsor)
Maney Publishing
Palgrave Macmillan
Photographing Everyday Life: Ageing, Lived Experiences, Time and Space
The Policy Press
Poster Presentations
Routledge, Taylor and Francis
SAGE (Main Conference Sponsor)
Wiley
POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Sports Hall 2

Posters will be displayed in Sports Hall 2 for the duration of the conference. Presenters will be available during the scheduled timeslot on Thursday 24 April 2014 at 15:00-15:30 to discuss their work. Additional times may be indicated on individual posters.

POSTER PRESENTATION PRIZE

A prize will be awarded for the poster which best communicates its aims, methods, findings and conclusions. All delegates are encouraged to cast a vote during the Thursday poster session. Voting slips can be found with the delegate name badges. The winners will be announced on Thursday evening at the publishers’ reception before the conference dinner.

POSTER 1
Socio-demographic Factors Influencing Use of Emergent E-banking Channels in a Developing Economy

Anigbogu, K., Nnonyel, N.A.
(Nnamdi Azikiwe University)

In these times, the indispensability of ICT to 21st century banking operations hardly requires any affirmation. However, in developing countries of the south such as Nigeria, currently attempting to transit from cash based to a cashless economy, holistic and rigorous evaluation of critical success factors is necessary to be able to accurately reflect and predict extant use of e-banking channels among the banking populace. Fuelled by the necessity of an impactful sociological inquiry this research focused on the combined and pure predictive power of select socio-demographic variables on use of e-banking channels. Very interestingly, results from a multiple regression model designed for the study show that age and education are the most powerful predictors of future use of e-banking channels among the banking population. This paper therefore contends that the cashlite Nigerian society drive may be undermined if largely patronized by only a segment of the banked population along characteristics like age and level of educational attainment. If patronage and use of the new alternative self-service channels meant to serve as the live wire of the cashless economy is tailored along socio-demographic lines, it may become exclusive and can only be made successful if more inclusive policies are designed and implemented by the industry stakeholders to attract patronage regardless of socio-demographic characteristics.

POSTER 2
Intrigues and Controversies of Dust-to-dust Funeral Rite among the Igbo of Anambra, Nigeria

Anigbogu, K., Nnonyelu, N.A., Onyima, B. N.
(Nnamdi Azikiwe University)

From pre-historic times death has remained a most puzzling phenomenon to humans. This is explained in part by the plethora of funeral rites, customs and observances found in human societies. Such observances while being distinctively human also serve several socio-psychological and symbolic functions. Generally, the various methods used for disposal of the corpse are linked to religious beliefs, climate and geography, and social status. This paper turns its tentacles to the Anambra Igbo of South-Eastern Nigeria, where the dust-to-dust rite is a tabooed activity for the widow of the deceased. One of the most widespread explanations for this taboo stems from the myth that any man who has sexual intercourse with the widow who performs the dust-to-dust rite will die, among the Igbo a widow was traditionally free to choose any lover to bear children for her late husband especially when the levirate system could not obtain. This paper examines how this age long custom is currently embroiled in controversy as the church is now involved in open confrontation with communities who insist that the custom is sacrosanct and must therefore prevail regardless of Christendom. The paper takes the position that the clash between Christianity and a traditional funeral observance need not assume violent dimensions but rather diplomacy must be engaged in building a consensus between both parties.
POSTER 3
Experiences of Early and Late Onset Alzheimer’s Disease: Ageing, Stigma, and Future Planning

Ashworth, R.
(University of Stirling)

This PhD aims to understand whether people with Alzheimer’s disease and their supporters (often referred to as carers) experience stigma (negative attitudes of others) and how this may affect future planning. People with early onset Alzheimer’s disease (under 65 years old), late onset Alzheimer’s disease (over 65 years old), and their supporters will be recruited. This study aims to explore whether there are differences in attitudes towards dementia based on age, as this has currently only been alluded to in previous research. Future planning has currently only been researched in terms of end of life care for people with dementia, this study aims to focus on future planning across the journey of dementia. A mixed methods approach will be used, which involves questionnaires for all participants, followed by interviews for a group of participants selected based on questionnaire scores. Participants will be recruited from the Scottish Dementia Clinical Research Network (SDCRN) research register, which holds information about people with dementia and their supporters across Scotland who would like to be involved in research. People with early onset and late onset Alzheimer’s disease, and their supporters, will be compared in terms of levels of perceived stigma, as well as quality of life and insight. Interviews will then be looked at using thematic analysis, to explore how the experience of Alzheimer’s disease affects future planning. The findings are important to improve future policy and understandings surrounding dementia care and ageism, from the perspective of people affected by dementia.

POSTER 4
Perceptions of Race and Healthcare Preferences among Black and White Americans

Chaitoff, A., White, I., Wickizer, T.
(Ohio State University and University of Sheffield)

Purpose: Little work has been done to understand how one’s racial group identity can affect healthcare utilization. This study explored how multiple components of racial identity may impact healthcare preferences in the United States.

Methodology: Data from the 2004 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS, n=25,750) as well as an online survey including an experimental treatment (n=300) were used, controlling for multiple potential cofounding variables, to determine how perceptions of race impact healthcare institution usage.

Results: Analysis of BRFSS data showed respondents’ reported number of doctor visits per year was not influenced by frequency of thoughts of race in Whites but was (inversely) so in Blacks (p < .05). Analysis of the experimental treatment within the online survey indicated that Blacks were more likely to prefer a hospital advertisement featuring Black healthcare workers than one with White healthcare workers (p < .01). This relationship correlated with higher black centrality scores (p < .01), lower trust in the healthcare system (p < .05), the belief that the Tuskegee Experiment could happen again (p < .05), and the belief that racial health disparities currently exist (p < .01). No such statistically significant relationships were found for Whites.

Conclusions and Implications: These results suggest that racial identity and perception of past and present healthcare disparities are important components in the health decision-making process for minority groups but not necessarily for those experiencing a majority. They also suggest that additional barriers to healthcare utilization persist even in circumstances of equal access to care.

POSTER 5
Separating ‘Fact’ from ‘Fiction’: Young People’s Interpretation of Controversial Information on the Web

Davies, H., Halford, S., Gibbins, N.
(University of Southampton)

Government of India has implemented many policies and programmes for the wholistic development in general and educational development in particular for the tribals in India. Despite these attempts, we have failed to reach them in one way or other. Reason being many but most importantly they have always been facing some kinds of negligence and isolation from their own community or other sections of society. Even these government benefits get only by the few people from tribal community who are already educated and again and again benefitted from these policies. At this juncture, the question arise how these needy people will get these benefits and develop. The answer is that we have to activate social capital. Social capital is basically a concept which involve all sectors of society, such as government, politicians, administrators, media, nongovernmental organizations and the local people of all groups and sections, in a way that all work together wholeheartedly without any prejudice to get the desired results. I, therefore, in this paper, try to reflect the role of social capital in educating the tribals with the help of empirical data collected during 2006-08 from two villages of Jharkhand State.
POSTER 6
Performative Methodology in the Context of Changing Society

Dudina, V.
(Saint Petersburg State University)

This report highlights the process of methodological transformation of social knowledge from representation to performativity and outlines some features of performative methodology.

Performative methodology is redefining basic elements of research. In the context of performative methodology the epistemic subject (knower) should be considered not as a person or a scientific community, but as a dispersed knower enfolded in complex machineries of different devices, networks and social conventions. Scientific facts and observations are effects of agency. Fact is not something that should be discovered, rather it should be produced or performed. Performative methods take part in enacting reality which it describes and it could not be evaluated in accordance with the representational criteria. The criteria of accurate representation should be replaced by the criteria of reconfiguration of reality. New scientific objectivity implies that the main criterion for evaluation of sociological knowledge is not the accuracy of representation, but the degree of reconfiguration of social reality.

Shift from representation to performativity provides a new prospective for social science. If social sciences take part in enacting reality, struggle between different scientific models and methods implies the struggle between realities. If sociologists want to make sociology more credible they should think not only about how to represent reality, but how to promote sociological version of reality.

POSTER 7
Combining Bourdieu’s Field Theory and Critical Discourse Analysis: Higher Education in Lithuania

Girkontaite, A.
(Vilnius University)

Combining Bourdieu’s theories of the field of higher education and language as symbolic power with critical discourse analysis suggests a new perspective for researching education. Discourse may be analysed as an instrument of domination, as a way of (re)producing or changing social order. Discourse structures correspond to social structures and indicate different social positions within a field.

My research is mostly concerned with finding networks of discourses and dominant topics, definitions and positions within those networks. Political documents, public speeches and mass media are analysed.

The main finding is that a rhetoric of knowledge-based economy discourse (‘competences’, ‘quality’, ‘accountability’) is mostly used in the contemporary Lithuanian higher education field. It ascribes to higher education institutions the function of being the main agents of strengthening European economic power and connects them to new flexible markets. However, this is hardly implemented and remains just a rhetoric which is unequally accepted by different institutions. Some agents of the higher education field use it to legitimise their work as serving the job market. Some criticise this discourse as denying the classical understanding of the university mission. The key to understanding this distinction is the opposition between academic power and intellectual prestige suggested by Bourdieu. The closer a position within the field is related to administrative or political power, the greater is its acceptance of the knowledge-based society rhetoric. The closer a position is related to intellectual elite, the greater is its expression of the critical approach.

POSTER 8
Risk, Freedom, Relationships and Ageing in Place: The Role of Telecare

Hamblin, K.
(Oxford Institute of Population Ageing)

This presentation will explore the role of telecare in older people’s lives, with a particular focus on issues of risk and the ability to age in place. The presentation is based on a qualitative, longitudinal project conducted in two UK localities using mixed methods (observations, interviews, diaries and photographs). The AKTIVE project explored the ‘lived experience’ of telecare from not only the perspective of older people themselves but also members of their caring network including care workers and unpaid carers. The issue of risk emerged as a strong theme, with the older person and other individuals within care networks articulating very different conceptions and advocating different behaviours. What there did seem to be consensus around was that without some steps to reduce risk – such as the installation of telecare – the ability of the older person to remain at home and ‘age in place’ could be questioned and challenged in some cases by formal and informal carers. Often the older interviewees felt the acceptance of telecare was the ‘least worst’ option if it meant they could remain in their own home. Tensions would then arise however around the wearing and using of the devices as the assessment of risk between the older person themselves and their
care network varied. This presentation will critically explore issues of risk and freedom and the potential role of telecare in assisting older people to age in place.

**POSTER 9**
Capturing Multiple Perspectives on the Everyday Life of Older People: Methods and Challenges of Exploring Intimate Lives

*Hamblin, K., Koivunen, E-R.*
(University of Leeds)

This presentation discusses issues arising from conducting qualitative research with multiple family members. The presentation is based on a longitudinal, multi-method research project exploring older people’s lived experience of telecare. For the project, data was collected from 72 older people and members of their caring networks including family carers, friends, neighbours, care and healthcare workers where possible and relevant. In addition to describing the method used, we will discuss the challenges and opportunities experienced by the research team, including issues related to interviewing older people with dementia, tensions between differing accounts provided within caring networks and the negotiating conflict in interviews. These issues are carried through into the analysis and presentation of such complex data as it requires us to explore questions around memory and validity of personal experiences. The significance of the approach is in the triangulation of data from multiple perspectives to understand the complexities of everyday lives of older people, with particular focus on care arrangements. The method has provided a crucial insight into the provision of care from multiple perspectives within caring networks, showing the balancing older people, their family members and other people involved in their care do between avoiding risk and promoting safety on the one hand, and supporting independence and dignity on the other.

**POSTER 10**
Women Living Alone: Exploring New Forms of Gendered Leisure

*Holland, S.*
(Leeds Metropolitan University)

In the UK, ‘the proportion of one-person households almost doubled between 1971 and 2000, rising from 17% to 31% of households’ (Macvarish, 2006), with increasing numbers of non-retired people living alone. As Chandler et al (2004) state, ‘once a person lives alone, they are more likely to continue to live in that household arrangement than any other’. Sociological work about women living alone often focuses on the negative aspects (eg, Reynolds and Wetherall 2003). Similarly, scholarship in Leisure Studies often examines how family life can curtail or limit women’s leisure (eg, Shaw 1994; Thompson et al 2002). In contrast, this study develops theory about the pleasures and benefits of solo living. The notion of being ‘happily ever after’ as a wife and mother is a powerful cultural narrative and yet it is not the reality for a growing number of women. The research explores the experience and representation of this rapidly growing sub-group of one-person households identified by Hall et al (1999) as female, metropolitan, managerial/professional, educated and mobile, and will focus on questions surrounding the identity of those who have been termed the ‘new single women’ (Whitehead, 2003), within the context of their leisure lives. It seeks to create new knowledge about their lives and the leisure practices and activities they undertake, alongside their understandings of, and negotiations around, being ‘women living alone’. This poster will focus on the pilot study and early findings, via semi-structured interviews, and the ‘leisure diaries’ the participants compile before the interview.

**POSTER 11**
‘The Good Parent’ and ‘The Other Parent’: Medicalization, Othering and Social Exclusion in Israeli Professional Discourse Regarding Learning Disabilities and Difficulties

*Katchergin, O.*
(Oranim Academic College and Levinsky International College of Education)

Recent years have witnessed an upsurge in the professional attention paid to ‘learning-disabilities’ in Israeli society as well as an increasing percentage of people diagnosed as ‘learning-disabled’ in it. This was not always so, as this diagnostic category has gradually replaced the older category of ‘cultural deprivation’ which was used thoroughly by Israeli mental health professionals in diagnosing learning problems. This paper comprises an overview of this historical transformation. It focuses on the specific historical-cultural-social contexts that contributed to it. The background of the class and ethnic hierarchical structure of the Israeli society is highlighted in order to uncover the roots of this seemingly neutral professional development. As an illustrative case, the paper discusses the various ways in which parents of disabled children, as well as the concept of ‘parenthood’ itself, were treated by the Israeli
mental health professionals, in order to reveal how socio-economic and ethnic divisions influenced the mental health system discourse and practices.

In brief, this discourse has constructed two contrasting parenthood representations: ‘parenthood of learning disabled children’ on the one hand, and ‘parenthood of cultural deprived children’ on the other hand. The well-off, well-educated and westernized parents of ‘learning-disabled’ children were regarded as ‘normative’ and their children got better educational help and resources. The low class, little-educated and eastern parents of ‘cultural deprived’ children were medicalized, regarded as ‘problematic’ and their children were mainly tracked into second-class educational institutions. The summary clarifies the ‘cultural deprivation’ construct dissapearance from current professional discourse and practices.

POSTER 12
‘Managing Your Health Together’: Applying and Disseminating Research beyond Academia

Mathieson, A., Jeffries, M.
(University of Manchester)

Patient and Public Involvement (PPI), if done effectively, can play a key role in health care research; improving the delivery of NHS services and increasing public confidence. Patient and Public Involvement in the implementation and dissemination of research can not only benefit those involved, but can also improve the quality of the research. The VOCALS study explores the role of the third-sector in the self-management of long-term vascular conditions and reveals how findings can be disseminated to participants. Twenty group members self-diagnosed as having Diabetes, Heart Disease or Chronic Kidney Disease, and 33 group leaders were recruited from a range of voluntary organisations. Semi-structured interviews explored participation and self-management support provided by the community. Analysis highlighted health benefits to participation. Participants joined to pursue a hobby, often in response to ill-health, to increase social contact and take part in something in the company of others. Members were encouraged to share skills, health information and advice which increased self-esteem. Using this data, the booklet ‘Managing Your Health Together’, was produced and disseminated to the groups who had taken part. This booklet situates the participants’ involvement in the wider aspects of the project and presents the findings in an accessible format, written for that audience. ‘Managing Your Health Together’ is an example of how research can be developed into a useful resource for its participants. Future research should incorporate a PPI element into the implementation of research and find additional ways to disseminate relevant findings to a wider audience.

POSTER 13
International Students Mobility in Capability Approach Perspective

Moskal, M.
(University of Glasgow)

In this paper I use the Capability Approach as framework to conceptualise and assess the outcomes of international students mobility form ‘developing’ countries to the UK’s universities, in a fashion that aims at overcoming the limits of the dominant approaches to such issues.

I argue that the Capability Approach enables to conceptualise students’ mobility in both as a fundamental human capability and as a functioning, whose achievement and consequences depend both on the student’s agency and by a range of factors characterising the sending, the receiving country/institution and the overall international context.

The paper draws on research project on international students in the UK’s universities. The project aims to develop a better understanding of the driving forces and resources of mobility of students from ‘developing’ countries and to explore patterns of change and development among those students.

Students’ capability could be understood as a development. Human development in this study is viewed as economic, social, political and cultural changes that enlarge people’s choices and capability to control their own lives (De Haas, 2009). The freedom enhancing desire of getting better education for instance, can serve as a motivation for mobility. Regarding human agency, their mobility is a potential force for structural change because it can alter social and economic conditions in sending as well as receiving countries (De Haas, 2009).
Poster Presentations

POSTER 14
Paediatric Biobanks and Child Sociology: A Narrative Review

Ochieng, C., Minion, J., Murtagh, M.
(University of Bristol)

Background: Although children are active moral and social agents, they also have their lives structurally determined for them. The way we view and treat children shapes their experiences of childhood and how they relate with other members of society. One field in which children's social positioning is rapidly changing is in paediatric research, particularly as regards children's involvement in paediatric biobanking.

Methods: A narrative review of the literature was conducted to identify different views on paediatric biobanking. A total of 19 papers were identified.

Results: The most significant theme to emerge centred on ethics. Studies generally cited the need for the inclusion of children’s assent for paediatric biobank participation, which can be construed as an acknowledgement of the need for inclusion of the child’s voice in the research process. This may also be an indication of an emergent understanding of the value of children's knowledge and its status as a basis for ordering their lives. The research also revealed a unanimous desire from parents to receive their children's genetic research results. Within a biobanking environment, however, parents’ desire to know their children's genetic results has the capacity to infringe on the child’s future need for autonomy. Researchers find themselves balancing the tensions around disclosure as a way of protecting a child’s inherent rights as an individual. Emancipatory research approaches have been suggested as a way to address, highlighting children’s direct experiences of involvement in biobanking and informing future social policy.

POSTER 15
Building Bridges: Enriching Social Sciences with Empirical Data

Olsen, W., Buckley, J.
(University of Manchester)

The aim of this talk, which is to promote specific ways of using more social data in sociology classrooms, may not resonate with all sociologists. Aiming to preach to the unconverted, the following arguments are set out:

1. Sociology would gain in coverage and credibility if it used more survey data than it now typically does.

2. Sociologists are well placed to argue that bridges can be built from one island of low-tech, simple statistical methods to another, and from each back into serious sociological theory. It is never just a question of upping the maths content.

   ... Examples are given from the sociology of family life......

3. Special new methods offer ways forward that use mixed methods data.

4. Dissertations are enriched through students’ improved data handling skills.

And,

5. Ambitious staff will make the effort to use social data, and by doing so will also get further in their own careers.

With all these positive external effects, the initiative to promote Quantitative Methods in Sociology is well worth supporting.

The paper is supported by briefing papers and online videos.

POSTER 16
Collaborative Policy and Practitioner Engagement in a Social Science Research Project

Price, M.
(University of Warwick)

MYPLACE is a European Commission-funded project exploring how young people's social participation is shaped by the shadows of totalitarianism and populism in Europe. A combination of survey, interview and ethnographic research instruments provides new, pan-European data that not only measure levels of participation but capture the meanings young people attach to it. Through its focus on young people’s political and civic participation, MYPLACE replaces the routine, often abstract, iteration of the reasons for young people’s ‘disengagement’ from politics with an empirically rich mapping of their understandings of the civic and political space they inhabit. In policy terms, MYPLACE identifies the obstacles to, and facilitators of, young people's reclamation of the political arena as ‘their place.’
The work presented describes the role of the UK MYPLACE Youth Policy Advisory Group (YPAG) in producing policy recommendations based on research findings. This group, which has a counterpart in each of the MYPLACE project’s 14 countries, is formed of policy makers, practitioners and academic experts from outside the project.

A two-stage process for engaging the UK YPAG is presented. First the YPAG members were presented with thematic findings and draft data and asked to draw out the themes which were of most relevance to their policy areas, and to identify policy issues of importance. In the second stage the YPAG and the MYPLACE researchers worked together to apply the MYPLACE research evidence to addressing those issues. This enabled the project to produce policy-relevant findings in meaningful dialogue with the users of the research.

POSTER 17
Qualitative Research within Trials: Developing a Standard Operating Procedure for a Clinical Trials Unit
Rapport, F., Clement, C.
(Swansea University)

Background: Qualitative health research seeks to understand the complexities of social, cultural and interactional relationships and contexts within healthcare and the impact this may have on health, illness and medical practice. Qualitative methods have received increasing acknowledgement of their beneficial role within clinical trial research; namely the contribution of patient, health professional and other stakeholder views and in the part they play in influencing trial design.

Aim: To develop a qualitative methods Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) which would allow the value of qualitative methods to be recognised and more appropriately incorporated within trials.

Method: Health researchers, including trialists, clinicians and qualitative researchers, worked collaboratively to develop a qualitative methods SOP within a comprehensive portfolio of SOPs for the West Wales Organisation for Rigorous Trials in Health (WWORTH) – a Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) at Swansea University.

Results: The Qualitative Methods SOP developed defines good practice in designing and implementing qualitative components of trials while allowing flexibility of approach and method. Its basic principles include: qualitative researchers should contribute from the start of trials with qualitative potential; the qualitative component should have clear aims; and the main study publication should report on the qualitative component.

Conclusion: We recommend that CTUs consider developing a qualitative methods SOP to enhance the conduct of qualitative trials. This could improve the visibility and efficacy of the qualitative methods used within trials and has the potential to contribute to the recognised rigour of health services research design.

POSTER 18
National Minimum Wage, Poverty, and Health Outcomes: Evidence from a UK Natural Experiment
Reeves, A., Mackenbach, J., McKee, M., Stuckler, D.
(University of Oxford)

It is not well understood whether increasing income leads to health improvements in low-income groups. In 1999 the UK government introduced National Minimum Wage legislation, increasing hourly wages to £3.60. This natural policy experiment creates as-if random intervention and control groups that can be used to assess the causal effects of increasing income on health. Using individual-level longitudinal data from the British Household Panel Survey, we evaluated the health effects of income gains on persons whose incomes rose to the National Minimum Wage (intervention group, n= 63) compared with otherwise similar persons who were unaffected because either i) their incomes were between 100% and 110% of the eligibility threshold (control group 1, n=107) or ii) their firms were non-compliant despite earning below the threshold (control group 2, n =109). We measured mental health using the twelve-item General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-12), a validated psychiatric-morbidity screen. We also assessed changes in health behaviours such as smoking, blood pressure, and hearing ability (a control condition). The intervention group experienced significantly greater improvements in mental health compared with both control groups (increase in GHQ score = 0.93, p < 0.05, n = 170) and 2 (GHQ score = 1.06, p <0.05, n = 172). The intervention group also experienced lower probabilities of self-reporting anxiety or depression (-0.14, p <0.05, n = 170), but no difference in terms of blood pressure (p = 0.58) or hearing ability (p = 0.64). Increasing wages significantly improves mental health by reducing financial strain in low-income groups.
Poster Presentations

POSTER 19
A Study of the Transition to Parenthood in Barking and Dagenham: Examining the Experiences of UK-born and Migrating Parents

Simmons, D.
(University of Greenwich)

This thesis takes a grounded theory approach to researching the lives of 15 couples from the East London borough of Barking and Dagenham: new migrants and UK-born second generation couples. All of the couples had recently become parents. The couples were interviewed between 3 - 12 months postpartum, and the interviews transcribed and coded. Themes surrounding the parents' experiences of childbirth were explored, as were their feelings about their place in the local community, issues of social cohesion and personal identity.

As the data were being transcribed, theoretical concepts then began to emerge: a loss of personal control within the health care system; the use of the internet as a resource for new families and also to create family cohesion across continents; becoming a new family and the responsibility which that entailed; geographical transitions; isolation; issues of social cohesion and multiculturalism; and concepts of place, home and personal identity. Findings were then viewed through a Ecological Systems theoretical framework (Bronfenbrenner, 1979).

The study is relevant to providers of community and health care services, local authority and national policy makers who have a responsibility for developing such services and regenerating post industrial areas.

POSTER 20
Would the NHS be Justified in Providing Specialist Healthcare Services to Support Stressed Doctors?

Sinha, C.
(University of Birmingham)

Background: High levels of stress are reported by doctors across the UK,(1) but only 13% of 2500 surveyed doctors would seek help for psychological health issues.(2) This can impact on doctors’ health outcomes and working ability.(3) To encourage health-seeking behaviours, the ‘Practitioner Health Programme’ was developed as a bespoke service for doctors in the London Strategic area, run by GPs with a special interest. In 2012, the Department of Health made recommendations for these services to be extended elsewhere.

Aim: To explore the ethical justifications for claims that the NHS should provide specialist healthcare services to support stressed doctors.

Method: An internet-based literature review was performed. Using philosophical analysis, relevant literature was reviewed to formulate arguments for and against NHS provision of specialist services.

Findings: The NHS Constitution pledges to support stressed staff. Providing specialist services would adequately fulfil this duty. Stressed doctors could also be perceived as belonging to a disadvantaged patient-group in healthcare access and outcomes. Rawls’s ‘Difference Principle’ encourages resources to be directed to the disadvantaged to equalise health opportunities. Additionally, stress can affect clinical practice, which could have an adverse effect on the wider population. Therefore, positive societal outcomes could be yielded from these services.

Conclusion: Using notions of duty, equality and utility, findings of this project show that the NHS would be justified in providing specialist healthcare services to support stressed doctors. These ethical justifications can build on previous empirical work and help advance recommendations to extend these services across the UK.

POSTER 21
Corruption: A Spoke in the Wheel of Nation-building

Sofadekan, A.
(Brunel University)

Corruption is a problem that is affecting Nigerian society. Since independence, the bane of our political instability has mainly been corruption and, particularly, a lack of accountability in all facets of public life. Whereas, transparency, accountability, corruption-free leadership are crucial variables in realizing a strong nation. I have undertaken an extensive literature review and documentary analysis and draw narratives that highlight the challenges Nigeria faces today. Currently, there is little sign of a decline in these key threats to nation-building. This paper discusses probable causes of corruption, how it can be curbed and its effects on the process of nation-building since independence. I submit that, with a well-articulated political education and a practical moral education programme put in place for political leaders and citizens, it is possible to overcome the problems that have befallen Nigeria and build this nation as an indivisible entity that can achieve the goals it set itself at independence.
POSTER 22
Children of Migrant Workers in Urban Public High Schools: An Analysis of the Dual Role of Education

Song, Y.
(University of Glasgow)

Based on the household registration system (Huji system), which is often applied strictly and this limits access to a range of rights and benefits, Chinese rural-urban segregation has further deepened from the possession of political and economic resources to culture and ideology, which also has profound influence on children of migrant workers moving to study in urban high schools. Even though nowadays, rather than left behind in rural areas or stuck in urban schools that “only for children of migrant workers”, considerable part of rural students are able to study in urban public high schools together with city local students, the rural-urban structural division still exists in this inclusive education model and impedes rural students’ interpersonal relations with urban students and teachers.

The research investigates the difficulties or opportunities encountered by children of migrant workers after they have entered urban public high schools and as the face the realities of contact with city culture. The research will explain what kind of role education plays in effecting such children dealing with cultural conflict arising from differences between rural and urban areas.

The discussion on the role of education is mainly based on Pierre Bourdieu's Theory of Cultural Reproduction and Inclusive Education Model. Namely, education, as an agent of cultural reproduction as well as an opportunity for multicultural fusion, may influence children of migrant workers to develop opposite sides in adaptation of their urban school life.

POSTER 23
Coherence or Self-motivation? Relationships of Health Behaviors among Organized Recreational Program Participants

Szilagyi, N., Keresztes, N., Varga, C.
(University of Szeged)

Objective
The purpose of our research was to map the sports and eating habits of volunteers participating in group exercise and study the relationship between these preventive behaviors and adverse health behaviors.

Methods
Self-administered questionnaires were used to collect data in Szeged, Hungary, in 2010-2011. Our sample was based on voluntary participants from three subsamples. 185 (N1) participants took part in the first phase of the program. The mean age was 43.22 years (S.D. 13.12.), 82.9% of the samples were women and 17.1% were men.

Results
We found that 41.9% of those surveyed did sports on a weekly basis during the pre-program period. However, the proportion of those not doing any sports at this time was also significant (28%). Respondents consumed alcohol occasionally (46%). On the positive side we can highlight that 80.6% of the participants in the program were non-smokers, not even occasionally. The frequency of sports activity correlates strongly to physical activity, consumption of healthy food and healthy diet.

Conclusion
We can say the relationship between sport and healthy diet, the coherence is obvious. The separation of physical activity and sports activity allowed us to reveal how they differ in their relationship to alcohol consumption.

POSTER 24
How Much Do You Love Your Country? Enough to Pay Tax?

Thewlis, S.
(University of Birmingham)

Good Tax Citizens?

The collection of tax in the UK depends on an effectively functioning social contract- that taxpayers trust the Government to take their money and provide them with the public services they need. But how far does that social contract go? At what point is it OK not to pay tax, and why? Are non-taxpayers lesser citizens than those who do?

As far back as Marshall (writing in 1935), paying tax has been regarded as an essential part of being a citizen in order to enjoy the rights of citizenship, you must also endure the obligations attaching to it.

However, for those already in the UK, payment of tax does not have any impact on national citizenship or identity.
Nevertheless, for those coming to the UK, citizenship can now only be gained once people have 'earned the right to stay by ... paying taxes'

So if a taxation contribution defines citizenship, how do we define those who choose not to pay tax through avoidance, and 'what is the status of the unemployed, the disabled, the elderly or the migrant worker? (Isin and Turner, 2007, p.8)

NB although this research will be empirical, I have not yet prepared the empirical data.

POSTER 25
Archives at our Homes: Wedding and Family Photographs

Ulu, M.
(Yeditepe University)

Although the date of the invention of the camera is recent, visuals are important parts in the life of people. A photograph progresses its journey in the life of the people strengthening its position despite the changes in the cultural climate and the changes in the methods of photographing and storing. A photograph belongs to the past from the very moment of its being shot. This feature is the main reason of its relationship with cultural memory. Thus, individuals and cultures looking at the photographs may, if they so wish, recall the past with visuals and accompanying narrations. This process is an active meaning generating process and helps families who are the meeting point of individual and social areas and modern cultures owning the collective feeling of ‘us’, to determine the objectives, wishes and needs of the cultures they belong to. In other words, the past is remembered or forgotten in accordance with objectives, needs and wishes and also reconstructed today. Photographs, which are the carriers of cultural memory, also reflect cultural changes. The aim of this research is to evidence the relationship between cultural memory and cultural changes through wedding and family photographs. Through this study, carried out among post Republican families having received upper, upper middle and middle class establish the relationship between the photograph and cultural memory and focuses on the way of individuals and cultures store, remember their important moments and how they transmit them to next generations.

POSTER 26
Balancing Confucian Values with Market Initiatives: Transformations of Doctor-patient Relationships in China

Wang, Y.
(University of Essex)

This paper starts from the premise that doctor-patient relationships are first and foremost cultural relations. In China, Confucian values have always played a crucial role in the doctor-patient interactions. Humaneness is core of Confucian ethics, in medical ethics ‘humaneness’ means ‘to love the patient.’ Confucianism required doctors to be very cautious and responsible for patients, and in order to ‘save face’ patients have to follow the social order, such values running through the entire medical proceedings and activities. This relationship however has come under strain and has been transformed with the introduction of new market initiatives since 1978. The paper inquires into the transformations of the doctor-patient relationship within this context.

The paper draws upon extensive research I conducted in Shandong province in China. Through structured and semi-structured interviews and a qualitative survey, I collected data on doctors’ and patients’ beliefs, habit and mentality, to assess the transformation of predominant Confucian values in medical practice, particularly as regards doctor-patient relationship, in relation to the newly introduced market-oriented incentives. The paper pursues the possibility of an optimal ethical and harmonious model for doctors and patients that still rely on Confucianism in the context of the market oriented restructuring of the profession.

POSTER 27
This is a Women’s World: Womanhood in Old Age

Wilinska, M.
(University of Stirling)

This paper takes it starting point in discussions regarding inequalities in old age. The main objective is to reflect upon the questions of agency and space in relation to the experience of womanhood among older women. The study is based on narrative interviews with female members of the University of the Third Age (U3A). The analysis draws on the descriptive turn in social science, with a particular focus on the notion of affect. The key findings demonstrate the process of creating and celebrating spaces of womanhood and encouraging women's activism. This takes place within the context of ageism, which older women actively contribute to and reproduce. This paper problematizes such findings and their relevance for the study of inequalities, body and old age.
POSTER 28
Ageing, Loneliness and (In)dependency: Where Does Telecare Fit in?
Yeandle, S., Koivunen, E. R.
(University of Leeds)

This presentation discusses the everyday life experiences of older people in adjusting to ageing, with particular focus on independence and losing it; loneliness due to limited mobility and ability, and where telecare technology fits in this. Public discussions about telecare often are about the concerns that care and time spent with older people will be replaced by the equipment. This presentation is based on a longitudinal qualitative research with 72 older people living in the community. Telecare is typically installed to provide safety and to link older people, often living alone, to a support network. These include for example pendant alarms, GPS trackers and medication dispensers. Some of the research participants saw the benefit of telecare, while others viewed it as a sign of dependency which they wanted to resist. The research participants describe the value of independence, being able to help others and contribute to society. However, many now have mobility problems and only meet people who come to visit them or their care workers. Many of the interactions are based on tasks, rather than social interaction. The research participants express gratitude for the help they receive, but many feel sadness for not being able to contribute in exchange, leaving them in debt of help rather than involved in a reciprocal exchange. The presentation discusses how these experiences have an impact on the personal identity, on living arrangements and on care and support arrangements, as well as the role telecare has in the support arrangements.
Sociology Launches Podcast Series

We are pleased to announce that Sociology’s first four podcasts are now available on the journal website: http://soc.sagepub.com

A New Model of Social Class? Findings from the BBC’s Great British Class Survey Experiment
Fiona Devine and Sophie Watson
In this podcast, co-author Fiona Devine discusses her paper: “A New Model of Social Class? Findings from the BBC’s Great British Class Survey Experiment” with Sophie Watson, Editor of Sociology. The paper has been the most downloaded article in Sociology in 2013 since its publication in April and we are pleased to explore it further in this interview.

Place-making and Place Maintenance: Performativity, Place and Belonging among the Middle Classes
Michaela Benson, Emma Jackson and Sophie Watson
Editor Sophie Watson speaks to Michaela Benson and Emma Jackson about their paper: “Place-making and Place Maintenance: Performativity, Place and Belonging among the Middle Classes” based on research in London middleclass neighbourhoods.

Genetics and the Sociology of Identity
Christine Hauskeller and Karim Murji
Guest Editor Christine Hauskeller discusses the 2013 October Special Issue of Sociology: ‘Genetics and the Sociology of Identity’ with Karim Murji. The 2013 Special Issue looks at the connections between society and recent genetic developments, exploring the difficulties that arise for any current generalist social theory of identity.

Bourdieu 1993: A Case Study in Scientific Consecration
Professor Loic Wacquant and Sophie Watson
Professor Loic Wacquant discusses his paper: 'Bourdieu 1993: A Case Study in Scientific Consecration' with Sophie Watson, Editor of Sociology. Professor Wacquant reconstructs the conditions under which Bourdieu came to receive the Gold Medal of the National Center for Scientific Research, France’s highest: science prize, in 1993 as a signal case study of the existential predicament and institutional trappings of scholarly consecration.

We hope you will all enjoy both of these podcasts. Watch out for more coming soon!
## Wednesday 23 April 2014 at 09:30 - 11:30
### Paper Session 1

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Life on the Move: Rural Migrant Children in Contemporary China
Zhang, N.
(University of Warwick)

This article is centred on the 78 million rural children who are involved in urban migration in contemporary China. It is estimated that there are approximately 250 million rural people who have left their home villages for the cities in search for paid jobs since the market oriented reform in 1979. Despite the fact that China has one of the most strict population and movement control apparatus in the world, which discriminates rural people and rural migrants, urbanward migration has become a rite of passage and way of life for rural people in today’s China. Although rural children are active participants in the migration process, they remain invisible in research due to their perceived dependant status in the household.

Drawing from a two-year qualitative study of rural children involved in migration in contemporary China, conducted between 2010 and 2012, this article explores the roles of children played in their family migration process as ‘accompanied migrants’. It examines rural children’s mobility and migrancy. It looks at the new pattern s of rural-urban migration in China that children experience, their roles in the migration decision-making process, their mobility and migrancy.

The research findings challenge the fixity of the notion of being ‘left behind’, whilst demonstrating the mobility and fluidity of the life of migrant children in rural migrant households.

New Poverty and Inequality in Current Urban China
Deng, P.
(University of Warwick)

The phenomenon of new urban poverty and inequality in China was generated by the economic liberalisation and social transformation during the 1980s. It has been seen as an emerging and complex social issue in China. The aim of this research is to examine and analyse the new phenomenon of poverty and inequality in China’s urban areas from an overall perspective, based on various data related to this issue from 1980 to 2011. The findings are presented from four aspects. The first aspect verifies that the phenomenon of new urban poverty and inequality in China can be explained and analysed using four proposed theoretical perspectives, which are social polarisation, social segregation, social stratification and social exclusion. Second, the empirical reasons behind China’s new urban poverty and inequality are economic restructuring, welfare provision changes, and urban expansion and migration. The third aspect finds that the characteristics of the groups of new urban poor are quite diverse in China, according to the different causes of new urban poverty. The social protection for the new urban poor in China, in the fourth aspect, shows that with the deepening of the economic revolution in the early 1990s, Chinese governments started to become concerned about the new poverty and inequality in urban areas and proposed several policies to fight against them. In the process of implementation, however, some policies have led to dissatisfactory and ineffective results, which not only harm urban dwellers’ welfare and rights, but also affect social harmony and stability.

Mobility in a Transnational Space: Freedom of Movement and Labour Market Performance of EU Nationals in Germany
Bernhard, S.
(Institute for Employment Research)

The European Union certainly is a key factor in changing national societies. Among the politics that matter most in this respect is the Freedom of Movement of Workers, which has become one of the cornerstones of EU citizenship. In our contribution we take a look at the effects of free movement using the German Labour market as a case study. Theoretically, we interpret the European activities as a supranational political field in Neil Fligstein’s sense of the term. We show that both free movement rights and categories of entitled persons have been extended over the years. As a result the political field has by now constituted a transnational social space of mobility between Member States. Empirically, we ask whether and to what extent the principle of non-discrimination works in the German labour
market. We use a large longitudinal administrative data set to analyse differences in income between EU nationals and German employees as well as within the group of EU nationals. Among other things we observe a persistent discrimination based on nationality, although to varying degrees between different nationalities and with an overall declining trend in recent years. Thus, despite considerable effort EU Freedom of Movement politics has only just begun to implement its non-discrimination principle in Member States. However, we argue that worker’s mobility is a prime example of how transnational fields and social spaces begin to restructure national social structures and inequalities.

Anomic Suicide: The Case of the Second Generation Alevi Kurdish Men in London

Cetin, U.
(University of Westminster)

This paper provides an overview of my research into the relatively high incidence of suicide amongst the second generation Alevi Kurdish (AK) community in London. Drawing on Durkheim’s theoretical postulate that suicide is a product of a lack of integration and regulation (anomie) it looks at how the institutions that came to integrate and regulate the first-generation AKs in Turkey and London ceased to function for the second generation. The research differs from Durkheim in using an ethnographic approach that records and analyses personal experiences and biographies in order to understand everyday lives and socio-cultural practices and their relationship to the social organisation of the community. The suicides are thus placed within the intersection of personal biographies, changing community structures and broader socio-historical factors.

The paper argues that whilst the first generation followed a pattern of segmented assimilation maintaining a strong sense of community, the second generation experienced downward mobility into the “rainbow underclass”, disengaging from their parents, education and employment to seek alternative means to achieve their goals through membership of gangs. However, when this membership failed to provide these goals, the young men who also suffered a crisis in their intimate relationships, found themselves in a situation of chronic anomie, experienced as a sense of hopelessness leading to suicide. The study confirms Durkheim’s theory that suicide is related to the social organisation of society but also demonstrates how the social forces associated with integration and regulation are experienced at the individual level.

Cities, Mobilities, Place and Space 2

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 09

Religion and the Local Authority: Engagement, Interaction and Continuity beyond ‘the Big Society’

Starkey, C., Lindsay, J.
(University of Leeds)

A number of the Coalition Government’s ‘Big Society’ policies imply increased contact between Local Authorities and religious groups. As a result, recent publications have explored the relationships between religious organisations and Local Authorities in the UK and have identified equalities legislation and a lack of religious literacy as significant barriers to religious engagement at local government level. However, by considering Local Authority religious engagement in the context of broader religion-state relations, we suggest these accounts over-emphasise the difference between ‘secular’ institutions and ‘religious’ groups.

Drawing on evidence from a range of interviews with civil society representatives and Local Authority officers in one large English city, we suggest that 30 years of increased pragmatism, personalisation and pluralisation in Local Authority practice also provides instructive context. Just as increased pragmatism and an outcome-focus has resulted in the acceptance of non-traditional motives for public service delivery, so has an emphasis on the personalisation of provision increased Local Authority religious literacy and the pluralisation and diversification of service-providers. Each of these, we suggest, has required increased interaction between Local Authorities and religious groups over a number of years. Not only we argue do ‘Big Society’ emphases on localism and diversification reflect continuity rather than change for Local Authority practice, but Local Authority experience should be recognised as ‘leading the way’ for Government’s attempts at religious engagement in a ‘post-secular’ era.
Community versus Conviviality: Rethinking Key Concepts for Understanding the Social Relations of Contemporary Multiculture

Neal, S., Bennett, K., Cochrane, A., Jones, H., Mohan, G.  
(University of Surrey)

Despite its well-noted problematic status and its rather wrung out meaning, the concept of community somehow seems to retain a central position in social science, political, policy and everyday conversations about the relations of race, ethnic diversity and cultural difference. Drawing on qualitative data set from the authors’ current ESRC project, which examines the dispersing geographies of ethnicity and the new social configurations of multiculture, this paper reflects on the ways in which community was used by research participants to explain and describe their experiences of day to day life in rapidly changing, and diverse urban environments. We suggest that the mobilisation and the comfort associated with the concept of community is frequently expressed through identification with place rather than a relationship or interaction with people. Alongside this mapping of community the paper focuses on the emergence of the ‘challenger’ concept of conviviality in debates about super-diversity, mixed and mixing urban populations. A number of scholars have suggested that conviviality, with its emphasis on slight, unstable, open and thinner engagements, may be a more valuable framing for approaching the social life of urban areas. In the paper we seek to use the fieldwork data to interrogate the capacity of the idea of conviviality, first, to disrupt and reposition the concept of community in rapidly changing urban geographies; second, to describe and analyse more ‘at ease’ and competent social interactions and encounters; and third, to account for the tensions, conflicts and continuing race-ing of ethnicity and cultural difference.

Reflections on Neighbourhood Planning and Democratic Participation

Wargent, M.  
(University of Sheffield)

Neighbourhood plans are the flagship policy for the Coalition’s decentralisation agenda. Secretary of State Eric Pickles has labelled them ‘the biggest power play of them all’. This paper scrutinises the limitations of neighbourhood planning but also the potential of the policy to promote the benefits of democratic participation. Based on three months working on neighbourhood planning at the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), these reflections juxtapose the a priori need for growth with the needs of communities. This paper argues that the restrictions placed on neighbourhood planning groups prevent community expression and the necessary ‘co-option’ and ownership of the process by communities. Furthermore, DCLG is presently under-selling the ‘soft’ benefits of community engagement and in order to prevent these benefits being limited to the ‘civic core’ (Reed and Selbee, 2001; Mohan and Bulloch, 2012), neighbourhood planning requires in built mechanisms to incentivise deprived neighbourhoods. Increased capacity and awareness, community cohesion and intra-community communication are positive externalities of democratic participation that should be available to all, but also ones that have greater efficacy in deprived areas. In light of the announced moratorium on neighbourhood planning funding until February 2014 this paper argues that neighbourhood planning requires significant and sustained government support in order to prevent another failed initiative which de-incentivises further democratic participation within civil society. Finally this paper will place neighbourhood planning in the wider context of the neglected concept of the Big Society and ask whether its critics have achieved a Pyrrhic victory.

Ageing and Wellbeing: Understanding and Changing Elderly People’s Experiences of the City (Centres as Commons)

Budha, K., Galfarsoro, I., Tang, T.  
(University of Leeds)

Studies on ageing speak of the barriers older people face, which are both physical and immaterial. Immaterial barriers relate to negative perceptions of ageing (stigma, discrimination, mental health). Physical barriers are both internal to the process of ageing (decay) but also external. This is the case when studying the effects of urban-built environment upon elderly people’s street mobility and accessibility to city centres (e.g.: community severance –CS-). This paper develops conceptual and practical tools for overcoming these barriers. The purpose of this paper is to look at the process of ageing and elderly people’s perceptions and experiences of the city (centres) and how these perceptions and experiences affect their sense of belonging and participation (social, cultural, political…). Studying the relationship between ageing and wellbeing requires 1- presenting an understanding of the city centres as commons and 2- studying how access is secured to these communal, shared and public spaces. The critical social scholarship promoted in this paper rests on the commitment to subjecting theory to empirical research. The data-gathering strategy is based on mixed methods research and substantive evidence-informed approaches. These follow a fieldwork scheme carried out in Leeds, Manchester and Liverpool city centres. Albeit the findings of this paper are provisional by necessity the research proposition presented is that the greater the availability and access to the
Liveability, Inclusiveness and Cultural Empowerment in Small Cities: Community-Based Projects in Lisbon (Portugal) and Cardiff (Wales, UK)

Gonçalves, A.
(Estoril Higher Institute for Tourism and Hotel Studies)

This paper draws on the research findings of an interdisciplinary project that sheds light on aspects of liveability, inclusiveness and cultural empowerment in small European capital cities through applied and comparative research on community-based projects in Lisbon (Portugal) and Cardiff (Wales, UK).

This research reflects on the proactive role of local communities in reclaiming urban spaces through locally embedded social and cultural initiatives that capitalise on home talent and creative genius. By developing more stable platforms of respect and dialogue through solidaristic and democratising ways of living with others, community-based projects also help shaping identities and promoting capacity building, while tackling social and economic inequalities. Therefore, this project examines how different community-based projects contribute to cultural empowerment, social equity, and participatory citizenship. This analysis has been conducted in small cities, since these are usually more human-scale sites that facilitate mobility and social interaction and present creative and innovative ideas that can be transferable to other cities of varying sizes. The methodological framework adopted has privileged empirical research, namely participation observation, detailed fieldwork, and the contact with local communities.

This project intends to facilitate discussion and creative-critical collaboration between different stakeholders in urban governance and cultural policy and management and open up possibilities for the future planning of cities, by encouraging participatory and inclusive people-based approaches in contemporary cities.

This project has been shortlisted as one of the six finalists of the 10th Cultural Policy Research Award, to be awarded by ENCATC, the European Cultural Foundation, and the Riksbankens Jubileumsfond.

Measuring the Relationship between Ethnic Diversity and Social Cohesion in Local Areas

Gilfillan, L.
(City University London)

The question of what social impacts immigration has in Britain has been of high level political and policy concern for decades.

The ‘immigration debate’ has drawn some fuel from a set of academic studies which use statistical modelling of quantitative data to measure the relationships between immigration (or ethnic diversity) and social cohesion (or other indicators of social quality) in local neighbourhoods (or at other spatial levels including, in various studies, regions or countries). The results of these studies, which most famously includes Robert Putnam’s study of the relationship between ethnic diversity and social capital in the United States, have been mixed, with some identifying negative impacts on social quality indicators from increased ethnic diversity in local areas, and others finding no significant effects over and above those explained by the concentration of ethnic minority/immigrant communities in areas of high social and economic deprivation.

The large increase in net immigration to Britain under the 1997 to 2010 Labour government, and the marked dispersal of ethnic minority communities away from traditional areas of settlement, as evidenced by the 2011 Census, offers a unique opportunity to re-examine the relationship between ethnic diversity and social cohesion in local areas. Using data from the Citizenship Survey and the Census to explore changes in this relationship between 2001 and 2011, this research finds a complex picture and evidence of positive effects from increased immigration into and resulting ethnic diversity of local area in England.
Digital Leisure Spaces, Alternative Subcultures and Consumption

Spracklen, K.
(Leeds Metropolitan University)

The rise of the internet has led to leisure and cultural theorists suggesting the Net is a liquid space of intentionality. Using virtual ethnography and semiotic and content analysis, this paper will explore the ways in which on-line networks have become safe spaces for alternative subcultures such as Goths, punks, metallers, and others interested in alternative philosophies. The paper will show how alternative subcultures can shape their own identities and communities in the safety of the Net, away from commercial interests and the rejection and prejudice of mainstream society – especially where alternative subcultures exist in countries that have histories of political, social, religious or cultural repression. It will be argued that for the users of the Net, digital leisure appears to be seamlessly communicative and liberating. Users are given the appearance of being liquid surfers, shifting their focus at the click of a mouse, sharing ideas and cultural interests with people in the global networks. However, the Net itself is a technology that is in reality a form of instrumental leisure, a space of consumption and commodification, based on economic transactions, control and surveillance, and unequal power relations. In this respect, digital leisure is like any other leisure form. But the effect the Net has on challenging hegemonies and giving some individuals some freedoms, its unique interactivity and the speed in which digital leisure works, makes it more communicative than sports or traditional forms of popular culture.

The Challenges of Convergence: A Case Study of Gambling, Gaming and the Digital World

Wardle, H.
(University of Glasgow)

The development of the internet has seen a revolution in the way gambling products are offered, marketed and accessed. In the late 1990s, gambling was largely the preserve of the physical world. Today, gambling straddles both physical and digital domains. This development has created challenges relating to how we think about and define gambling, how we conceptualise and understand gambling behaviour and serves as a useful case study of how convergence between online and offline worlds creates further challenges for researchers, policy makers and regulators. This paper will discuss these issues and, using the example of social gaming, highlight the challenges this fast changing world presents. Social gaming websites, which often mimic online gambling, are increasingly popular. This creates policy and regulatory challenges about whether they should be considered gambling activities and regulated as such and poses serious questions about impact and transitions between social gaming and online gambling. The gambling industry is also paying increasing attention to social gaming and specifically to how it can be monetarised. One of the drivers for this relates to promoting transitions in behaviour from gaming to gambling, which may have consequences for levels of gambling-related harm observed among certain population groups. This is a fast moving world and requires researchers to be attuned to commercial and market developments in order to be proactive in considering how these changes may impact on the broader social world. This paper will discuss these issues and highlight the range of challenges presented by this digital revolution.

A Generational Perspective on the Synchronicity and A-synchronicity of Online Communication

Taipale, S.
(University of Jyväskylä)

To date, many scholars have questioned the difference between ‘digital natives’, who born into a thoroughly technology-mediated world, and ‘digital immigrants’, who grew up without digital technologies which they only adopted at a later age. Previous research clearly indicates that these both generations are internally differentiated. Other factors, such as the breadth and experience of use, gender, and education, have proved to be more powerful predictors of the socially differentiated use of digital communication technologies than age/generation. Against this backdrop, scholars have recently proposed that ‘second generation of digital natives’ (born after 1990) could be separated from the first generation of natives (born in the 1980s) owing to their greater immersion in social media. This paper will show, by using statistical means and a nationally representative questionnaire based survey data collected from Finland in 2011 (N=612), how the synchronicity of online communication distinguishes generations from one another. Preliminary results show that while synchronous modes of online communications (e.g. Instant messaging & Internet calls) are clearly generationally differentiated practices, being more frequently used by the second generation of natives than others, the asynchronous modes of online communication (e.g. social networking
sites, blogs, online discussion forums) are not. Instead, asynchronous communication is clearly gendered in nature. Women are more typically users of social networking sites and blogs than men, whereas men are more often engaged with discussion forums than women. These results will be discussed in light of sociology of generations and communication and amendments to previous conceptualizations will be suggested.

From Indymedia to Anonymous: Agency, Public Spheres and Internet Action

McDonald, K.
(Middlesex University)

The social sciences are polarised around the Internet and communicative action. Some authors consider blogging and social media to be a form of circulation characteristic of communicative capitalism, shaped by a fear of emptiness and an illusion of action. Others consider the Internet to be structured in terms of openness and networking, and argue that these supposed technological qualities can ‘reverse engineer’ freedom. More nuanced forms of this technological optimism are evident in many sociological studies of internet activism, with themes of horizontality, networks and openness widely repeated – themes central to many of the analyses of Indymedia, in particular by ‘scholar activists’. However what is striking over recent years is decline of the ‘media activism’ and ‘citizen journalism’ that sustained Indymedia, and the emergence of a quite different form of action evident in networks such as Anonymous. These are grounded in hacker worlds, shaped by a culture of the ephemeral, the hidden and the revealed, with an ethic of lulz, the mask and the trickster. This action takes completely different forms from the ‘open deliberation’ widely theorised around internet activism. This paper explores the emergence of Anonymous from its origins in a manga site and a culture of the ephemeral, its transformation in its initial campaign against Scientology, and considers to what extent this form of action, and the types of public spheres it creates, may extend beyond Internet cultures to point to wider transformations in public spheres and agency.

Children and Young People’s Economic Participation in New Media Markets

Berriman, L.
(University of Sussex)

This paper explores the growth of online media for children and young people and examines the shifting position of young people as economic participants within new media markets. The past decade has seen a rapid expansion of the children and youth online media markets, with virtual worlds and other commercial online spaces emerging as highly profitable products and franchises. Drawing on empirical research into the design and development of some of these online spaces, this paper will examine how media corporations have increasingly sought to enrol and mobilise young people as ‘active’ participants in the development of online media products. Rather than focusing on young people’s media activities as confined to the moment of consumption, this paper will seek to explore how children and young people’s participation is increasingly defined as ‘valuable’ throughout the course of a media product’s development. To this end, the paper will focus on specific junctures in the design and production of online spaces, and will explore how and on what terms young people are defined as key participants in the development of new media products.

Families and Relationships

Barriers to Equality: Why British Fathers Do Not Use Additional Paternity Leave

Kaufman, G., White, D.
(Davidson College)

While most British fathers take two weeks of paternity leave, a recent TUC study reports that very few men take advantage of additional paternity leave (APL). Using data from interviews with 22 mothers and fathers living in the Midlands, this paper explores reasons for non-use of APL. We find four main reasons: financial costs, gendered expectations, workplace resistance, and the restrictiveness of the policy itself. First, most fathers emphasized the role of finances in their leave decisions, sometimes taking annual leave for their second week because statutory pay was not enough. Additional leave would have been even more of a ‘financial burden’ on their families. There is also the sense that it is more feasible to forego her income rather than his income. Second, both mothers and fathers largely assumed that mothers would take longer maternity leave. Part of this was due to gender differences in earnings, but there was also greater emphasis on maternal bonding than paternal bonding. Women were particularly reluctant to
reduce their leave time as most preferred to take 9-12 months. Third, fathers felt that their workplaces would not be fully supportive of longer leave. There was an expectation that paternity leave would be minimally disruptive. Fourth, APL requires the mother to return to work before the father can take leave and cannot be taken until 20 months after the birth, at which time statutory pay is low and then non-existent. We discuss implications for the planned flexible parental leave in 2015.

**Desire and Dilemma in Accounts of Contemporary Working Fatherhood**

*Osborn, S.*  
(University of Edinburgh)

For many contemporary parents, parenthood poses a dilemma both logistical and emotional. In this paper, the idea of a dilemma points to the interconnection of loss and gain, not symmetrical for men and women, in decisions about work and care. My on-going PhD research with fathers suggests that the nature of the paternal dilemma is shaped by the nature of fathers’ desire to care, as well as their understanding of choice. Analysing working fathers’ construction of the relationships between financial provision, career and fatherhood (in heterosexual couple families) points to potential paternal dilemmas: decisions where gains entail losses. However, while several participants identified sources of tension or conflicting desires in relation to time and energies invested in children, career or financial provision, in the accounts of some others there was little sign of tension in discussing their experience as father. One characteristic of this second group was an acceptance of the primary role of their partner as caregiver. A relationship between fathers’ desires and a form of paternal dilemma can also be seen where participants encountered a cultural or institutional limit on the realisation of their desire to care, a desire endorsed in discourses of new, intimate, involved fatherhood. Participants whose desire to care exceeded expectations, including their own, described situations where meanings and practices around motherhood, infants’ needs and risk overruled the discourse of ‘new’ caring fatherhood.

**Fatherhood in the UK: What Do We Know about Non-resident Fathers?**

*Poole, E., O’Brien, M., Speight, S., Connolly, S., Aldrich, M.*  
(NatCen Social Research)

Fathers who live apart from their children is an increasing phenomenon; the proportion of single parent households has tripled in the past 30 years and estimates suggest that around 97% of parents with primary care are mothers (ONS, 2013; DWP, 2010).

Despite the increasing interest in fathers, both resident and non-resident, demographic data on men in families and households is not systematically collected and rates of lone motherhood are often used as a proxy for non-resident fatherhood (Philip and O’Brien, 2012). This paper uses data from the UK-wide survey Understanding Society (2009-11) to explore what we know about non-resident fathers. It seeks to provide a nationally representative profile of who non-resident fathers are and the relationships they have with the children who do not live with them. While most other research explores these issues using data collected from mothers an advantage of the Understanding Society data is that it collects information from the non-resident father themselves.

The paper uses an inter-disciplinary conceptual framework for understanding men’s roles as fathers. It explores factors which are associated with the likelihood of having non-resident children and looks specifically at fathers’ characteristics and circumstances which affect the contact they have with non-resident children and the quality of their relationship with them. The paper also discusses policy implications of these findings in terms of the changing policy and legal landscape surrounding separated parents in the UK.

**‘It’s an Opportunity that Every Dad Should Take’: Canadian Fathers, Parental Leave, and the Embodied Work of Caring for Babies**

*Ranson, G.*  
(University of Calgary)

Canada’s relatively generous parental leave provisions have, since 2001, allowed eligible fathers of new babies to share up to 35 weeks of leave with mothers. A small but steadily growing number of Canadian fathers are taking advantage of this leave, and are acting as caregivers for extended periods to very young children. In so doing, they are challenging conventional understandings of infant caregiving, fathering and masculinity. But there has been little scholarly attention paid to the meaning of the caregiving opportunities of parental leave for the fathers themselves. This paper draws on my research with 30 Canadian fathers, in order to address this gap. Of the 30, I conducted in-depth interviews with 21 fathers who reflected on parental leave they had taken in the past. I also paid multiple visits, to observe and talk with nine other fathers, who were currently on leave, and acting as solo caregivers to babies under
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a year old. Together, both aspects of the research allow me in this paper to examine fathers' caregiving from a phenomenological perspective, as lived experience, and as (observable) embodied practice. The paper also offers new insights on masculinity and embodiment, by demonstrating fathers’ commitment to hands-on caregiving, and their competence in its execution.

‘Feed Them Nuggets of Gold, but Watch Them with the Gaze of a Tiger!’: Ambivalence in Values and Aspirations of British South Asian Fathers Across Generations

Chowbey, P., Salway, S., Clarke, L.
(Sheffield Hallam University)

This paper explores how British South Asian fathers’ memories of their own fathers and childhoods influence their approach to bringing up their children. Narrative data is analysed from a recent qualitative study involving 59 fathers and 33 mothers of children aged 4-7 years from four backgrounds: Punjabi Sikhs, Gujarati Hindus, Pakistani Muslims, Bangladeshi Muslims. The complex lives of their fathers, shaped by recent migration and the struggle to establish themselves in Britain in the face of educational and ethnic disadvantages as well as prevalent gender and cultural norms created a fathering practice which the men define as ‘Asian’. The fathers wished to distance themselves from five aspects of this ‘Asian fathering’: authoritarian父亲ing which was viewed as strict and disciplinarian; not being close enough to protect their children from racist bullying and discrimination; low levels of involvement due to long working hours in manual/unskilled shift work; notions of masculinity linked to the idea of a father’s role as a support to mothers rather than for their own enjoyment; and a collective fathering practice which necessitated giving time and resources to others, who contributed to it. However, the fathers acknowledged how they had internalized their own fathers’ values, outlook on life and child-rearing practices in ways that were deeply engrained and from which they could not escape. Fathers’ narratives revealed negotiating through the multiple layers of locations in which they were fathered and redefining them in the context of present-day discourses about fathering.

Fatherhood in a Changing China: Challenge and its Political Implications

Huang, P.
(University of Warwick)

The paper looks at men’s perceptions and experiences of fathering in China. It applies an inter-generational approach by interviewing older fathers (aged 55-75 years) and younger fathers (aged 20-50 years). It generated diverse data in the rapid changing Chinese context, such as the One Child Policy and urban expansion.

Under the One Child Policy, both older and younger men experienced tensions. Many older fathers welcomed the policy due to their patriot commitment to the state. At the same time, some of the older men felt difficult to fulfill the traditional ideology ‘the more children, the more blessing’. For the younger men, they felt the policy helped to legitimate their desire to have fewer children due to the high cost. Other of the younger men opposed to the policy, saying that the policy made parenting difficult, such as spoil the only child.

Many migrated men in my study addressed a wide range of issues. They felt their living condition in the city limited their involvement in child taking and housework. They also sensed that the housing put them under pressure and caused masculine stress, which they thought led to smacking and unhelpful discipline towards children. Also, they felt their identity was floating, in the sense that they were different from rural and urban citizen. They differentiated themselves from their rural peers, as they felt they were modernized by living in the city, such as acquiring modern technology, lifestyle and culture.

Frontiers 1

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 15

Whatever Happened to Psychoanalytic Sociology?

Rustin, M.
(University of East London)

This presentation will explore the elusive presence of psychoanalytic sociology within the sociological field. Why is it that no substantial body of theory, method and research in this area has established itself, despite major contributions to this work in the past? What would need to happen to remedy this situation?
The paper will note some major writings in this field. These include those of the Frankfurt School, of Norbert Elias, and of Talcott Parsons. It will argue what made psychoanalysis so salient to their generation of sociologists was the eruption into society of the deeply irrational forces of Nazism and Fascism. The Frankfurt School social scientists confronted this phenomenon directly. Elias produced a redemptive narrative of the growth of ‘civilisation’, when in Germany it had collapsed around him. Although Parsons’ project might seem different, he wrote about Nazism and propaganda just when Adorno and Horkheimer were addressing these topics, indicating similar preoccupations.

Empiricist unease is one reason why sociology has kept its distance from psychoanalysis. And instead of regarding it as an explanatory resource, some sociologists have preferred to criticise it as a practice complicit in social control and pathologisation. The paper will argue that in the theory of ‘unconscious social defences against anxiety’ a basis exists for developing a psychoanalytic sociology that can satisfy criteria of theoretical and methodological adequacy, and thus ‘bring the unconscious back in’ to the explanation of social phenomena.

‘We Lived in the Same Womb Didn’t We?’: Beginnings, Middles and Endings in Older Siblings Relationships

_Lucey, H., Edwards, B._
(University of Bath)

Sibling research in psychology and psychoanalysis is traditionally grounded in the developmental paradigm and focuses on children and parents, with very little focus on sibling relationships in older age. This presentation draws on a study of women in their 70s, all of whom were children during World War Two, and their experiences and understandings of relationships with biological sisters and brothers, now and in the past, to explore how siblings enter, exist and live in the psychosocial lives of older people. We will look at contemporary psychoanalytic and psychosocial research and writing on brothers and sisters to go beyond standard love vs hate discourses around siblings and think about other meaningful aspects of the relationship and their (changing) significance over time. How meaningful are shared psychosocial childhood experiences with siblings as we get older? How do they help us make sense of our beginnings: for instance, our siblings are the only people to know what it was like to be a child under our parents’ regime. What gets resolved, what gets repaired and what gets revived in sibling relationships over the life span and in old age? How might siblings relationships help us to go on being in the last decades of our lives?

Social Trauma and Post-totalitarian Bulgarian Society

_Petrov, R._
(New Bulgarian University)

A hypothesis will be presented about the totalitarian trauma upon Europe, and Bulgarian society as an particular case of a totalitarian and post-totalitarian part of Europe. Particular attention will be put on the on the traumatised sense of belonging and traumatic relations with authority. Examples from three research psycho-social projects in Bulgaria will be presented in support of the hypothesis of traumatised sense of belonging of Bulgarian citizens - a psycho-social research on authority relations and their impact on community development approach in Bulgaria (2002 - 2010), on governance and civil society (2004-2006) and on the social dreaming approach towards the citizen’s experience (2012-). Tentative suggestion for a social trauma informed view of Cold War and post-Cold War European social condition will be made.

Hatred of the Liberal State

_Richards, B._
(Bournemouth University)

This paper extends the analysis of the case of Anders Breivik presented by the author to the 2013 BSA Conference (of which a report is now being revised for publication in the American Sociological Association journal Contexts). It adds to the Breivik case study one of the 1997 Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh, and finds in the ideas and worldviews of both similar configurations of hatred for the liberal democratic state, linked to unconscious phantasies of abandonment and betrayal by parental figures. For these perpetrators of the two worst ‘in-country’ terrorist attacks in Europe and the US, gender identity was also a crucial area of psychic disturbance. A further psychic component necessary for their actions was an unchecked omnipotence. This picture of the psychosocial underpinnings of mass murder is compared with what is known about jihadi terrorists, and the implications of this for future patterns of threat from ultranationalists and jihadists are discussed. Finally the emotional drivers of terror in the cases of Breivik and McVeigh are compared with the widely distributed and varied patterns of paler hostility to the democratic State found across the political spectrum, as a contribution to the broader political psychology of ideology.
Shameful Sociability

*Walsh, J.*
*(University of Warwick)*

In this paper I shall discuss some of the principal coordinates of my present research project entitled ‘Test-Cases in Shameful Sociability’. I begin by underlining the importance of the concept of shame for the field of psychosocial enquiry. I present the hypothesis that we take pleasure from shame (both being ashamed and shaming other), and argue that when we talk about shame we have to consider this pleasure and its social function. Turning to the extant literature on shame, I contend that contemporary sociological accounts have not developed a sufficient analysis of the social pleasures of shame. I argue that there is a tendency within the social sciences to overemphasise the coherence of the project of self-narration, and, in doing so, to treat shame as a kind of social pathology which impedes the development of a secure self-identity. Methodologically, the project relies on a series of ‘cultural test-cases’ such as Shame and the Act of Writing; and Shame and the Politics of Sex and Sexuality. In the second half of the paper, I describe my methodological approach, outline the test-cases I have constructed, and focus on one particular test-case to illustrate some of the challenges of doing empirical sociological research on the topic of shame.

Frontiers 2

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 18**

Rethinking Cross-border Mobilities Control and the Humanitarian Border

*Lee, M.*
*(University of Hong Kong)*

To date criminologists have paid relatively little attention to the role of transnational and non-government organisations and development aid agencies in the control of cross-border mobilities, especially in what William Walters (2011) has termed the ‘humanitarian border’. This paper seeks to address this imbalance by examining the emergence of a ‘humanitarian industry’ in migration control and its gendered consequences in the global South and the implications for a sociologically informed analysis of global control of unwanted migrants. By drawing on examples in Asia, this paper considers the emerging system of global governance of migrations and mobilities notably through a reformulation of borders as a problem of management, dissemination of norms and standards through transnational and donor agencies as ‘novel assemblages’ in migration management, and the meshing of border control and development aid in the name of human trafficking prevention.

The Images in Our Heads: Fundraising Literature and Drawing What Homelessness Looks Like

*Dean, J.*
*(Sheffield Hallam University)*

This paper presents original qualitative research on how students visualise the issue of homelessness. It explores how utilising creative visual methodologies can identify how and why homeless people are subject to stereotyping and othering. Over a series of focus groups, with more than 40 participants, undergraduate students have been asked to ‘draw what homelessness looks like’ and then to critically reflect on these drawings. The images students draw overwhelmingly show bearded men, begging on the streets, with drink and drug issues. These images represent only a very small element of homelessness as a social problem, when most homeless people have shelter, but not permanent residence. Many people suffering from homelessness are women or children, and are often in employment, education, or training, none of which are represented in these drawings, which focus solely on poverty-stricken street rooflessness.

In their reflection on their drawings, students feel that these images represent their experiences of homelessness, as something that ‘happens to other people’, and are partially the result of media depictions of homelessness. However, these stereotypical images also form the basis of many fundraising campaigns used by homelessness charities, charities which see it as a risk to fundraising to move away from classic images of roofless men. As such this paper will focus on how students feel these images have been communicated to them, why stereotyping and othering take place, and what changes can be made to charity communications in order to break down cultural barriers between potential donors and service users.
‘Working Together to Solve Our Problems’: Responsible Citizens, Social Cohesion and the Partnership Modality in South African Development and Beyond

Mueller-Hirth, N.  
(University of Aberdeen)

Cross-sectoral partnerships between governments, business and civil society actors have become established as a key modality of global development in the 21st century. By bringing together the varied skills and resources of different sectors, development projects are thought to be delivered better and more inclusively. The very concept of partnerships illustrates the blurring of boundaries between the market, state and civil society, with business performing tasks that were once considered the responsibility of the state and the state in turn facilitating responsible behaviour from corporations, civil society organisations and individuals.

It is with this global transformation of development modalities over the last decade or so in mind, and drawing on a broader ethnographic study of the development domain in the country, that this paper examines post-conflict South Africa’s poverty reduction and development agenda. Here, the government similarly emphasises the need for development collaboration through cross-sectoral partnerships at all levels, evident most clearly in the recent New Growth Path (2010) and National Development Plan (2013). The paper will present a discursive analytical reading of these policies, focusing specifically on three key themes: broad-based partnerships, social cohesion, and active citizenship. It will pay particular attention to discourses of neoliberal responsibilisation, but will also show how the global partnership model is articulated locally in hybrid ways that overlap with developmental state modalities and South Africa’s ongoing reconciliation project.

Changing Universities, Changing Sociology: Where Does Sociology Figure in the Third Mission?

Courtney, R.  
(University of Leicester)

This paper presents the conclusions of an ESRC Seminar Series entitled “New Institutional Imperatives: The Third Mission and the Contemporary University”. The seminars featured speakers from a range of backgrounds, including internationally renowned academics, practitioners in knowledge exchange, and policy makers from HEFCE, RCUK, and UK Government. The papers illustrated the changing nature of universities worldwide and drew insights on the changing relationship between universities and society, politics, and the economy. The conclusions revealed that universities are engaged in a great deal of enterprise, which goes beyond a sole focus on science and technology. Disciplines outside of science and technology, mostly in the arts and humanities have been using a Public Engagement agenda to appeal to Third Mission logic. However, the Third Mission has been largely ignored within contemporary British sociology, as most sociologists do not brand their work in these terms.

This paper will highlight the epistemic, methodological, and normative challenges of the Third Mission agenda for sociology. The paper will argue that sociology, due to the nature of its subject matter, should take ownership of the Public Engagement discourse in order to subvert Third Mission logic. It is through this subversion that sociology can drive a public and civil idea of the university above the ‘neo-liberal’ commercialism inherent in HEI policy discourse.


Chang, X.  
(SOAS, University of London)

Fieldwork in an ordinary Chinese village, even a prosperous one, shows that the fortunes of villagers are subject to huge rises and falls in line with events in the rest of China. As they seek ways to cope with change and improve their lives, villagers are constantly maintaining and managing relationships not only between themselves but also with the state. They believe that their current economic and political environment, one of free private enterprise and loosened state control, is in part their own creation, the result of reciprocal influence and accommodation between themselves and the state over a long period. Fieldwork in Kaixiangong village, focusing on social support, showed how the majority of villagers’ resource-seeking actions, whether from state or private sources, are rooted in implicit cultural models and patterns of social relationships, which hold rural society together at the village level and provide a space in which to negotiate and re-negotiate with the state. This paper will present an analysis of these relationships and their dynamic changes using the LSWL model which embodies the concept of lishang-wanglai – a Chinese model of social relationships and reciprocity.
Ageing in Embodied Time
Woodspring, N.
(University of the West of England, Bristol)

In recent years, ageing studies has developed a newfound interest in the body. Time, including and beyond chronology, generation, rhythmicity, and history, is a growing edge in sociological literature. To date, no one has tackled ageing bodies embedded and embodied in time. My research centers on the primacy of time and ageing as people come to know, experience and conceive of the bodily ageing process.

The collective experience of the postwar generation including the Cold War, Earthrise, music and dance, the Pill, and the liberation movements have influenced expressions of physicality throughout the lifetime of this cohort. For this generation, the experience of these events is now influencing the embodied meaning of ageing. The past and present interpenetrate to create imagined futures. Body, time and the times of the postwar cohort are explored in this presentation. Is the constitution of ageing embodiment a constant? Does the inclusion of an intersection of time and body add to our understanding of ageing?

This paper reflects research that included interview data from a cross-class study of thirty adults born between 1945 – 1955. Participants come from diverse backgrounds. While some interviewees were deeply involved in the 60’s, others were on the sidelines, and another group were somewhat perplexed by the ruckus. Seen through the lens of time, ageing body creates new meanings for the post-war generation. Their embodied experience exemplifies the chiasm of time and body.

‘It’s Part of Me’: Handbags, Identity and Privacy in Dementia Care
Buse, C., Twigg, J.
(University of Kent)

This paper explores the role of handbags in the everyday lives of women with dementia. It draws on findings from a broader ESRC funded study ‘Dementia and Dress’, which is exploring everyday experiences of clothing for people with dementia, carers, and care-workers using ethnographic and qualitative methods. Findings illustrate how handbags can be significant to the identities of women with dementia as ‘biographical’ and ‘memory’ objects (Ash 1996; Hoskins 1998)-both in terms of the bags themselves, and the objects they contain. This is particularly the case in the transition to care homes, where previous aspects of identity and social roles may be threatened. Handbags are also significant to making personal space— the interior world of handbags represents a private and intimate space (Kaufmann 2011), and embodied practices of sorting, positioning, and holding bags can also be a way to create privacy within care settings. However, dementia can heighten more ambiguous aspects of women’s relationship to their handbags- handbags can become a source of frustration as ‘lost objects’, and may become mixed up among residents in care homes, creating tensions or ‘handbag wars’. The handbags of women with dementia can also become ‘unruly’, containing bizarre or ‘dirty’ objects, or items collected from around care homes. Handbags may also be adapted or discarded due to changing bodies, life-styles, and the progression of dementia

‘After Doing this for so Many Years You Want Your Comfort a Bit’: Squatting and Negotiating Authenticity as an Ageing Punk
Lohman, K.
(University of Warwick)

Since the early work done by the Chicago School and Birmingham’s Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies, subcultural participation has been viewed as youthful resistance of parental generations. However this separation of young and old, divided by cultural style, is unfounded. Older individuals have always been involved in the production of new modes of cultures; adults act as gatekeepers for the cultural resources needed by young people, or, as is increasingly the case today, actually participate in the subculture.

This paper builds on the work of Bennett (2006) and Hodkinson (2012) in uncovering the particular experiences associated with older peoples’ subcultural involvement. The potential that punk has for influencing participants’ lifecourse will be examined, with some discussion of how this affects interactions between older and younger generations in punk today. It is based on a socio-historic ethnographic research project conducted on punk in The Netherlands, including interviews with current participants ranging in age from 21 to 65. Data was collected between July 2010 and April 2011, and participants include 5 women and 27 men.
The paper argues that for many of those who are still active in the scene, punk was no mere 'youthful phase' but instead a lifelong commitment. The historic links between Dutch punk and the anarchist squatting scene have resulted in participants seeking to live 'outside society'. Subcultural affiliation and aspirations of punk authenticity lead to individual tensions surrounding normative lifecourse expectations, including living arrangements, family, and work choices.

**Visual Representations of Virtual Connectivities in Daily Life**

*Martin, W., Pilcher, K.*  
*(Brunel University)*

Whilst the significance of social relationships and connectivities are well recognised in research with people in mid to later life, these connections are rarely situated within the context of their daily lives. The aim of this paper is to explore the significance of virtual connectivities within the ordinary and day-to-day lives of people in mid to later life. In particular, the texture, rhythm, spatio-temporal and embodied nature of social connections will be highlighted. This paper draws on data from the empirical study *Photographing Everyday Life: Ageing, Lived Experiences, Time and Space* funded by the ESRC. The research involved a diverse sample of 62 women and men aged 50 years and over who took photographs of their different daily routines to create a weekly visual diary. This diary was then explored through in-depth photo-elicitation interviews. Exploring the routines, meanings, and patterns that underpin everyday life has enabled us to make visible how people build, maintain and experience their social connections, and the ways in which digital devices and information technologies are being incorporated into (and resisted) within daily life. The paper will explore: (1) the increasing importance of virtual connectivities and active engagement with new technologies of communication; (2) the significance of embodied co-presence and the immediacy of shared space and/or time; and (3) how narratives surrounding engagement (or not) with virtual technologies both challenge and reinforce ideas about ageing (and youth) in complex and, at times, contradictory ways.

**Ageing Femininities: Narratives of Ageing and Representations of Ageing Female Body among Older Women on Photo-sharing Websites**

*Kurpaska, A.*  
*(King's College London)*

Basing on the empirical study of personal photographic practices of older demographics in the context of the online sphere, the proposed paper examines self-presentations of mature and older female users of Flickr, paying particular attention to the intersections of photographic self-portraiture with the issues of the body, identity and agency. How do older women negotiate visibility in the contemporary social media sphere, especially considering the low bodily capital of ageing female bodies? How is the ageing body performed in comparison to an average (younger) user of the photo-sharing platform? Can the negative narrative of ageing be subverted if authored by the subjects themselves? How can older women maintain social value on social media dominated by younger demographics? Pointing out the tensions between the denial of ageing and the agentic resistance to cultural conventions of ageing the paper examines the ways in which the ageing body is performed, focusing in particular these self-presentations that exhibit refusal to keep to societal standards of age-appropriateness in their self-fashioning. The paper questions what forms of visibility and public participation are available to older women in the context of consumer culture, post-feminist sensibility and dominant anti-ageing rhetoric where the ageing female body is rendered absent as not adhering to normative standards of physical attractiveness and youth and the ageing process itself carries negative associations of decline and loss, while taking into account the ways in which older individuals employ the affordances of digital technologies to resist or redefine the dominant discourses of ageing.

**Medicine, Health and Illness 1**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 02**

**Cultural Participation for Social Isolation in Acute Mental Health Care: How Far Does Taking Part Generate Social Capital?**

*Karpusheff, J.*  
*(University of Manchester)*

The perceived failure of community mental health care (the ‘revolving door’) has led to criticisms that users of these services may now be in the community, but not of the community. Services are increasingly looking beyond their own
boundaries to the cultural sector, in order to address this perceived lack of connection to community and increase service user’s social participation. This runs parallel to growing evidence suggesting that social contact can improve and sustain positive mental health. However, the underlying assumption from partnerships between mental health care and the cultural sector is that provision of cultural activities will inevitably generate protective resources or social capital.

Social differences are manifest in unequal access to opportunities, but they are also often characterised by static patterns of association. People who are not ‘of the community’ may have ‘bonding ties’, or peer relationships, but they may lack ‘bridging ties’, contacts that are more dynamic in spanning social differences. This is potentially reinforced when access to social opportunities consists of activities with other groups of service users. Therefore, it is important to ask how far taking part in cultural activities can create dynamic association patterns beyond the bounded regions of mental health care.

This paper describes early findings from a longitudinal study exploring the networks and social participation of a group of people in contact with acute mental health services. Drawing on social network theory and using Bourdieu’s concept of ‘habitus’ it discusses how far taking part generates usable resources that might reduce social exclusion.

**Prising Open the ‘Black Box’: An Epistemic Critique of Psychiatric Research on Scaling-up Mental Health Care Provision in Africa**

Cooper, S.  
*(London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine)*

The high levels of untreated mental illness in Africa and other LMICs, together with ubiquitous calls for the widespread scale-up of services to help redress this situation, have recently gained considerable attention within the global health arena. This paper, which forms part of my PhD study, looks critically at the epistemic underpinnings of contemporary research on scaling-up mental health care in Africa.

I demonstrate how two concepts, scientific-evidence and human rights, appear to frame such research. Drawing on strands of critical sociological and postcolonial thought, I highlight some of the problematic ways in which these concepts are playing out. The notion of ‘scientific evidence’, with its ideological overtones of ‘objectivity’ and ‘definitiveness’, may marginalize other potentially meaningful ways of constituting knowledge about care which may lie outside scientific epistemological and metaphysical realities. Likewise, the concept of human rights, with its epistemic underpinnings of naturalism and normativity, tends to disregard the potential pluralism of moral ideas and notions of personhood.

My key argument is that meeting the diverse and complex mental health care needs of people on the African continent necessitates fostering a more democratic and open economy of knowledge. I consider how generative dialogues, across different knowledge traditions and moral landscapes might be nurtured within this field of research. Ultimately, at a time when a plethora of programmes are currently being executed to transform mental health care provision in Africa, these kinds of conversations are indispensable and urgent.

**Wellbeing Stability through the Economic Crisis**

Bayliss, D., Olsen, W., Walthery, P.  
*(University of Manchester)*

It has been claimed that the wellbeing of people in the UK has remained stable during the current economic crisis. Such claims are perhaps counterintuitive given the severity of the crisis; the longest on record in the UK (Myers 2012). The narrative of wellbeing that accompanies such major events is important at a time when the government is (at least talking about) taking non-GDP measures of success more seriously. Claims that events such as recession do not significantly alter people’s wellbeing echo past sentiment used to justify recession as an acceptable policy tool (Riegle 1982).

This paper proposes that the subjective measures (e.g. life satisfaction) used to support claims of stable wellbeing are flawed as evaluative measures of the impact of events such as recession. Worse still, declining overall wellbeing during the current recession can be and perhaps has been masked by the use of aggregate subjective wellbeing. Instead, the idea that wellbeing cannot be detached from the nature of a person’s existence is pursued (Sen 1987). To test this claim, a subjective measure of wellbeing (life satisfaction) is compared to a more objective measure (positive affect). Panel data for the UK working age population is used to produce growth curves estimating change in individual wellbeing from boom into bust. Initial results show that in contrast to life satisfaction, positive affect reduced during recession, supporting the claim that subjective wellbeing is not sufficient for evaluating individual wellbeing. Pending results explore how contextual factors mediate predicted wellbeing trajectories.
A New Ageism in a Late-modern NHS? The Experiences of Emerging Adults Receiving Inpatient Healthcare

Finnis, C.  
(University of Kent)

The increase in life-expectancy has had an impact on people across the life course (Carruther & Ormondroyd, 2009), such that Arnett (2004) identified a new life stage, a consequence of loss of stable life transitions in the late modern age. The characteristics of emerging adults render them vulnerable to discriminatory attitudes and practices. Thus, the aim of this study was to explore discriminatory practices against younger people in the specific context of the provision of inpatient care in acute hospitals in the NHS in England. Thirteen young adults aged 18-35 years were interviewed and their narratives transcribed and analyzed. The narratives were analyzed using thematic inductive analysis (Aronsen, 1994) and five dominant themes emerged. Using a constructivist approach the themes were then built up, to represent the implicit meaning found in the data. The findings were significant in that almost all the narratives were predominantly negative, with many emerging adults describing acts of discrimination, based solely on their age. Moreover they found that the NHS inpatient system was not appropriate for their age group and frequently left them feeling vulnerable, and ignored. They felt their physical and emotional health was de-prioritized and that they were generally disbelieved and dismissed about their illnesses. Clearly these findings have implications for the NHS, and possibly other health care providers, and how they are to plan for the care of this ‘new’ life stage.

‘We’ve Got Some Underground Business Selling Junk Food’: New Counter-school Food Cultures in English Secondary Schools

Fletcher, A., Jamal, F., Fitzgerald-Yau, N., Bonell, C.  
(Cardiff University)

Drawing on two qualitative studies, we report evidence of pervasive black markets in ‘junk’ food and energy drinks in English secondary schools. Data were collected at six schools through focus groups and interviews with students (n=149) and staff (n=36), and direct observations. This presentation will firstly describe how new ‘underground businesses’ have emerged and then theorise the illicit supply of food and drink as a new counter-school cultural response. The proliferation of local supermarkets near schools, new instant messaging technologies and school managers’ and teachers’ focus on attainment have created a ‘perfect storm’ for black markets to emerge and flourish following the introduction of the latest English school food and nutritional standards in 2009, which completely prohibited the sale of chocolate, other confectionary and sweetened drinks in schools. Engagement in black marketeering also fulfils a highly-symbolic role as an expression of anti-school resistance to institutional constraints within the context of enduring, although less visible, class-based stratification in secondary schools. Poorer students are actively rejecting, not only the constraints imposed on their food ‘choices’ but also, the school environment more broadly. These underground markets also appear to be partly driven by the unsafe and unsociable nature of school canteens, which was a recurring theme across all six schools. Students can create new social spaces away from the canteen via their own supplies of food and drink. These findings highlight how school food bans ignore the complex, ‘ecological’ nature of poor diet and the potential for such policies to have iatrogenic effects.

Negotiating Medically Unexplained Seizures in Clinical Encounters

Lian, O.S., Robson, C.  
(University of Tromsø)

In Western healthcare systems, doctors are increasingly confronted by patients with bodily problems that have neither biomarkers nor unambiguous medical explanations. In the medical nomenclature, such conditions are often classified as somatiform diseases or medically unexplained physical symptoms (MUPS). Medical constructions of medically unexplained symptoms have changed in concert with societal, historical, cultural and technological patterns of change. In this paper we explore negotiations of medically unexplained seizures, often labeled as PNES (Psychogenic Non-epileptic Seizures), in clinical encounters. Our data consist of film recordings of 50 consultations between neurologists and patients with seizure disorders of uncertain aetiology in a specialist (regional) seizure clinic in England. How do neurologists explain to patients the cause of their medically unexplained seizures; which implicit underlying assumptions about the body are the doctor’s statements based on, and how do patients respond to their arguments? The tension between psychological and somatic explanations is a core aspect of our analysis. Our interpretation of the data is based on theories from the emerging field sociology of diagnosis. This is an area of medical sociology that makes use of sociological concepts, theories and perspectives to explore social and cultural aspects related to
medical diagnosis, both as a label and as a process. We use the term ‘medical constructions’ to emphasise that medical diagnoses and understandings of illness are not merely something that is revealed or discovered, but are also interpreted in a particular sociocultural context.

‘It’s Just Hormones’: Help-seeking, Self-harm and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Youth

McDermott, E.
(Lancaster University)

Research suggests that young people are less likely to seek help for mental health problems in comparison to adults, and adolescents who self-harm are particularly disinclined to seek help. The evidence consistently indicates that the ‘barriers’ to services and informal support are due to the stigma of having a mental health problem. The reason why mental health problems are stigmatised for young people remains rarely investigated.

This paper reports on a qualitative online study investigating lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) adolescents which are a population group with an elevated risk of suicide, and little is known about their help-seeking behaviour. Discourse analysis was utilized to examine LGBT youth ‘cyber-talk’ about seeking help for suicidal feelings and self-harming. The analysis presented here suggests that dominant neoliberal ‘developmental’ discourses of adolescence as immature, over-emotional, lacking autonomy and responsibility combine with normative discourses of sexuality and gender to position young LGBT people’s distress as ‘temporary’ (it’s a phase) and reduce these feelings to biology (‘raging hormones’). As a result young LGBT people find it difficult to ask for help and articulate emotional distress because this requires them to ‘tell’ their selves as ‘failed’.

If we are to develop effective mental health services, we require a much deeper understandings of the ways normative discourses of sexuality, gender and adolescence are intricately involved in governing what emotions it is possible to feel, what emotions it is possible to articulate, and what type of young lives that can be told.

‘Learning Disabilities’ as a ‘Black Box’: On the Different Conceptions and Constructions of a Popular Clinical Entity in Israel

Katchergin, O.
(Oranim Academic College and Levinsky Academic College)

This presentation stimulates new thinking about learning-disabilities by introducing their current understandings in Israeli academic and professional experts’ discourse. Previous educational and psychological studies concerning learning-disabilities (LDs) in Israel have regarded them as objective categories with formal definitions and criteria accepted in the scholarly literature. Contrary to this, the present presentation explores the various conceptions, constructions and meanings of LDs comprising the narrative descriptions and explanations of local didactic diagnosticians. for this purpose 50 in-depth interviews were conducted.

The first part of the presentation lays out the theoretical background of the sociological and discursive debate about LDs. This is contrasted with the total lack of debate regarding LDs’ nature and current hegemony in the Israeli LD academic and professional discourse of neuropsychological paradigms. Part two explores the various main thematic aspects and narrative strategies used by the diagnosticians in their construction of their purportedly ‘objective’, ‘a-historical’, ‘a-political’ experts' narrative. Part three reveals the polyphonic multifaceted nature of the LD construct.

The interviewees’ narrative undermines the objective and homogenous definitions in the Israeli literature by uncovering learning-disabilities’ heterogeneous meaning repertoire. This repertoire consists, among others, of conceptualizing disability as a ‘disease’, a ‘symptom’, a ‘genetic defect’, a ‘disorder’, an ‘educational difficulty’, a ‘variance’ and even a ‘gift’. It is revealed that the interviewees’ narrative deconstructs the ‘scientific factual nature’ of the clinical categories. On this background the presentation concludes by explaining the current popularity of the LD diagnosis in Israel and the local appeal of neuropsychology as its’ interpretative framework

Presenting an Ecological Model of Treatment Decision-making: A Qualitative Study Examining the Process of Making Decisions for Children and Young People with a Complex Medical Condition

Taylor, J.
(University of Sheffield)

Background: Complex decisions for seriously ill children and young people are surrounded by uncertainty, and require families to weigh up issues around quality and prolongation of life. The limited evidence suggests there is inadequate information and support for decision-making, and potential for misunderstanding between families and professionals.

Aim: To investigate families’ experiences of making decisions about technological support, focusing on artificial nutrition and assisted ventilation.
Methods: Thematic analysis of in-depth interviews with nineteen families of life-limited children (twenty-five parents and five young people) who had considered the use of technological support.

Findings: Parents and young people wish to make the right decision and consider a range of factors in an effort to become informed, even when there is no perceived choice. Quality of life was identified as the key decision factor; however this was a fluid and evolving concept, differing both by individual and over time. Wider features of the decision process also influenced decision-making, and the research proposes an ecological framework which distinguishes between decision factors, used by families to consider a proposed intervention; decision features, unique to the patient population; and process factors, concerned with the interactions families have with the healthcare system.

Conclusions: Decision features, which include the role of parents and young people as decision makers, and process factors such as the role of professionals and access to information, can either enable or constrain families during the decision process and influence both the perceived choice and the degree of uncertainty they experience.

Methodological Innovations

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 11

Splicing Time: Longitudinal Mixed Methods

Uprichard, E., Dawney, L.
(University of Warwick)

This paper is about longitudinal mixed methods and how these can be used to explore dynamic temporal social phenomena. More specifically, the argument is that we can use longitudinal mixed methods to splice time and temporality such that we access the ontological temporal nature of the object of study. In what follows, we will provide quick introduction to the idea of longitudinal mixed methods. Next we discuss the problems and benefits of longitudinal mixed methods. Finally, we discuss the ways in which longitudinal mixed methods can be used to splice time. We conclude by reflecting on the benefits and implications this mode of longitudinal mixed methods research may for studying complex social entities that are always changing in one way or another over time.

Mass Observation, Leaves of Grass and Methodology: Lists, Social Poetics and the Politics of Method

Hurdley, R.
(Cardiff University)

The paper focuses on the relations between Mass Observation Reports, and the contemporary sociological valuing of articulacy, salience and coherence in participants’ accounts. This is linked with a critique of sociological literariness, to question how participants’ words are transformed into ‘data’ for research productions.

First, the original files, on diverse pieces of paper, type-written, scrawled, drawn and photographed illuminate the importance of materiality. Second, the character of MO invites a peculiar temporal approach, where unevenness, incommensurability and plurality produce mobile, unboundaried topographies of time. Third, the contents of the Reports vary from hasty sentences to pages of novelistic plotting, lists, drawings, photos, maps and confiding letters, calling conventional content analysis into question.

Following this overview, a focus on MO ‘Mantelpiece’ lists examines the materiality and literariness of these papers. It is tempting to dispose of them or flesh them out, filling the gaps with the familiar connective tissue of stories. However, silence and brevity are not analogous to inarticulacy. I turn to Charles Madge's modernist vision of MO as ‘popular poetry’, linking it with Whitman’s Leaves of Grass. Critically condemned for its lists, variable registers, revisions and vulgarity, the work was gradually revalued as American vernacular epic. Juxtaposing ‘popular’ poetics with Whitman’s ‘democratic poetics’ suggests a different way for engaging with challenging research processes, such as filming with asylum seekers.

Testing for Necessary Conditions in the Face of Limited Diversity: Implications for Case Selection

Glaesser, J., Cooper, B.
(Durham University)

For policy-makers, knowledge of necessary conditions for some outcome to be achieved is useful. If some condition is necessary, then without it (or some functional alternative), seeking to achieve the outcome may be futile.
working with quantitative data, until recently, paid little attention to necessary conditions. Qualitative researchers, discussing analytic induction, and newer set-theoretic approaches such as Ragin’s configurational Qualitative Comparative Analysis, have paid increasing attention to them, alongside sufficient conditions. Limited diversity is the situation where not all logically possible combinations of conditions exist in one’s sample and/or population. Awareness is increasing of the difficulties this can cause when necessary conditions are being sought. Given limited diversity, it can be difficult to assess the necessity of a condition (or, in practice, its quasi-necessity). We may, e.g., want to assess whether the condition ‘high ability’ is a necessary condition for ‘high attainment’. If it is, then, strictly speaking, without it, high attainment should be impossible. Two other potentially relevant conditions associated with high attainment are gender and social class. Would it then be possible, e.g., to assess the necessity of ‘high ability’ were there to be no data for higher class males without ‘high ability’? We’ll explore such questions, using illustrative Venn diagrams, crosstabulations and truth tables. We’ll discuss implications of our analysis for case selection in qualitative and quantitative research. What cases, ideally, must we have to establish necessity? To what extent can explanatory theory, and counterfactual reasoning, help us in the face of limited diversity?

Everyday Life Analysis: A New, Multimethod, Longitudinal Approach to Capturing Daily Lives

Fry, G., Hamblin, K., Koivunen, E.R.  
(Oxford Institute of Population Ageing)

This presentation will explore a new method employed to capture the daily lives of older people. A ‘bricolage’ of qualitative methods were used, including semi-structured interviews, ethnographic observations, diaries and creative techniques involving photographs and mapping. The focus of the research project was on the lived experiences of telecare technology use by older individuals. However, the method enabled us to capture rich, longitudinal and multi-perspective data on the everyday lives of the research participants and their experiences of ageing. The longitudinal element of the method was designed to examine change over time, to build rapport between research participants and researchers and to ensure the research was pleasant for the research participants. This had a significant impact on the quality of the data and the variety of life experiences the research participants discussed with us. For example, several research participants had major changes in their life circumstances during the period of the study, such as hospitalisation, moving home and death of spouse. Because of the trust created in the study in many cases the research participants were keen to continue their participation in the study even after these changes in their lives. The individuals involved had been identified as suffering from falls and / or dementia, and the latter group in particular has until now been neglected by longitudinal research. In this presentation, we will explore the benefits of the methods, as well as the challenges it presented and potential opportunities for future application.

Sensing Data: The Case of the Mass Observation Archive

Uprichard, E., Moor, L.  
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

This presentation focuses on the sensory experiences of data and the materiality of method. It draws on the authors’ experiences of using the Mass Observation Archive as a way of illustrating the importance of paying attention to sensory modes of knowing the data through tactile, material and sensory matters. We discuss the ways in which sensuous ‘cues’ and ‘hints’ offered by the material of method play a role in getting ‘dirty with data’ throughout the research process. In turn, we suggest that the materiality of method and the sensuousness of data play a part a key role in the methodological approaches we use to explore the social world. Moreover, focusing on the sensory nature of data, we argue, is especially useful to being able to track and trace social change empirically through time and space and in a way that also acknowledges the changing materiality of method in general.

QCA Grows Up: Three Surprising Applications of Fuzzy Sets

Olsen, W.  
(University of Manchester)

The qualitative comparative method offers a variety of ways to interrogate data from small non-random samples, but one can also apply fuzzy set methods to large scale randomly sampled data. I have explored three ways of applying fuzzy sets. All are compatible with a realist approach to society but not all the applications use causal reasoning. The three applications are as follows. First we can tease out a ranking of which causal configurations best match a sufficiency pattern. This is applied in the case of school effectiveness in Chile. We estimate the consistency level using simple spreadsheet methods. Having many indigenous students is sufficient for low school value added in Chile. Second I also show results from a fresh estimate of how consistent the data are with the sufficiency hypothesis using a curve. This curve supports the sufficiency claim. We obtain a confidence interval through bootstrapping. In
proposing such methods there is no need to revert to frequentist reasoning. We thus pick up a lively debate in sociological methodology.

Thirdly I offer a QCA solution to those who can analyse their comparative data without having a causal model. Both inductive and exploratory studies may be of this kind. Here the inclusion ratio is shown to help with setting up typologies and fuzzy scattergrams. QCA can be used to create typologies where no causes exist and where patterns are being sought.

Overall these are good methods for sociology with mixed methods data.

Science and Technology Studies

Modelling Ageing: Animals, Biology and the (Post)Human

Latimer, J. E.
(Cardiff University)

Drawing on an on-going ethnography of ageing and biology, the paper explores how scientists are (re)modelling ageing. In asking how they switch to and fro between the human and the animal, I put into question what ideas about persons, the cultural, the normal, or the natural, scientists bring into play. I focus on the contrasting ways in which ageing humans are being figured and brought into presence. On the one hand, in scientists’ discourses about ageing at the interface with the public, with medicine and with funding bodies, ageing is being refigured as a disease in the human in ways that enrol the ‘deficit model of ageing’ (Latimer 2013); thus legitimating arguments for intervening in those biophysiological processes identified and named as the deliterious mechanisms of ageing, such as cell senescence and inflammaging. On the other, in the laboratory, in interviews and in academic meetings and papers in which scientists present their research to one another, one is as likely to encounter non-human animals as humans, both ‘naturally’ occurring animals enrolled as spokespersons for evolutionary theories as well as model animals, such as laboratory bred nematodes, flies, and mice. Consequently I go on to detail more closely how and when scientists attach to the human, and how and when they attach to other animals, and describe what ageing becomes in these shifts in extension. I close by holding scientists’ discourses and practices against current debates on cosmopolitics and (post)human ontologies of connection.

De-standardising Ageing?

Moreira, T.
(Durham University)

This paper explores the changing role of science and expertise in the governance of ageing societies. It argues that, in the sociological debate about whether there has been a shift towards a de-standardised life-course in advanced economies, little attention has been devoted to the infrastructural processes that would support such a transition: the technologies, standards and conventions that would, in practice, equip a personalised, individualised management of the life-course. This paper focuses on one such standards – ‘biological age’ – and explores the evolving configurations of institutional, normative, conceptual and material resources that enabled attempts to define and measure it. Drawing on archival and interview data, the paper suggests that the persistent uncertainty surrounding biological age in the last 5 decades is structured by differing interlocking relationships between normative ideals of the life-course and methodological approaches to knowledge making on ageing.

An Ethnographic Exploration of the Biological Study of Ageing

Davies, S.
(Cardiff University)

This paper presents findings from an ethnography of biogerontology, funded by the ESRC as part of a project that aims to explore the biogerontology as an emergent scientific field. The project includes data yielded from different contexts where science is being done, including benchside in the lab, at conferences, in academic publications and on the internet. The methods drawn from include participant and non-participant analysis, formal and informal interviews and document analysis. In this paper, I discuss what is made present and absent in these different assemblages of biogerontology. More specifically, I will discuss how the data shows that a discourse of concern for older people, made
present in ‘front stage’ contexts is replaced by a discourse of concern for career survival in the day to day ‘back stage’ laboratory contexts where biogerontology is being done.

Eventful Bodies, Eventful Technologies: Ageing, Illness and Care

Schillmeier, M.
(University of Exeter)

In this paper I explore the relation between ageing bodies, illness, technologies and care. Drawing on ethnographic work I will discuss the experiences of Mr B who suffered two strokes in the course of ten years (1990 & 2000). The paper will show how the effects of these bodily events thoroughly reshape Mr B’s personal and social life and how he eventually moves from his home to a nursing home. Challenging a mere ‘deficit model ageing and illness’, I will show how emerging affective relations of human bodies and things assemble the shifting situations of good and bad practices, i.e. situated collective achievements that create ‘extensions of care’ to feel at home in or not. These achievements are collective since not only bodies are eventful entities, but also technologies (Braun & Whatmore 2010). Challenging a deterministic model of technologies, I will explore how assistive technologies contribute not only to the indeterminateness of good or bad practices in constant care, but also draw our attention on the situated and often conflicting requirements of caring.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 1

UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMICS OF ETHNICITY IN BRITAIN: WORKING WITH AND AGAINST CATEGORIES

This panel introduces work from CoDE (Centre on the Dynamics of Ethnicity) at the Universities of Manchester and Glasgow which aims to draw together the wealth of existing data collected in the last 50 years and generate new data which can shed light on ethnic inequalities in the UK. CoDE is an interdisciplinary centre which is exploring the historical contexts behind the changing dynamics of ethnic inequalities as well as provide a critical take on practices of ethnic categorisation and counting. The papers in this panel will begin to explore how ethnicity and its impact on inequalities in areas such as residential mobility, health, employment and the everyday can be understood. They will also consider how ethnicity relates to lived identities, particularly national identities. Finally, the papers will reflect on how the use of ethnic categories in research and surveys can both aid but also inhibit understanding of how inequality is patterned by ethnicity.

What are We Doing When We Measure National Identity?

Byrne, B., Jivraj, S.
(University of Manchester)

Britain has a complex relationship to national identity, not least because it is a nation state made up of four separate national identities and where the overarching identity of British also came with notions of imperial ambition. Questions about national identity were asked for the first time in the 2011 census and have yielded some interesting results, particularly in the area of ethnicity and national identity. The paper will outline some of these results which show that different ethnic groups in Britain appear to have different relationships to the notion of the more encompassing ‘British’ identity as opposed to the more particular ‘English’. However, this paper will also consider the limits to our understanding of what these differences really can tell us. It will question whether a tick box categorising process has the capacity to produce real understanding of how national identity is felt and lived.

How Useful are Ethnic Categories: Reification or Explanation?

Nazroo, J.
(University of Manchester)

Ethnicity is now a routinely collected variable in sociological research, whether quantitative or qualitative. The standardisation of measurement and the routine nature of the collection of such data naturalises the ethnic categories used – participants in our research can answer the question asking about their ethnicity because we have shared understandings of what the categories mean and how they apply to us. And in doing this, the standardised and routine collection of ethnicity data also encourages a non-reflective use of ethnic categories in analysis. It is easy to overlook the fact that the explanatory power of ethnic categories reflects the ways in which they have been and are socially
constructed, and instead to seek explanation in the meanings routinely applied to categories. Such routine meanings rely on an understanding of difference that results from the apparently obvious utility of this approach to classifying populations. Using examples drawn from my empirical work (on ethnic inequalities in health, mixed ethnicity and changing labour market inequalities) I will demonstrate the ease with which ethnic categories are reified, illustrate how the ethnic categories we use can be troubled and interrogated, and, paradoxically, show why using ethnic categories is necessary to expose ethnic inequalities. In doing so, I will encourage the critical reflective use of ethnic categories in empirical work, even though the categories themselves are the product of processes of racialisation and carry associated meanings.

Rethinking Dominant Understandings of Race and Nation in the UK to Make Sense of Post-race Claims

Harries, B.
(University of Manchester)

This paper will reflect on narratives of racism, or more particularly narratives which claim an absence of racism, which emerge in two cities (Cardiff and Manchester) that are located in two different nations in the UK. A comparison of these two sites offers an interesting perspective to discussions about notions of post-race and can help to complicate the ways we understand nation and race to be articulated in the UK. There is a UK narrative which seeks to distance Britishness from racism by situating it in the past and by deferring responsibility to minority groups said to be operating outside of normative boundaries. In Cardiff and Manchester this deflection of responsibility takes on additional forms. In particular, the paper will explore the way in which constructions of class and race are made to work together in the two cities to think about how claims to being post-race are then made. In south Wales and the north of England ideas of openness and tolerance have emerged, to an extent, from a history of labour and social movements. In Wales too, the folk concept of the ‘Gwerin’ has been used to depict a class-less society and can be extended to infer a race-less society. In both cities formations of class and race present a romanticised image of unity and do so always in contrast to representations of a less tolerant and unified ‘Englishness’.

Ethnic Inequalities in Migration?

Finney, N.
(University of Manchester)

There are differences in the residential mobility within Britain of people from different ethnic groups. These differences are particularly marked for young adults and show South Asian groups to have particularly low mobility and African, Chinese and Mixed groups to have relatively high mobility (patterns which hold after accounting for groups’ age structures). Although there are ethnic similarities in geographical patterns of residential mobility (notably suburbanisation and dispersal from co-ethnic clusters), the absolute geographies of residential moves vary across ethnic groups, in part as a result of the uneven distribution of ethnic groups nationally. Similar ethnic differences in internal migration have been found elsewhere, in north America and Europe.

This paper addresses the question of how and why these ethnic differences in levels and geographies of residential mobility matter. It briefly reviews evidence of ethnic differences in internal migration in Britain using 2011 census microdata and special migration statistics. It then examines how we might think about these differences in migration theoretically, particularly in relation to (in)equality and integration. Material from qualitative interviews is drawn upon to argue that more thorough understanding and theorisation of the role of ethnicity in migration decisions and experiences is needed if we are to appreciate the implications of ethnic differences in residential mobility for equality, social mobility and social integration.

Rethinking the ‘Everyday’ in ‘Ethnicity and Everyday Life’

Smith, A.
(University of Glasgow)

A focus on the lived experience of ethnicity in everyday life, and a concern to understand the formation of ethnic or national identities in mundane situations, are welcome aspects of recent research. Yet sociological discussion of ethnicity has not been informed as much as one might expect by that body of social theory which sought to de-familiarize the seemingly unremarkable quality of ‘everyday life’ as such, with a view to opening up newly critical questions about all that passes as ‘ordinary’. This paper seeks to make a theoretical contribution by asking: how might our conceptualization of ethnicity and ethnic relations be informed by the insights of some of the most prominent theorists of everyday life (Simmel, Benjamin, Lefebvre etc)? These theorists, in different ways, sought to describe the particular character of a social life dominated by the experience of ‘the money economy’, as Simmel puts it. Following them, I suggest that we may find it useful to think of everyday life not just as a ‘where’, but also as a ‘why’, with regard to ethnicity. In other words, we may wish to think of everyday life as more than just the site in which ethnic identities
are made or lived. Taking everyday life as a ‘problematic’ itself, thinking seriously about how everyday encounters and practices are shaped inwardly by the economic world of which they are part, may be of use to us in exploring the conceptual purchase of ethnicity in contemporary life.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 2
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 04

DIASPORA, MIGRATION AND TRANSNATIONAL IDENTITIES

Identity Experiences of Overseas Trained South Asian Doctors in the UK
Farooq, G.Y.
(University of Manchester)

This paper examines the empirical findings from a doctoral study that involved in-depth interviews with 27 overseas-trained South Asian doctors practicing as general practitioners in three geographical locales with varying ethnic density and urban/rural mix in the UK. The study set out to explore how this group of highly skilled migrants integrated into the UK society, perceived their identities and whether they had acquired a sense of belonging to Britain. The key concepts examined were whether the experiences of racism differed for skilled and unskilled migrants and whether class and context had a role in shaping differential experiences of the doctors in the study. Their accounts provide a unique insight into the complexity of the relationships in their everyday experiences with both white middle class and working class people. The findings show how race, class and gender intersect against a backdrop of pre-existing colonial relationships. The narratives show how doctors in the study construct their own identities in relation to their perception of white identities which they experienced differently in different geographical and class context. While there were silences in their accounts in relation to naming elite racism, there was less hesitanancy in disclosing racist experiences with white working class patients. Their encounters with white working class patients were not always shaped by racialised experiences; this finding is in sharp contrast to how white working-class people are variously portrayed as individuals with static views, perpetrators of racial harassment and antagonistic to immigration.

Diversity and Diaspora: Everyday Identifications of Tamil Migrants in the UK
Jones, D.
(Aston University)

Drawing on recent ethnography, the proposed paper presents a nuanced picture of the everyday identifications experienced and expressed among the diverse Tamil migrant population in the UK. Discussions of a UK ‘Tamil diaspora’ have often focused on the Sri Lankan Tamil population, who have mainly arrived in the UK as refugees and through consequent marriage or family reunion migration. However, the UK is also home to a less numerous population of Tamils from South India, who predominantly migrate as professionals or international students, as well as still smaller numbers from South East Asia and Mauritius. This study is the first to give detailed consideration to the narratives and experiences of Tamils in the UK from these diverse state backgrounds and migration trajectories. It addresses the question of these migrants’ identification with a ‘Tamil diaspora’, within which they may be nominally incorporated, but in accounts of which, the narratives and experiences of non-Sri Lankan Tamils are seldom heard. The study conceptualises diaspora as process and considers the embodied practices through which these migrants enact diasporic identifications, which vary in different contexts and before different audiences. The project de-privileges the sphere of diasporic politics which has dominated research on a Tamil diaspora, instead considering political engagements alongside other spheres of migrants’ lives: social relationships, domestic spaces, and faith and ritual. These are considered not as discrete sites, but as interrelated fields of a complex landscape upon which ‘being Tamil’ and ‘doing Tamil-ness’ is enacted in UK settings.

‘Unofficial’ Minorities: Constructions of Ethnic Identity among Mirpur Heritage Britons
Hussain, S.
(University of Oxford)

Mirpur is a district in the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir. The Mirpur District is the region of heritage for one the largest non-European ethnic diaspora populations in Britain. Britons with their heritage in the Mirpur District are often referred to as ‘Mirpuri’ in order to distinguish them and their geo-linguistic characteristics from other British South Asian diasporas. The Mirpuri label was assigned to the population by Others – principally those with their origins in
Pakistan ‘proper’ upon migration and is therefore a largely British construct. It is also one that has taken on derogatory associations in a British context. Yet despite being informally categorised as Mirpuri by other South Asian diasporas and western writers, the population remain largely invisible within academic and policy discourse on ethnic minorities, which formally recognises them as Pakistanis, using official categorisation. There have been attempts from within the diaspora to promote alternative forms of representation of Mirpur heritage Britons (MHB). Such attempts are fueled by a desire to highlight the position of MHB as an unofficial minority hidden within an official minority category. This paper explores the most prominent alternative ethnic identities both ascribed to and by MHB. It does so within the framework of social identity theory and in doing so employs examples of group mobilisation among MHB to illustrate some of the key processes discussed by its earliest theorist such as Barth (1969).

Social Divisions / Social Identities 3

Roger Stevens Lecture Theatre 12

Contemporary Studies of Class in Britain: Processes, Formations, Dynamics

This workshop seeks to bring together research that represents innovative (in relation to methodology and/or theory) approaches to the study of the dynamics and formations of social class in Britain today. The six papers in the workshop are divided between two main themes (a) The contemporary lived experience of class: new research agendas and (b) Value-less? The politics of class and classification. Such foci include much-needed attention to the lived reality and experience of class; processes of class relations, struggle and distinction; the production of value and valuelessness; and the co-production of class and space. Our aim is to engage with the richness of contemporary studies of class, to probe the breadth of the landscape of such research in UK sociology, and to promote dialogue.

Skivers/strivers and the Classificatory Politics of Welfare Reform

Jensen, T.
(University of East London)

This paper revisits the seminal work of Stuart Hall, who, with his colleagues, in 1978 produced a powerful account of how the mutual operations of media, policy and policing underwent a profound shift in constructing the figure of the ‘mugger’ and thus validates more authoritative forms of policing. This paper explores how the insights of this classic work can be applied to current shifts in welfare reform debates, which produce the welfare ‘scrounger/skiver’, an abject figure whose existence requires new forms of punitive and conditional welfare (and welfare retreat). This paper argues for radical and collaborative dialogue between sociology, cultural studies and critical social policy in order to dismantle the classification politics of welfare reform. The paradox of contemporary social class is that despite constant erasures and denials around the salience of class relations, classification processes in fact remain absolutely central to the neoliberal project of welfare reform, which constantly re-invents divisive moral categories of worth with the aim of procuring public consent for state retrenchment.

Spatial Intersectionality in Contemporary Class Analysis

Paton, K.
(University of Leeds)

This paper engages with the spatial significance of the recent renaissance in class in the UK for current research and theorisations. Contemporary global economic crisis; changing UK government and governance, austerity measures and welfare reforms; and new technologies and trends in class research, such as the spatial turn in habitus and the proliferation of studies on moral and affective aspects, have once again reasserted class as an enduring axis of inequality and form of identity. Despite this recapitulation, class analysis itself has not significantly evolved from the historical dualisms and binaries of inequality/identity and economic/culture. Yet these stated developments are connected by their spatial resonance. Rather than substantiate the impasse between such binaries, this paper attempts to draw from developments both in the social world and social research and demonstrate their spatial commonality. This links large and small scale class processes. Operating at multi-spatial levels allows connections to be made between the urban nature of the current capitalist crisis and governance via Localism to the neighbourhood, right down to the smaller scale of the home as an expressive space of classed identity and classed inequality via the ‘Bedroom Tax’ and increased homelessness. Drawing from sociological research, this paper demonstrates how a spatial lens provides a multi-scaled and therefore multifaceted reading of class which transcends dualistic readings. Space is the overlooked node of intersectionality yet it offers key insight into contemporary class identities and inequalities and their correlation.
Left Out: Working Class Stigma in the UK

Mckenzie, L.
(London School of Economics and Political Science)

The significant discussions and arguments raised relating to the position and behaviour of those living in Britain’s poorest neighbourhoods in recent years, have neglected the consideration of proper solutions. It seems all political parties agree that draconian welfare measures, which are intended to both limit welfare spending and change the behaviour of its recipients have led to further and continuous on-going social and political debates relating to the causes of welfare, unemployment and the sense of disenfranchisement within specific neighbourhoods in the UK.

This paper focuses upon a community in Nottingham, St Ann’s, who rely upon social housing and public services to as they say to ‘keep their heads above water’. The families who rely upon public services, welfare benefits and social housing are the poorest and most disadvantaged people in Britain, and since 2010 are being subject to harsh cuts in their welfare benefits. They are also the most vulnerable to unemployment caused by shrinking the size of the public sector, as they were to the loss of the manufacturing industries in the early 1980s under the Thatcher Government.

This paper examines the lives of those who live on this council estate; rely upon social housing, local services, and when the employment market shrinks welfare benefits. The paper addresses the key argument that there has been a significant change in representation of how council estates and working class people who live in them have been negatively re-branded and stigmatised over the last 30 years.

‘We was Regenerated Out’: Regeneration, Recycling and Shattering Communities

Glucksberg, L.
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

‘We was regenerated out.’ What a strange expression, I thought, and yet there it was, how Rosemary explained being moved out of her home, against her will, off of her estate, which was then demolished, and onto another one, luckily still in Peckham. At the time, I was asking her about her recycling habits and yet, in one statement she had linked the experience of displacement, the ugly side of regeneration/gentrification, and a whole set of layers of symbolic mis-representations of working class people, poor inner city dwellers like herself, and their homes, often conflated and portrayed as dirt, waste, scumbags, wastes of space, sink estates and so on.

This paper aims to unpack this statement, teasing out and exploring what it reveals about processes of urban regeneration and their parallels/discontinuities with recycling practices. At the same time, and just as importantly, it considers the lived experiences of the people who go through regeneration, the dwellers that are displaced/wasted to make space for different housing for different people. Which is, of course, Ruth Glass’s (1964) original definition of gentrification.

Drawing on the work of Tom Slater (2006) and responding to his call for more research on the effect of gentrification, and Allen’s (2008) exemplar exposition of the nature and effects of Housing Market Renewal policies, I show how regeneration does not fix or bring together ‘broken’ communities, but indeed is what shatters them in the first place.

The Middle Classes, Global Property Markets and the (Im)possibility of Ethical Residential Choice

Benson, M.
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

This paper explores the intersections of social and spatial dynamics through the exploration of middle-class residential practices and property-ownership in London. The paper argues for the importance of studying middle-class practices as located within local contexts and struggles over power, as well as being embedded in a wider context of power and economic relations in the city.

Drawing on data from the project, the Middle Classes and the City I argue that taking the accounts of middle-class residents seriously reveals the nuances of residential practices as produced through both choice and constraint. Interrogating these further I demonstrate that these practices are nested within a London-wide property market that is increasingly globalised, and in which the middle-class have a significantly reduced stake. While middle-class incomers are often branded as gentrifiers, positioned at the top of local hierarchies, the contemporary context of London places them in a more precarious position in relation to housing, education and place of residence. This reveals the dynamic contexts in which middle-class residential practices are taking place and which, at least in part, structure their access to particular social fields. As I argue, the processes in which the middle classes are caught up reveal broader struggles for power and belonging and the spatialisation of class relations that are taking place in the global city, and to which we need to attend as a matter of urgency.
‘When My Housing’s Sorted…’: The Imagined Futures and Precarious Presents of Young Homeless People

Jackson, E.
(University of Glasgow)

This paper draws on ethnographic research in order to explore young homeless people’s narratives about their futures from the location of a day centre in central London. Tracing the relationship between being in the homeless network and the kinds of imagined futures that are available and arguing against Bourdieu’s statement that the poor and marginalised are ‘condemned to oscillate between fantasy and surrender’ (2000, 221) in their narratives of the future, the paper finds that future plans are realistic but suspended. The paper seeks to unpick the precarity of young homeless people and situate their hopes for the future in a wider context of structural issues - such as London’s chronic housing shortage and the workings of the state - as well as place attachment, biography and forms of habitus. The paper explores how these personal accounts of the future both reinforce and problematise the emphasis of the day centre on creating positive futures and their efforts to mediate between a funding system based on outcomes and the day-to-day needs of young people. Through arguing that the temporarilities of homelessness are imposed by an interaction of systems rather than a lack of structure, or existence outside of structures, the paper offers an interpretation of how class (in combination with other factors such as gender, nationality and immigration status) impacts on attitudes towards the past, present and future.

Human Capital Regime in Neoliberal Economies: Having Vocational Education as a Self-investment Project among Youths in China

Koo, A.
(Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

Driven by a neoliberal ideology of human resources, the Chinese state envisioned education as a motor of economic growth and has implemented a series of education reforms. The rise of China as world factory was accompanied by a rapid expansion of vocational education over the last few decades. Many of the disadvantaged youths now have chances to receive post-compulsory education in vocational training schools. This paper describes the urge of students to craft marketable selves through the acquisition of educational credentials. It also investigates the speculative nature of human capital investment in the neoliberal economy. Based on the fieldwork data collected in four cities in China, I find the students learn to believe that training and education would increase their employability and future income returns. The young people are expected to train themselves at their own costs, as a kind of self-investment on their own human capital to ensure their forward career progression. However, when increasing number of vocational schools graduates are found working as cheap labour in factories; we know that the investment does not increase the marketable price for their labor as commodity. The paper argues that when the Chinese state strives to attract foreign capital investment by offering corporations a massive reserve of cheap labor to secure the country’s place in neoliberal globalization, the human capital regime cannot promise any guaranteed returns on any investment.

The McDonaldization of Nigerian Universities: A Sociological Analysis and Critique of Causal Policies

Dumbili, E.
(Brunel University)

This paper examines the extent to which the deregulation of Nigerian higher education (HE) has facilitated the McDonaldization of the universities. University education in Nigeria commenced in 1948 with the establishment of University College, Ibadan. After independence in 1960, subsequent governments expanded the number of universities, a policy based upon a lack of quality manpower in leadership positions created by the exit of British officials and the need to grant access to an increasing number of prospective students. In the 1970s, the number of universities increased accompanied by a decline in infrastructure, funding and working conditions. This resulted in several strikes and an exodus of academics to other countries. Instead of tackling the problems, the federal government shifted responsibilities by approving private ownership of universities in 1999 and by establishing the National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN) in 2001. Against this background, this study critically analyses how the privatization and NOUN policies and the creation of NUC-Quality Assurance in 2005 facilitated the McDonaldization of Nigerian universities. The paper reveals how this has resulted in an overloading of responsibilities on the faculty, erosion of academic autonomy, a prioritization of quantity over quality of publications, and an assumption of ‘customer’
status by students. The paper uses evidence from McDonaldized HE in western countries to discuss the implications of these developments and recommends some remedial measures.

Educating the Future Citizen: Ethiopian Schoolchildren’s National Identities, Commitments and Obligations

Marshall, L. (University of Warwick)

This paper draws upon PhD research exploring why children in Hawassa, Ethiopia attend primary school. Using ethnographic and participative methods, the research seeks to go beyond not only orthodox human capital accounts of education, but also the ‘new paradigm’ in childhood studies, which can overstate children’s agency.

The paper examines one feature of the findings arising from focus group discussions, individual interviews and child conferencing. Many children expressed that they went to school to ‘help their country’ or to ‘develop Ethiopia’, by which they meant that their education would benefit Ethiopia by fostering both economic and political progress, and enhancing the nation’s global reputation. This paper explores the notions of national identity and citizenship that these children linked to their school careers, considering where these assertions fit within debates between Human Capital and Human Capabilities evaluations of education. It then goes onto consider the material, cultural and institutional pressures that are encouraging children’s sense of citizenship and obligation, drawing upon the work of Sharon Stephens and others on children’s national identities and upon classical sociological studies of education as an institution of socialization. It concludes that whilst some young participants experienced schooling as empowering, believing that the skills they gained at school would enable them to engage with politics, solve problems and lead their country, official and hidden curricula are inhibiting children’s agency, encouraging obedience, respect for authority and unquestioning commitment to the national cause rather than critical thought.

Identities and Diversity: Exploring the Self-narratives of Immigrant-background Children in French and English Primary Schools

Welply, O. (University of Cambridge)

Increased globalisation and changes in immigration patterns across Europe have brought new challenges to European societies with regard to diversity and integration. Recent debates have emphasised the role of school in promoting ‘successful’ integration. However, as immigrant children continue to face issues of inequality, underachievement and discrimination in school, this role has been put into question.

As European countries face similar issues linked to immigration, education and integration, there is the potential to learn from examining these issues cross-nationally. However, most cross-national studies of immigrant children in Europe approach integration through the lens of achievement and attainment. Whilst this offers a good overall indication of a central aspect of integration in an educational system, a sole numerical approach overlooks other dimensions of integration, in particular the way it is experienced by immigrant children themselves. This paper addresses this gap by exploring the impact of national educational ideologies on the experiences and identities of immigrant-background children in primary schools in France and England.

This paper discusses findings from a cross-national ethnographic study which investigated the identity narratives of 10 and 11 year old immigrant-background children in two primary schools, one in France and one in England. Building on Paul Ricoeur’s notions of narrative identity, social imaginary and ideology and utopia, this paper argues that whilst national ideologies and values did frame the way immigrant-background children constructed identities in school, these national values were re-negotiated to construct alternative representations, at the intersection of global, national and local imaginaries.

Education the Voice Unheard: Parents’ and Professionals’ Perceptions of Schooling in Socioeconomically Deprived Urban Areas of India

Desai, M. (Warwick Institute of Education)

Parental involvement and their participation are considered vital components in education. However, parental perspectives have not always been understood or considered in the decision-making process. In particular, the economically deprived are generally excluded or have lesser opportunities to take part in educational processes. In India, social hierarchy also plays an important role in determining the education children receive. This paper reports on a study undertaken to explore the perceptions of schooling and education held by parents from socio economically deprived backgrounds in an Indian city. To get a fuller picture of the relationship between parenting and schooling the study also focuses on the perceptions of educational professionals from the same location. The slum dwellers that are
the prime consumers of government schools in India are often ignored or the value they place on education is underestimated. This study thus explores the world of the lower strata of Indian society with particular reference to their perceptions of education using semi structured in depth interviews with both participant groups. The preliminary results of the study indicate noteworthy experiences of the parents and their remarkable perceptions of their children’s education. The study implicates that the failure to recognize the voice of the marginalised parents and collaborative relationships among educators, parents and the government pose a major challenge.

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ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 13

The Role of Linguistic Capital in Exploring Deaf People’s Academic Experiences

O’Brien, D.
(York St John University)

Deaf people whose first or preferred language is sign language have long faced inequalities in the education system, with their outcomes consistently lagging behind those of their hearing peers. Despite this, there are a growing number of Deaf people worldwide who are taking higher education degrees. However, the numbers who then play active roles in the academic sphere is miniscule, even in the field of Deaf Studies. The inequalities faced by Deaf people in the educational system therefore risk being reproduced and reified as the knowledge, skills and experience, along with the potential contributions to Deaf-friendly teaching and research practices of these Deaf academics is lost through their non-participation in the academic sphere.

In this presentation, I shall argue that understanding the role of linguistic capital, often regarded as a relatively minor form of Bourdieu’s cultural capital, is vital to understanding the lack of participation of Deaf people in academia. Mediating access to academic journals, publications and discussion, incidental learning and informal circulation of knowledge, utilisation of linguistic capital is a key element of academic life. I shall discuss how exploring the position of Deaf academics in the academic sphere allows us to see the concept of linguistic capital in action and provides the opportunity to develop the concept. This can help us understand and combat the inequalities faced by Deaf people at all levels of the educational system and help us change the system, and society, for the better.

Using Bourdieu’s Concepts of Habitus and Doxa for Educational Research

Wagner, B.
(Manchester Metropolitan University)

Bourdieu’s assessment, that chances are to a great degree determined by distinct forms of capital is widely accepted in educational research. The analysis of volume, composition and trajectory of economic, social and cultural capital is used as a method to explain differences in educational achievement. In this paper, I will argue that solely focussing on forms of capital brings with it the danger of a shortened understanding of Bourdieu’s theory and of discussing educational attainment mainly on an individual level and thereby neglecting wider societal implications. This however, would be very much contrary to Bourdieu’s intention, as he sees capital as shaped by as well as an expression of social inequality and (power) structures. I will suggest that Bourdieu’s rather more complex concepts of habitus and doxa are well suited to grasp wider social implications of (class-) differences in educational attainment. Habitus as an analytical tool can help to uncover the link between position and disposition and therefore takes hierarchical social structures into account. The idea of doxa on the other hand challenges implicit ideological beliefs that ultimately reinforce social structures. Finally, I will relate these theoretical considerations to my own empirical research of media representations of social class, which in particular addresses questions of interest, influence and functions of media representations. Using habitus and doxa as analytical tools, I analyse the content as well as the perception of a contemporary reality TV programme (People Like Us - 2013) filmed in North Manchester, from a Bourdieuvian point of view.

Psychology and Learning Difficulties

Vélu, A-E.
(Paris Dauphine University)

In the context of a sociological thesis conducted in France in primary schools, the focus has been on the issue of the diagnostics and devices used to help children with learning difficulties.
The purpose of this paper is to show that pedagogy tends to stray from the principles of a rational and explicit pedagogy as it was theorized by P. Bourdieu and J-C Passeron (Bourdieu & Passeron, 1964). Indeed, by leaving more room for the freedom and the choices to the children in their learning (Kherroubi & Plaisance, 2001), the individuals are seen as responsible of their own success or failure (Bernstein, 1975). We will focus on the role of psychological approach in the management of academic difficulties. Indeed, from the professionals perspective, the learning difficulties are due to family dysfunctions, and educational deficiencies of the parents. In schools where children are mainly or exclusively of modest background, it seems that these psychological remediations are nearly exclusively the methods being used.

This psychologising tends to put the responsibility on the family or the child for his difficulties, while ignoring the issue of the gap between the culture of the school and the one of children from modest backgrounds (Bourdieu & Passeron, 1964; Morel, 2012). Moreover, rather than solving the learning difficulties, the tutoring focuses on restoring confidence or self esteem and excludes the question of the most effective and explicit way to deliver the knowledge to everybody, whatever their social background (Bourdieu, 1966).

Young People’s Narratives in a Case of Parentocracy: Familial Habitus, Capitals, and the Fetishisation of Education

Katartzi, E.
(University of Leeds)

The ethnographic study upon which this paper is based aimed at unpacking the interplay between families, education and youth identities in the rapidly shifting and austerity-stricken Greek context. The paper examines the textures of parental engagement and patterns of monetary investment, expectations and norms as lived, contested and narrated by a group of young people aged 17-19 with different class backgrounds and distinct academic trajectories. It utilises the triad of Bourdieusian tools of field, capitals and habitus in analysing the institutional and discursive parameters that underpin and regulate the Greek educational landscape and the ways young people’s accounts are embedded in it. With parents being positioned as strategic players in the Greek educational game, the paper traces the interplay between familial habitus and capital investment and how it interacts with and informs young people’s narratives of imagined futures along social class and gender lines. It is the particularities of the Greek educational field, the indispensability of parental legacies along with the widely-shared discourses that idolise education, that render it a case par excellence of parentocracy. The obtainment of University credentials emerges at the core of classed aspirations for advancement, respectability, and distinction which can be seen as a dual process of habitus affirmation and transformation, the metamorphosis of socioeconomic destinies via concerted pedagogic efforts and institutional workings.

Theory

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 14

REALISM AND SOCIAL RESEARCH

Does the Concept of Agency have a Future?

Carter, B.
(University of Leicester)

The notion of agency has, over the past decade or so, come to occupy an increasingly prominent place in the deliberations of the social sciences. The paper begins by reviewing the traditional view of agency that associates it with intentionality, freedom and purpose, suggesting that this view has favoured the restriction of agency to human beings.

In the second part of the paper contemporary efforts to extend agency to animals other than humans, and to objects and things more generally are considered. The extension of the concept of agency has been mobilized by a range of intellectual currents, such as Actor Network Theory (ANT) and the ‘new materialists’ (see, amongst others, (Bennett 2010) who have insisted on extending it to the nonhuman; and those working, for example, in the field of animal studies, who have sought to establish animal agency as a means of arguing for a radical re-thinking of human-animal relations.
The paper assesses the merits and difficulties of extending notions of agency to objects and other animals. It suggests that a casualty of the efforts to extend agency in this way is a distinctively sociological view of human social agency, which is both relational and distinct from action. Finally, the paper argues that retaining a sociological distinction between action and agency, and combining this with a stratified social ontology, offers a more fruitful way of rethinking human-nonhuman relations.

Re-theorising the Concept of Mode of Production in Diverse Economies

Elder-Vass, D.
(Loughborough University)

Mode of production is a central concept in political economy, and one that has often seemed relatively uncontroversial. The prevailing usages, however, tend to frame modes of production as thoroughly dominant in their epochs, thus tending to marginalise other forms of production as socially and economically insignificant. Yet even today there are massive sections of the economy that are far from capitalist in form. Labour in the household, subsistence agriculture, and the many and varied forms of gift and solidarity economy take a vast range of economic forms, few of them recognizably capitalist. And increasingly it is clear that alternatives to capitalism will not be imposed by taking control of the state but rather are developing all around us in the interstices of our already diverse economy. We cannot make sense of this diversity without discarding or radically revising the concept of modes of production.

This paper introduces an alternative approach organised around the concept of appropriative practices. If we think of the economy as a mixed economy of appropriative practices, which may be combined and recombined in a variety of economic forms, we can make sense of a far wider and more open range of alternative futures – and indeed of the varied and complex range of actual contemporary economies. We may then begin to theorise the sometimes surprising ways in which economic forms bolster and undermine each other, and develop a political economy that is no longer trapped between an inexorable capitalism and an impossible socialism.

Transforming Realist Evaluation with Complexity

Farr, M.
(University of Bath)

This paper uses the work of Pawson (2013), Byrne (2013) and Room (2013) to develop a mixed methodological approach that has complexity and transformative realism (Room 2013) as its roots. Realist(ic) evaluation (RE) (Pawson and Tilley 1997) has been a well utilised methodology that employs a realist ontology of causality. Several critiques of RE have emerged with difficulties in conceptualising contexts and mechanisms (Dahler-Larsen 2001; Byng et al 2005), an under accounting for feedback loops (Barnes et al 2003; Marchal et al 2012) alongside a focus on individual interventions as opposed to how diverse interventions may co-evolve (Room 2013). RE is less suited to analysing the political and discursive framing of particular policy interventions and underlying power relations within these. The politics of evaluation (Taylor and Balloch 2005) are themselves essential to consider within any evaluative process where evaluation is an important legitimating symbol within an increasingly competitive public service commissioning process.

The contributions of Byrne (2013) and Room (2013) help to overcome these critiques of RE, highlighting the importance of complex multiple causation, transformative synergies, historical path dependency and power dynamics. This paper considers the operationalization of such models and their methodological implications. It reflects on different evaluation research projects that have been co-produced with different practitioners in public services and illustrates how this material can be developed and understood using a ‘transformative realist’ perspective (Room 2013). It considers the power relations within the co-production of such research and associated challenges of the impact agenda.

Identification of a Convergent Framework and Reformulation of an Emergent Representation for Sociocultural Theory

Shirlaw, S.
(Independent)

A convergent framework is identified starting with Mouzelis’s (2008) proposal of an open, bridge building and three dimensional framework: 1. Macro-Micro; 2. Agency-Structure; and 3. Inter-Institutional. The first regular action dimension is developed with Joas’s Action-theoretic or creativity of action perspective and split into two levels: 1a. the stratified internal cognitive domain ; and 1b. the action and interaction level. The second relational dimension is developed according to Archer’s Morphogenetic Cycles and Dualistic approach. The third institutional dimension uses
Lahire’s (2012) proposal for a social space of plural individuals and plural structures. The three dimensions are dimensions of cognition and strategy for, respectively, regular action, relational construction and institutional construction. This framework has the following convergent properties: a). it parallels with Bhaskar’s four-planar social being and with Elder and Giele’s (2009) Fourfold Paradigm of the Life Course; b). it integrates biological processes in its levels, respectively, 1a Neurobiology, 1b Activity, 2 Attachment and 3 Reproduction ; and c).it is a Realist approach with relations in its different levels to other perspectives, respectively, Naturalism, Pragmatism, Critical Realism and Social Constructivism. The emergent representation is then formulated with the individual having multiple agencies (Hitlin and Elder 2007) and a “bundle of identities seeking control” (White 2008) and with a life-course self as a meta-self (Mohr and White 2009) or meta-reflexive self (Donati 2013). Cultural processes such as religion and politics, that are involved with the meta-reflexive self or the “meta-self” linked with the individual’s life-course, can then be categorized as “meta-cultural”.

A Realist Approach to Consumption and Social Stratification

Mulcahy, N.
(University of Cambridge)

Recently, the sociological study of consumption has focused primarily on individual identity creation through an array of commodities and advertisements designed to appeal to specific status groups. Consistent with the interpretive sociology of the hermeneutic tradition, much of the literature is concerned with how individuals interpret their social location within commodity flows or ‘sign-objects’ that tell them about themselves and their social surroundings. As some critics have pointed out, however, such analyses tend to neglect the levels of personal debt and the subsequent economic instability which have accompanied ‘new middle class’ lifestyles and contemporary mass consumerism: indeed, the material reality of social inequality that persists at a structural level and underpins mass consumption can be difficult to address in a methodologically individualist interpretive framework. In contrast to the hermeneutic approach, realist metatheory emphasises the interplay between structure and agency and the properties that emerge in the process, such that it is possible to explain, rather than simply understand and interpret, the actions of agents in a broader socioeconomic context. I argue that realist metatheory is necessary if we are to properly situate consumerism in both its cultural and economic domains. Owing to the ontological significance of the ‘real’, where social potential may be activated contingently under certain conditions, it is possible to identify causal mechanisms, including the thoughts and actions of agents themselves, in order to theorise consumption as a process that contributes to social stratification as individuals simultaneously strive to attain a sense of personal belonging within capitalist societies.

Work, Employment and Economic Life

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 06

Labour Supply in the UK Before and During the Recession: A Sociological Review

Olsen, W., Bradshaw Schmidt, E.
(University of Manchester)

The recession has two discernible sets of impacts on paid work. First there is the net impact of declining demand for labour on hours, with its broadly downward trend. Secondly the structural impact can be seen in changed parameters for how background conditions influence labour supply. This paper teases out both using survey data for over 5,000 couples in two time periods, first 2003-7 and second 2007-10.

Two influences stand out particularly. Firstly at household level a growing pool of tenants has a lower supply of labour in the recent period. They may be constrained to have lower or declining working hours compared with those who own their house. However those few who buy a house do work more hours. Changes in aspirations may precede and influence the offer of more/less work onto the market.

Secondly at the couple level, illness and caring work have cross effects which change over time as caring duties and responsibilities change. If this were culturally determined, the model would not change during the recession. The data suggests cross-effects are more malleable than one might expect.

In discussing the results, which use both BHPS and Understanding Society data, I am optimistic that sociologists can interpret structural change using regression models without falling into an empiricist trap. Dyadic models help in successfully teasing out the underlying associations and their change between the two distinct periods.
Work and Social Transitions of BlueScope Steelworkers Australia

O’Brien, M., Burrows, S.
(University of Wollongong)

Australia’s largest steel producer, BlueScope Steel, announced it was substantially reducing production in 2011. The Port Kembla Steelworks was the hardest hit, shedding around 800 jobs. This paper presents findings from a longitudinal study of the employment and social consequences of redundancy for these workers. Employment transitions statistics are enhanced by rich interview data from both the ex-steelworkers and government agency workers implementing a 30 million dollar (approx. 15 million pound) local employment growth initiative. We tell three very different stories for the ex-steelworkers, roughly grouped as retired, re-employed or unemployed.

Those that retired were generally very satisfied with their decision, escaping an unhappy workplace with a financial bonus allowing leisure and family activities. The re-employed workers were commonly found in the mining sector doing similar work, albeit under different mixed salary and employment conditions. We highlight those that had to relocate to remote regions of Australia, and the strain on family and social networks. However, some went into new and stimulating areas of employment such as health research and refugee advocacy, using the opportunity for a rewarding career change. In contrast, the unemployed cohort generally conveyed a bleak and sobering story of repeated failure and pessimism for the future. Controversially, hardly any ex-steelworkers benefitted from the local employment growth initiative. We conclude with a discussion of the opposing views from retrenched workers and policy makers regarding the role of government in softening or assisting structural change.

Modernization Theory and Longitudinal Changes in Work Ethic of 33 European Societies: A Pseudo Panel Approach

Stam, K., I. Sieben, P.M. de Graaf
(Tilburg University)

This paper sets out to test modernization theory as an explanation for the change in work ethic values across 33 European countries between 1999 and 2008. Modernization theory argues that when societies reach higher levels of socio-economic development, their populations will increasingly emphasize emancipative values instead of traditional conformity values. While this implies a trend which takes place within societies over time, research has relied almost exclusively on country-comparative cross-sectional data. The drawbacks are that the number of cases per wave is usually limited at the country-level and there is no possibility to control for country fixed effects. By using a pseudo-panel approach this study provides a more stringent test of the theory. By constructing a pseudo panel, based on age, education and gender it is possible to control for group and country fixed effects and thus to study the ‘genuine’ effect of changing country characteristics, while at the same time adding an extra source of country-level variation; variation over time. Expectations were that economic growth, rising educational levels and increasing urbanization would decrease work ethic (a traditional conformity value). Results using fixed effects multilevel models suggest that the opposite is true for all these macro-level indicators; work ethic increases. There are some differences between West- and East-European countries: economic growth negatively impacts work ethic in the East, while it has a positive effect in the West. The same holds for rising levels of education. These results challenge earlier research on value change based on cross-sectional data.

Institutional Changes in Rural Russia in 2000-2013: Complex Analysis and Sociological Interpretation (the Case of Belgorod Region)

Sorokin, P., Efendiev, A.G.
(National Research University Higher School of Economics)

Paper presents results of the large-scale study conducted in one of the most fertile Russian rural territories, Belgorod region, in the years 2000-2013.

In both 2000 and 2013 years the study consisted of the three main parts:
1) research in economic activities (500 households surveyed each time);
2) research in values, standards of behavior and social structures (1000 rural respondents examined each time);
3) psychological research (qualitative methods).

Theoretical model is based on the ideas of T.Shanin, M.Fernandez and others trying to achieve integrative understanding of rural life. The main goal of the study is to provide complex sociological analysis of institutional change which took place in Belgorod region.

Main findings:
1) Rapid industrialization had severe social consequences. Large and technologically advanced enterprises were established in the region replacing old soviet enterprises but reducing the number of job-places.

2) Farming on the private plots has decreased significantly because of low prices on agricultural products (explained, first of all, by weak farmer cooperation in negotiations with monopolistic purchasing organization). This led to cardinal changes: in 2000 private plots were main sources of income while the level of unemployment was also very low (salaries were small but job-place was guaranteed for everybody). In 2013 there is high unemployment and at the same time the land is not used for farming actively enough.

3) Cultural and psychological changes also took place. We found a rapid rise of individualism and growing preference for entrepreneurship.

Sociological interpretation is given to these empirical results.
### Conference Stream

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Effects of Drastic Changes in Living Environment: The Case of Forced Evacuation

Billig, M.
(Ariel University)

Displaced persons generally experience drastic changes in their living environment. This is manifested in their necessity of moving from their rural living environment to high rise apartment buildings in the city. Such changes were found to have a profound impact on families and on the community. The objectives of this study were to understand the implications of forced transfer of a community to a different ecological environment, and assess the effects of such an environmental change on the community's sociological structure and on restructuring people's cultural identity. Ingelhart (2000) refers to changes communities had undergone as a result of cultural changes. He used the term 'cultural shifts' to describe such changes. Uprooting the inhabitants from their rural community and transferring them to a high rise apartment building necessarily caused restructuring of their cultural identity. Changes were noticed in the evacuated community studied, in their ecological environment that caused significant changes in the community's social structure, as well as restructuring changes in factors of family life, changes in community factors and changes in religious and ideological identities. As a result, collective elements that once united and strengthened the community's social structure had dwindled, whereas individualistic elements that weaken and disintegrate the social structure of the community became stronger. Insight derived in this study was based on in depth interviews with evacuees and with officials who were in touch with the community before and after evacuation.

Living for the City: ‘Urban Refugees’ and the Rejection of the Camp

Wilson, N.J.
(City University London)

Along with the rest of the world, displaced populations are rapidly urbanising. In 2007 the global population became principally urban, and in the same year the number of refugees in urban areas outnumbered those in camps for the first time. Given this, it is critical to consider new approaches to protection and the implications of displaced people living within cities. This paper uses the concept of ‘high modernism’ to understand the logic of the refugee camp and also argues that the increasing prominence of displaced people in urban areas represents a basic rejection of existing methods of displacement management. The creation of modern, ordered, UNHCR managed camps have come about through an essentially high modernist logic that is concerned with the ‘sweeping, rational engineering of all aspects of social life in order to improve the human condition.’ This paper considers camps not as places of desperation or as spatial arrangements of a 'state of exception' but rather as attempts to improve the human condition that have in many cases failed. In so doing, it considers the increasing emergence of so-called ‘urban refugees’ along with the recent international policy response as proof of the failure of the camp. It then considers the mixed potential of cities as the new areas of humanitarian action. While providing the opportunity for displaced people to increase their social capital, cities are also zones of new forms of marginality and control.

Rethinking Displacement

Madden, D.
(London School of Economics and Political Science)

Sociologists and geographers have documented numerous forms of displacement in urban contexts. But they tend to understand displacement in one particular way: as involuntary individual residential mobility due to rising housing costs. This paper argues that this understanding of displacement is overly narrow and thus understates the significance of displacement in shaping contemporary cities. Drawing on the literature on place and displacement as well as on ethnographic and historical research in New York City, this paper argues for a new conception. Displacement, I argue, should be seen as an inherently collective process that involves the transformation of place, not merely expulsion from a place. It occurs in communal temporalities, rather than individual ones. And it is structured by larger political struggles over neighborhood and place, rather than the single factor of housing prices. Rethinking displacement in this manner shows how the process is much more common than many contemporary commentators suggest. It is not only one possible consequence of certain forms of neighborhood change, but rather a widespread
Livelihood Strategies of Street Children in Accra

Boafo-Arthur, A.  
(University of Ghana)

Children are globally regarded as vulnerable thus needing care and love from responsible adults. However some children find themselves unattended to by guardians and by extension institutions that have the responsibility of looking after children in the absence or inability of parents/guardians. Throughout the world and especially in developing countries millions of children live on the street (Scanlon et al, 1998). These children belong to a group that live very deprived lives as they are cut off education, basic health care and employable skills (Apt et al, 2012). Some have also been exposed to violence before taking to the streets where they try everything possible to earn a living and to survive. In Ghana, some of these children end up on streets in the capital, Accra, and other big towns. Currently, statistics on street children suggests numbers in excess of 61,000 (DSW, CAS, SAID, 2012). The livelihood strategies of street living children in Accra are explored in this study, particularly their social networks. Using in-depth interviews and a questionnaire survey this study illuminates the ways in which children use their networks and agency to survive and make a living. The study brings to fore suggestions on alternative livelihoods as respondents’ views, expectations, suggestions, and solutions are solicited.

Developing the Next Generation of Young Talent in English Professional Football: A Figurational Analysis

Platts, C.  
(Sheffield Hallam University)

In 2013, as in previous years, discussion about the ‘state’ of English professional football was characterized by an almost forensic scrutiny of the supposedly poor performances of the national team. In the same year, the Elite Player Performance Plan (EPPP) was also introduced, a policy intended to bring about positive change in the way football Academies and Centres of Excellence (CoE) develop young talent for the future. Much discussion in the national media about the performance of the national team and, in particular, the EPPP, focused considerable attention upon the alleged need to adopt new ways of coaching younger players. Using questionnaire and interview data gathered from 303 players at professional Academies and CoE, and interviews held with 20 coaches from the same clubs, this paper examines the degree to which changed coaching practice is likely to be ineffective if it fails to impact significantly on the prevailing culture among coaches. The data indicate that such a culture is typically characterized by comparatively high degrees of discipline over young players’ lives, often authoritarian approaches towards the regulation of player behaviour, and the imposition – real and/or imagined – of a traditional working-class ‘shop-floor’ culture by many coaches akin to that which emerged from the rather unequal power relations evident between the ‘lads’ and authority figures in Willis’s (1977) classic study, Learning to Labour. The paper concludes that there is a need to examine young players’ footballing careers and their relational networks as an aspect of their ‘lives in the round’.

Plotting the Motivation of Student Volunteers in Sports-based Outreach Work

Hayton, J.  
(Liverpool John Moores University)

This paper examines the development of student volunteers’ motivation during their participation in a sports-based outreach project and how their experiences during the programme serve to influence their commitment and retention to it. The Sport Universities North East England (SUNEE) project represents an alliance between the region’s five universities to tackle social exclusion, and promote and nurture social capital and civil responsibility through the vehicle of sport. This joined-up approach to sports development provides the region’s student volunteers with vast opportunities to gain both experience and qualifications as sports coaches, mentors and leaders by working with a range of ‘hard to reach’ groups. This work draws on qualitative data generated from semi-structured interviews (n=40) and describes a sequence of motivational transitions undergone by student volunteers over the course of their involvement in the project. In order to illustrate this, the paper applies the socio-psychological framework of Self-
Determination Theory (SDT) to not only index the type of motivations that compel students to volunteer on the SUNEE project, but to also track motivational adaptation and reveal the features occurring within the project which serve to either facilitate or forestall volunteer motivation and dictate participant retention or conversely induce drop out (Deci and Ryan, 1985; 2000). By using the example of the SUNEE project, this research demonstrates how students’ motivation to volunteer changes from the ‘extrinsic’ (i.e. instrumental reasons such as enhancing one’s employability profile) to the ‘intrinsic’ (i.e. ‘enjoying the experience’) motivations the longer the person has taken part in the project.

**Locating Young People’s Sport Participation in Leisure and the Life Course**

Haycock, D., Smith, A.  
*Edge Hill University*

There is often a tendency to approach the sociological study of young people’s sport participation by considering sport in insolation from their broader lifestyles, especially their leisure lives. Drawing on empirical evidence from a study of university students’ sport and leisure careers, this paper argues that to better understand young people’s sport participation there is a need to locate this within their broader leisure lifestyles during the temporal youth lifestyle. The study involved 124 structured interviews and 36 semi-structured interviews conducted with third year under-graduates from two universities in England. As part of a broader developmental and longitudinal analysis of young people’s lives, these interviews examined: (i) students’ lives in the context of the stage reached in the life course thus far; (ii) the development of students’ sport and leisure careers during the critical phases of childhood and youth; and (iii) the complex relationships that exist between students’ past and current involvement in various kinds of leisure and their lives more generally. The findings suggest that regardless of whether students are active sport participants or not, they all engaged in a wide range of leisure behaviours including sedentary activities (e.g. media-orientated leisure) and health-risk behaviours (e.g. alcohol consumption). It is clear that students’ current leisure behaviours in their early twenties developed out of earlier experiences during childhood and youth, often well before their university years, and that their leisure participation, including their sport participation, were essentially expression of broader inequalities and trends associated with the youth life stage.

**The Genealogy of the Academic Discourse on Football Fandom Otherness: For a Cosmopolitan Turn in Comparative Sociology**

Petersen-Wagner, R.  
*Durham University*

It was once argued by Richard Giulianotti and Robert Robertson that football is one of the most illuminating domains of globalisation. Paradoxically, globalisation at the same time tears down national boundaries and constructs new frontiers. In that light, informed by the cosmopolitan sociology of Ulrich Beck, Michel Foucault’s discourse, Antonio Gramsci’s hegemony, and Edward Said’s orientalism this paper seeks to analyse the hegemonic academic discourse on football fandom otherness. Following Norman Fairclough critical discourse analysis methodology, I argue that the genealogy of the discourse on fan otherness consists of three phases: first, the other was treated implicitly or explicitly as inferior to the ‘real’ fan; second, the other was studied through a stamp collector sociology where exoticness and differences to the British yardstick model were highlighted; and third, a methodological and epistemological shift occurred where the other started to be treated as both equal and different. I conclude the paper by pointing out the need to avoid and transcend methodological nationalism in comparative sociology.

**Culture, Media, Sport and Consumption 2**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 12**

**Traditional Arts and the State: The Scottish Case**

McKerrell, S.  
*Newcastle University*

Since Scottish devolution from the United Kingdom in 1999, throughout the New Labour years and subsequently, there has been a sustained and growing commitment to Scottish traditional music, storytelling and dance, collectively defined in Scottish cultural policy as the ‘traditional arts’. The public policy discourse of traditional arts is at once politically related to a growing Scottish confidence and intimately bound into a personal and national politics of identity. Today, in this transitional time around the referendum on Scottish independence, the potential for Scottish traditional arts to make a substantial and more sustainable contribution to cultural life in Scotland is within reach, but there are
some underlying problems that need to be addressed by the community of policy makers and artists. In this paper I outline the commodification and professionalisation of Scottish traditional arts in broad terms, and then go on to use this as a means to understand the recent emergence of a nationalist cultural policy of intrinsic value for the traditional arts. Finally I present some possibilities and opportunities for this distinctly Scottish creative practice post-referendum. In recognizing that traditional music has entered a new and self-conscious period of commodification today, we open the door for a debate about the ways in which traditional arts in the contemporary society, can be performed and supported through equitable cultural policy.

**The Emergence of the Post-museum in an Era of Cultural Fragmentation: A Critique of Pierre Bourdieu**

Bouzanis, C., Athanasiou, O.  
(University of Edinburgh)

In The Love of Art (1969), Pierre Bourdieu has criticized museums as places of exclusion for those who are not dispossessed to appreciate ‘high culture’, lacking of high levels of cultural capital in order to participate in the art museum experience. Bourdieu’s ontological concepts of field and habitus underpin this idea of exclusion, and this paper aims, at first, to provide a more general critique of Bourdieu’s ontology and then, to argue that Bourdieu has a dual conceptualisation of culture: on the one hand, Bourdieu regards culture as a general ontological condition of the intelligibility of social action, whereas, on the other hand, he gives culture a conductive role of categorical/classificatory means through which exclusion is expressed as the result of the role of the cultural capital, which is acquired through education and socialization. But a clear and systematic appreciation of the theoretical relations between the concepts of cultural capital and habitus is missing in his work.

This paper also argues that a new era in museum studies has emerged with the ‘increase in cultural fragmentation and pluralism’ (Lash and Urry, 1987), which expresses emerging and changing museum/audience relationships, and which is characterised by the collapse of older socio-cultural distinctions, the increase of reflexivity in the processes of class formation and self-identification, and the rise of new curatorial practices and spatio-temporal organisation of exhibitions.

**The Spatial Configurations of Cultural Capital: The Example of Art Museum Visitors**

Hanquinet, L.  
(University of York)

The links between place and cultural capital has often been discussed in literature, showing the importance of the latter for cities as ‘symbolic economies’ (Zukin, 1996). In the establishment of people’s lifestyles, places, and especially cities, have become central arenas for display and consumption, and have become part of the aesthetic experience itself. This seems to imply the existence of an ‘urban cultural capital’ (Savage and Hanquinet, forthcoming) whose aesthetic structures would feed into an urban context. This makes us reflect upon the complex nature of cultural capital, underlying that it cannot simply be reduced to the opposition highbrow-lowbrow à la Bourdieu. We then need to explore further the multiple relationships between cultural capital and place. Based on a survey of 1,900 visitors of the six main museums of modern and contemporary art in Belgium, this paper will focus on the distribution of the audience characterized by their cultural tastes and activities across Belgian territory (through their postcodes). It will show that visitors mainly come from areas with high and moderate density and that the socio-demographic but also urban characteristics of their place of residence can be related to the way visitors’ cultural capital is composed.

**Max Weber’s Study of Music and its Significance for Contemporary Cultural Sociology**

Darmon, I.  
(University of Edinburgh)

Music is once again proving to be a fertile ground for explorations and programmatic attempts for a renewal of the sociology of the arts and of cultural sociology as a whole. In part under the influence of actor network theory and in the midst of interrogations as to Bourdieu’s legacy for the sociology of art, the social and cultural sciences are questioning their capacity to give an account of engagement with art that is not reduced to analyses of the social reproduction of taste.

Drawing on my analysis of Max Weber’s music writings, I propose an initial exploration of the potential of Weber’s approach for theoretical renewal today, by contrasting Weber’s notions of domains, logics and momentum with Adorno’s face to face of art and the social and Bourdieu’s structure of artistic field; and by asking how Weber’s characterisation of differentiated dispositions and stances in music and art can throw more general light on the conceptualisation of agency in cultural sociology.
Families and Relationships
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 20

Mothering and Suffering: Intellectual Disability and Being Human

Rogers, C.
(Aston University)

In mothering an intellectually disabled child there are significant costs. These costs straddle three spheres, the emotional - where love and care are psycho-socially questioned, the practical - where day to day care is carried out, and the socio political - where social intolerance and aversion to difficult differences are played out. None of these ‘caring costs’ are easily defined due to the messy nature of emotional work and love labouring. In thinking about mothering and being human, it is important to recognise that expectations during pregnancy and beyond can be full of hopes and dreams for a child’s future. An intellectually disabled child’s impairment will often fracture these dreams and hopeful expectations. Indeed this is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to moderate and severe intellectual disability. Undeniably dashed hopes and emotional and practical costs feed the notion that disability is a burden to both the individual and society. This disability ‘burden’ is recognised and discussed via discourses on, for example, human need, capabilities, social justice and care ethics, genetics and a ‘worthy’ life. Sociologically we need to understand care and emotional support as well as what suffering means for families and their intellectually disabled children. In truth we still have some way to go as in certain realms of philosophy it remains fixed on the notion that intellectually disabled people can be likened to pigs and dogs when it comes to being human and this has a hugely negative impact upon mothering intellectually disabled children.

It Takes a Village: Support Sources in the Work-life Mishmash of Parents of Children with/without Disabilities

Javornik, J.
(University of Leeds)

This study is concerned with how work-care policies and family/workplace support affect everyday lives of parents of children with/without disabilities in contrasting welfare state regimes. The paper reports the complexity involved in juggling work with family, the barriers posed, and the strategies used to avoid, or overcome the tensions, comparing two groups of parents. It focuses on instrumental aid and support in family domain, and explores whether, and how family, workplace and state support interact in their daily routines. Data comes from in-depth interviews with mothers and fathers, gathered over 2011-2014 (ongoing), and draws on other sources to reinforce conclusions. Findings thus far have been consistent with the notion that family is important source of support, with spouses and grandparents being strategic role partners in coordinating two domains. Analysis further supports theoretical claims that support sources are complementary, but also reinforcing and substitutive.

What's Wrong with Me? A Cautionary Tale of Contemporary ‘Damage Narratives’

Woodiwiss, J.
(University of Huddersfield)

As the novelist Chimamanda Adichie warns, if we hear only a single story about another person or country, we risk a ‘critical misunderstanding’ and this is also true when we draw on one story to help us make sense of our own lives.

We are all engaged in a continuous process of re/telling our life stories. Whilst we do not simply slot ourselves into readymade narratives we do draw on stories or narrative frameworks currently in circulation. In the late twentieth and early twenty first centuries the stories we (can) tell about ourselves are increasingly informed by ‘damage narratives’ and a therapeutic culture, where increasing emphasis is placed on looking inward for possible causes of, and solutions to, our troubles.

In this paper I look at the role of contemporary storytelling and highlight the limitations or dangers of currently available (damage) narrative frameworks within which we make sense of our lives. In doing so I draw on my own research on women’s stories of childhood sexual abuse, stories of adoption and wider engagement with self-help literature to show not only the dangers of a single dominant story but also how we can be imprisoned as well as liberated by the stories we come to tell. I argue that we do need to listen to the stories being told but, at the same time, also need to examine the limitations and constraints placed on those stories and question which stories can be told, and heard, and which cannot – and by whom.
Toxic Elements: The New Biological Basis for the Demonisation of ‘Failing’ Families

Gillies, V., Horsley, N.
(London South Bank University)

This paper presents an analysis of both policy documents and interviews with practitioners and proponents of the use of brain science research in early intervention policy and practice. Our research reveals how targeted parenting programs are concerned with certain elements of British society constituting them as ‘bio underclass’. Also discussed will be new interpretations of the science of epigenetics to support familiar narratives of toxic mothering, through a conflation of poverty and poor care and the suggestion that inadequate nurturing damages the genetic code passed down through the generations. Structural factors are ignored in a neoliberal trope of personal responsibility, with policy solutions focused on improving parenting skills. In this paper, we draw on emerging findings to highlight pressing concerns about the classed and gendered nature of ‘early intervention’ in UK families.

Frontiers 1

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 01

PRESIDENTIAL EVENT: CHANGING SOCIETY; CHANGING SOCIOLOGY

This is occasioned by the publication of John Holmwood and John Scott (eds) A Handbook of British Sociology (Palgrave). A panel of authors of chapters from the book will discuss the significance of the different histories of British sociology for its possible futures. The Panel will be joined by Dr Bruce Curtis of the University of Auckland who will provide ‘a view from outside’.

Frontiers 2

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 15

Understandings of Normality in Contexts of Disability and Difference

McLaughlin, J.
(Newcastle University)

Being normal is an often claimed attribute – for example ‘we are just like you, we are normal’ - in both civil rights disputes and in everyday identity politics. In relation to disability such claims are sometimes associated with a deficit or negative understanding of disability: ‘regardless of my disability I am just like you’. Critical disability studies and politics are challenging the value in being normal in favour of recognition of diversity and difference. Such moves are important and it is vital to consider the policing dynamics involved in claims to normality. It is also important to think about what is being claimed within such assertions of being normal, and whether such claims can be thought of as expansive, as well as policing. This paper will look at the complex narratives disabled young people articulate and draw from within claims to be and rejections of normality and the forms of self-monitoring they influence. It draws from material produced with disabled young people in an Economic and Social Research Council project examining disability and embodiment through the use of narrative interviews, photography and creative practice. All of which will be drawn from in the paper.

Disability and Migration: Fear of the Uninvited

Hughes, W.
(Glasgow Caledonian University)

The disabled person and the migrant are near interchangeable in the repertoires of invalidation deployed by the neoliberal imaginary. The finger of blame for structural inequalities is pointed - as cruel iron would have it - at those persons in the community made most wretched by its hegemony. These repertoires consist of free floating rhetorical frames constructed by key agencies of representation as ‘evidence’ of the muddy reputation of the oppressed. This process both makes and invalidates the social worth of those on the margins. In this paper, I want to demonstrate this claim by pointing to the pejorative depictions shared, in the context of austerity, by disabled people and migrants. Contemporary repertoires of invalidation are constituted by stigmatising defamatory signifiers; flexible markers of
disrepute that are spliced into minority identities to the significant detriment of their social and ontological worth. Some of these repertoires are, therefore, shared. I will draw out the pejorative repertoires that unite disabled and migrant identities; indicating how both of these figures have severely tested the highly constrained boundaries of neoliberal tolerance and hospitality, particularly in the UK. Disabled people and migrants are currently represented as contaminating, threatening and burdensome. Disability like the uninvited new arrival is a visitor, a stranger, ‘we’ fear.

**Personal Assistants: A Profession Allied to the Community?**

Graby, S.  
(University of Leeds)

This paper is based on interviews, conducted as part of my ESRC funded MA research, with people who played key roles in the development of personal assistance services for disabled people in the UK. In it I will critically examine the concept of ‘professionalism’ as applied to the job of Personal Assistant, drawing on my interviewees’ opinions about the working role of a PA and the relationship between PAs and disabled employers, as well as on published accounts of the experience of personal assistance, by both disabled people and PAs, in the Disability Studies and Disabled People’s Movement literatures.

By situating these in the context of Disabled People’s Movement critiques of the ‘helping professions’ (e.g. Davis 1990), and of theoretical perspectives such as those of Illich et al (1977) on ‘disabling professions’ and more recent feminist and autonomist critiques of professionalism and professionalization (e.g. Adams 2012), I will assess whether PAs can or do constitute what Finkelstein (1981, 1999) called a ‘profession allied to the community’ (PAC), in contrast to ‘professions allied to medicine’ (PAMs).

In doing so I will consider how the availability of personal assistance for disabled people in the UK is affected by current economic and political conditions, including the increasing precarity of waged labour and severe cuts to state welfare provision, including funding for disabled people to employ personal assistants, and the impact that these conditions have on the status of PA work as an occupation.

**Frontiers 3**  
**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 18**

**Digital Sociology: Opportunities and Challenges**

Sauter, T.  
(Queensland University of Technology)

The involvement of digital devices and data in a variety of social, cultural, commercial, political and academic practices produces new assemblages and ways of organising the social. Digital sociology addresses this convergence of the digital and the social. While technology and the virtual have been on the sociological agenda for a long time (consider Haraway, Law, Latour; see also Wellman, Turkle, Woolgar), the new label – Digital Sociology – declares the relevance of the discipline in the context of a proliferation of sciences that claim their ability to access and analyse the social. Sociologists are adapting their craft in order to account for the interrelations between humans and technologies in modern digitally mediated societies.

This paper explores some of the opportunities and challenges for digital sociology – both methodologically and epistemologically. It suggests that sociological research needs to reassemble its approaches to reconcile big data analytics and small-scale ‘thick descriptions’ of individualised cases to truly account for the complexity of techno-social hybridity. The challenge lies within making sense of the expansive volume and multimediacy of the overwhelming amount of data at our disposal.

Good digital sociology should acknowledge the unique culture, architecture and affordances of the digital; hashtags, algorithms and platforms shape new modes of making up the social. Additionally, it should account for new relations of power that emerge from the circulation of commercial, political and individual actants on digitised platforms. Finally, digital sociology faces questions of ethics and access, which further complicate the study and dynamics of the digital.
‘Where are They Now?’ Perspectives of Global Justice Activists on Web Technologies

Waddell, P., Saunders, C., Millard, D.
(University of Southampton)

In this paper, the authors explore the experiential effects of the World Wide Web on Global Justice activists within the UK, investigating the subjective and narrative formation effects that the Web has on groups of political activists who are members of ‘Global Justice Networks’. We present the findings of participant observation carried out at protest events in the UK. We argue that the ethnographic method is often overlooked when it comes to research regarding the Web in favour of large scale data mining or more ephemeral ‘virtual ethnography’.

Our findings indicate that there has been a shift in perception of Web technologies within grassroots activist communities contributing to a fragmentation of the networks that were initially so homogenous thanks to their adherence to small online communities and semi-organised, alternative media. Younger activists are content to engage with the Web through the medium of corporate social media, much to the dismay of older activists who remember the more egalitarian days of alternative media. These activists believe that the stranglehold of corporate social media on activism brings activists networks dangerously close to the socio-economic establishment (for this is where corporate social media resides), and such proximity seems to sit uncomfortably with contentious members of activist networks. We are used to hearing of the emancipatory effects of the Web due to adopting macro perspective, but our investigation of individual activists indicates that, for some activists, activism is becoming constrained by the Web.

Whitehall’s Role in Shaping Digital Technologies: Power, Participation and Policy Agendas

Houston, M.
(University of Southampton)

For nearly 20 years UK governments have sought to use digital technologies to increase democratic engagement in government. However, despite technological optimism and stated political intentions, opportunities for online participation in policy making continues to be sporadic, variable in its effects and limited in scope. While existing research has explored the value and social composition of citizen participation and has looked at the effects of the Internet on the political system, we still know little about the role of civil servants in shaping the outcomes of online democratic initiatives in policy making. Drawing upon data from interviews, participant observation and documentary analysis, I investigate civil servants’ perceptions of public participation, their understandings and uses of digital technologies, and navigation of organisational processes, structures and culture. Alongside the empirical data I consider how theories of democratic participation, the study of institutions and the social shaping of technology can be used to explain what happens inside government organisations. I argue that civil servants interactions, practices and behaviours influence government initiated e-democracy to an extent not previously widely recognised. Emerging findings from my research suggest the relationship between civil servants, citizens and digital technologies is evolving, complex and dynamic. I conclude with some thoughts on new directions for e-democracy and questions for future research.

‘Think-tankery’, Policy Research and Contemporary Intellectuals: A Personal Network Perspective

Tchilingirian, J.
(University of Cambridge)

Research about think-tanks has mainly focused on certain, mainly partisan, organisations and on a small set of interests; namely the attempt to ascertain a think-tank’s impact on a political party or policy domain. Rather than continuing this tradition, this paper moves away from a clique of ideological think-tanks towards and questions related to sociology of intellectuals.

Unlike traditional authoritative experts who intervene into policy; think-tanks lack the recognised cultural and symbolic capital derived from being located within an established profession (e.g. academia). Instead think-tanks are located within an interstitial and ill-defined ‘space between fields’ (Eyal, 2010). This space is both constituted and divided by the worlds of science/academia, politics, bureaucracy, journalism and business (Medvetz 2012). As such, to make credible intellectual interventions into policy debates a think-tank must construct knowledge which is amenable across fields/professions. This paper considers how a think-tank researcher achieves this balance.

I suggest that it is the actual interactions and ties researchers form across professional fields that enable them to access the resources, knowledge and preferences needed to make policy knowledge. I focus on the personal/ego networks or researchers I studied as part of my doctoral research on British think-tank researchers from across the organisational and ideological spectrum. Using quantitative personal/ego-network analysis I compare the form and structure of the networks researchers, paying attention to density and homophily. Through narrative accounts I
elucidate how the act of policy research requires discursive positioning and reconciling of actual relations and differing community standards to produce policy relevant knowledge.

Frontiers 4
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 09

JOURNAL PUBLISHING: TIPS AND PITFALLS

Join, Paul Hodkingson, one of the editors of Sociological Research Online for a workshop on journal publishing. It is becoming increasingly difficult to get published in top-rated journals. In this session we will talk about how the journal process works and some of the things you can do - and the mistakes you should avoid - when writing, submitting and revising your article. This is an invaluable opportunity to hear about journal publishing from those in the know.

Lifecourse
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 07

Reciprocity, Obligation and Risk: Expectations between the Generations When it Comes to Funeral Planning

Woodthorpe, K.  
(University of Bath)

This paper will draw on two studies completed in 2012 and 2013 to examine current attitudes to funeral planning in the context of expectations associated with inter-generational familial obligations. Using data from interviews with those seeking government support with funeral costs, and people aged 60+ who were asked about planning for funerals, the paper will argue that the issue of who pays for a funeral is a useful tool to explore and understand expectations about whether or not the generation above/below will provide for themselves. In so doing, the paper will examine the relevance of theories of reciprocity/gifting, alongside moral obligation and the management of risk.

Dying Alone: The Sociological Autopsy as a Tool for Understanding

Caswell, G.  
(University of Nottingham)

The notion of the medical autopsy, which seeks to establish cause of death through the physical examination of a corpse, is familiar. Less well known, perhaps, is the psychological autopsy which has been utilised as a means of clarifying how an individual has died. It does this by examining the circumstances surrounding the death and the relevant factors in the life and personality of the deceased individual. It is most commonly used to examine the deaths of individuals who have taken their own lives. More recently the sociological autopsy has been developed as a method to try and gain an understanding of the social circumstances in which an individual has completed suicide. A sociological autopsy takes an ethnographic approach to the study of documents, and typically begins with an examination of the coroner’s records relating to a particular case. The autopsy then moves out from the records, following up on relevant data sources in order to create a picture of the social circumstances in which the individual came to end his or her life. This paper considers the use of the sociological autopsy to examine deaths other than those where the individual has taken their own lives. Using a case study of an individual who was found dead at home after an extended period of time, the paper explores the effectiveness of the sociological autopsy as method and examines some of the advantages and disadvantages of the method.

A Quest for a Methodology in End of Life Research

Quinlan, C.  
(All Hallows College, Dublin City University)

Patient autonomy is a key issue in ethics in contemporary healthcare. There is a need, highlighted in the literature, for more research on end of life care and particularly more research on patient autonomy in end of life care from the perspectives of patients and family members.
This pilot study was designed to provide an appropriate methodology for use in a major qualitative research project which would explore and examine experiences of patient autonomy from the perspectives of patients, family members and friends. The pilot study was carried out in St. Francis Hospice, Raheny, Dublin, and in Beaumont Hospital, Dublin. The perspectives of patients and family members were gathered using a series of in-depth interviews. The interview schedule designed for use in the pilot study was focused on patient autonomy. Very many methodological issues were highlighted in the pilot study and these issues are explored and explained in this paper. The quest for an appropriate methodology is outlined. The conclusions drawn by the researchers in relation to social science research with patients at end of life are outlined. The proposed methodology for a major qualitative study is outlined, explained and justified. The paper is of use because it explains many of the issues involved in conducting social science research on end of life experiences.

The Everyday Visual Death and Dying: Families, Photography and End of Life

Ellis, J., Warren, L. (University of Sheffield)

There is a need to understand dying experiences outside the dominant discourses of medicine (Kellehear, 2009). We are developing a project that explores relational and everyday aspects of dying and severe illness – with a specific focus on the visual. Whilst publications of autobiographical accounts of dying are arguably a form of public dying (Small, 1998), increasingly photographers who experience dying - usually that of significant others (Morcate and Pardo, 2013) - are using photos to share their stories visually (Toledano, 2010; Parnell, 2009). Sometimes the images that are produced and placed on public display are telling an ‘everyday’ story which goes some way to informing a gap in knowledge about the daily lives of dying people (Ellis, 2013). Our project will ask how capturing moments visually during severe illness and dying, translates to the experience of non-artists/ photographers; how knowledge of impending death affects the photography practices of ‘ordinary’ people and families. We want to understand how photos and the processes of taking and displaying these get managed and negotiated in the day-to-day lives of families dealing with death and dying. Our paper will explore these questions drawing on theoretical and empirical literature which provides the backdrop to our proposed research. We will present a case for how exploring these questions empirically is important to understand, in a more nuanced way, how families are constituted (Morgan, 1996; Smart 2007) in severe illness and end of life contexts.

The Drugs Don’t Sell: DIY Heart Health and the Over-the-counter Statin Experience

Will, C., Weiner, K. (University of Sussex)

This paper draws on a study of over-the-counter statins to provide a critical account of the figure of the ‘pharmaceutical consumer.’ A low dose statin, promising to reduce cardiovascular risk, was reclassified to allow sale in pharmacies in the UK in 2004. We analysed professional and policy debates about the new product, promotional and sales information, and interviews with consumers and potential consumers, to consider the different consumer identities invoked by these diverse actors. While policy makers constructed an image of ‘the citizen-consumer’ who would take responsibility for heart health and medical professionals raised concerns about ‘a flawed consumer’ who was likely to misuse the product, both assumed that there would be a market for the drug. By contrast, those who bought the product or potentially fell within its target market might appear as ‘health consumers’, seeking out and paying for different food and lifestyle products and services, including those targeting high cholesterol. However, they were reluctant ‘pharmaceutical consumers’ who either preferred to take medication on the advice of a doctor, or sought to minimize medicine use. In comparison to previous studies, our analysis builds understanding of individual consumers in a market, rather than collective action for access to drugs (or, less commonly, compensation for adverse effects). Where some theories of pharmaceuticalisation have presented consumers as creating pressure for expanding markets, our data suggests that sociologists should be cautious about assuming there will be demand for new pharmaceutical products, even in burgeoning health markets.
Making the Structure (In)visible: Health Choices versus Health-related Practices in a Neo-liberal Society

Marinho, M.L.
(University of Warwick)

Health inequality is a persistent social problem in the contemporary world. Policies in neoliberal societies aiming to decrease health gaps are usually focused at an individual level, specifically encouraging people to change their behaviour and choose healthier lives. However, to what extent are people free to choose their health-related practices (e.g. diet, physical exercise, smoking)? To what extent are these shaped by the social structure? Several studies have shown that it is not only a matter of individual will; social factors and political/economic context have a strong impact on health outcomes and ‘behaviour’. This study uses data from qualitative semi-structured interviews conducted with men and women from lower and middle socioeconomic groups in Santiago de Chile as well as secondary quantitative data to explore how macro dimensions, individuals’ economic, social and cultural capital, and biographies influence people from different socioeconomic groups in engaging with a range of health-related practices in a strong neoliberal society. The results show a tension between an individually centred discourse that leads to a propensity of self-blame, and experiences that reveal the ways through which the distribution of economic, social and cultural capital influence people’s health-related practices. These findings suggest that, contrary to a neoliberal health behavioural approach, health-related practices are highly influenced by dimensions that go beyond individuals’ choices and control. Furthermore, the internalization of the capitalist model prevents individuals from recognizing the social production of their health-related practices.

Leading the Buyer’s Revolt: The Reform of the UK NHS

Speed, E., Gabe, J.
(University of Essex)

The 2012 English Health and Social Care Act marked a fundamental reform of the system of statutory healthcare in England. It was a piece of reform that proved controversial across patients and professions and can be widely regarded as re-setting the healthcare landscape in a manner best suited to the interests of the state rather than patients or the professions. In this context, it is a triumph of the neoliberal ‘buyer’s revolt’. Drawing from a countervailing powers framework we analyse this process of reform and demonstrate how the successful enactment of this legislation marks a strategic failure on the part of the professions. The pursuit of sectional interests across a range of actors within the reform process served to undermine the potential for alliances both within groups of actors (i.e. the professions) and across groups of actors (such as the professions and patients). This divide and conquer strategy on the part of the state successfully undermined any countervailing moves on the part of the other actors and resulted in the successful enactment of the legislation. This conclusion has relevance for other countries undergoing health and social care reform under the auspices of austerity.

Men’s Weight Management Programmes, Pastiche Hegemony and the End of Masculinity

Matthews, C.
(Nottingham Trent University)

Within the sociology of men’s health, links have frequently been drawn between ‘hegemonic’ versions of masculinity and deleterious behaviours of men. A point of departure for this paper, is that such conclusions are often based on overly reductive and simplistic appropriations of Connell’s (1995, 2005) thesis, a priori assumptions about masculinity and tend to reify patterns of, and narratives about, gender and sex identifications. Using data from interviews with obese men who attended two different weight management programmes, I will identify the theoretical utility of Atkinson’s (2011) notion of pastiche hegemony and MacInnes’ (1999) deconstruction of the masculinity concept as dynamic frames for the empirical realities of men’s lived experiences. It is hoped that colleagues working both in health and gender studies will find the paper a provocative and useful exploration of the way men made sense of their bodies, lives and identifications, within an increasing complex and fragmented gendered landscape.
Weight Loss Practices, Including Weight Loss Surgery: Gendered Negotiations of ‘Failure’ and ‘Success’

Parsons, J., Pinkney, J., Letherby, G.  
(Plymouth University)

This paper draws on the results of an investigation into experiences of weight loss management practices from a psychosocial perspective. These were sought from three groups of individuals those; who had undergone weight loss surgery (WLS), been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes and/or engaged in weight loss management practices. Data was gathered using asynchronous on-line interview techniques, from participants who had responded to advertisements posted on a WLS website and a diabetes Facebook page and magazine. Across the three groups we received ninety-three replies, which resulted in sixty-four on-line interviews, the overwhelming majority from women. The men who participated mainly did so in order to explain how they had successfully lost weight or were successfully managing their diabetes through weight loss management techniques. The women’s replies on the other hand across all groups were less absolutist and dualistic. They tended to document battles with weight cycling over many years. This meant that their management of diabetes through weight loss was problematic. Those who had undergone WLS were wary of suggesting WLS as a quick fix and argued that individuals needed to fully understand their psychosocial responses to food and eating before having WLS. The route to WLS from all groups was framed within a moral discourse that considered it a last resort for those who ‘deserved’ to be treated. We suggest that a dualist, absolutist and moral approach is not helpful for those looking to manage their weight whether it is for diabetes or in preparation for WLS.

Embodiment, Gender and Chronic Illness: Men’s Experience of the Lived Body in Parkinson’s Disease

Gibson, G.  
(Institute of Health and Society)

Reporting findings from a PhD study investigating 15 men’s experiences of living with Parkinson’s Disease (PD) this presentation explores men’s experiences of the lived body in PD. By transforming men’s basic and habitual ability to move, PD leads to a profound transformation of the lived body and its place within the lifeworld. Drawing on the phenomenological work of Leder (1990) and Toombs (2002), I explore three dimensions through which the lived body in PD is brought into relief; how the body in PD ‘dys-appears’. First, men spoke of the body ‘showing up’ to their perceptions, rupturing the unity of the mind-body-self. Second, PD leads to a new, alienated form of being-for-the-other, in which bodily surfaces and intimate visceral processes are rendered visible to others and therefore to the self. Third, the lived body experiences changes to its felt, sensate dimensions, leading to a shifting, unpredictable form of embodiment, cycling between the experiences of moving too little and moving too much. Through such experiences, the lived body in PD ceases to provide the stable platform for everyday life essential to a habitual experience of the lifeworld. This presentation concludes with a discussion of the implications of a changing embodiment in PD for men’s self-identity, including their identity as men, and for PD’s treatment within routine care.

Caring, Not Stopping: Affective Meanings of Smoking in a Former Mining Village in the North East of England

Thirlway, F.  
(Durham University)

Following extensive fieldwork mainly with older people in an ex-mining village in County Durham, I argue that this village and others like it have strong collective values of community and family which are wrongly characterised by dominant discourses as narratives of lack. Pathways to social mobility as currently constituted embody middle class values and therefore for people from the village, taking these pathways disrupts and destroys their own affective links, leading to ambivalence amongst those who have made this transition. Rites of passage from childhood to adulthood take a highly classed form; for middle-class young people the transition is made by ‘going away’ to university, but for working-class young people the transition to adulthood is associated with taking on gendered responsibilities as provider or carer, although male transitions in particular have been disrupted by de-industrialization. My findings are that smoking in such stable communities functions as a marker of responsible adulthood, which involves not separation from the family but taking on responsibilities within it and replicating its values. For this reason I argue that quitting is particularly hard for daughters of smoking mothers: maternal smoking continues to exert a powerful role into old age, making it difficult for continuing and indeed ex-smokers to distance themselves definitively from smoking. For women in a community where they are the prime maintainers of family links and intergenerational relations, smoking is closely tied to caring.
Reanimating Data: Creative Methods of Knowledge Exchange

McGeeney, E.
(University of Sussex)

This paper explores creative methods for reanimating data and engaging in practices of knowledge exchange, drawing on findings from an ESRC knowledge exchange project: ‘Good sex?: Building evidence based practice in young people’s sexual health’. The project is a collaboration between the young people’s sexual health charity Brook and the University of Sussex and brings together researchers, young people, health and education practitioners, a film maker and a theatre practitioner to explore creative ways of reanimating research data to engage with publics beyond the academy. Drawing on a range of creative techniques, the team have explored sensitive and innovative ways of using original research data from a study of young people’s sexual cultures to create resources and audio-visual materials aimed at young audiences and practitioner communities. This paper will focus on methods and practices of data reanimation, describing the methods used to turn ‘data’ into ‘film’, arguing that these practices of knowledge creation and exchange offer ways of ‘doing’ public sociology and engaging young people in participatory sex education and knowledge exchange activities.

Researching Migrant Children: Does Photography Empower Participants?

Fassetta, G.
(University of Stratchclyde)

This paper explores the use of participant-led photography (also known as photo-voice) in research with young participants. It draws from a qualitative research project that explored young people’s imaginings, expectations and experiences in relation to migration between Ghana and Italy. The study aimed to bring children’s points of view into the debate on migration.

Participant-led photography was chosen as one of the data collection techniques (together with focus groups and individual interviews) to allow the children greater agency in the research process, in an attempt to redress, at least partially, the imbalance of power that is particularly evident in research that involves young participants. It was also expected that the use of a visual technique would be more fun and thus more motivating for the children and that photographs would help to shift some of the pressure away from the participant during the individual interviews, thus allowing for a more relaxed atmosphere. Finally, the use of participant-led photography was chosen in order to circumvent language difficulties.

This presentation reviews critically the experience of using participant-led photography in research with young migrants. It highlight the positive aspects of the technique, but also discusses the questions it threw open, and the challenges it presented.

How Easy is ‘Easy’? The Overlooked Role of Tacit Knowledge in Biosecurity Threat Assessments of Amateur Biology

Jefferson, C.
(King’s College London)

In the aftermath of 9/11, the subsequent anthrax letter attacks and a series of controversies around research on pathogenic viruses, biosecurity has become increasingly salient in public discourse; and concern that legitimate peaceful life science research could be misused to develop biological weapons has contributed to perceptions of an increased threat of bioterrorism. Furthermore, in light of developments in synthetic biology, a field that emerged around 2005 with the stated goal of ‘making biology easier to engineer’, concerns have been expressed over the potential ‘de-skilling’ of biology and the implications of widened access to potentially dual use knowledge (Edwards & Kelle, 2012; Schmidt, 2008; Tucker, 2011). The simultaneous appearance of an amateur biology community, who conduct biological experimentation as a hobby rather than a profession, and do so largely outside of traditional
scientific institutions, has further fuelled these concerns. However, this framing of the biosecurity threat tends to conflate advances in biosciences conducted in professional laboratories with increased access and ease of use - and therefore misuse - by outsiders. But how easy is ‘easy’? Research from social studies of science has shown that ‘tacit knowledge’ plays an important role in determining what researchers can realise in their laboratories, yet policy discussions tend to overlook social factors that contribute to success in scientific practice. This paper examines the real life experiences of amateur biologists in order to explore the extent to which biology has or could become ‘deskilled’ and more widely accessible.

Placing a New Science: Exploring Spatial and Temporal Configurations of Synthetic Biology

*Meyer, M., Molyneux-Hodgson, S.*
*(AgroParisTech)*

Synthetic biology is a field, a profession, a set of methods and objects that can be and often is described as “emerging”. Precise properties seem yet to be finalised, promises yet to be delivered, publics yet to be constituted. The field-in-emergence is creating futures, problems and new bio-objects that remain elusive and that, as a consequence, various actors are attempting to police, stabilise and clarify. By turning an ethnographic gaze on the nascent stages of a new research field such as synbio, we can pose interesting questions about the formation of local configurations and their relations to wider policies and actions in ways that the analysis of established fields would struggle to illuminate. In this paper we explore how a new field such as synbio is actively ‘placed’, tracing the development of the field in the UK and in France. The concept of ‘placing’ allows us to interrogate the local configurations of an emerging field and tie these into non-local manoeuvres. The concept permits us to comprehend and link entities that are commonly differentiated as “local” (universities, research teams), “national” (funding, policy-streams, public debates, platforms), and “non-local” (international competitions, international conferences and publications). Placing a science means, for us, that the practices and discourses of the science co-emerge with its modes of organisation and geographies and with its histories and futures.

Domesticating and Democratizing Science: A Geography of Do-it-yourself Biology

*Meyer, M.*
*(AgroParisTech)*

By turning private homes and community spaces into sites where biological experimentation can be carried out, do-it-yourself biology promises a democratization of science. This democratization is based upon material processes: efforts to increase the affordability, accessibility and mutability of scientific equipment can be observed. In particular, do-it-yourself biology relies on ‘creative workarounds’ around objects (to transform and combine them in novel ways) and institutions (to circumvent established university–industry business linkages).

I call this process ‘amaterialization’: equipment is opened up to amateurs and redistributed across social worlds; technically transformed and redesigned; and alongside material artefacts, we see a proliferation and an increasing circulation of non-material entities (texts, information, videos, etc.).

By tinkering with objects and sharing knowledge via various communicative devices – websites, blogs, wikis, forums, videos – do-it-yourself biologists aim to create a new, collective and open economy of scientific equipment and render biology more accessible to citizens. A distinct form of individuality is constituted by providing people with access, transforming them into active makers of science, making their bodies/ailments more knowable and demonstrating that one can do it oneself. Do-it-yourself biology thus offers a site for exploring the ethics, boundaries and new forms of sociability for biology.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 1

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 03**

South Asian Muslim Women in 21st Century Britain: Changing Attitudes towards Britishness and the Experiences of Higher Education

*Bibi, R.*
*(University of Huddersfield)*

The South Asian Muslim community in Britain is one that has become increasingly scrutinised, with questions of ‘Britishness’, what it means to be British and Muslim remaining pertinent issues. Given that the British South Asian
community is set to grow, it is necessary to engage with this community in order to understand how discourses around
gender, ethnicity and identity affect and continue to affect how this community develops. The aim of this research was
to engage with specific members of the British South Asian Muslim community, that of women and mothers. In
undertaking this research aspects of identity, belonging and citizenship were explored, with particular emphasis
placed on how discourses around identity are navigated and what mothers feel is important to pass on to children.
Drawing on narratives expressed in focus groups and interviews this research analysed and explored the aspect of
higher education in shaping attitudes towards citizenship and belonging, seeking to draw comparisons and contrasts
between those who had experienced Higher education and those who had not. The ways in which Higher Education
may become more accessible to ‘mature’ South Asian Muslim women was discussed, as well as difficulties and
barriers to education. Oldham was used as a case study in this research due to its experiences of civil unrest, leading
to discourses around identity and belonging for British Muslims. Analysis showed that participation in education was
couraged at all levels, with higher education having a profound, lasting and positive effect on ‘mature’ British Asian
Muslim women.

Whose Crisis Counts? Minority Women under Austerity in France, England and Scotland
Bassel, L., Emejulu, A.
(University of Leicester and University of Edinburgh)
In this paper, we explore the dynamics of gender, ‘race’, ethnicity and economic crisis by examining how
intersectionality can be combined with aspects of C. Wright Mills’ (1959) sociological imagination to create a new
analytical tool for naming, understanding and legitimating minority women’s everyday experiences. We wish to better
understand the processes by which, on the whole, minority women’s persistent social and economic inequalities
remain invisible due to their classification as ‘private troubles’ rather than ‘public issues’. We also investigate how
minority women’s precarity is further re-enforced by their location at particular intersections of race, gender, class and
legal status, which are disparaged and disrespected (Hancock 2004). Combining the sociological imagination with
intersectionality allows us to highlight ‘routinised crises’—those persistent, institutionalised and ordinary hardships that
many marginalised groups (and minority women in particular) experience in their everyday lives. Stressing the
importance of routinised crises may help us resist the temptation of disproportionately focusing on the exceptional
crises of the economically privileged during these uncertain economic times and makes visible minority women’s
responses to these challenges. We draw on fieldwork conducted with grassroots and third sector organisations and
minority women in France, England and Scotland.

‘Sometimes You Need to Think Outside their Boxes’: An Examination of the Voice of Black Minority Ethnic
Women in Post-devolution Scotland
Casserly, J.
(University of Edinburgh)
This paper explores the voice of black minority ethnic (BME) women in devolved Scotland. Through the case of
Scottish politics, the research examines the complexities of identity, access to decision-making and representation.
Particular attention is given to examining multicultural policies and devolved political processes and how these impact
on the position of BME women in the political life of Scotland.
The study is based on secondary analysis of existing survey and focus group data, as well as primary data drawn from
qualitative interviews conducted with a sample of respondents from party political and non-governmental
organisations.
Drawing on feminist theories of multiculturalism, culture is perceived as dynamic and contested and the research
depicts BME women as agents engaged in shaping Scotland and their own cultures. The findings show that
devolution has created a political opportunity structure more favourable to the voices of BME women. However, this
voice remains quiet and is limited by barriers within and outside of BME communities. The research also highlights
the role of third sector organisations in enabling the voice of BME women. The author concludes by arguing that
successive devolved governments’ promotion of multiculturalism in Scotland has benefited BME women but with
important limitations.

Thinking through the Impacts of Islamophobia: The Experience of ‘Veiled’ British Muslim Women
Allen, C.
(University of Birmingham)
Chakraborti and Zempi (2012) argue the need to increase awareness of the gendered facets of Islamophobia in order
to shed light on the ‘invisible’ victimisation of ‘veiled’ Muslim women in the contemporary public spaces. Yet as they
also rightly note, ‘...little is known about the specific nature, extent and impact of Islamophobic victimisation experienced by veiled Muslim women’ (p.280).

Acknowledging this, as also the political and social salience of the position and perception of the veiled Muslim woman in today’s public and political spaces, this paper draws upon the findings from a project that engaged twenty veiled, British Muslim women nationwide each of whom had been a victim of an Islamophobic hate incidents. To identify and engage the women, the research team worked in collaboration with a civil society organisation currently being funded by the British Government to provide support to victims of Islamophobic and anti-Muslim hate.

Beginning with an overview of the type, prevalence and relevance of the Islamophobic incidents the Muslim women encountered – ranging from verbal abuse through being run over to their family homes being attacked - this paper will focus in particular on how the experience of hate impacted on their lives and wellbeing. Using first hand evidence and direct quotes to elaborate and give voice to those women who might otherwise remain ‘invisible’ and overlooked, this paper will consider how the experience of being a victim of Islamophobia has emotional, psychological, cultural and social impacts both on victims as also those around them.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 2

DIASPORA, MIGRATION AND TRANSTNATIONAL IDENTITIES

Between a Rock and Hard Place: Assisted Voluntary Return and the Choice to Return

Anderson, B., Walker, S.
(University of Oxford)

Citizens may be broadly in agreement with government immigration policy and acknowledge the consequent logic of illegality and deportation, but its actual practice can be deeply unsettling, challenging liberal respect for physical integrity and freedom of choice. State funded ‘Assisted Voluntary Return’ (AVR) programmes seem to resolve these contradictions and are on the increase across Europe. Returnees are not subjected to outward mechanisms of enforcement (handcuffs, guards, etc.) but rather ‘choose’ to return and are granted a support package to reintegrate. NGOs are becoming heavily involved in these programmes. This paper will examine stakeholders’ engagement with the UK’s AVR programme. It will draw on ‘Tried and Trusted ? the Role of NGOs in the Assisted Voluntary Return of Refused Asylum Seekers and Irregular Migrants’ a joint research project between the Centre for Population Change, University of Southampton and COMPAS, Oxford University. Analysing in-depth interviews it will explore how ‘voluntary’ is understood and operationalised by the UK Home Office and by NGOs. In particular, it will focus on how ‘choice’ is understood in the context of state enforced destitution and ‘illegality’, examining the relation between AVR and asylum (‘forced migration’). Does AVR make immigration enforcement more acceptable in liberal democracies? Does the focus on choice mean we miss questions of justice? Does rejecting AVR risk further limiting the mobility of those who wish to move? AVR is a laboratory for neo-liberal immigration controls and for the development of new forms of co-operation between states and NGOs.

The Assisted Voluntary Return Programme in UK: How Does the Receipt of Government Funding Impact on the Relationship, Advocacy and Independence of the Refugee Sector?

Bennett, C., McGhee, D.
(University of Southampton)

This paper will explore some key issues around the management of the Assisted Voluntary Return Programme (AVR) for refused asylum seekers and irregular migrants in the UK. At present, this programme is managed by Refugee Action. Using a UK refugee NGO to deliver this specific grant aimed at returning individuals to their ‘home’ country is a relatively recent and controversial way of working. This paper asks whether receiving funding to deliver government services impacts on the independence of NGOs? By using empirical research we query whether such relationships lead NGOs to a closer and more influential way of working with the government in the form of an enhanced ‘behind closed doors’ advocacy, or whether it contributes to a restricted capacity to lobby against the government? Moreover, we ask are refugee agency’s best placed to deliver the AVR contract or is this a form of ‘doing the government’s dirty work’? Current tensions such as contradictory motivations between the Home Office and refugee sector, the role of government ‘targets’, perceptions of ‘trust’ and the impact of recent campaigns such as the ‘immigration go home’ vans will also be discussed.
This paper is based on a joint research project between the Centre for Population Change, University of Southampton and COMPAS, Oxford University. This ESRC funded study, ‘Tried and Trusted? the Role of NGOs in Assisted Voluntary Return’, engaged with the Home Office, refugee, migrant and community organisations, UNHCR, IOM and detention centres in the UK. A sector wide survey was also conducted.

**Inverting the Logic of Economic Migration: Happiness among North-to-south Migrants in Europe**

Bartram, D.

(University of Leicester)

Migration from a poorer country to a wealthier one often results in a lower relative economic status for the migrant (even when it increases their incomes in an ‘absolute’ sense) – and thus perhaps results also in a decrease in his/her happiness. (Research on happiness indicates that income influences happiness mainly via the effect of income on status.) By the same logic, migration from a wealthy country to a poorer one might bring a higher status position for the migrant and so might raise his/her happiness. This paper investigates happiness among migrants who move from northern European countries to Spain, Portugal, Greece and Cyprus, comparing them to stayers in the origin countries (Belgium, Switzerland, France, Germany, Britain, and the Netherlands). The analysis shows that migrants are less happy than stayers, in a bivariate comparison and a conventional regression model. A consideration of results from ‘treatment models’ and matching analyses suggests that the difference represents a decrease in happiness for the migrants (and not a difference in happiness prior to migration), contrary to an expectation rooted in an anticipated increase in economic status.

**Sociology of Education**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 05**

**Extended Mothering: Maternal Involvement in Women’s Access to Higher Education**

Cooper, L.

(Anglia Ruskin University)

The process of widening participation has been a key element in the changing face of the higher education sector. An important factor of the widening participation agenda has been increasing women’s access to university study. This paper summarises the findings of a qualitative PhD study of the differences in women’s experiences of accessing higher education. Interview data from 39 women, 18 mothers and 21 adult daughters explores the discourses of class, feminism and the funding changes in the tertiary sector. Bourdieusian theory is used to underpin the increasing importance of habitus and familial capital in accessing university in a neoliberal marketplace and the subsequent advantages gained for women’s futures. I examine how mothers are extending their support and using their capital to enhance extra curricula activities in preparation for, and into, university years. Middle class anxiety surrounding tuition fee debt and maintaining educational advantage is demonstrated in the mothers’ financial and emotional investment in their daughters’ education process. Findings suggest that women from marginalised backgrounds will struggle to compete against the extreme measures that middle class mothers are employing in order to give their daughters educational advantage in securing their higher education choices. This enhanced mothering practice is promoting a transformation in gendered outcomes and challenges the norm of fathers’ background as necessary for women’s futures.

**Experiences of British African Caribbean Men Who have Attended Elite Universities in England and Wales**

Dumangane, C.

(Cardiff University)

Extensive research concerning how social structures such as class, gender, race/ethnicity and capitals (e.g. economic, cultural and social, Bourdieu) influence underachievement and school exclusion rates of British African Caribbean (BAC) boys in secondary education exists. Yet within UK Higher Education, research indicates that BAC and Black groups comprise a higher percentage of the undergraduate population than White groups (Connor, Tyers, Modood and Hillage 2004). However statistics are inversely different when the types of undergraduate Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) that BME groups attend is examined, for example: between 2010-2012 less than 5% of all students entering Russell Group and Oxbridge universities were BAC (Bolivier, 2013) – and London Metropolitan University, a former polytechnic institution, admits more BAC students than the 24 Russell Group, Oxford and Cambridge universities combined (Singh 2009). Unsurprisingly based on BAC boys secondary education challenges
more BAC women attend HEIs than BAC men (Mirza, 2006). There is a paucity of research on the few successful BAC men who attend elite universities in the UK. This research explores BAC men’s experiences attending Russell Group and Oxbridge universities in England and Wales through their narratives /counter stories. Gender, race, class and forms of capital are examined within the context of their aspirational HEI journeys and their first employment experiences thereafter. This presentation provides a brief an overview of the methods used. The remainder of the presentation discusses some key themes that emerged from the stories these BAC shared with me about their experiences as ‘others’ at elite universities.

Yearning to Earn or Yearning to Learn? Mobilising the Bourdieusian Concepts of Habitus and Capital in the Analysis of Students’ Expectations, Aspirations and Experiences of HE

Clark, G.
(University of the West of Scotland)

Higher education is often marketed as producing work ready graduates. The suggested increased prospect of employment and higher earnings may be changing perceptions regarding the value of a graduate qualification and incentivising individuals to attain a university education. However, structural barriers impact upon first generation students who make up a large proportion of students at a modern university, and as a result they face greater obstacles in accessing higher education, learning and employment opportunities. Mobilising Bourdieu’s concepts of habitus and capital, and employing a mixed model survey this research examines students’ expectations, aspirations and experiences of higher education by focusing on their initial intention of the development of economic or cultural capital. An online questionnaire was distributed through email which 594 students fully completed, providing quantitative and qualitative data. The main findings are similar to those of other studies although a strong emphasis is placed on the educator/student relationship. Students largely report finding university as they expected it to be, have high aspirations for future employment and further study and enjoy a mainly positive experience.

Are Men Preferred and Advantaged? The Gendering of the School Management in Taiwan

Li, H-J.
(National Pingtung University of Science and Technology)

This paper aims to explore whether and how men are preferred and advantaged in the pursuit of upward mobility within the context of school management by drawing on data from a Taiwanese primary school. The study was carried out between 2008 and 2009, and non-participant observation and individual semi-structured interviews are the main sources of data collection. The evidence indicates the persistence of gender segregation: male dominance in the higher tiers and a concentration of women in the domain of classroom teaching. In the 2008 academic year, 10 out of 13 males (76.92%) held managerial posts, while only 25% of female teachers were in similar positions. Furthermore, there are three important points to suggest the preference and advantages for men in the managerial positions. First of all, men being preferred and advantaged to take on the managerial posts were a consequence of men’s abilities and availability associated with masculinity. The second is the alliance between men, which were beneficial to their seeking upward mobility. Thirdly, in contrast to men’s advantaged position, women’s domestic responsibilities and roles are suggested as barriers for their access to higher echelons. Although men, rather than their female colleagues, did obtain more opportunities in the pursuit of upward mobility, more importantly, the responses from the teachers also give evidence that some male teachers did not agree the preference as an advantage, due to invisible pressure from gender norms and social expectations. The findings also demonstrate that men might prioritise their family responsibilities, rather than career advancement.

Academic Careers and the Gender Gap in Indonesia

Toyibah, D.
(University of Auckland)

There is a significant gap among Indonesian academics. Male academics attain higher civil servant rank than their female counterparts. Females are clustered in the position of teaching staff, which is the lowest level of five civil service rank in academia. Males are overrepresented in the higher ranks, especially the second highest. This gendered pattern, especially the clustering in these two ranks, results in significantly different means.
However, the situation is not so straightforward when the variables age and education qualifications are controlled for. They suggest that factors other than gender affect career advancement and operate to significantly reduce the gender gap. This in turn suggests that gender may be of declining importance. Modelling that includes more controlled variables reduces the influence of gender on career advancement. Indeed, educational qualifications, age and length tenure are the most important factors determining career advancement for both of male and female academics in Indonesia. There is weaker evidence that gender and type of university (from where they obtained their degree) affect academic rank.

These findings are quite different from previous research. However, to argue that there is better equality in academic careers in Indonesia because gender is not a significant factor is a problematic conclusion. The gender gap is very prevalent and the influence of social capital is insignificant, despite the fact that female academics have better social capital in terms of quality of university from which they obtained their degree. These findings require further investigation on this topic.

The Ethico-politics of the Pedagogical Self

O’Brien, P.  
(Queensland University of Technology)

Set within the ethico-political problem area of standards-based reform of school education in Australia, this paper explores the ways in which teachers and school leaders are being urged to constitute themselves as subjects of a form of professional conduct whose articulated set of behaviours are the object of contemporary strategies of advanced liberal rule. The paper utilizes Foucault’s four axes of ethics (viz. ‘ontology’, ‘deontology’, ‘ascetics’ and ‘teleology’) to investigate teachers’ and school leaders’ ethical conduct in relation to conduct deemed desirable by those who seek to govern teachers and school leaders—such as the recently established Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL). Drawing on current (doctoral) research into the programmes of government associated with AITSL, the paper argues that such programmes—informing neoliberal political rationalities and operationalized by technologies of agency and performance—presuppose and prescribe an actively responsible form of the professional self. An examination of the ways in which teachers and school leaders shape their ethical conduct and govern themselves points to the extent to which such practices of the self may be imbricated with the practices of government of standardizing, of performance measurement and of professional learning formulated by AITSL. The extent to which they are not, may be seen to point to the freedom made possible by such practices of the self as an exercise seeking to establish an independent relation of the self to itself.

Theory

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 14

HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE SOCIOLOGY

Is the Past Really Another Country? Revisiting the History/sociology Relationship

Inglis, D.  
(University of Exeter)

The relationship between History and Sociology as disciplines is a long and vexed one. This paper reflects critically on the development of that relationship as it has been understood - and contested - in different places and different times, with an eye to considering the current state of play in English-speaking sociology today. It can be argued that historical considerations are sociology’s Achilles Heel, for ignoring them or understanding them in cliched and superficial ways will lead to sociology denuded of the richness that deep historical awareness brings. The paper considers the nature of the historical blindspot in contemporary sociology, with the aim of identifying how they might be rectified, both conceptually, pragmatically and pedagogically. The difficulties of, and obstacles towards, building strong historical sensibilities into a discipline often characterised by presentist dispositions are examined, and some solutions tentatively offered.
Misplacing the World: Historical Sociology and World-Systems

Bhambra, G. K.
(University of Warwick)

Social scientific understandings of the global were not only developed in the context of theoretical schema, such as modernization or underdevelopment, but also in a direct address of the historical record. In this presentation, I examine three such approaches. The first is the work of historian Fernand Braudel who, in distinguishing between his concern to write a world history from writing the history of the world, contributed to the establishment of a particular tradition of historical social science, or social scientific history. Within sociology, this tradition was taken up by both Weberian and Marxist sociologists. I look, in turn, at the grand projects of Michael Mann, on charting the sources of social power, and Immanuel Wallerstein, on delineating the modern world-system, as exemplary of this idea of a ‘world history’. I examine the place of the ‘world’ within their work and assess the extent to which they adequately acknowledge the world in their versions of historical sociology.

Contested Power over Space of the Dead in Colonial Urban Seoul

Lee, H.
(University of Cambridge)

Colonial cities are often said as spatial representation of colonial dominant power (Rabinow 1989; Wright 1991; Alsayyad et al 1992). In a colonial city, colonists obtain their authority over the colonised population by building monumental buildings, by controlling spatial dispositions and by enforcing the spatial daily lives of colonised population. However, this power built-in colonial cities were not always necessarily bound up with coercive, military and sovereign character. As an agent of the colonial state, the colonial power often employed multi-lateral strategies including discursive, disciplinary and governmental strategies in order to maintain hegemonic superiority and to achieve their principle purpose of colonisation of the territory (Scott 1995). Especially, when it came with traditionally existing ‘norms’ and ‘forms’, the strategic approaches had to be more refined and multifaceted. In this regard, this paper, through the theoretical lens of Foucault’s notion of governmentality, examines Japanese spatial strategies over space of the dead in colonial urban Seoul in 1910s-1930s. Reviewing Japanese strategies for Koreans’ mortuary practices from a discursive approach to a capitalistic approach, and Koreans’ receptions from the resistance to the assimilation, this paper considers colonialism, governmentality and space.

Work, Employment and Economic Life

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 06

An Ethnography of a Cultural Learning Transition: Evidence from a Fine Dining Kitchen

Bourkel, T.
(University of Strathclyde)

My discussion presents PhD findings from a longitudinal micro study of a professional fine dining kitchen. Based on 6 months participant observation as a chef in a kitchen and reflexive interviews, the study highlights the presence of the often overlooked aesthetic standard within a work community. Specific to this study the findings reveal that the standards often offer a contradictory reference point during the socialization of new chefs. Drawing upon the concept of legitimate peripheral participation, the study makes an empirical contribution to understanding how ‘aesthetic standards’ are played out by established employees and construed by new recruits during their learning and career trajectories. My lens is the interaction between the socializing agents and the newcomers. Emphasizing the autonomous nature of the workplace, the study highlights the relationship between the senior chefs’ individual, and often oppositional interpretation of aesthetics, in terms of their understanding of professional and behavioral norms, and the effect this has on the newcomers’ learning experience. Consequently, the learning trajectories of newcomers have become embedded in intuitive cultural sense-making. The findings suggest that newcomers are left but to produce a personal sense of standards in order to become active and valued participants in this community. In the tradition of symbolic interactionism, I will discuss the progression from the initial cultural and professional adjustment of standards to the development of a personal aesthetic sense through often inconsistent interactions.
The Rediscovery of the Handicraft as a Myth

Conti, U.
(Sapienza University of Rome)

In the last thirty years, the behaviors related to the work underwent a change due to a number of factors: (globalization, need for the state to keep competitiveness; technical development). Through time and history work changed its meaning, as human activity related to symbolic values. There are some concepts: δημιουργός; τεχνίτης; βάναυσος; χειρωνάκτης; χειρώνας; χειριστής; homo faber; homo artifex; animal laborans, etc. Since the Italian Middle Ages and Renaissance, these concepts of human being was variously embodied by the craftsman (Arendt; Sennet).

My research analyzes the artisan entrepreneurs and is addressed to an Italian context (Terni) characterized by the presence of a huge factory (AST: Terni Special Steel). Aim was to deepen the knowledge of the development in places where the initiatives in the handicraft field coexisted with the huge factory. In this context the trends of deindustrialization show the problems related to the industrial crisis and to the lack of occupational options. With regard to contexts of deindustrialization, the craftsman can be considered not as a pre-industrial traditional figure, but an opportunity for a “reconciliation” between Standardized and “Well done”, between useful and beautiful.

Arendt H., Vita activa, 1958
Sennet R., The craftsman, 2008

Surveillance, Common Knowledge and Gossip: Control in the French Foreign Legion

Sundberg, M.
(Stockholm University)

The French Foreign Legion (Légion étrangère) is an elite force within the regular French army, but also one of the most mythical military forces in the world. This paper is based on a unique ethnographic study of everyday life at Foreign Legion regiments, conducted in line with the assumption that ‘what takes place in the military is an extreme form of how social life is conducted everywhere’ (Lande 2007: 97) but also based on the fact that what the military do is a form of work, albeit under special circumstances. By means of a modified concept of total institution, the Legion is defined as a total organisation and analysed from the point of view of how organisation, institution, and network - as three different forms of social relations - blend or contrast in this particular case. In this paper, I focus on the aspect of control. For its maintenance, every relation requires some knowledge about what those involved in it are like and what they do. In the Legion as organisation, this is achieved through surveillance and monitoring. When looking at the Legion as institution, prejudices, rumours, and common knowledge serve similar functions. In interpersonal networks, informal control works through gossip. I discuss how these forms of control play out in relation to one another and show how extensive organisational monitoring threatens institutional cohesion but also how prejudices about members risk to create self-filling prophecies, as well as threats to organisational control.
**Wednesday 23 April 2014 at 16:30 - 18:00**

**Paper Session 3**

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The ‘Regeneration Games’: London 2012 and the Commodification of East End Culture?

Weber-Newth, F.
(University of Aberdeen)

A key aim of Olympic-led regeneration was intervention into everyday East End communities and cultures, with the projected effect of ‘convergence’: the idea that within 20 years the population of East London would have the same prospects as residents living in West London. To achieve this, the ‘Regeneration Games’ focus on the integration of deprived and marginal working-class areas of East London into the global city London. To see how this promise has played out at ground level, this paper will focus on the changing spatial order of Hackney Wick, a neighbourhood directly adjacent to the Olympic Site. By unravelling the micro dynamics in this locality, the important questions are: who is ‘the community’, and which ‘culture’?

This paper argues that the grass-root artistic cultures that made Hackney Wick a ‘cultural quarter’ are being re-imagined and commodified, with the effect that many of these residents are being priced-out of the neighbourhood. Additionally, other groups in Hackney Wick that do not fit into its new image as a cultural hub - the industrial business people, the Eton Mission Rowing Club, the Trowbridge Senior Citizens – are also excluded from the vision of Hackney Wick’s future. Regeneration in Hackney Wick shows the prioritisation of future communities, rather than sustaining existing ones. This paper argues that the commodification of industrial heritage for the mobile and transient ‘creative classes’ has served as an instrument to sharpen the neighbourhood’s inequalities: polarising those who can and cannot afford to consume in its space.

Urban Futures: Visioning Competing Trajectories and Change

Pieri, E.
(University of Manchester)

The planning, management and ‘making’ of cities is arguably pursued also through the mobilisation of desirable futures. Aspirations of city makers and branders play a central role in shaping how cities may evolve in certain directions rather than others. Yet theoretical and empirical work looking at how these imagined futures are mobilised and, more importantly, whether they are indeed shared by various actors beyond the main institutional stakeholders still remains scarce.

The practice of mobilising aspirations has come under close theoretical and empirical scrutiny in other areas of policy, for instance in policy pertaining to innovation, science and technology. It is within these fields that scholars in social studies of science have more sharply highlighted the contested nature of these visioning and futuring exercises and their implications.

This paper aims to combine insights and understandings about aspirations from these fields, and relate them to the urban policy domain. It builds on theories of public engagement, multi-stakeholder mapping, uncertainty and contested knowledge. The paper calls for a critical appraisal of the underlying values inbuilt in any urban visions and aspirations that are mobilised, and is based on ongoing research looking at Manchester city centre.

By reflexively looking at these processes of futuring, and by eliciting and contrasting the visions of a variety of stakeholders within Manchester city centre, the paper opens up discussion about competing trajectories and the types of social change they pursue.

‘And They Call this Renewal?’ Ensnared and Discarded Citizens in Inner Salford

Wallace, A.
(University of Lincoln)

In post-industrial cities such as Salford, a key strategy for ‘remaking’ inner city socio-spatial landscapes is the demolition of social housing and the attracting of more affluent populations. Whilst much of the critical literature on ‘accumulation by dispossession’ (David Harvey) assumes linear and rationally unfolding strategies of structural violence on working class populations, an overlooked facet of these strategies is their tendency towards precarity and potential for additional forms of harm via various weaknesses and uncertainties. In light of recent fiscal and housing
market ‘crashes’ in the district of Charlestown in Salford, a long-standing strategy of ‘redevelopment’ has been prone to interruptions, stallings and failings resulting in an inner city landscape stuck in the dark interstices of ‘renewal’. Consequently, a devitalised community infrastructure is currently combined with an ongoing, but intermittent social housing demolition and eviction programme as well as pockets of new private housing development. This is producing a set of harms, tensions and grievances which encapsulates how neoliberalised urbanism can discard subaltern populations through immobilisation and ensnarement as well as the widely recognised processes of expulsion. Drawing on an ongoing programme of visual and qualitative empirical research in inner Salford, this paper utilises the case study of Charlestown to survey the exposed failings of the ‘prophylactic fantasy’ (Lauren Berlant) of the renewable city. The paper will map the unravelling of Charlestown’s ‘redevelopment’ since 2004 and examine the experiences of residents caught up its failings.

Veiling and Visibility in the City: The Hijab and Public Space in Finland

Almila, A-M.
(University of the Arts London)

Hijab - female ‘Islamic’ veiling - has been often violently debated in Europe for over two decades, resulting in many academic studies. However, the relations between social spaces and veiling practices remain largely unexplored. Based on ethnographic research in Finland, I analyse the hijab in Finnish social spaces. Drawing on Lefebvre’s theory of space, I claim that dress styles are profoundly connected to the spatial and material characteristics of cities, and therefore follow logics inherent to that space. In the dialectics of how dress and space ‘fit’ or do not fit, a dress style following a different spatial logic to the norm is in conflict with surrounding space and so will seem ‘foreign’ and ‘unsuitable’ to those following local dress and spatial codes. Such processes apply to Arabian full-body veils in the Finnish context. Finland’s so-called ‘architecture of transparency’ demands certain kinds of visibility from the ‘users’ of public space. This constructs certain kinds of veiling as ‘dishonest’ and ‘suspicious’. This type of architecture also creates many opportunities for surveillance, making face-veiling Muslim women problematically visible in the Finnish public sphere. Muslim women themselves are highly conscious of the high visibility of their attire, and seek to manage it by attempting either to reduce visibility completely or embracing it and self-consciously drawing attention to themselves. I explore the subtle ways in which space, dress and identity combine to create feelings of security and insecurity among Muslim women, drawing attention to their forms of ‘dress agency’ within often challenging socio-spatial conditions.


Snaith, B.
(City University London)

The physical changes wrought by the 2012 Olympics and Olympic Legacy in the Lower Lea Valley are intended to improve quality of life for the ethnically diverse, deprived communities living there. This is to be achieved in part through the creation of a major new ‘community parkland’, the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. People from ethnic minorities have been found to be underrepresented as users of parks and other green spaces across the UK, at a greater level than can be explained by income alone. In some cases, as at Victoria Park adjacent the Olympic site, underrepresentation is extreme. Limited research to date has proposed several hypotheses: ethnic variations in normative cultural practices; racist attitudes and territorial behaviour in the public realm at large; or structural discrimination providing less quality greenspace in poor areas, and more ethnic minorities in those areas. While seeking inclusion, exclusionary values are nonetheless embedded by elite groups in production and management of UK parks, supporting the “playing out of unequal social relations” that determine people’s rights to public space. (Massey 2005). I will draw on theorists Bourdieu, Foucault, Lefebvre, Mayol, Massey and others, and present new empirical findings from field work in the Lower Lea Valley. This paper evidences the cultural values embedded in UK spatial practices, their exclusionary nature, along class and ethnic dimensions, and will reflect on the importance of cultural consciousness in ensuring equitable provision of spatial resources in our increasingly multicultural cities.
‘Your Place or Mine’: An Examination of Nigerian Incorporation in Los Angeles and Dublin’s Cityspace

Stout, V.  
(Trinity College Dublin)

‘Your Place or Mine’, is a snapshot of Nigerian lived experiences in two cityspaces; Los Angeles and Dublin. This presentation explores how Nigerian immigrants incorporate in these two cities. During the recent spike in immigration in both Ireland and the United States; national governments sought to control and limit border crossings and immigrant rights. However, parallel to the tightening of borders and other anti-immigrant efforts, urban planners and urban theorists state that diversity is an important factor that makes a cityspace desirable economically and domestically (Sandercock 1997). Consequently, immigrants are both celebrated and discriminated against simultaneously. Keith and Cross (1993) stated that although ‘diversity’ is considered a significant part of the essence of the postmodern city, the actual minorities are often ignored. This raises serious problems for Nigerian immigrants who arrive in these urban areas. Even if diversity plays an important role for the urban area as a whole, having both the status of an immigrant and the ‘black other’ (Wright 2004) creates obstacles and challenges that demand various strategies to incorporate within the cityspace.

This presentation will explore why and how Nigerian immigrants want to be a part of their cityspaces or why some decide to stay distance from this environment. In addition, examine how they manoeuvre around a rapidly changing city, even if they do not desire to incorporate within it. Finally, it will investigate the different dynamics of how other ethnicities affect the Nigerians immigrant experience and the importance of ‘diversity’ in their daily lives.

Culture, Media, Sport and Consumption  
CONFERENCE AUDITORIUM 2

‘Life in and out of Bounds’: The Performance of Identity on an English University Basketball Team

Cherrington, J.  
(Sheffield Hallam University)

In the last half century sport and society have undergone major changes which have transformed the way we live our lives (Bauman, 2000). These new social configurations, it is alleged, are slowly detaching us from rational ways of thinking and and alert us to some significant changes that have occurred throughout the latter half of the 20th century, including the rise of conspicuous consumption, the increased efficiency of late capitalism, globalisation, and a growing scepticism about modern ideals. For Blackshaw (2002), the implications of these changes are profound, as scholars are being challenged to find a whole new sociological vocabulary that is capable of explaining a world that is characterised by contingency, ambivalence and pastiche.

However, existing analyses of postmodern sport have often focused on macro or structural levels of change; overlooking the ways in which these postmodernity may be manifest in the expression of everyday identities. Using empirical data from a study around university basketball, this presentation will addresses the complex and often contradictory relationship between basketball and its associated cultural practices. In so doing, attention is paid to the increasing importance of postmodern and post-structural interpretations of sport, while exploring the ways in which local sporting identities are performed, consumed and contested. As such, the article not only contributes fresh empirical data to the study of contemporary social identities, but addresses the lack of research which focuses specifically on sport and everyday life (Cherrington, 2012).

Andy Murray: Wimbledon Champion, National Hero! Exploring Discourses of Sport and Nationhood in the Press

Reid, I.A.  
(University of Stirling)

The relationship between sport and nationhood is prominent in sociological analyses of sport. Scholars have considered how media representations of sport contribute to and sustain both hegemonic and alternative discourses of nationhood and identity in multination-states. In this regard, sport in the UK is significant. In each of the home nations, sport is an established cultural sphere around which separate national identities (English, Scottish, Northern Irish, or Welsh) are celebrated, rather than a unified sense of an imagined British community. This paper will examine the discourses of nationhood associated with one international sports figure, tennis player Andy Murray. In his media engagements Murray has acknowledged he is both Scottish and British, therefore articulating that these can be
complementary, not contradictory, expressions of nationhood. Nevertheless, in certain contexts nationhood may be depicted as contradictory or alternative. In Scotland, the current debate concerning independence provides an important context for understanding discussions of sport and nationhood. Drawing on media coverage associated with Murray’s victory at the Wimbledon Championships (July 2013), the paper will probe the following questions: (1) Did media narratives associated with Andy Murray depict complementary or contradictory expressions of nationhood? (2) What social, cultural and historical metaphors of nationhood were mobilised in media accounts? (3) In what ways did political debates concerning the trajectory of Scottish nationhood permeate media coverage of this British - Scottish occasion? An eclectic theoretical framework that recognises nationhood as both a cultural and political phenomenon underpins the analysis.

The Bouldering Body: A Sensuous Sociology

Hughes, C., Sparkes, A.C.
(Edge Hill University)

Informed by recent developments in the sociology of the senses, the purpose of this presentation is to explore the methodological and representational dilemmas of engaging with sensuous data. It does so by drawing on data generated from an ethnographic study of a type of rock climbing known as ‘bouldering’. The findings from the study will be presented in the form of a somatic layered account. To illuminate how the senses operate in combination to shape a specific kind of bouldering identity via the somatic work involved in this activity, a number of key themes are identified for discussion. These include the following: choosing climbing shoes, negotiating climbing partners, cultivating hand callouses’, choosing climbing routes, and ingraining specific choreography. Various theoretical issues are discussed, such as, the paradoxical and dialectical nature of the senses, the embodiment and emplacement of sense and the performativity of the sensing self. From such performativity, the presentation will problematize traditional methodologies and forms of representation whilst suggesting possibilities for further sensuous scholarship.

Families and Relationships 1

Enduring Love? Understanding Couple Relationships in the 21st Century

Gabb, J., Fink, J.
(The Open University)

Who and how we love may be changing but our desire to be in a relationship endures. 70% of households are still headed up by married couples and many heterosexual and same-sex couples are staying together for significant periods of time. In the Enduring Love? project (2011-2013) we have been exploring how couples experience, understand and sustain their long-term relationships, with particular attention to the impact of gender, generation, sexuality and parenthood. This large scale empirical study provides fresh insight on the lives, loves and lores of couples in contemporary Britain. Data from the online survey (n=5445) and qualitative multiple methods with couples (n=50) draw attention to the diversity of relationship experience, calling into question simple understandings of ‘the
couple’. In this paper we will explore the ways in which findings provoke us to rethink what constitutes a couple (dyadic) relationship and its slippage into, and conflation with, cultural understandings of coupledom and the ‘couple norm’.

Can ‘we’ Ever be Equal? Exploring Equality in Couple Relationships

McQueen, F.
(University of Edinburgh and Centre for Research into Family and Relationships)

Sociological theory has claimed that equality within couple relationships can be: used as a barometer of social change; is incongruent with the goal of obtaining a happy family life; or is vital to an ideal form of personal relationship. This theoretical work refers to equality, and specifically gender equality, as a social principle, but little is said about how this might function in practice. This study found that once the principle of equality is applied in the stratified, complex and emotionally charged business of everyday lives, its clarity of meaning is lost, leaving a multitude of competing definitions left to be battled out as to whether two people really are, or ever can be, equal within their couple relationship. This ESRC funded doctoral research employing a mixed methods design, including in depth interviews, focuses on how individuals understand their couple relationships, including how equality is conceptualised and negotiated. A personal sense of ‘feeling equal’ is consistently reported to be of paramount importance rather than more easily measurable factors such as the division of labour or allocation of resources. This suggests that when examining equality within personal lives, an emphasis on the distance between equality as principle and practice is required, including the effects of gendered understandings of equality and the multiple ways this can impact on the practice of being and crucially of ‘feeling equal’.

‘It’s like Yin and Yang…’: The Experiences of Young Same-Sex Couples in Long-term Relationships

Pearson, D.
(The Open University)

This paper discusses initial insights and findings from my PhD project exploring the experiences of young same-sex couples in long-term relationships. The study utilised an in-depth qualitative methodology consisting of written diaries, emotion maps and individual and couple interviews with 15 young same-sex couples, aged between 20-35 years old. My analysis is focused on how these couples construct and understand their relationships, paying particular attention to relationship practices, such as the division of labour in the home, and relationship rules surrounding monogamy and couple boundaries. To explore the ways these practices and rules serve to maintain their couple relationships, I will examine the significance of the participants’ relational biographies and the socio-cultural contexts of their lived experiences, including an increasing awareness and acceptance of LGB individuals in the UK, civil partnerships and the prospect of same sex marriage.

Bodies, Forenames, Surnames and the Display of Gender

Pilcher, J.
(University of Leicester)

My argument is that the emerging field of the sociology of naming should be developed to recognize the importance of bodies in social practices of naming. I discuss both forenames and surnames but my principal focus is on surname choices by women at marriage and about the surnames of children because of their role in the constitution and display of family relationships which are gendered. I propose the conceptual tool of ‘embodied-named identity’ to illuminate naming as an important social process through which men’s embodied identities are legitimized over women’s, both within and beyond family relationships.

Names and Identity: The ‘Doing’ of Family

Thwaites, R.
(University of York)

As Luxton and Fox have argued, the word ‘family’ is often used with an assumption that its meaning is uncomplicated (2009: 3). However, what we have called ‘family’ in Britain has changed over time and today people will define family
differently, depending upon their own context. One way of delineating and keeping track of families in Britain is through names: the norm of one family unit sharing one name delineates relationships of care and protection. A family tree can be created and ‘the family’ traced back in time through genealogy. However, family is also about those in the present who are close to you and are meaningful in some way. Fitting oneself into a family can be seen as a highly collectivist activity, wanting to keep relational bonds in the present (as well as links with past and future members of the family) alive. Yet there is also a narrative of finding the self within the family, which is a more individualistic stance. It is this varied and complex construction of family and family identity that I want to consider. Participants in my wider study on women, identity, and naming decisions on marriage use names to create and ‘do’ family in their own lives. I will examine participant ideas of biological and social family, respectability and names, and how children fit into naming decisions.

‘I Can Remember My Mum...’: Memories of Household Work across Generations

Kettle, J.
(University of Sheffield)

This paper considers how two generations of related women use memories of household work in their narrative accounts of themselves as mothers, daughters and wives/partners. I draw on my ongoing doctoral research conducted with adult mothers and daughters in the UK about their experiences of household work throughout their lives, in which memories are constructed through the active process of remembering in an interview context, and separately in the production of reflective diaries. Recognising memory as profoundly social, I consider how the memories recounted by a woman about her mother’s household work can be shaped relationally, for example through family stories, and in terms of available discourses, such as the idealised ‘cooking from scratch’. My research was inspired by the frequent references to women’s mothers in studies of housework and foodwork, and I also draw on this existing literature to provide examples of memories in accounts of household work. Following Stephanie Lawler (2000), I address the limitations of accounts which privilege a daughter’s memories of her mother’s experiences and reflect on the benefits of a multi-generational approach to memories of household work, considering how understandings of a generalised other of a particular generation can be contrasted with individual family memories. I look at how the past can be constructed in the service of present identity work in my participants’ narratives, and how far this work is supported or undermined when multiple generations are involved.

Frontiers 1

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 01

1944 AND ALL THAT: SOCIOLOGY AND THE EMANCIPATORY PROMISE OF VEGANISM

In 1944, Donald Watson and a small group of colleagues formed the world’s first Vegan Society and coined the word vegan. Although ‘vegan’ practices and philosophies have a much longer history, this founding moment is significant for its envisioning of radical social change, based on a fundamental reordering of human relations with other animals. Watson and colleagues presciently highlighted the interrelationship between chronic human disease, environmental degradation, global hunger and the human exploitation of other animals. In the intervening 70 years, scientific evidence has accumulated to support the vegan case, yet veganism has hitherto been a marginal concern within sociology, despite some consideration of human-nonhuman relations and the interdisciplinary rise of critical animal studies.

The four papers in this panel challenge that marginal status and represent a critical, sociological and ethical engagement with the emancipatory promise of veganism. The presenters deploy sociological analysis in a range of empirical domains which: examine veganism as a radical social movement; challenge social policy to respond to public health and environmental consequences of animal-based diets; advance our understanding of the social context of transitions to vegan eating practices; and reflect critically on challenges of ethical review processes that deploy problematical and, paradoxically, unethical assumptions about sociological empirical work on veganism. Emerging from a context of massive human violence, the modern vegan movement pointed towards the impossibility of enduring peace and social justice, as long as war continued to be waged against other animals. In 2014, this argument is more salient and urgent than ever.
‘Fear of Reprisals’: Ethical Review, Empirical Work and Veganism

Peggs, K., Smart, B., Burridge, J.  
(University of Portsmouth)

In this paper we explore the assumptions inherent in, and the potential effects of, university ethical review processes on critical sociological empirical work on veganism. The catalyst for the discussion in this paper comes from comments made on a proposed research project that seeks to explore the complexities of motivations for veganism, to examine marketing strategies for vegan products, to investigate national trends in veganism, and to compare and contrast the perspectives of veganism in terms of gender, class and other pertinent social divisions.

In this paper we engage with some of the challenges of university ethical review processes that deploy problematical and, paradoxically, unethical assumptions. The problematics discussed cover areas such as what is deemed to be ‘acceptable’ research, assumptions about the need for ‘neutrality’, the ‘permissibility’ of critical sociological empirical work that advocates on behalf of nonhuman animals, and presumptions about the ‘effects’ of specific forms of research on the subjects of the research and on the reputation of universities. The paper will conclude with a discussion in which we invite members of the audience to share any experiences they have of university ethical review (or associated) processes concerning projects on veganism.

Vegan Transition and the Relationship Context

Twine, R.  
(University of Glasgow)

Set in the context of social science work examining transitions to low carbon practices this paper explores the relationship context of vegan transition. Drawing upon interviews with 40 vegans in three UK cities: Manchester, Lancaster and Glasgow, it explores the meanings of veganism and animal consumption with a specific interest in how eating practices perform allied practices and identities of social life. Here I follow the conceptualization by Shove et. al. (2012) of practices as comprised of the following three elements – competence, materials and meaning. Their general argument is that ‘practices emerge, persist, shift and disappear when connections between elements of these three types are made, sustained or broken’ (2012, p14-5 original emphasis). This paper considers how the embedding of practices across relationships shapes their extent of normalisation and illuminates pathways toward, or blocks against, ‘recruitment’; and therefore contributes to debates within practice theory. In the context of a hegemonic and gendered meat eating culture how do lived alternative food norms in the shape of vegan practice raise tensions and conflict within familial and friendship relationships? How are such conflicts negotiated? Do they act to constrain or diffuse low carbon food transitions? Finally I hope this work will contribute to the nascent scholarly consideration of the everyday lived realities of vegan or vegetarian practice (Potts & Parry 2010; Merriman 2010).

The Greatest Cause on Earth: The Historical Formation of Veganism as an Ethical Practice

Cole, M.  
(The Open University)

In this paper, I present a discourse analysis of archival documents from the UK Vegan Society, focussing on the first five years of The Vegan magazine. It was at this point that hitherto dispersed ethical practices were forged as a recognisable moral code named ‘veganism’, towards which individual ‘vegans’ could orient themselves in the context of a community of ethical practice. The Society itself, the ethical practice of veganism, and the very word vegan, aimed to instantiate a new form of ethical relationship between human and nonhuman animals. This process therefore bears interpretation in light of Foucault’s model of ethics, the ‘ethical fourfold’. Briefly, analysis reveals that the ‘ethical substance’ of veganism connotes a re-evaluation of the relationship between humans and other animals, including a reconfiguring of corporeal desires for food, etc. The ‘mode of subjectivation’ is manifested in the relationship of individual vegans to The Vegan Society and to other vegans through it, as a moral community that constitutes veganism as a way of life. The ‘ethical work’, by which vegans work on themselves in order to become ethical subjects, appears, for instance, in practical advice on cultivating dietary and other habits that are non-exploitative and coping with a wider society hostile to veganism. The ‘telos’, or the moral goal towards which vegans orient themselves, emerges as not only the ideal of living a compassionate and non-exploitative life, but also the utopian ambition for a wholesale reordering of human-nonhuman animal relations founded on the renunciation of exploitation.
Veganism, Health, and the Social Construction of Food Choices

Stewart, K.
(University of Nottingham)

This paper focuses on how the sociological study of one prominent practice associated with veganism (plant-based diets) can and should be part of the sociological study of health, illness and disease prevention. There is increasing acknowledgement of the health benefits that could result from reducing the consumption of meat and dairy and transitioning towards plant-based diets in the developed world. Food related ill health costs the NHS approximately £6 billion annually, largely due to unhealthy diets rather than food borne disease, with overconsumption of animal products and under consumption of plant foods key.

The paper presents a discourse analysis of four major online sources of public health information in the UK (NHS Choices, Change 4 Life, Patient.co.uk and the British Nutrition Foundation), which show plant-based diets are constructed as marginal and dangerous in the structure and language of advice provided, not only failing to capitalise on the health benefits associated with the vegan diet, but actively rejecting them. This manifests a wider sociological insight into the social construction of food choices. The paper will further discuss how a sociological engagement with this emphasis on the construction of the marginal status of plant-based foods does, however, mean that they can also be reconstructed as normal, routine and pleasurable, and how a positive reframing of the nutritional, aesthetic and economic value of plant-based meals and diets could play a central role in the prevention of diet-related chronic disease.

Frontiers 2

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 15

SOCIOLOGY PRIZE WINNERS EVENT

This event will celebrate the success and impact of the journal, Sociology.

Two highly successful papers from Sociology will be presented and discussed. Firstly, one of the BSA/Sage Sociology prize winning papers for 2013 - from Stephen Kemp (University of Edinburgh). Secondly, one of the most downloaded paper from Sociology - presented by Diane Reay (University of Cambridge). Both authors will present the substantive content of their papers, as well as reflecting upon the impact and development of the papers since publication. The presentations will be followed by a Q and A session.

The BSA/SAGE prize for 2014 will also be announced at the event.

The event will also give delegates an opportunity to meet with Sociology authors, members of the editorial board and some of the editorial team within a semi-formal setting, and to hear the announcement of the SAGE prize for Sociology 2014.

Reflecting on Interests in Social Science

Kemp, S.
(University of Edinburgh)

In this presentation I will discuss the arguments made in my article ‘Evaluating Interests in Social Science’ and reframe them from the perspective of social scientific inquiry. This will mean considering whether notions of ‘real interests’ and ‘contradictory interests’ are conducive to successful sociological inquiry or not. To explore these issues I will be considering debates around the work of Steven Lukes as well as the critical realist framework developed by Margaret Archer. I will be questioning aspects of their work and recommending that inquirers adopt an approach to interests derived from the work of John Holmwood.

Degrees of Inequality: Revisiting Class and Race in Higher Education

Reay, D.
(University of Cambridge)

Thirteen years ago, I wrote about working class, higher education choice processes, focusing on how working class students, across differences of race, negotiate higher education, before analysing the meanings they ascribe to higher education, and specifically the divisions within it. The article emphasized both growing stratification within the working classes and growing stratification within the university sector, trends I return to in this paper. Other aspects of the
article that have retained wide academic appeal were its Bourdieusian analysis, its focus on the psycho-social, and its emphasis on the intersectionalities of class and race. But the main reason the original paper has withstood the test of time is that the problems of social class and race in HE have proved to be intractable. In the article I wrote about conceptions of ‘the good university’ but such conceptions have become even more racialised and classed in the intervening period as polarisation and segregation within higher education have grown. I discuss all these issues, drawing on the original data as well as more recent research evidence. Finally, I examine why growing class and racial diversity in higher education has not resulted in a more socially just system, and explore what a fairer system in terms of race and class might look like.

Lifecourse

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 07

The Unfolding Lives of Homeless Women Living in Ireland

Sheridan, S.
(Trinity College Dublin)

My doctoral study longitudinally builds upon a previous qualitative investigation into homeless women in Ireland. The study, which was conducted between 2009-2011, was led by Dr Paula Mayock of Trinity College Dublin. I worked as research assistant on the project. This study consisted of in-depth, life history interviews with sixty women experiencing homelessness, as well as more than a hundred hours of ethnographic observation.

This doctoral research set out to track and re-interview the same sixty women. A central plank to this phase of follow-up data collection was to ascertain how women move through, and out of, homelessness over time and how this affects their identities and sense of self. To date, forty of the original sixty women were successfully tracked and engaged in a qualitative, in-depth interview. Following from the previous wave of data collection, ethnographic observation was again carried out across five service sites in Dublin city over the course of 12 months.

Through the forty follow-up interviews, it emerged that 17 women (28% of original sample) had successfully exited homelessness and were living in stable housing. Seven women (12%) were living in long-term homeless accommodation, and the remaining 17 women interviewed (28%) were still homeless or living in highly insecure accommodation. This paper will not only breakdown and analyse the mechanisms and strategies inherent in these housing or homelessness transitions, but will also consider the impact these transitions have had on their identity and in particular, their conceptualisation of traditional gender roles, including motherhood.

What, When, Why? Sociality, Lifecourse and Female Body Modification

Tazzymann, A.
(University of York)

Body modification is not engaged in at random. Specific practices are begun and carried out at specific points within a woman’s life. Body modification regimes are not static but are continually developing as an individual ages. Body modification practices, from hair removal and makeup to dieting and plastic surgery, are the tools and means which individuals employ to try and create the self-aesthetic they wish to display to others. Based upon thirty life-history interviews undertaken for PhD research, this paper will argue that body modification is a social phenomenon and its practice is significantly determined by social contexts. Contexts change as life course progresses as do bodily realities, priorities, feelings of agency and aesthetic expectations. Different settings are created which require different demands, and this paper will argue that it is this sociality which determines women’s body modification practices and their regime developments through their life course.

Lives on the Ocean Wave: Seafaring Biographies before and after 1989

Kremakova, M.
(University of Warwick)

How do individuals reconcile the challenges of rapid socio-economic change with their plans, dreams, family life and important life events? Who are the winners and losers of globalisation and marketisation of labour? What do the lifecourses of different generations reveal about the changing meanings of employment in people’s lives?
Wednesday 23 April 2014 16:30 - 18:00
PAPER SESSION 3

This paper takes and addresses these globally-relevant questions from a postsocialist angle, through the findings of a qualitative study of working lives in the Bulgarian shipping industry. The study (conducted 2008 - 2012) compares the personal and professional trajectories of three generations of workers born between 1929 and 1989, through 65 biographical interviews, biographical literature, fiction, documentary film and ethnographic observation.

After 1989, the shipping industries of Eastern Bloc countries underwent the internalisation and marketisation which had began elsewhere half a century earlier. Seafarers were among the first Eastern-European professionals to enter the global labour market. Rigid state control was replaced with political and economic freedom - but, simultaneously, growing socio-economic insecurities destroyed the social safety-net. Working lives became less strictly regulated, but so did working conditions and social and employment security. This opened possibilities for the youngest and best qualified, but limited employment chances and disrupted the working lives of older, less qualified, more risk-averse workers and those with family commitments or imperfect health. The pre-1989 life-long employment patterns stand in stark contrast to fragmented post-1989 careers, but the study reveals many other, more nuanced lifecourse patterns.

Resilience in an Ageing Society

Welsh, E.M., Chappell, A.  
(Buckinghamshire New University)

There has been considerable growth in academic and policy literature about the concept of resilience, how policy interventions can develop community capital to stimulate and sustain it and the potentially damaging impact of economic recession on individual, familial and community resilience. In this paper, drawing on our current research, we aim to contribute to the development of a sociology of resilience by exploring the contextual aspects of resilience from the perspective of older people.

In the UK the proportion of people aged 65+ is currently 1 in 6 and by 2050 this is expected to reach 1 in 4. Many of those aged 65+ have lived through enormous social changes - changes in family formation, women's role in society, and mass migration. Within the context of social change we will explore the meaning of resilience for older people giving voice to the multi-layered, complex aspects of resilience in an ageing society. In our research to date we have carried out life history interviews, participant observations and focus groups in two different settings in the south east of England and this data will allow us to examine the ways in which older people perform resilience in their everyday lives.

Several themes emerge from our research including 'appreciation', 'compromise' and 'beginnings'. In this paper we will explore these in relation to the role of families and relationships over the life course.

Medical, Health and Illness 1
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 02

Medical Regulation: Ensuring the Safer Doctor?

Chamberlain, M.  
(Loughborough University)

The paper outlines how contemporary changes in medical regulation have challenged several sociological orthodoxies surrounding medical governance pertaining to, firstly, the role of the public and other health and social care professions in the regulation of doctors, and secondly, how social scientists have traditionally conceptualised contemporary trends in the relationship between the medical profession, the public and the state. The paper argues that it is important for social scientists interested in the study of medical regulation to remember that current developments in the governance of doctors must be analysed within the broader socio-economic-political context. Recent reforms in medical governance are to no small measure bound up with a broader shift in how 'good governance' is conceptualised and operationalized under neo-liberal mentalities of rule as the state seeks to ever more better identify and manage medical risk. The paper explores the consequences of this position for the medical profession and the future of medical governance in the UK.
Clinical Trails: Surgeons’ Accounts of Cosmetic Surgery ‘Tourism’

Holliday, R., Cheung, O., Bell, D., Jones, M., Probyn, E.
(University of Leeds)

In this paper we explore the narratives of cosmetic surgeons participating in cosmetic surgery ‘tourism’ (CST). We argue that surgeons sometimes struggle to ‘account for’ their specialism, given its often highly negative representation. This negative image is frequently compounded when cosmetic surgery is associated with international medical travel – something in which other medical specialisms and even cosmetic surgeons’ own national professional organisations have sometimes been complicit (see Gimlin 2013). Surgeons emphasise the ‘holistic’ treatment of patients and foreground their own emotional labour and ‘hospitality’ (Ormond, 2013) as central to reimagining CST as valuable practice. They also downplay financial gains – sometimes made highly visible in CST via cash transactions in specific currencies – and by distancising themselves from commercial activities through the use of ‘agents’ or other intermediaries. In addition, surgeons in some countries conceptualise their practice as strongly serving the national interest, keeping medical skills at the technological ‘cutting edge’ as well as contributing to GDP through expenditure on both treatments and tourism. This paper considers the ways in which the ‘spoiled’ identities are refigured and re-evaluated in different national contexts.

Medicine, Health and Illness 2
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 10

When is a Patient Not a Patient? How is a Professional, Professional? The Multiple Uses of the MDT Meeting

Banks, T.
(Cardiff University)

Acquired brain injury rehabilitation is often highly complex, individualised and involves intervention from a large variety of specialisations such as occupational therapy, psychology and physiotherapy. This is referred to as a multi-disciplinary team approach. In order to co-ordinate care, the team will conduct regular meetings. This is to ensure that the patient is being appropriately treated. But there is also significantly more going on in this setting. Drawing on an ethnographic study of an NHS long term rehabilitation hospital, I explore the role of the weekly multi-disciplinary team (MDT) meeting. Using frameworks suggested by Erving Goffman, I will consider the more subtle enactments that are performed alongside more overt organisational practices. I will investigate the various ways that it is used by the different participants, how certain performances are played out, how strategies are employed and how, through negotiated strategies, the patient is (re)configured to find a consensus position. I will analyse how these practices come to construct the patient and how this impacts on the future trajectory of their illness career, how it can determine whether they “pass” to the next stage of rehabilitation and how they are moved into a position ready for disposal. I will conclude by considering the role the meeting plays for the staff in maintaining the structures and operations that allow the status quo to be maintained.

Aligning Patient Desire with the Organisation of a Surgical Trial

Whybrow, P.
(Newcastle University)

This paper presents findings from a qualitative sub-study conducted as part of a randomized controlled trial (RCT). RCTs often struggle to recruit to target so nested qualitative studies can help to improve recruitment and highlighting any issues that emerge. The OPEN trial compares the outcomes of two surgical interventions for bulbar urethral stricture, which affects about 1 in 500 men and is a common cause of urination difficulty. Interviews were conducted with patients (N=18) to explore their reasons for accepting or declining trial participation, and with clinicians (N=15) to explore trial acceptability.

From speaking with patients it was found that many of the men prefer to conceal their conditions from others because it involves the penis and urination. The private self-management of their disease means that men often postpone medical advice until their symptoms are quite severe. Later in their illness trajectory, patients’ desire to help out with the study is at odds with wanting relief from their symptoms and a return to normality. Clinician interviews echoed how engaging patients too late in the referral process typically meant that they were not in equipoise. It is argued that there is currently a disjunction between patient pathways and recruitment process. The majority of recruitment takes place at a point at which patients are least likely to find randomisation acceptable. Although there are practical reasons for
setting up a surgical trial in this way, it is suggested that aligning patient experience with the referral process will improve trial acceptability.

Towards a Sociological Account of Happiness and Wellbeing: Shaping Communities of Practice through Biographical Narratives

Jugureanu, A.
(University of Leicester)

Happiness and wellbeing studies, although a fairly established and popular field in the United States (mainly due to the Positive Psychology movement widely popularised by Martin Seligman and Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi) is only relatively recently gaining momentum within the UK, and indeed in Europe. Contemporary research into social indicators for the monitoring of societal progress has drawn attention to the importance of happiness and wellbeing measures at a national level to complement the more traditional economic measures like GDP. Concurrently, a significant number of organisations are now promoting or researching happiness and wellbeing in the UK (the first country in the Western hemisphere to implement a complementary index to GDP – The Wellbeing Index – for measuring societal ‘progress’). These organisations and the affiliated specialists constitute the focal points of interest for this thesis.

This empirical study – through the analysis of 20 qualitative interviews with key specialists in the field of happiness and wellbeing who work in organisations – seeks to investigate how the field of happiness and wellbeing is defined through and in the biographical narratives of specialists within the field. Furthermore, the study will also examine how experts are legitimated and how their expertise is developed, ascribed, and assumed and why it is that this community of happiness practitioners appeared now and not previously. Moreover, the thesis explores the extent to which happiness studies are premised more on discursive creation than scientific discovery and whether they might simply constitute a repackaged continuation of a previous stream of ideas.

Methodological Innovations

Adaptive Sampling for Migrants in Germany: A Simulation Study

Becher, I.
(Institute for Employment Research)

In absence of high quality sampling frames for migrant populations, many special approaches have been developed. Recently, survey research literature is focused on chain-referral or network procedures. One of them - adaptive sampling (e.g. see Thompson 1996) - not only allows for cost-effective sampling but also for statistical inference from these samples. Only little is known about the usability and properties of such adaptive procedures in the German context. Therefore, we simulate adaptive sampling for migrants in Germany based on a telephone directory containing about 31 mio. entries. We simulate two migrant populations of different sizes in the general population in order to evaluate properties of an adaptive sampling scheme for rare and less rare groups. Using Monte-Carlo simulations of adaptive sampling on these populations, mean and variance of survey characteristics are estimated and compared to simulations of a simple random sample (SRS) from the same sampling frame. Results show that adaptive procedure has many advantages compared to SRS. First, adaptive samples contain about 56% more migrants than SRS of the same size. Second, estimates from adaptive samples have great precision and consistency even for rare populations. Despite larger effectivity and high precision, there is only moderate gain in effective sample sizes for adaptive sampling compared to SRS.

(Im)mobile Methods? Capturing the Complexity of Young People’s Leisure Lives in Cross-cultural Context

Batchelor, S.A., Fraser, A.
(University of Glasgow)

While youth scholars are increasingly cognisant of the global dimensions of youth leisure, there have been few efforts to analyse situated practices and lived meanings across time and space. The research that does exist tends toward quantitative comparison, in which cultural specificities and everyday experiences are minimised. Surprisingly few studies have sought to engage with qualitative approaches in multiple research sites – fewer still have moved beyond Western settings for knowledge production. Our ongoing ESRC-funded study analyses convergences and divergences in youth leisure between Scotland and Hong Kong, building on and developing landmark social research
from the 1960s (Jephcott 1967, 1971). Whilst rooted in these ‘spaces of place’, the methods employed aim to engage
with new geographies of power, identity and mobility thrown up by the emergent ‘spaces of flows’ that compose the
lived experience of global youth culture. The paper will explore key conceptual and methodological issues involved in
conducting qualitative, cross-cultural research on young people’s leisure lives, highlighting the need to blend
traditional, place-based methods with imaginative and creative methodological approaches incorporating visual, digital
and mobile methods.

The Things that Move with Us: Using ‘Object Experiment Books’ to Uncover Mobile, Exceptional, and
Everyday Dynamics in the Lives of Hong Kong Return Migrants

Hui, A.
(Lancaster University)

This paper reflects upon some challenges surrounding methodological approaches to the everyday, exceptional, and
mobile aspects of social lives. The banal and sometimes unnoticed routines of everyday life can be seen to reproduce
its very character and structures, and yet capturing the details of these routines is often challenging. This is
particularly true when it is the exceptional changes in everyday routines that are of primary concern. In addition,
routine and exceptional performances occur, and even move people through, many places and this mobility provides
additional challenges to methodological strategies. Drawing upon a recently-completed study of changes in the
everyday lives of Hong Kong return migrants, this paper outlines how ‘object experiment books’ were designed in
response to these challenges. The experiment books, which were inspired by the use of ‘cultural probes’ and studies
of the material culture of migration, invited participants to complete a set of diverse and creative exercises related to
the travel and use of one important object in their lives. In addition to providing evocative glimpses of where this object
travelled and how it fit into participants’ routines in different places, the books also facilitated detailed conversations in
follow-up interviews. By introducing these books and some of the data they elicited, this paper will reflect upon the
value and challenges of using creative methods and uncertain responses to illuminate the dynamics of human-
material relations and routines during exceptional migrations.

Digital Technologies and Agile Methodologies: An Inter-disciplinary Approach to Research ‘in the Wild’

Butler, D., Holloway, L.
(University of Hull)

This paper draws upon an RCUK Digital Economies research theme-funded project, ‘Creating trust through digital
traceability: sustainable food chains and new ways to connect producers and consumers’. As well as using in-depth,
qualitative methods we are working with computer scientists, and experimenting with what is known in computer
science as an ‘agile’ methodology which involves iterative and incremental development where solutions evolve
through collaboration between inter-disciplinary teams so encouraging rapid and flexible responses to change. In a
commercial software market agile software development has a customer representative; in this case we, the social
scientists have become surrogate ‘clients’ designing and co-creating software, in this case, ‘apps’ which we are
currently testing within networks of food consumers and producers ‘in the wild’, at sites such as the Yorkshire Wolds
Way, farms, shops and markets. Thus the paper has two aims. First, it explores the implications of our emergent
inter-disciplinarity for co-creative and experimental research and second, it examines emergent dilemmas and
problems pursuing with our attempts to allow this research to become experimental and creative.

Rights, Violence and Crime

VIOLENCE AND SOCIETY

How is the Gendering of Domestic Violence Changing?

Walby, S., Towers, J., Francis, B.
(Lancaster University)

There remain persistent disputes about the gendering of domestic violence, despite the naming of the policy field as
‘violence against women and girls’ by the UN and the UK government. Archer claims that survey evidence shows
significant amounts of domestic violence from women to men. Is this true? We analyse data from the Crime Survey
for England and Wales (formerly the British Crime Survey) to examine the varying gender profile of domestic violence. Does the gender profile vary by different forms of violence; by different levels of severity; by different rates of frequency? Is the gender profile changing over time? We examine claims (e.g. Stark) that more severe forms of violence are falling more than less severe forms. Is violence against men falling more than violence against women, or vice versa? How are claims affected by the definitions used, such as, a course of coercive conduct as compared with separate incidents? We offer a provocative and definitive account of the changing gendering of domestic violence in England and Wales today and its implications for gender and social theory.

The History of Violence: Dark Diagnostics and Idealized Modernity

Ray, L.
(University of Kent)

There is a debate in the historical sociology and criminology of violence between those who identify a long term decline and those who find either little change or an exponential increase in violence in modernity. Pinker’s Better Angels is an important intervention although he draws extensively (and controversially) on Elias and historical criminologists. Against the historical decline thesis is view that in modernity the visible and brutal infliction of pain has been replaced by largely invisible and detached callousness. However, this play between the sociological dark diagnoses of modernity and an idealized ‘rise of humanitarianism’ risks obscuring the complex figurations and ambivalences of violence and society. Many explanations of violence are reductionist and under-complex. While violence is often contrasted with social solidarity the two are ambivalently intertwined as Durkheim, Girard and others have attempted to demonstrate. In particular, manifest rates of recorded violence do not give us much insight into its scale and meaning, nor do they enable us to make distinctions between modalities – such as the jouissance of destructiveness as opposed to calculated instrumentality. Moreover an apparent pacification of society can belie underlying memories and traumas of violence with the potential to unleash destructiveness, illustrated in ethnonational civil wars. This presentation suggests the need for a nuanced figurational theory that takes account of the interdependence of social solidarities, gender, the body, emotions and the normativity of violence. Long-term reductions in violence are likely to be linked to addressing dimensions of recognition deficits on material, status and expressive levels.

The School Shootings Researches in the US and the ‘New Paradigm of Violence’

Silva, A.P., Lahuerta, M.
(Universidade Estadual Paulista ‘Júlio de Mesquita Filho’)

This paper has two main objectives: first is to provide an overview of north - american social sciences about the school shootings. This phenomenon grows exponentially since the 1990s and reaches 11 countries worldwide. Moreover in the United States, which has 75% of the total attacks. As a second objective, we argue that this approach does not identify social conflicts inherent to this phenomenon and, consequently, its deeper causes. Also it discards the historical perspective and the analysis of the control crisis in U.S., as well as the changes in socialization since the 1990s, as Ulrich Beck elaborates on his book ‘Risk Society: Towards a New Modernity’. Thus, we research data in some journals of US universities, including Yale University, Harvard and Princeton. There is a vast production about this subject that provides an important information concerned about the profiles of the shooters, the models of the communities to which they belong and some American cultural features that leads to a high potential occurrence of these attacks. However the north-american studies minimize the knowledge of this phenomenon by seeking in a very limited context and basing its results on the fact that there are some psychological and social pathologies. We suggest that this phenomenon is included in a ‘new paradigm of violence’, expression of Michel Wieviorka, that support the comprehension of the violence transformations in post-industrial capitalism.

Muggings, Moral Panic and the Crisis: A Social and Theoretical Construction

Wilson, A.
(Nottingham Trent University)

This paper is based on archive research at the National Archive and the British Library for a British Academy funded project on racist violence by skinheads in the late 1960s. While addressing the issues around violence in this period evidence emerged that challenged some of the claims set out in the seminal text ‘Policing the Crisis’. While there is little disagreement about the fact that young black males became identified as a significant threat it became clear in the course of the research that too little attention was given to the independence of the judiciary and to the role played by ‘maverick’ judges handing out disproportionate sentences. The evidence from government papers suggest that the outspoken response of police officers and harsh sentences imposed by judges were seen as an embarrassment to the government rather than a welcome distraction from the economic problems.
The paper suggests that the harsh responses of judges were driven by mixture of contextual factors and personal failing to appreciate the limitations of punitive sentencing, whether through corporal punishment or lengthy prison sentences, as a deterrent to crime. And that the focus on the crisis presented a conspiratorial view of the authority’s response that is not supported by the documentary evidence.

Science and Technology Studies

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 08

Expertise and the Framing of UK Research Agendas for Food Provisioning

Morris, C., Seymour, S., Spencer, A.
(University of Nottingham)

STS has a longstanding interest in how scientific research agendas are devised and by whom, including how technical and social perspectives are negotiated. In this paper, part of a broader project funded by the Leverhulme Trust, we draw on debates about expertise and the relationships between ‘expert’ and ‘lay’ knowledge to examine the UK experience of research agenda framing in the multi-disciplinary field of food provisioning. We consider the work of Collins and Evans (2007) which places ‘contributory expertise’ and ‘core-set’ communities at the heart of scientific agenda setting vis-a-vis that of Wynne (2003) which argues for a wider public epistemology. We also draw on the work of Irwin and Michael (2003) which suggests that contributory experts put forward arguments which weave together ‘expert’ and ‘lay’ elements in what they characterise as ‘discursive promiscuity’.

In particular we examine food provisioning research agendas in terms of the types of expertise being deployed and their relative importance, the arguments being mobilised, including both technical and social elements and the spatial imaginaries engaged with, especially with respect to the key processes of problem identification and solution selection. The empirical base we draw on consists of national (e.g Royal Society 2009; Foresight 2011) and research policy statements, UK research programmes – in particular the RCUK Global Food Security Programme - information from interviews with a range of key stakeholders together with a web-based exploration of food provisioning initiatives carried out in UK research institutions.

Contested Objects: Evidence, Publics and Boundaries in Open Policy-making

Pallett, H.
(University of East Anglia)

Despite its prominence in British politics as a key rhetorical device for politicians and organising principle of civil service reform, the object of open government (or open policy) remains highly contested and ill-defined. This term has been interpreted both as a threat and an opportunity by advocates of institutionalised attempts by government and scientists to engage citizens in knowledge and decision-making. Drawing on detailed qualitative research using interviews, document analysis and participant observation, this talk will consider attempts by actors in and around the government-funded public participation body ‘Sciencewise’ to adopt this dominant discourse to their advantage and to become actively involved in processes of meaning-making and boundary work around the term. Informed by an understanding of the intellectual, political and geographical roots of these most recent commitments to openness in policy and science, the challenges, tactics and motivations of pursuing commitments to democratic engagement through this new object will be discussed. This empirical analysis will feed into a broader exploration of how the object of open government has been translated and become embedded in different contexts, and what its effects are in these diverse settings. To bring up-to-date the now familiar story of the shift from public understanding of science to more institutionalised ‘upstream’ engagement in the UK, the talk will conclude with an assessment of what the current political fashion for ‘openness’ might mean for the future of institutionally orchestrated attempts to involve citizens in science and science policy.

Climate Scepticism Research: What's Missing?

Pearce, W.
(University of Nottingham)

Climate change scepticism has become a much-discussed phenomenon, particularly by those academics and commentators who regard it as a barrier to meaningful policies to tackle carbon emissions. A significant body of academic literature has emerged, seeking to examine various facets of climate scepticism, including their personal
motivations, political affiliations, media prominence, historical context, corporate links, psychological characteristics and scientific accuracy. This paper will review the approaches taken to these questions by academics from different disciplinary backgrounds, and compare the theoretical assumptions which lie behind them. It will also assess the rationales that led to these academic papers being written, both in terms of research questions and methods used to answer them. Results will be contrasted with some opinions voiced by sceptics themselves about the value of such studies and attempts will be made to determine whether any gaps in research may be filled with research that can contribute to lessening a polarisation in the wider societal debate about climate change that has been observed by many academics. There may be room, for example for more ethnographic and interpretative approaches based on working with sceptics rather than making them ‘objects’ of study.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 1

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 03

RACE AND ETHNICITY SUB-STREAM: THE FAR RIGHT

My Enemies Must Be Friends: The American Far Right, Conspiracy Theory, Islam and the Middle East

Winter, A.
(University of Abertay Dundee)

While recent discussion in Britain has focused on Islamophobia on the far and mainstream right, and the relationship between them, the situation in America has been quite different. Following 9/11, Al Qaeda and other groups, as well as the wider Muslim and Arab world began to feature more prominently in American far-right writings and conspiracy theories. While the mainstream right feared (and stoked fear) of Muslims and so-called ‘Islamists’, the far-right saw them as fellow victims and potential allies against the American government and Zionism in war on terror. In this paper, I will examine American far-right writings and conspiracy theories concerning the Middle East, Muslim and Arab world, as well as attempted alliances with Al Qaeda and others. In addition to this, I will look at post-9/11 attempts by conservative commentators to analyze such conspiracy theories and attempted alliances in order to retrospectively construct and prove a relationship, alliance or conspiracy between the far-right and ‘Islamists’ throughout the post-war period, and the limitations of such work. I will argue that attempts to form alliances have been unidirectional, coming from the far-right. Moreover, these attempts and the conspiracy theories are an extension and adaptation of existing far-right anti-Semitism and anti-government enmity, and reflect crises on the far-right, which relate to wider developments in the conservative movement, American foreign policy and global hegemony. In addition to this, I will look at how this relates to discussions and debates about ‘race/racism’ in America and far-right Islamophobia in Britain.

The ‘Genderisation of Racism’ and Social Reproduction in Anti-immigration Politics: The Case of the Northern League (Italy)

Scrinzi, F., Farris, S.R.
(University of Glasgow and Goldsmiths, University of London)

The paper focuses on topical developments in the populist radical right (PRR) in Europe: that is, the instrumental mobilisation of gender equality to legitimise anti-immigration claims. Migrants are depicted according to gendered dichotomies: migrant men are portrayed as misogynist and violent, migrant women as victims. While the attempts made by these parties to modernise their public image are increasingly visible in the media, there is a lack of scholarship on their gendered ideology and strategies and of the role played by women in these organisations. This paper draws on two studies of the Northern League party (including an on-going European Research Council grant held by F. Scrinzi), to shed light on the double standard applied to migrant men and women within anti-immigration discourse and politics. We show how this double standard, which we call the ‘genderisation of racism’, is deployed within the party politics and how it is negotiated by female activists. We argue that this is not simply the paternalistic facet of anti-immigration politics, nor a mere electoral strategy: it is also linked to the familistic system that the party supports. Within such a system migrant women play a key role as paid providers of social reproductive work. Combining ethnographic and documentary data, the paper connects in an original way the issue of the gendered anti-immigration politics with recent debates on the international division of care work and gendered migration. Theories of the gendered division of work are used to connect anti-immigration politics, women’s activism and migrant domestic labour.
Centres of Gravity: Attraction, Retention, Segmentation and Sedimentation of Members of ‘Extremist Groups’

Bailey, G.
(University of Leicester)

Much is made of those who join and remain active in groups and parties such as the British National Party (BNP), English Defence League (EDL) and al-Muhajiroun. In particular, where activists end up crossing a line to illegality, and often after parting with the group, their stories are told with reference to ‘radicalisation’. However, many more people have flirtations or short-term affiliations with these groups: according to the BNP’s own figures, as many as 70% of members fail to renew membership in a given year.

This paper, based on doctoral and post-doctoral research which examines both far-right and radical Islamist ‘extremist groups’, examines these processes. I argue that, unlike political scientists and others with a close interest in politics, those attracted to particular forms of politics may have a very basic understanding of what it is they take part in. As involvement deepens, a singular concept will be fleshed out, such that individuals will have to decide whether to remain involved, spend more time active, or stop being active. These decisions will at least partially be based on local understandings of the norms and limits of the movement. Thus, the attitudes and sensibilities of such movements are not best described by a stereotype, but demonstrate a degree of diversity with generational, geographical and historical causes. I argue that responses to these groups that do not take this diversity into account create further problems of marginalisation.

Translating Kurdishness in Diaspora

Demir, I.
(University of Leicester)

Kurds have been present in Europe since the 1980s (see for example, Griffiths 2002; Wahlbeck 1999). They are now a sizable community, and a significant component of many vibrant neighborhoods of European cities. The movement of Kurds from Turkey has been fuelled by the suppression of their cultural and linguistic rights and their forceful displacement from Kurdish villages, as well as their facing multiple forms of deprivation and exclusion in Turkey. They now run transnational community organizations, businesses, and satellite channels; they are increasingly active and involved in the social, cultural and political life of Europe (Demir 2012). Indeed, as Hassanpour & Mojab (2004: 222) also state, ‘the Kurds of Turkey have maintained a hegemonic presence in [European] diaspora politics’. This is because Kurds in Europe have created an alternative diasporic space which has turned them into active transnational agents, enabling them to challenge and disrupt Turkey’s construction of the Kurdish problem, and tell an alternative story about Kurdishness. Gaining rights in Turkey and subverting the hegemonic discourses about Kurds in Turkey rests, partly, on how well the Kurdish diaspora can build transnational networks in Europe (and elsewhere) and thus mobilize to gain influence and recognition. Moreover, the translation of Kurdish culture, rebellion and struggle (both to Europeans and to their second and third generation) and the transnational battles of Kurds are closely interrelated. My paper will examine such processes by discussing the findings of my recent ethnographic research.

‘No One Knows about Us’: Identity and Religion in the London Turkish-speaking, Kurdish, Alevi Community

Jenkins, C., Cetin, U.
(University of Westminster)

This paper is about the intersection of identity, religion and settlement in a transnational migrant community. The Alevis are a relatively recent migrant group of political refugees from Turkey, of predominantly Kurdish origins and living in London since the 1980s. Whilst the first generation progressed through sweatshops in Hackney to run their own businesses, the second generation youth experienced identity issues, with a high suicide rate among young men causing concern. Alevi youth defined their identity negatively in religious terms as ‘not Muslim’ amongst other things and were uncertain about what it meant to be Alevi. They spoke eloquently of their experiences of being bullied at school with no one knowing about their religion and their resultant disaffection. They said if only someone could teach about Alevism in schools… and so began the story of a unique collaboration between the Alevi community, University
of Westminster and a primary and secondary school in London to produce and run RE lessons in their local schools. In the process, much was learnt about the experience of the first generation and their oppression in Turkey, which made it almost impossible for them to practice their religion publicly, with ramifications for the next generation in understanding their identity and place. In the UK, Alevi are invisible under presumptions they must be Muslim and familial reluctance to express this identity publicly. The Alevi lessons had a profound impact and raise interesting issues around identity, religion and community which we address.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 3
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 18

Ethnic and Educational Identities: The Case of Youth with a Foreign Background in Brussels
Develeeshouwer, P.
(Université Libre de Bruxelles)

School institution, as an important socialisation body, plays a big role in identities constructions. The institution is differentiated and segregated. It makes pupils live very different daily experiences in school. Thus, the relation to foreign origin changes in function of the educational context and trajectories. To this day, the educational segregated contexts have been the most studied in sociology. This paper analyses the subjective identity of young people with a foreign background and successful educational trajectories. The results come from a mixed methodology: 127 qualitative interviews, 160 questionnaires, mental maps and observation). At the same time this paper underlines a rejection of the stigmatisation suffered by youth with Maghrebi background and a strong use of prejudices leading to detachment practices between different youth categories. The paper uses a relational and strategic definition of ethnicity by shedding new light on theories according to which socially, educationally and spatially relegated youth develops a positive identity by turning the stigma they are assigned. When there is no educational relegation, the stigma is not turned against society but it is used as a tool defining an apophatic identity. Thus, this article questions the role played by the educational institution in the social urban cohesion processes.

Spatialities of Multiculture in Schools and Further Education Colleges
Bennett, K., Neal, S., Cochrane, A., Mohan, G., Kulz, C., Ahmet, A., Connell, K., Jones H.
(University of Leicester)

This paper looks at the significance of space for practices and experiences of multiculture in School 6th Forms and Further Education Colleges. At the heart of this paper is how disciplined college space, expressive space of bodies and affective space mediate identities and everyday, living multiculture, enabled by a temporality shaped by terms, timetables and the special occasions of school life. The paper draws upon research from an ESRC funded project called ‘Living Multiculture: the new geographies of ethnic diversity and the changing formations of multiculture in England’ and is underpinned by fieldwork in Hackney (a borough of London), Milton Keynes (a New Town in South England), and Oadby (a suburb of Leicester in the East Midlands of England). The paper is based upon participant observation in school canteens, corridors and common rooms to consider the spatialities of ordinary, mundane, everyday living multiculture and interviews and repeat in depth discussion groups to explore narratives and experiences of multiculture of young people.

Estimating the Causal Effect of Education on Discrimination
Luxton, G., Buscha, F.
(University of Essex)

We use data from the UK British Social Attitudes Survey 1983-2009 to examine the effect of education on indicators of discrimination and racism. Importantly, we make use of the 1972 Raising of the School Leaving Age (RoSLA) reform to identify the causal effect that education may have on such indicators, using a regression discontinuity design. Our results show that naive OLS estimates describe a negative relation between education and discrimination (more education is related to lower levels of discrimination) whilst using the 1972 RoSLA events as an identifying mechanism suggests that education and discriminatory attitudes are not so connected as is commonly presumed. We comment on the implications of this result in light of contemporary educational policy reforms in Britain.
Lone Parent Students, Risk and Higher Education Decisions

Hinton-Smith, T.
(University of Sussex)

This paper draws on insights from longitudinal, qualitative research (Hinton-Smith 2012a; 2012b) to discuss lone parent university students’ decisions to enter, persist in, or exit early from higher education (HE), exploring the significance of what have been variously conceptualised in identity and life-course literature as ‘pivotal’, ‘trigger’, ‘critical’, ‘fateful’ or ‘epiphany’ moments (Brine and Waller 2004; Crossan et al. 2003; Komulainen 2000; Parr 2000; Leonard 1994). The discussion addresses the precarious position occupied by this group at the apex of risk society anxieties (Taylor-Gooby and Zinn 2006; Beck 1991), as they confront positionally-induced risk (Reay 2003) and debt aversion (Barr 2012; Taylor 2007) in striving to remold their own and their children’s futures. Dual heightening of vulnerability through the impact of far-reaching reform to both student finance and welfare render the challenges to success particularly contemporarily acute. This policy climate raises the stakes of HE participation for lone parents by simultaneously increasing the risks of both undertaking and foregoing a university education. Rhetoric of choice, persistence and resilience can obscure the perceived necessity of surviving in the immediate term, desperation, and lack of choice, that lone parents’ narratives of decision-making processes often relay.

Developed understanding of the importance of ensuring similar good practice in supporting diverse non-traditional students, alongside acknowledging distinct needs, has underpinned contribution to personal development and study skills curricula, teaching and learning development, and widening participation outreach. In particular it is perceived vital that current focus on First Generation Scholars does not eclipse other vulnerable student groups.

Tongue Twisted: Accents, Vocabulary and the Student Experience of First-generation Undergraduates Who are the Daughters of Single Mothers

Gagnon, J.
(University of Sussex)

“I don’t feel like I belong. … I mean, I’m not very well spoken, so sometimes I feel a bit put down when people start using big words, and I think, I don’t – that’s not how I speak. At the same time, I’m an ethnic minority, and in a class full of white people. … I don’t think anyone else in my class could ever fully understand.” Widening participation policies have been created to increase access to higher education for underrepresented students, but once they begin university, how are their student experiences shaped by their background and identity? This paper explores the university experience of the daughters of single mothers who are first generation students through a thematic and theoretical analysis of semi-structured interviews with and reflective writings from 30 students who are currently pursuing or have recently completed an undergraduate degree in the United Kingdom. Specifically, the theme of accents, vocabulary, and knowledge as they impact the student experience will be discussed. “I think they’ll think I’m stupid. … I don’t put my hand up because … I don’t want people to laugh at me. … I don’t speak the same accent.” Data was collected during spring and summer of 2013. This doctoral research examines intersectionalities of gender, socio-economic class, race, and family status as they shape the students’ identities and their university experiences. The theoretical and conceptual frameworks upon which this study is built include feminist theory, intersectionality theory, and the concept of social exclusion.

The Role of University in Creating Risk Takers

Sykes, G.
(University of Leicester)

This research critically unpacks everyday experiences of university students. It explores these feelings, behaviours and situations in terms of risk. Adopting a participatory approach the research combines traditional techniques with new innovative methods developed with co-researchers. Focusing predominantly on home undergraduate students, the project examines student perceptions and experiences of risk associated with university; identity, emotions and transitions.

This research has discovered the role of institutions in risky behaviour, even before arrival. The expected student identity plays a huge role in how risks are negotiated and performed, online and offline, by students. The majority felt university culture breeds risk and risk takers, facilitating participation through the normalisation and promotion of particular risks. University was described as a safe bubble; ‘what was risky outside was exciting within it’, as students
believed the university would ‘look after’ them. Students described an overwhelming sense of freedom, increasing exposure to and opportunity to take risks but also feelings of security and protection by university students through group involvement but also university services. However, the types of risk were expected to vary according to the University City and according to your stage in the university passage.

This research is significant as it will extend work on transitions, identity and risk and university students whilst informing universities and other educational bodies with an understanding of the impact of the fee rise, their students’ experiences, the need for student services and the aspirations of their students.

**Theory**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 14**

**HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE SOCIOLOGY**

**A Changing or Changed Society?: Neo-colonial New Zealand**

*Curtis, B.*  
*(University of Auckland)*

This paper will explore evidence that New Zealand has been experiencing a neo-colonial trajectory dating from the end of the Long Boom (in the late 1960s). Neo-colonialism is more commonly associated with failed and struggling nation-states in Africa, SE Asia and the Americas. Indeed immediately prior to the end of the Long Boom, Baran and Sweezy (1966: 12) briefly surveyed the potential for less developed countries to follow in the path of the developed ones: ‘… only a few countries –most of Western Europe (including Britain), Japan, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, possibly South Africa- can conceivably follow in the footsteps of the United States. In the rest of the capitalist world scores of colonies, neo-colonies and semi-colonies are doomed to remain in their degraded condition of underdevelopment and misery.’ Euro-centrism aside, today it seems inconceivable to count New Zealand in such a list of privileged countries. This paper will explore how New Zealand’s slide into neo-colonialism is connected with (1) the rise of a comprador bourgeoisie and (2) the much more discussed period of neo-liberalism. In this sense, neo-liberal policy is patterned as a double-moment in every instance to date: first, the rhetoric of eliminating rent-seeking, improving efficiencies, competition, etc.; second, the monopolisation of privatised assets or marketised areas of State activity primarily by multinationals and foreign shareholders. This double-movement can be observed in areas as disparate as agriculture, settlements under the Treaty of Waitangi, gambling, the rebuild following the Christchurch earthquakes, and the development of a post-war suicidal cohort.

**‘Othering’ Corruption: The Role of Corruption Discourse in Defining Modern States**

*Booker, M.*  
*(University of Edinburgh)*

This paper is based on the presenter’s current research on the role of corruption discourse in the formation of the modern universalist state in 19th century Britain and late 19th to mid-20th century Germany. The comparison highlights the importance of corruption, defined as the deviation from the public good norm, in the development of the public good norm. The paper argues that corruption is not just a ‘pathology’ of the democratic, inclusive, universalist state, as previous authors have stated, but is in fact essential to the idea of said state, the ‘other’ against which it defines itself. The analysis of corruption discourses in Britain and Germany over time thus reveals the centrality of the concept for understanding ideas of the modern state, but also for causally explaining some of its formative developments.

**Federalization and Academization: Stages in the Consolidation of New Class Power**

*Lybeck, E.*  
*(University of Cambridge)*

Grounded in an Eliasian figurational/process analysis, I note a tertiary monopolization of knowledge emergent atop historical monopolizations of violence/taxation (state) and capital (market). Contemporary scholars of the triple-helix define this condition as a ‘government-university-industry complex’, but fail to recall the fundamentally capitalist nature of this interdependent system. Historical process-tracing reveals the emergence of a ‘new class’ of professionals and academics enabled to capitalise on knowledge due to the stability of credentials offered by higher education...
institutions. Attending to the mutual interactions between law, academia and professions within an expanding university system reveal patterns of consolidation during the course of political-economic federalization. Using comparative-historical analysis I isolate certain key stages that occur as states, markets and professional networks centralise, federalise and consolidate authority across borders, thereby generating university reforms. This pattern occurred in early 19th century Germany, late 19th century USA and, I argue, is ongoing today within the Bologna Process and EU integration. Each historical variation contributed to an emergent ‘global’ university system which allows knowledge to be capitalised across borders.

The International Relations of the ‘Imagined Community’: Explaining the Late 19th Century Genesis of the Chinese Nation

Cooper, L.
(Richmond, the American International University in London)

Benedict Anderson’s Imagined Communities has long been established as one of the outstanding contributions to our understanding of the origins of the national community. Anderson located the rise of national identities within a long evolving crisis of dynastic conceptions of identity, time and space, and argued print-capitalism was the key cultural and economic force in the genesis of nations. This article offers a critical appropriation and application of Anderson’s core theoretical framework through two steps. Firstly, it evaluates the conceptual underpinning of Anderson’s approach through an engagement with Leon Trotsky’s ‘theory of uneven and combined development’. The fruits of this interchange provide a deeper analytical framework to account for what Anderson calls the ‘modularity’ of national identity, i.e. its universal spread across the globe. ‘Modularity’ is now reconceptualised as a product of combined development; for the epoch-making technological revolution that was ‘print-capitalism’ emerged within a geopolitically fragmented world made up of a plurality of interacting polities. The latter gave shape and form to the new national communities. Secondly, I apply this framework to the emergence of Chinese national identity in the late 19th century. This case study confirms the central role played by print-capitalism, and the international processes of combined development, to the rise of nationalities.

Work, Employment and Economic Life
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 06

Embodying Professional Expertise: Performing Counselling Work in Post-socialist Russia

Adamson, M., Johansson, M.
(University of East London)

This paper explores the construction of expertise in a highly feminized profession of counselling psychology in post-socialist Russia. Research on professions typically focuses on interrogating the structures and processes of professionalization. Less is known about the lived experiences of professionals, particularly the role of the body in the construction of the meanings of professionalism. Professional work is typically ‘neutral’ and bodies are typically invisible. In contrast, we aim to analyse how the constructions of professionalism are implicitly underpinned by processes of gender, age and sexualisation, and how these processes are reproduced and/or potentially disrupted through the embodied performances of the professional. This paper contributes to the literature of professionalism by exploring the construction of professional expertise through the lens of intersectionality. Drawing on 26 in-depth interviews with female counsellors we examine the lived experience of the female counsellors’ work in contemporary Russia. We argue that three main processes of differentiation - gender, age and sexuality - dynamically interact, creating varying (more or less legitimate) positionings of professionalism and professional ‘suitability’. We suggest that an intersectionality framework allows us to explore hitherto under-researched, embodied aspects of the construction of professionalism and explain how embodied processes give rise to particular privileged subject positions. An intersectional perspective also exposes how power operates on macro and micro levels, allowing to situate individuals’ lived experiences within broader social processes. The paper concludes by discussing the analytical potential of the concept of intersectionality for understanding contemporary conditions of work and employment.
Finding Breakthroughs: Cases of Female Managers’ Autonomous Career Development Trajectories in France and in Japan

Ishiguro, K. (Bunkyo Gakuin University)

This paper discusses research on female managers’ efforts and struggles to establish careers in large private companies in France and in Japan. In the present corporate world, many women work actively, with their companies' support, to maximise their talents regardless of their gender. However, a hard glass ceiling and masculine corporate culture still appear once women try to climb further up the corporate ladder. Based on the cases of female managers in French and Japanese companies, this research examines characteristic attitudes and behaviours, as well as the experiences, of female managers who have achieved successful careers in the corporate world by breaking through this ceiling. The data used are derived mainly from interviews of a life-history approach, and the paper presents factors such as 1) strong determination since childhood to gain economic and social independence 2) continuous self-effort to gain various business skills and improve their abilities through education and training outside the company 3) broad personal networks both inside and outside the company 4) enduring and resilient attitude in dealing with gender gaps in organisations 5) ability to seek assistance and help from people including their supervisors, colleagues and family. In addition, their altruistic passion to help women in younger generations establish careers is noteworthy. These findings suggest that in addition to the improvement of management systems in companies and government policies related to gender, individuals’ own efforts and actions are indispensable to changing the gender paradigm in the corporate world.

How the Firm Became Consultable: Constructing Governability in the Field of Management

Schmidt-Wellenburg, C. (University of Potsdam)

The firm has not always been consultable, and it has not always been consultable in the same way. Research from institutional perspectives has undertaken thorough investigations into the development of consulting and has produced valuable insights, but remained rather vague on actual change processes that increase the need for consulting and open up the realm of senior management and strategic decision making for external advice. A discursive perspective can offer complementary insights here. The urge of consultants to engage in new areas of expertise and advice is channelled not only by external institutional changes but also by the beliefs, ideas and concepts about the firm and its good governance that prevail at a certain time and structure the imagination of agencies in the field. At the same time, it becomes obvious that the urge of management consultants to expand their areas of expertise drives them into discursive struggles over meaning and leads to their active engagement in the creation of management knowledge. An analysis of the discursive changes management underwent should take into account both the changes affecting the ability of certain agents to participate in the discursive praxis and changes in content.

The paper draws on theoretical and methodological insights offered by Bourdieu’s field analysis and Foucault take on discourse and governmentality.

Gender Equity in the Professoriate: A Study of Academic Careers in Australian Universities

Whitehouse, G., Nesic, M. (University of Queensland)

This study examines gender differences in senior levels of academia in Australian universities and analyses influences on the career trajectories of women and men in these positions. Our research is based on a comprehensive national survey of academic staff conducted in 2011 (N=9,032). In spite of considerable changes over recent years, our data show an ongoing under-representation of women in the professoriate as well as a significant gender pay gap for these employees. In addition it is apparent that women in the professoriate are significantly less likely than their male counterparts to have dependent children, even though the age profiles of these men and women are similar. Our analysis raises questions over some common assumptions about the barriers to women’s advancement in academia, including the propensity of women to accrue more teaching responsibilities than men and the concentration of women in ‘teaching focused’ positions. We find no clear evidence to support these expectations, although our data do show that women in the professoriate expect to spend less time than men on research and that their actual research hours are further below their expected hours than men’s, and that women report spending significantly more time on administration than men. We also find women report more frequently than their male counterparts that support from their supervisors assisted their career advancement. Overall, our analysis assesses the relative impact of these and related factors on career trajectories and provides the basis for reconsideration of the most appropriate ‘equity’ policies for contemporary universities.
Thursday 24 April 2014 at 11:00 - 12:30
PAPER SESSION 4

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Altering the Metaphor of ‘Botanizing’ in the 21st Century City

Psarras, B.
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

Throughout 20th century, walking has been the ‘nexus’ between human and the city, extending subject’s understanding of urban qualities and situations. The cultural concept of flaneur has been used to describe such relationship. A series of theorists and artists have approached the notions of city and flaneur through an array of metaphors, which brings metaphors on the front line. Others have also argued on the central character of metaphors on our everyday body and experience.

Initiating from the flaneur of early 20th century, this paper seeks to open a critical dialogue with Walter Benjamin’s (1983: 36) metaphor of flaneur as a botanologist of the asphalt and by altering the metaphor into a personal one of ‘botanizing’ in the 21st century city. This paper will also reflect on ‘botanizing’ through selected contemporary artists who use urban walking as part of their practice, including author’s personal one. Considering the aesthetic and poetic implications of walking in the nowadays city of various restrictions and emerging social issues, this paper will critically question the potential of ‘botanizing’ metaphor as cognitive and actual process of sensorial and emotional immersion for the artist/flaneur in the 21st post-metropolis through various intermedia ways (audiovisual, locative technologies).

Throughout a reflection on a new ‘botanizing’ – a 21st century flanerie, which orchestrates the actual walking, the metaphors and the senses through different media forms, the paper will try to delineate the need of active and poetic forms of flanerie in the changing urban landscape of the new century.

Walking the Camp: Narratives of Change in an Irish Military Base

Delaney, C.
(Trinity College Dublin)

This paper draws from doctoral research exploring the experiences of ‘military wives’ in the Curragh Camp, Co. Kildare, Ireland. The narratives of Denis a retired colonel, Walter a retired military police man and Mable a ‘military wife’ provide a window into changes in the camp. The paper discusses walks I went on with Dennis, Walter and Mable in the camp. The most obvious changes have taken place in relation to the provision of married quarters. Discussion of such provides a jumping stone of sorts from where one can question wider changes within the camp, explicitly, changes in relation to the intersection of gender, place and the military, as they form the theoretical framework this paper draws on. Beginning with the walk with Dennis, the camp and its physical and social infrastructure are introduced. The walk with Dennis illustrates the structuring of social space in the Curragh Camp, allowing a Foucauldian analysis of the spatial and social structure and the construction of discipline and ‘docile bodies (Foucault, 1977)’. The walk with Mable was instructive in relation to changes around the physical and symbolic positioning of ‘military wives’ in the camp, specifically in relation to class and rank divisions. Mable’s story also points towards the theorisation of the camp as a ‘total institution’ (Goffman, 1961). Walter’s narrative further supports this. Thus the research conducted to date shows great generational transition in relation to life in the camp.

Location-based Applications and Digital Transformations of Urban Space

Saker, M.
(University of Southampton)

Digital transformations are a central feature of society. Foursquare is a location-based application employed for many reasons; including sharing one’s location and to explore one’s environment. In this paper I argue that the sharing of location in this fashion has led some users to engage with the spaces and places they frequent differently, stemming from an awareness of what they may suggest about their identities. Accordingly users not only edit their check-ins, but also modifying the places they go. Alongside this, Foursquare is also employed by some users, as a way of discovering spatial experiences superficially reserved for locals. In other words, and through a process I term ‘localisation’, Foursquare provides users with locational information that feels authentic. Correlatively users are able to forge resistant identities that seek out a semblance of localness, over commodified simulations of authenticity; simulations that interminably threaten a point of entry back into the crowd. Here the flâneur provides a helpful way of
approaching this practice, as the flâneur, much like the user of foursquare, similarly wishes to escape the masses, and
discover something more ‘real’. However, whereas Benjamin’s flâneur was unable to un-weave himself/herself from
that rabble and the alienation this entailed, foursquare contrastingly provides access to a digital dérive that seemingly
permits an exit from the hordes. What is important here isn’t so much the authenticity of that which seems authentic,
but rather how authentic the source of authenticity feels. I would argue that for some foursquare users this feels very
‘real’ indeed.

In the Contact Zone: Understanding Meaningful Encounters across Difference

Jackson, L., Mayblin, L.
(University of Sheffield)

Growing scholarly attention has been paid in recent years to urban encounters between people who belong to
different, often separate, social worlds (different in terms of ‘race’ and ethnicity, migrant status, sexuality and so on).
Much of this work has focussed on incidental encounters in diverse city contexts. This paper, however, contributes to
these debates by investigating more meaningful encounters across difference, and particularly those which lead to the
breaking down of prejudice. The original empirical research which is presented shows that the complex social
relations which exist between any two groups of people are ‘messy’, and the outcomes of encounter are dependent on
a whole host of factors, not least socio-economic, cultural and faith based identifications. Nevertheless, the data also
points to a number of factors which are vital in producing positive encounters. Combined, these factors provide a
starting point for understanding how and why some urban encounters prove more meaningful than others, and what
might be done to facilitate more of them in urban contexts.

The (White) Elephant in the Room: Sports Mega-events and the Politics of Denial

Horne, J.
(University of Central Lancashire)

Horne (2007) suggested that it is an academic’s duty to look critically at the assumptions, beliefs and
misrepresentations that are often suppressed, or even repressed, about sports mega-events. It was argued that in
their enthusiasm to host and support sports ‘megas’, politicians, senior administrators of sport, corporate leaders and
even some academics may often encourage the pretence that we do not know as much as we do about things that
actually form the background to them. This paper will revisit the topic and ask why mega-events are not more regularly
resisted given the routinisation of harm to local populations that they tend to invoke. Some would argue that
‘displacement’ has been the name of the Olympic Games for at least the past 25 years (COHRE 2007). Housing
evictions and other infringements of human rights are also part of the FIFA Football World Cup ‘effect’. ‘Replacement’,
of old, established, generally poorer communities with new, wealthier ones is another way of describing these aspects
of sports mega-events. The paper develops ideas derived from Cohen (2001) about the relationships between, and
the politics of, denial and acknowledgement, with reference to the Olympic Games staged in London in 2012 and

Centre on Housing Rights and Eviction. (2007). Fair play for housing rights: Mega-events, Olympic Games and
housing rights. Geneva: COHRE.

Playing with Tension: Crisis, Europe and National Charisma at Euro2012

Law, A.
(University of Abertay Dundee)

At the time of Euro 2012, deepening tensions of nationalism and internal social struggles were developing across
Europe in worsening conditions of systemic crisis. The official football ideology of UEFA conceives international
football competitions like Euro2012 as civilising platforms for mutual respect and brotherhood between competing
nations. In contrast, Critical Theory conceives of competitive international football events like Euro2012 as part of a

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de-civilising ‘sports mode of production’, that necessarily reproduces crisis conditions, alienation and violence on a mass scale, fostering nationalism, militarism and racism. Between these polar perspectives, the figurational sociology of sport associated with Norbert Elias and Eric Dunning proposes that major international football competitions like Euro2012 creates and dissipates contingent tensions of ‘group charisma’ and ‘group disgrace’. Study of Euronews ‘post-national’ coverage of Euro2012 allows their explanatory adequacy of competing theories to be compared. In a competitive sports figuration like Euro 2012 no social group - players, officials, media or fans - was able to disregard entirely the field capabilities of the ‘best minority of 11’ in the serious game of exemplifying the group charisma of nations.

Chaebol Throws a Ball: Neoliberal Transformation in Korean Baseball League
Ahn, J-E., Song, J. W.
(London School of Economics and Political Science)

This paper critically examines the encroachment of neoliberalism upon professional sport by identifying several manifestations of the neoliberalisation in Korean professional baseball league since the late 1990s. Unlike general professional sport in modern capitalist countries, Korean baseball league was established thoroughly for the purpose of political demobilisation under the dictatorship in 1980s, rather than through the progression of commercialisation or marketisation of sport. Chaebol referring to a large family-owned business conglomerate in South Korea, e.g. Samsung, was compelled to involve in managing baseball team not only because of its fund mobilisation power, but also because of collusive links with the dictatorial government. Despite its reluctant start, Chaebol had monopolised the league developing into the largest professional sport market in Korea before a financial crisis in 1997. The crisis, on the one hand, reorganised the league with expulsion of insolvent enterprise, and on the other hand, accelerated neoliberalisation of the league including financialisation of players and polarisation of the ranking. Therefore, this paper seeks to address the following questions: (1) to what extent has Korean baseball league been neoliberalised in terms of clubs, players and spectators? (2) what does it imply regarding Chaebol-centric political economy in Korea?

Families and Relationships 1
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 20

Do Multiracial Parents Want to ‘Pass Down’ Their Ancestral Heritage to Their Children?
Song, M., O'Neill Gutierrez, C.
(University of Kent)

Contemporary Britain is witnessing some significant changes to its population – namely the growth of both interracial partnering and of mixed individuals, as shown in the 2011 England and Wales Census. Accompanying the marked growth in interethnic relationships and the number of mixed people in Britain, many adult mixed individuals are or will have become parents themselves – prompting the fascinating question of how they, as parents, think about the racial identification of their own children. Becoming a parent is a major life transition, and this experience can engender questions about one’s ancestry and the ‘right’ socialization and classification of children: How will mixed race parents (as opposed to non-mixed parents in interracial relationships) racially identify their children and what may such decisions bode for the future significance of racial boundaries and identities in Britain?

While there has been growing research attention to mixed race children and young people in Britain, very little is still known about how mixed race people as parents identify and socialize their own children. How do such parents make these decisions, and what do they mean in practice? We will present some preliminary findings from this Leverhulme-funded project. In particular, we will focus upon whether our multiracial respondents think it is important to ‘pass down’ ethnic and racial heritage/cultural practices to their own children (or not).

Class, Culture and Generational Dis/continuity in Contemporary Parenting
Irwin, S.
(University of Leeds)

There has been a significant growth of interest in parenting and an accumulation of evidence on the importance of classed differences in modes of parenting through the mobilisation of resources, styles of parental engagement and practical activities. Analysts have explained diverse classed approaches in terms of material and cultural dynamics, shone light on the sustained and intensive investment in their children’s future life chances by middle class parents
and contrasted this with working class modes of parenting, where departures from dominant discourses and practices marginalise and undermine families and harden children’s likely future disadvantage. There remain some interesting and under-explored questions about diversity within social classes which might shed further light on cultural modalities of parenting. Drawing on data from a qualitative longitudinal study of parents, interviewed over a period of several years, and wider evidence, I will argue firstly that we need a more detailed understanding of the reach of intensive parenting across the population, as well as it varying manifestation and meanings. Secondly, I argue in favour of a more fully fledged analysis of parents’ own backgrounds, biographical trajectories, and the dynamics of intergenerational mobility/stability within families and that these areas offer important explanatory potential. Thirdly, I consider whether there are more precise ways of capturing how resources are mobilised by parents in diverse circumstances, and their efficacy in shaping children’s outcomes.

Re-examining Family Practices of Education and Cultivation: A Renewed Focus on Social Class, Class Fractions, and Race

Vincent, C., Maxwell, C.
(Institute of Education, University of London)

In this paper, we will review and explore family practices as they relate to childrearing, drawing on data from three recent research projects with which we have been involved. Our aim is to complicate and further interrogate the notion that there is a binary division between working class and middle class families in terms of parenting practices around the intellectual, social and cultural development of children.

We will start by reviewing the way government policies constitute notions of ‘good’ parenting, and how values and morality around childrearing are constituted through neoliberal ideas of choice, individual responsibility, and cultivation. We then present analyses of data from specific projects to consider further the family practices of particular social groups: first, a largely white elite who send their daughters to private school, second, white middle class parents who choose to educate their children in state schools with diverse populations in terms of class and ethnicity, and third, a group of Black (Caribbean origin) parents. Drawing on the first two studies, we consider class fractional differences in terms of family practices, especially those relating to education more broadly, and schooling in particular. Our third example will lead us to consider how family practices are shaped by the intersection of class and race. Central to our work is to illuminate the rich variety of family practices, and consider further what connects but also what differentiates families that are often grouped together within policy.

Mummy Blogging and the Creation of the Neoliberal Maternal Identities

Head, E.
(Keele University)

This paper explores the online construction of maternal identities, through a focus on the phenomenon of ‘mummy blogging’. In earlier sociological accounts of motherhood, and in second wave feminism, emphasis has been placed on the isolating nature of motherhood and the lack of wider public acknowledgment of the experiences of mothers. In the accounts of ‘mummy bloggers’ the experiences of mothers escape from the home and the private experiences of women can become public. A focus on popular mummy blogs highlights the importance of consumption practices in building motherhood identities and how consumption is constructed as pivotal in the creation of good childhoods. Here, one role of the blogger is as the expert consumer, leading her readers through the marketplace in search of buying an idealised and thoroughly consumption based motherhood.

I argue that one function of these blogs is to construct a neoliberal mother-subject. Consumption practices, and making the ‘correct’ consumer choices, are constructed as an essential aspect of good mothering. These blogs also show a blurring of work and consumption in the lives of these women, as words and motherhood are monetised in the creation of their mother-blogger narratives. For some ‘mummy bloggers’, working online becomes a way to blend together their work and mother identities. The emphasis on consumption shows that this has become a central element of the labour involved in constructing a ‘good’ mother identity.
Relative Strangers, Boundaries and Tantalising Knowledge: Families and Reproductive Donation

Nordqvist, P.S., Smart, C.
(University of Manchester)

New reproductive technologies involving donated eggs, sperm and embryos introduce new questions about family life, and relatedness. A donor whose donated gametes play a vital part in enabling the creation of this ‘new’ kind of family, come to inhabit a culturally uncertain place in relation to that family after conception and birth. He or she is genetically linked to the resultant child without being conceived of as his or her parent. It is a relationship that raises difficult questions, for example, how the donor relates to the family and the child, his or her role in the child’s life and also how the child relates to other donor kin connections, for example ‘donor siblings’. This paper explores the ways in which families of donor conceived children make sense of the donor relationship by drawing on new data from a study into reproductive donation and family life conducted at the University of Manchester 2010-2013, which was funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council. We investigate these issues in the context of both unknown donor arrangements (where the donor is unidentified to the parents and child) and known arrangements (where the donor is a family member or friend). Addressing these different contexts of reproductive donation, we suggest that the donor relationship remains vital and yet unresolved in meaning in the lives of donor conceived children and their families.

Choosing Family: Donor-recipient Matching in Egg Donation

Davda, P.
(Royal Holloway, University of London)

The use of an egg donor in the reproductive process separates fundamental notions of ‘social’ and ‘genetic’ (‘natural’) parenthood, exposing and destabilising taken for granted categories of family and relatedness, whilst creating a variety of new kin terms, or ‘technoscientific identities’ (Clark et al., 2003), such as ‘surrogate’ and ‘donor-conceived child’. Whilst there has been some focus around the implications of egg donation on meanings and practices of the family and to what extent a dominant ideology of the family is challenged and reinforced by egg donation, less attention has been given to the preceding need and process of selecting an egg donor who will be the resulting genetic mother of any donor-conceived child. In the UK, the selection of a donor for a particular recipient is clinic-mediated, and based on matching certain physical and social characteristics. This process of donor-recipient matching is inextricably linked to wider meanings and understandings about reproduction and the family. The rationale underlying the choice of one egg donor over another based on her individual characteristics relies on the assumptions that those characteristics will be passed onto any resulting child and that they are relevant to one’s construction of ideal-type families. In this presentation, preliminary findings from a doctoral study of donor-recipient matching in a UK fertility clinic will be reported. Based on ethnographic observations and interviews with medical staff and recipients, I will explore how ideal-type constructions of the family shape and are shaped by matching practices in egg donation.

When There’s More Than One Way to Start with: Lesbians and Gay Men Considering Different Pathways to Parenthood

Pralat, R.
(University of Cambridge)

Homosexuality and parenthood are no longer as incompatible as they once seemed, and family configurations ‘beyond the nuclear ideal’ (a married heterosexual couple with naturally conceived 2.4 children) receive ever-increasing attention. There are different ways of becoming a parent without sexual intercourse - including adoption, fostering and various methods of assisted conception - and different family structures within which child-rearing takes place - from single to multiple parent families. All of these have been studied, to various degrees, also in the context of same-sex relationships and non-heterosexual intimacies, especially through research on the ‘lived experience’ of lesbian mothers and gay fathers. However, relatively little is known about how the different possibilities of achieving parenthood are perceived by younger cohorts of sexual minorities - those who don’t have children, but may have them in the future. This paper considers how the idea of potential parenthood is approached when there isn’t an obvious way of becoming a parent but rather a number of alternatives, all of which require prior planning and neither of which can be taken for granted. Drawing on data from in-depth interviews with 20 lesbians and gay men, aged 23-32, with different levels of parenting desire, I analyse decision-making processes that take place at early stages of ‘family planning’ - in circumstances when the question ‘whether or not to have children’ is immediately followed by the question ‘how’.

AN INVITATION TO DIGITAL PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

This session asks what ‘public sociology’ entails in a world of facebook, twitter, youtube, slideshare, soundcloud, pintrest and wordpress. What affordances and constraints do these tools entail for the task described by Michael Burawoy of ‘taking knowledge back to those from whom it came, making public issues out of private troubles, and thus regenerating sociology’s moral fibre’? What implications do these tools have for the relationship between the public and private in the occupational biographies of individual sociologists and, through aggregation and collective organisation, the discipline as a whole? In addressing such questions it seeks to draw out the continuities between the emerging field of digital sociology and the longer-standing concerns of public sociology. In doing so it addresses the claim made by John Holmwood at the previous years conference that the task of sociology in an age of austerity is to ‘occupy debate and make inequality matter’ and argues that the digitalisation of social life entails profound challenges and opportunities for sociological inquiry.

Public Sociology in the Digital Era
Daniels, J.
(City University of New York)

Changes in publishing, funding and expectations about academic career paths are converging with the expansion of digital technologies. Whereas traditionally trained sociologists and other academics may have once had the luxury of speaking to small audiences of specialized experts, the digital era, changing economic models and pressing social problems are creating a new set of expectations. From blogging to Twitter, academics are increasingly engaged in dialogue with wider publics that include public officials, the media, and society.

Sociological Sensibility and the Politics of Digital Engagement
Lupton, D.
(University of Sydney)

In this presentation I will discuss the importance of adopting a reflexive and critical approach to engaging as a digital public sociologist. Using digital tools to establish an online presence offers many benefits for sociologists and other academics, and is an important part of public sociology. But we also need to be aware of the potential negative aspects of this type of professional activity, or what I have entitled ‘the politics of digital engagement’. These include the exacerbation of the pressures of audit culture in academia via yet more ways of quantifying academic performance (altmetrics); the possibility for online harassment and abuse of female academics and members of minority social groups; the risks of open engagement that early career researchers may face disproportionately compared with more established academics; the loss of control over our content once it has been published online; a general disdain in academic culture for the apparent ‘self-promotion’ required as part of engaging online; and the sense of being overwhelmed by increasingly demanding workloads faced by many academics enmeshed in the neoliberal culture of the modern university. As digital public sociologists, we need to maintain a sociological sensibility in identifying how we ourselves are positioned, and indeed, position others, in our promotion and use of these technologies.

Discover Society
Scott, S.
(University of York and University of Edinburgh)

Discover Society is an online magazine of social research, policy analysis, and commentary. It is an independent and not-for-profit venture. Sue Scott is Honorary Professor University of York, Honorary Professorial Fellow University of Edinburgh and Managing Editor of Discover Society.
Differential Social Impacts of Income on Mental Health of Parents and Young Children

Garratt Glass, E.
(University of Manchester)

Income relates to mental health in adults and children, with low-income individuals consistently experiencing worse health than more affluent people. However, it is unclear whether low income compromises health due to material deprivation (absolute income), the size of income shortfall (relative income) or low rank position (ranked income), compromising policy attempts to address health inequalities.

This study compared the predictive power of absolute, relative and ranked income in 15,596 children aged 3-7 and their parents (n=27,849) using cross-sectional and longitudinal data from the Millennium Cohort Study. Comparing the three specifications in multilevel models while controlling for covariates provides the first direct test of the mechanism linking income with mental health in children and their parents.

Results indicate that income differentially affects health in parents and children. Cross-sectional analysis showed that in parents, only ranked income predicted Kessler scores, consistent with previous research. In children, relative income related to scores on the Strengths and Difficulties questionnaire. Longitudinal findings from parents identified a role of absolute but not ranked or relative income on mental health, while both ranked and relative income predicted health in children.

The concurrent association between ranked income and health in parents, replaced by absolute income over time suggests a temporary (albeit important) influence of rank position on health, while in children the consequences of low status appear to accumulate over time. This suggests separate causal pathways between income and mental health in different age groups, reinforcing the importance of examining relationships and developing policies separately for different populations.

The Life Course after Care: Understanding Ambivalence, Time and Transition

Hugman, C.
(Northumbria University)

Each year approximately 60,000 young people are in state foster or residential care. Adults who have spent some of their youth in state care have been assessed as having comparatively poor life chances. Yet it has been identified that there is a dearth of empirical evidence of the outcomes of care-leavers once they reach the age of 26. Such projections have the potential to mislead the public, the government, professional agency workers and care-leavers of actual outcomes. This paper will challenge the dominant discourses used by social workers by demonstrating how their research can problematize young adults who are care-leavers by presenting them as private troubles.

This paper demonstrates the individualising of a public issue, and allows us to consider the value of sociological research with care-leavers. Sociology has an important role to play in furthering our understandings of the way in which care-leavers navigate the life course. Through the use of biographical research, with care-leavers over the age of 29, we can begin to sensitize ourselves to the interaction of a care-leaver's biography, society and their place in history. Data from initial fieldwork will be used to show the tentative ways that sociology and biography can develop our understandings of this public issue that have previously been neglected by sociologists. Ultimately we will see how current conceptions of care-leavers are ineffectual, in part through their neglect of societal factors. It is only through considering the lived life as a whole that useful understandings will be reached.

Social Participation of Children in Low-income Families: How Much Evidence can We Find?

Achatz, J., Becher, I., Wenzig, C.
(Institute for Employment Research of the Federal Employment Agency)

Economic deprivation among children and adolescents is a highly relevant issue in Germany, as children face a higher risk of living in relative poverty and their poverty rates are on the rise. While a lot of research is concentrated on the growing gap between poor and more affluent families, less is known about poor children’s exclusion from social participation. While some empirical studies show disadvantages of poor children regarding the social participation, other studies point out that low-income parents nevertheless manage to offer favourable conditions for the development of their children.
In our paper, we investigate the participation gap regarding different dimensions, like school trips, tutoring for children with learning difficulties, daily school meals and sports or cultural activities. More precisely, we compare these aspects of social participation of children in low-income households with those living in households with higher income. In addition to the income situation, our multivariate analysis includes a large number of other factors, which may lead to differences in the social participation of children and youth, e.g. the household size, employment status of parents, or migration background.

Our analysis is based on the representative micro-level data from the most recent wave of the German Panel Study “Labor Market and Social Security” (PASS). It is a novel dataset in the field of labor market, welfare state and poverty research in Germany. It contains comprehensive information on the income and living conditions of different types of households.

The Child as Pawn

Wright, H.
(Anglia Ruskin University)

This paper claims that changing policies for childcare, rather than improving children’s wellbeing, made the child a pawn to be played strategically. To substantiate my ideas, I draw upon long-term personal involvement in the sector and research data collected for a project on Women Studying Childcare between 1997 and 2007, the period of New Labour’s radical attempts to raise standards.

Change is traced to 1989 when the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (implemented through the Children Act) foregrounded the notion of children’s rights causing significant upheaval in the UK judicial and care systems. The passing of the Education Reform Act in 1988, introducing a formal National Curriculum for schools, coincidentally freed ‘educational standards’ lobbyists to focus on early years provision. This led to a number of research reports on quality, provoking the education and care sectors to compete to control the Early Years.

Following the Climbié enquiry, New Labour set out to remodel local authority services and implement multiagency working. Accompanying educational reforms highlighted the division between those who advocate a child-centred curriculum and those who support more formal learning, favouring the latter in a trend that continues to the present day. Yet in 2007, a UNICEF study of children’s wellbeing placed Britain last among 22 ‘rich countries’ suggesting all is not well for the nation’s children. This paper will examine Hodges’ ‘silent revolution’ in childcare through the eyes of those working in the sector showing how the ‘child’ was lost in the maelstrom of change.

LifeCourse 2

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 18

Beyond Prohibitions and Recuperations of Young Children’s Death and Violence Play

Rosen, R.
(Institute of Education, University of London)

Children’s imaginative play about death and violence has long been contentious within educational practice, parenting literature, and the academe, with conflicting views as to its immediate and long term consequences. Contradictory claims maintain death and violence play as a source of on-going debate, amplifying its positioning as a particularly unsettling form of imaginary play and securing it as a trope in broader debates about childhood, gender, and the role of early education.

Drawing on a year and half long ethnographic study of a Nursery in a low-income community in West London, this paper will explore the competing discourses, neo-liberal policies and regulatory conditions, and political-economic factors which occupy educators’ narratives and practices in relation to young children’s death and violence play. Utilising a relational approach to childhood (Alanen, 2001; 2011), it will be argued that whilst certain aspects of death and violence play are considered ‘recuperable’, in fundamentally challenging dominant configurations of adulthood and childhood this play can be characterised as ‘matter out of place’ (Douglas, 1966, 2002) in early childhood settings in the UK.

Whilst matter out of place can be disordering and threatening, it is precisely these characteristics which offer a possibility of the new. This paper will argue that consideration of death and violence from a sociological perspective can offer, at very least, complicating ways of understanding and therefore relating to childhood, including what children are but also what it is possible for children to be.
The Limitations of an Anti-bullying Approach to Homophobia and Transphobia in Youth Settings

Formby, E.
(Sheffield Hallam University)

Drawing on recent research with teachers, youth workers, and young people aged 11-20, this paper will critique the common focus on ‘bullying’ within discussions about young lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people’s experiences of schooling. The research explored barriers and facilitators to schools and youth work settings addressing issues about (homo)sexuality, homophobia, gender identity, and transphobia in one English region. In doing so, it took a broad view of the social contexts in which young people learn about, make sense of, and practice identities, as well as experience and manage any prejudice they might face. The paper will document key themes emerging from the data, regarding: differing understandings of ‘phobias’ and bullying; experiences of bullying, prejudice, and discrimination; professional responses and the provision of support services. Drawing on the findings from this research, and supporting evidence, the paper will highlight the limiting constraints of anti-bullying discourses, arguing that they divert attention away from families, teachers, schools, and wider social contexts, and have implications for how prejudice is responded to. In this research, ‘bullying’ tended to result in individualised ‘punishment’ for the ‘perpetrator’ and ‘support’ for the ‘victim’, minimising the potential for broader education and/or youth work practice. In conclusion, the paper will demonstrate what sociological perspectives can contribute to the often psychology-focussed literature on identity-based bullying.

A Whole New World, a ‘Free’ World for Chinese Teenagers?

Xu, Q.
(Institute of Education, University of London)

Many western scholars argue that people’s lifestyles are more individualized, which allows for greater personal autonomy and the possibility of being less determined by gendered social norms (Beck, 1992; Giddens, 1992). However, there are many criticisms of the theory of individualisation (Bagnoli and Ketokivi, 2009; Brannen and Nilsen, 2002; Brannen and Nilsen, 2005; Plumridge and Thomson, 2003; Thomson et al, 2002).

This raises the question of to what extent the influx of global culture has changed Chinese society. This paper explores the extent to which social and economic change in recent Chinese society can bring freedom for the young generation. The data from four focus groups with teenage girls aged 13/14 and aged 16/17 , a questionnaire survey (N=767), and eight semi structured interviews were used. It was found that some aspects of adolescent identity are similar to those of teenagers in Western countries, such as girls wanting to be rebellious and fashionable. However, in other areas the construction of self is underpinned by Chinese culture, such as the refusal to appear too glamorous because of the traditional Chinese ‘natural beauty’ ideology and the acknowledgement of ‘danger’ in engaging in romantic relationships; in addition most girls in the study felt bound by the norm of the obedient daughter. It seems that, there is no clear divide between individualisation and collectivism in a complex and changing society like China. Instead the two may often coexist with each other.

Protection and Security in a Technologically Advanced Society: Children and Young People’s Perspectives

Hannigan, K.
(University of Stirling)

The following paper focuses on young people’s perspectives about what risks they face and what would keep them safe on the internet and is set in the literature of child sex abusers and internet grooming.

The paper is based on an online survey which sought to gain insight into the behaviour and opinions of 859 children and young people living in Scotland. Four key themes emerged from the findings: behaviour, strangers, education and the government. Respondents want to be protected when on the internet (whilst acknowledging their own responsibility when online), either by the government or through those responsible for the content of the internet. They also provide several suggestions on how schools and the government can do more to listen to their voices and improve safety education. There are still a number of children and young people who disclose personal information over the internet (their own and that referring to their friends and family) and who are willing to meet people in the real environment who they have been communicating online with: many respondents view ‘strangers’ as different from ‘strangers’ in the real environment.

Findings indicate that more child and young people-oriented protection measures may be needed. This would suggest that communicating with children and young people when developing policy, legislation, research and educational materials is the way forward if we wish to improve their safety and eliminate or reduce the dangers they face when using the internet.
Technologised Faces: A Foucauldian Perspective

McHugh, T.
(Macquarie University)

The human face, being the most recognisable part of a person, has been likened—at least in Western cultures—to a small stage through which individuals present themselves to the world, and from which others believe they have access to an understanding of a person’s essential worth. And in view of its privileged status—and as a consequence of it—the face is the part of the body that we are most likely to alter in order to align ourselves with discursively determined standards, to redefine or transform who we are. However, I contend that the cosmetic medical practices and procedures that seek to objectify, modify, and redefine the face should no longer be viewed as distinct and separate from the faces they seek to transform. Rather I argue, by foregrounding Foucault’s four major discursive and social ‘technologies’ of normalisation—those of ‘production’, ‘sign systems’, ‘power’, and ‘the self’—that bodies/faces are at the same time: objects of technologies, subjects of technologies, and the means by which technologies operate. As such, in analysing the complex and varied ways in which facial form and bodily-being is shaped, not only should we consider how the face is shaped by the surgeon’s knife but also how the discourses that justify and contest the use of such instruments are rhetorically sculptured, thereby allowing for contingent possibilities for ‘seeing’ and ‘knowing’ the face in non-normalised ways.

‘You’re Looking for Different Parts in a Jigsaw’: Exploring the Views of Health Professionals on the Use of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) in Pregnancy

Reed, K., Kochetkova, I., Molyneux-Hodgson, S., Whitby, E.
(University of Sheffield)

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) was first introduced into clinical practice during the 1980s. Originally used as a diagnostic tool to take pictures of the brain, spine, and joints, it is now used to visualise a range of organs and soft tissue around the body. Developments in clinical applications of the technology are rapid and it is often viewed as the ‘golden standard’ in many areas of medicine. However, although interest in this field has grown, little is known sociologically about the impact of MRI use on clinical practice, particularly in the UK context. This paper focuses on MRI use in pregnancy, a relatively new and research led application of the technology. Drawing on empirical research with a range of health professionals (from radiologists to pathologists) in the North of England, this paper asks: how do different types of health professionals engage with the technology and to what end? While some variations in professional attitudes exist, the paper argues that MRI use in pregnancy offers an important piece of the diagnostic jigsaw, often acting as a bridge between medical specialties. The implications of this will be explored in the context of broader debate on the sociology of the professions and the increasing ‘visualisation’ of medicine.

Cochlear Implants, Identity and Conflict

Scambler, S.
(King’s College London)

Most deaf children (90%) are born to hearing parents and yet hearing parents are largely missing from the literature on both sides of the cochlear implant debate. The scientific papers and books are written by professionals for other professionals, or by professionals to share expert advice and opinions on how to parent a deaf child with parents of deaf children. The arguments presented by the Deaf community and disability theorists are open to a wider audience but again tend to focus on explaining a particular position in which the hearing parent is ‘othered’ as a potential threat to the Deaf community. There are some studies which explore the ways in which parents make decisions about cochlear implantation for their children but these tend to address practical issues rather than the theoretical arguments for and against implantation. This paper seeks to start to redress the balance and provide a critique of the cochlear implant debate from the viewpoint of hearing parents of a deaf child, focusing on identity and ‘othering’.

Novel IVF Techniques as a Contested Space

Dimond, R.
(Cardiff University)

In this presentation I consider the contested space surrounding emerging and controversial IVF techniques. Drawing on interviews with patients, observations of scientific conferences and analysis of media reports, I explore how
patients, professionals and ‘lay’ groups have been enrolled into public debate about the ethics of ‘mitochondria donation’. Within the IVF process, mitochondrial DNA from a ‘donor egg’ would become part of the child’s genetic inheritance, alongside maternal and paternal DNA. Mitochondria donation is therefore considered a ‘germ line’ technique and a change in law would be required for it to be offered to patients. This challenge to existing ethical and legal frameworks has triggered an extensive public consultation. Underlying much of the debate is the assumption of technological determinism entwined with the hope of genetic technologies. That is, that if these techniques are made available, then this will ‘halt’ or ‘eradicate’ the disease from families. Yet the implications of any reproductive techniques are further complicated when there are unknowns surrounding patient behaviour. Future use of these techniques will ultimately depend on how patients assess complex risk information about themselves and their families. Sites of public discussion, including conferences, meetings and online discussion boards are revealed as occasions where debate is structured, science simplified and particular versions of health and illness are presented.

Methodological Innovations
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 11

Service Users as Researchers: Beyond the Assumed Benefits of Participation

Allen, K.
(University of Birmingham)

Within sociological research concerned with health and social care there are growing expectations and practices around involving service users. Service users are frequently involved in the review of research proposals for funding, as members of advisory panels and as researchers. The prominence of service user participation in research is the result of a complex social and political history of patient movements, as well as participatory traditions within sociological methods. At present the benefits of involving service users as researchers, such as increasing individuals’ skills, strengthening communities and gaining relevant insights for service change, have become strong themes reinforced within national policy and as such are often taken for granted.

There are increasing calls for a more rigorous approach to measuring the impact of service user researchers; one which challenges all involved to reconnect with the potential of what can be gained and recognise why service users are being included. Part of this challenge is developing a more nuanced understanding of the diversity among service users and how different needs can be accommodated within research projects, rather than seeking out service users whose perspectives are aligned those of the academic research team. Against this backdrop this paper outlines early findings of a current ESRC study involving people with learning disabilities and older people as co-researchers. Drawing on current debates it presents this study’s rationale for service user co-researchers and provides insight to the experience of training and working with these two groups of service users.

Co-researchers, Creative Methods and Collaboration

Sykes, G.
(University of Leicester)

This research focuses on the everyday experiences of university students. Adopting a participatory approach, the research process is shared and the outcome a collaborative effort. It recognises the competence of young people as ‘experts in understanding their own lives’ (Cahill, 2007). Co-researchers, all of which are university student volunteers are working with me throughout the project, involved in everything from designing methodology, interviewing, being interviewed, interpreting and analysing the data and disseminating the results.

Now at analysis stage, the project has attempted to be creative with methods throughout. The project combined traditional methods such as life history interviews and discussion groups and new innovative methods such as the ‘university life’ board game. By using blog analysis, students are able to comment at every stage, we hope to continue the participatory ethos. Currently, co-researchers and I are working on a comic book and media scapes (walking and talking university experiences using gps) as well as delivering sessions in schools. These unusual methods are sometimes seen as more “meaningful” (Gaunlett and Holzwarth, 2006) and seem to be more effective and powerful with sensitive topics as students felt they were less intrusive when discussing sensitive topics.

This research experiments with new ways of doing qualitative research. Whilst not denying the problems of participatory research such as differing levels of commitment from participants and the difficulty of managing power relations between participants themselves it hopes to encourage more inclusion of participants as owners of and researchers in projects, enhancing the validity of the research.
Rights, Violence and Crime
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 12

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Undoing Gender: Reflections from the Mirabal Project on Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programmes
Kelly, L., Westmarland, N., Downes, J.
(London Metropolitan University)

The origins of interventions with abusive men were feminist perspectives, which argued that domestic violence should be understood as the assertion of masculinity through dominance in the household. Yet few evaluations of perpetrator programmes have placed gender analysis at the centre of their methodology. In this paper we explore the impacts of programmes in terms of the extent to which they ‘undo gender’, defined here as a domestic hierarchical relationship. To what extent, and how, do men come to think of themselves as men differently and how does this translate into changed masculinity practices? As importantly, does the intervention provide space for women who have been abused to undo the restrictions violence placed on how they can be women.

But How Do I Survive the Stigma? Stigmatization and Police-community Collaboration in Policing Rape Offending Behavior in Nigeria
Audu, A.
(University of Liverpool)

Rape offending behavior has become the center of public consciousness in the twenty-first century Nigeria. Social injury so attached by those who have, by their own perceptions, been negatively affected by the incidence of it has been alarming. In Nigeria, various socio-legal frameworks have been institutionalized to prevent and control rape offending behavior in Nigeria. However, what is rape and what is not, is largely determined by the existing cultural patterns of the society. For instance, the culture of stigmatization, do affect how people make sense of police-community collaboration in policing rape offending behavior, mostly as a form of violence against women in Nigeria. The paper which relies on individual in-depth interviews and focus groups discussions methods, argues that the prevailing culture of stigmatization in practice and its corresponding laws do not make rape policing effective in Nigeria. The recommendations therefore were that a critical review of the existing rape related laws and intensification of campaign activities among the potential rape victims were needed for effective policing of rape crime in Nigeria(Violence against women sub-theme).

Institutional Responses to Sexual Violence on College and University Campuses in Canada
Fogel, C., Quinlan, E., Quinlan, A.
(Lakehead University)

Statistics show that at least one in four women attending college or university in North America will be sexually assaulted by the time they graduate. Sexual violence impedes academic success among survivors, bystanders, and those to whom survivors disclose. Sexual violence cases aired in the public domain have the potential for curtailing potential applicants and enrolments, thereby compromising an institution’s sustainability. Not only is quality of life and academic career degraded for survivors, but reputations of universities and colleges are blemished when assaults are brought to the attention of the public. This paper explores Canadian university policy and program reform around sexual violence in the aftermath of high profile cases of sexual violence. The majority of colleges and universities in the United States have some type of rape prevention program mandated by federal legislation as a prerequisite to receiving federal funds. No such legislative requirement exists in Canada. Consequently, implementation of campus policies and programs tend to be driven by legal actions that have the potential to be widely publicized. Using unobtrusive research methods, this paper examines university sexual violence policies, media files, and legal case files brought forward by victims of sexual violence on Canadian campuses. The legal suits and the publicity they generate are analyzed for their transformative potential of institutional responses to sexual violence.
NEW HORIZONS AND CONTESTED FUTURES: TECHNOLOGIES AND INEQUALITIES

While economic growth has brought substantial benefits in terms of improvement of the standards of living of billions of people, this book questions the general assumption that its continuation can result in the elimination of the large continuing reservoirs of poverty. The drive to economic growth has been a dominant policy discourse. It represents a particular version of what ‘progress’ might be and is currently articulated through the specific articulation of capitalist relations that is neo-liberalism.

This session has a specific focus however in considering the established paths and future developments in terms of the relationship between inequality, technology and society. The session concentrates on the ways in which technology has the potential to alleviate many of the features of poverty and inequality but is frequently developed in such a way as to exacerbate the social inequalities which already exist and, in the case of some technologies, give rise to new kinds of inequity and unfairness. The papers in this session cover diverse issues including food production and consumption, the role of ICTs in development and recent technological innovations in the fields of genetics and media. Taken together, the papers draw together some tentative answers to some central questions which arise from this examination of the social impact of innovation including the roles of technology in exacerbating or alleviating inequality, the relationship between the dynamics of capitalist development and technological change and the possibilities of forces for change which might influence the path of technological development in more equitable directions.

Climate Change, Industrial Animal Agriculture and Complex Inequalities

Cudworth, E.
(University of East London)

This paper examines changes in agricultural practices and technologies, focusing on developments in meat production. There are a number of interlinked processes that will be examined beginning with the historical development of livestock farming and the impact of these and of very recent developments in animal food production on local, regional and global environments. The current scale of animal farming is both extensive and intense, and it has been growing rapidly since the 1950s. As a result, there has been a dramatic increase in the populations of farmed animals which are now at unprecedented levels.

The production of animals and animal feed crops has had a significant impact on localised food production systems, and the intensive production of stock is set to become the model for agricultural development in poor countries. Animal based food is seen as a solution to food poverty and helping to eliminate food insecurity. This paper will suggest however, that the establishment of Western intensive production and the promotion of Western eating habits are more likely to increase social inequalities and insecurities than to increase food security. Rather, these developments are likely to imperil vulnerable communities in some of the poorest parts of the world. In addition, these increases in meat production and consumption are highly likely to have disastrous impacts on the lives of the huge numbers of non-human animals raised for meat and on the environment and in particular, in terms of an increased contribution to climate change.

My Family and Other Criminals: Familial Predictive Gene Testing and Social Sorting

Langstone, D.
(University of East London)

Biometrics makes the body a source of information. DNA both joins us and separates us; it can tell us about traits such as eye colour and be proof of kinship. There are contested claims about the possibility of discovering height, I.Q., and educational success and bolder claims are surfacing about its potential to predict personality traits and behavioural tendencies, such as the propensity to violent behaviour.

These possibilities serve to revivify the nature versus nurture debate and compel us to revisit previously discredited theories that focus on deterministic biological explanations of criminal behaviour. The holy grail of the effective identification of a ‘criminal type’ may appear attractive to societies that are increasingly focused on the limitation of risk, risk reduction strategies and are moving towards pre-emptive action, predictive technologies and mechanisms for social sorting. Such attempts at categorisation are notoriously fraught with the inability to deal with complex classifications and are prone to a reliance on stereotypes thus resulting in discrimination and new types of inequity, in
this context, the rise of ‘genetic minorities’. It also raises the possibility for intercession aimed at normalisation and fears about eugenic interventions as policy.

If we accept genetic testing has the potential to explain some types of criminal behaviour, could it be used as a legal defence? We need to consider its usage and governance and engage with the possibility that the technology may be used in a more constructive and compassionate manner than its authoritarian antecedents might suggest.

ICT Production and the Reinforcement of Inequality

Mukasa, M.
(University of East London)

This paper examines debates around the ICT (Information and Communication Technology) for development discourse and the cultural implications of the consumption of ICTs for development. Much has been written in recent years about how Information and communication technologies (ICTs) can support development activities and offer huge potential for poverty reduction and socio-economic development. This optimistic view is evident in the various policies and program initiatives implemented worldwide aimed at accelerating the adoption of ICTs for development. The rationale for adoption of ICTs is usually presented in terms of bridging the digital divide, enabling the millennium development goals, and enhancing socio-economic development.

While the importance of ICTs for development cannot be underestimated, the perspectives that dominate the debates reflect rationality based on modernization and fail to consider the role ICTs play in reinforcing inequality. Using a case study of adoption, embedding and use of an ICT in an organisation in a least developed country, the paper demonstrates how the production and consumption of ICTs reinforces inequalities and dispels the myth that ICTs can facilitate poverty reduction and socio-economic development.

Invisible Medium, Virtual Commodity: From Public Good to Private Gain in Allocation of the Radio Spectrum

Walker, K.
(University of East London)

This paper examines how extensive development in wireless technologies and applications has resulted in a growing demand for deregulation and liberalisation of the radio spectrum to allow wider and more easily accessible access for new commercial initiatives. The paper explores current policies for the commercial allocation and auctioning of radio spectrum and the issues they raise. The notion of the radio spectrum as a ‘public good’, a commodity held in common for the benefit of all members of society, is increasingly under pressure. The radio spectrum is a finite resource even though digital technologies mean that the spectrum can be used more efficiently and for more applications. This paper explores the inequality of access to the policy-making process in relation to the reallocation of spectrum which favours large, corporate interests and the commercial applications of the mobile phone industry whilst at the same time failing to make adequate provision for existing public service applications that have value above and beyond their notional spectrum value. It considers existing applications and potential new uses that may be marginalised by more market allocation of the spectrum and ‘spectrum trading’ and questions the implications of allowing market forces to shape the allocation of a precious, public resource.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 1

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 03

The Social Mobility of Ethnic Minorities in Britain (1982-2011): Changes over Time and across Generations

Li, Y., Heath, A.
(University of Manchester)

Most social mobility research in Britain is focused on men or the general population and relatively little is known about that of its immigrants. In this paper, we use data from the General Household Survey (1982 – 2005), the British Household Panel Survey for 2005 and the Understanding Society (2010-11) to address the latter issue. We code father’s and respondent’s class, ethnicity and generational status in all the datasets in a consistent way. We conduct the analysis between the first and the second generations, for the main minority ethnic groups, for the four decades (1980s, 1990s, 2000s and 2010s), and for men and women separately. We find a major generational shift in ethnic social mobility with the first generation experiencing a notable social decline but the second generation, especially women, having a similar experience to the White British in both absolute and relative patterns. The class of origin
operated with stronger effects for the first than the second generation, but in a similar way at the overall level to that for Whites. Indian men have made the greatest intergenerational progress whilst Black African men and Pakistani/Bangladeshi women have experienced the most persistent intergenerational disadvantages. Overall, there is significant albeit limited progress over the four decades in terms of social fluidity for the mainstream and for some of the minority ethnic groups, particularly the second generation. There is greater variation among the minority ethnic groups than between them and the Whites.

The Changing Nature of Irish Racisms: Is Economic Contribution the New White?

Byrne, M.  
(Trinity College Dublin)

Irish people have long been participant in globalised and ever changing flows of people from its historically embedded tradition of emigration to its recent status as a destination country for immigrants from all over the world. From the 1990s through the 2000s rapid and significant inward migration was generated by employment opportunities accompanying exceptional annual economic growth and the refrain that ‘one in ten are foreign nationals’ entered popular discourse. Drawing on unique data collected on the cusp of economic recession in Ireland in 2008 and 2009 from interviews with white Irish professionals, this paper begins by problematising who they categorise as an immigrant and finds three conceptualisations of the term co-exist, with attendant implications for researchers, past and future. In addition, the existence of a constructed hierarchy of acceptability demonstrates that the categorisation of people as immigrants (or not) by these well-educated, media literate and politically aware individuals is complex, nuanced, and contingent, and involves the intersection of race, ethnicity, and social class, with notions of contribution, respectability and entitlement. Informed by the theoretical contributions of Whiteness Studies, and Sivanandan’s argument that ‘poverty is the new Black’, this paper argues that contribution, especially economic contribution, is the new White. Twenty one years after McVeigh wrote of the changing nature of racism in Ireland I argue that xeno-racism is emergent in neo-liberal European states such as Ireland, exacerbated, but not originating, in recession.

Ethnicity, Economics and Segregation in the British Neighbourhood

Demireva, N., Peach, C., Heath, A.  
(University of Essex)

Preference for living in largely intra-ethnic communities can reflect upon behavioural patterns of reaction to the exogenous shock of migration or upon manifested tensions between ethnic groups, including a majority and well-established minorities. Why does segregation persevere – a fact that seems incongruous with the rates of growing diversity in modern day Western societies? Can segregation strangely enough be the consequence of spreading diversity; that is to say, the reaction of ethnic groups trying to maintain social distance in the most obvious way in which distance can be maintained by moving out or relocating? This is the question that the present paper will try to address using data from the Managing Cultural Diversity Study 2010. Through series of multilevel models that account for the neighbourhood contexts in which the respondents currently reside, we explore the motivation behind dynamic forms of segregation such as White flight and initial forms of tension: discomfort with outgroupers. Unlike previous research which has focused on white respondents only (Farley et al. 1994), we consider the experience of minority respondents and the influence of religious affiliation as well. The paper shows that white respondents report growing discomfort with outgroupers and desire to leave a diverse scenario if currently they live in primarily homogeneous intra-ethnic neighbourhoods in which they experience little diversity. In contrast, minority respondents show greater tolerance in general; and strong preference for living with co-ethnics increases with the strength of their religious conviction and high exposure to diversity and deprivation.

‘Fairness’ and Racialised Entitlement in the Neoliberal Moment

Garner, S.J.  
(The Open University)

While a number of social theorists have critically analysed neoliberal ideas and practices over the last decade, there is still relatively little work on neoliberalism that attempts to understand the impacts that these have had on racialisation processes, or vice versa, which is an interesting absence in itself. While we have some theoretical sociological basis for looking at particular geographical spaces (Goldberg, 2009) and multiculturalism (Lentin and Titley, 2011), for example, there is little that focuses specifically on Britain, and even less based on qualitative fieldwork rather than secondary analysis (cf. Ethnic & Racial Studies, special issue, 2013). This paper is a preliminary attempt to understand the relationship of neoliberal frames to white UK people’s talk of nation, belonging and entitlement in a series of interview-based fieldwork projects in provincial England during the 2005-2011 period. I argue that the frames through which people understand entitlement to resources are saturated with ideas of individual responsibility; evoke a
hostility toward claims for identity based on ‘race’; and constitutive of the key notion of fairness’, which is seen as the opposite to ‘equality’.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 2
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 04
DIASPORA, MIGRATION AND TRANSNATIONAL IDENTITIES

Choices and Constraints: The Working Lives of Undocumented Migrants

Bloch, A.
(University of Manchester)

Labour markets are characterised by cleavages of gender, nationality and ethnicity. Intersecting with these cleavages is a division of labour based on immigration status. Undocumented migrant workers, with their lack of status, are often portrayed as having limited individual agency and as being firmly located within the unregulated and most precarious parts of the economy. Drawing on interviews with 55 undocumented migrants from an ESRC study, ‘Undocumented Migrants, Ethnic Enclaves and Networks: Opportunities, traps or class-based constructs’, this paper will examine the complex ways in which undocumented migrants navigate their labour market positions focussing in particular on their choices and constraints. The paper will attempt to shed light on some of these individual experiences within the wider policy and structural frameworks in which they operate.

The Consequences of Low-status Work on Association Participation of Nigerian Immigrant Workers in Greece

Fouskas, T.
(New York College, Greece)

The article centers on the repercussions low-status/paid work has on the collective organization and representation of immigrant workers. The micro-sociological analysis focuses on the case of Nigerian immigrants in Greece, and on how the frame of their work and their employment affects their participation in the immigrant association Nigerian Community in Greece and in Greek trade unions as well. Evidence from in-depth interviews proves that due to the ramifications of their work, Nigerians are cut off, do not claim established workers’ rights and do not seek membership in any community associations or unions. On the contrary, Nigerian immigrant workers rely on friendly and relative networks in search of solidarity and thus resort to alternative means of ensuring survival and protection in Greek society, choosing individualistic methods of regulating their difficulties and workers’ rights, far from collectivities and often resigning from them completely.

Opportunities and Inequalities in Intra-European Worker Mobility

Moskal, M.
(University of Glasgow)

The proposed paper examines the experiences of intra–European Polish migrants, their view on work, education and livelihoods. It is based on a larger qualitative research project on Polish migrate families living in Scotland. This paper studies the occupational opportunities and inequalities of migrants performing unskilled work in Scotland. The goals of the research are to go beyond the debate that focuses on the structural elements that condition their labour trajectories in UK and to include both personal and family factors and the way in which these migrants use their agency in order to shape their labour trajectories.

Migrants’ employment and educational barriers and opportunities are examined using the category of ambivalence (Smelser 1997). Ambivalence is related to cultural and societal variations that define migrant and host society and that impact migrants’ social mobility in the receiving society. Ambivalence is visible in migrants’ life experiences, which are marked by contrasting and sometimes contradictory roles and identities.
Theorising the Intersection between Local Labour Processes in North East England and International Migration Flows

Vickers, T.
(Northumbria University)

This paper develops a Marxist framework for analysing the relationship between various kinds of international migration flows and local labour processes, in a post-industrial setting that is heavily marked by austerity. It draws on some emerging findings from an ongoing programme of empirical research, which is being co-produced with voluntary sector organisations that involve and support migrants in North East England. This research collaboration provides unique insights and ensures the continuing relevance of the research to practice and policy. The methodology includes in-depth qualitative interviews to examine the experiences of migrants seeking and undertaking paid work before and after their arrival in Britain and address how migration has shaped their experience of work, and a survey to establish quantifiable dimensions of their position in the workforce such as average pay and incidences of zero hour contracts.

I focus specifically on migrants from the Eastern European countries that joined the EU in 2004 and 2007, and refugees and asylum seekers from countries in Africa and Asia. These groups are disproportionately concentrated in lower paid and less secure posts, yet represent a diversity of countries of origin, employment backgrounds, ethnicities, languages and migration routes. By comparing their experiences, this paper points toward wider generalisations, regarding the relationship between international divisions of labour, labour flows, and local labour processes within contemporary capitalism. The paper concludes with proposals for policy and practice interventions to improve integration between migrants and other sections of the workforce and to strengthen the rights of migrants as workers.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 3

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 10

Perspectives of Youth Same-sex Sexualities and Self-harm among NGO Service Providers and Secondary School Teachers in Hong Kong

Tang, D.
(University of Hong Kong)

This paper investigates the perspectives of service providers in working with Chinese lesbian and gay youth in Hong Kong secondary schools, and maps the relations between same-sex sexualities, religion, education and self-harm. By studying the general level of acceptance and tolerance of same-sex sexualities in schools, this sociological study aims to provide further understanding into Hong Kong youth issues and its effect on deliberate self-harm behaviour among Chinese lesbian and gay youth. What are the institutional and personal factors concerning these service providers in providing guidance and counselling services to youth with same-sex desires? What are the potential causal linkages between same-sex sexualities and self-harm? How does the climate of a social environment affect Chinese lesbian and gay youth in accessing support services?

Using a qualitative approach, sixteen in-depth interviews have been conducted with teachers, social workers and service providers who work with Chinese lesbian and gay youth in various institutional settings and community-based organizations in 2012 and 2013. Participant observation was conducted at youth centres, cultural events and street protests. The study finds a similarity between the understanding of self-harm and same-sex sexualities, where a young lesbian and gay person is expected to grow out of harming themselves as much as growing out of their same-sex desires. Conservative religious beliefs are obstructive to the provision of services to lesbian and gay youth. It concludes that there is a lack of support services and of raising awareness for both service providers and students on issues of sexuality and self-harm.

#transdocfail: What Makes a Twitterstorm Important?

Pearce, R.
(University of Warwick)

In January 2013 hundreds of trans people took to Twitter to share stories of alleged medical malpractice. The catalyst for this outpouring of anger and accusation was the creation of #transdocfail, a hashtag intended to promote discussion of issues faced by trans people accessing medical services in the UK. Within weeks #transdocfail was being discussed within the mainstream media and the British Medical Association had launched an investigation. How
did an expression of outrage from members of a small minority group so rapidly result in wider recognition and concrete action?

This paper draws upon a range of qualitative data – from Twitter, Facebook, bulletin boards and newspaper opinion columns – to explore how #transdocfail was constructed as an ‘important’ and ‘meaningful’ event by trans activists, allies and community advocates. I argue that several factors contributed to the impact of #transdocfail beyond the social media platform from which it originated: these included the prior existence of widespread discontent, increasing publication opportunities for trans journalists, and a strong belief in the importance of the event amongst participants.

I also explore how online discussion of #transdocfail intersected with a contemporaneous controversy over articles about feminism written by Suzanne Moore and Julie Burchill. The resulting dispute between journalists, news editors and trans activists ultimately served to provide a wider platform for the dissemination of complaints originating with #transdocfail.

Being ‘the Gay One’: Exploring the University Experiences of LGBTQ Undergraduate Students at English Universities

Keenan, M.P.
(Nottingham Trent University)

University is often seen as a place of exploration, acceptance and diversity. Indeed, for many young LGBTQ people going to university is seen as an opportunity for increased openness about sexual and gender identity, a possibility to engage in social relationships at a distance from previous experiences, and an opportunity to reimagine self. However such opportunities are often accompanied by a range of concerns and anxieties around the possibility of experiencing negativity or rejection on the basis of sexual or gender identity.

This paper highlights some emerging issues from the research project ‘Coming Out and Fitting In’. The project explores undergraduate LGBTQ student experiences through questionnaire and focus group methods. The paper presents and reflects upon the broadly positive story of acceptance and inclusion told by responses to the project questionnaire. However, with a particular focus on interaction with other students the paper also explores LGBTQ students’ narratives of acceptance and rejection in their interactions with others at university. The paper highlights continued experiences of difference and separation, particularly reflecting on how students understand and construct experiences of themes such as ‘banter’ and ‘curiosity’ as evidence of both acceptance and rejection within these narratives.

‘Just Homophobic’ or ‘Offensive Homophobic’?: Anti-homosexuality in British Workplaces

Einarsdottir, A., Hoel, H., Lewis, D.
(University of Hull)

Literature on homophobia can be divided in in three broad areas; prevalence of homophobic attacks and attitudes towards lesbians and gay men (Herek, 1990, 2000; Herek and Gonzalez, 2006; Hooghe, Claes, Harell, Quintelier and Dejaeghere; 2010 Schwartz and Lindley, 2005); how homophobia is produced and maintained (Bernstein, 2004) and; the context where it takes place (Embrick, Walther and Wickens, 2007; McCormack and Anderson, 2010). Whilst the importance of establishing the extent of the problem cannot be underestimated for legal and political reasons, the concept itself has been critiqued for being individualistic and psychological (Kitzinger, 1987; Plummer, 1981), failing to take into account structural inequalities, experiences of homophobia (Adam, 1998) and discursive manifestations of homophobia (Bryant and Vidal-Ortiz, 2008).

Based on an ESRC funded study about the experiences of lesbians, gay men and bisexuals (LGBs) of bullying, harassment and discrimination in six public, private and third sector organisations in the UK, this paper examines homophobia at work, what homophobia is understood to be and how legal and psychological discourses mask inequalities based on sexuality in the British workplace. Drawing on Social Conflict Theory, we use LGB interview accounts to explore the tensions between sameness/difference and equality and diversity practices in the workplace. We argue that gestures of inclusion sustain marginalisation of non-heterosexuals at work by reinforcing differences and further isolating sexual minorities by keeping them away from heterosexuals and from each other.
Invisible Queers and Genders in Higher Education Medical, Health and Psychological Accreditation Policies and Teaching Spaces

Davy, Z.
(University of Lincoln)

Within medical, health and psychological accreditation polices for higher education the attempt to encourage the teaching of and be inclusive of ‘diverse communities’ in the curriculum has been argued to be a major breakthrough. Teaching tended to position heterosexuality and gender normativity—people conforming to social standards of what is ‘appropriate’ feminine and masculine behavior—as the primary context in which health and illness is viewed. The problem now seems to be homonormativity and teaching that promotes these views of sexuality and gender identity over others can create a pedagogical environment in which gender stereotypes and hetero and homonormativity prevails. The breadth of language of ‘diverse communities’ in the accreditation policies underpinning pedagogical practice on these programs paradoxically offers space for the inclusion of queer and non-binary genders, but it seems, is rarely utilized by educators. This is contentious for pedagogical practices and notions of diversity and inclusivity. Drawing on interviews with educators teaching on health programs in the UK, this paper explores the synchronizations and contentions of teaching queer and non-binary genders to health students in light of both structural and micro processes of inclusivity and erasures. Utilizing Freire’s (2000) concept of ‘limit situations’ as both potentiality to and restraining dimensions of praxes and the Deleuzian and Guattarian (1987) notion of the rhizome, I will contextualize the educators dilemmas. This paper will also argue that erasure of queers and non-binary genders at this stage of students ‘professionalization’ may affect how queers and non-binary genders are understood in healthcare practice.

The Chameleonisation of Masculinity: Jimmy’s Multiple Performances of Self across Educational and Social Spheres

Ward, M.
(The Open University)

In this paper, drawing on studies into young men, masculinities and educational identities, I explore the issue of multiple performances of working-class masculinities, with a detailed case study of one young man called Jimmy, outlining his transitions through post-compulsory education and his different social and cultural spaces. I argue that in a variety of settings, spaces and in different social interactions, multiple regions of masculinity are displayed by this young man and I consider the pressure that Jimmy is under to perform his masculinity in different ways. Throughout I focus on the conflicts he faces in trying to achieve both academically, with aspirations of progressing to university, and also as a successful athlete. These pressures are simultaneously met with other demands to achieve a socially valued form of masculinity that the former industrial heritage of the region he lives in demands.

Gender, Sexuality and Schooling: Young People’s Experiences in New Delhi, India

Iyer, P.
(University of Sussex)

Following the ‘December 16th case’ in 2012, when a young woman was gang raped and killed in New Delhi, issues relating to gender, sexuality and society have been furiously debated across India. In the wake of this case, the Indian government and media has largely discussed ‘changing society’ by focusing on law and order issues. While no doubt important, the role of education and schooling in reproducing or challenging gender and sexuality norms has received limited attention.

This paper presents findings from research being carried out in three Delhi secondary schools in 2013 as part of my doctoral fieldwork, and explores how young people (aged 16 – 18 years) experience, reproduce and challenge gender and sexuality norms in their daily school lives. Data collection for this study is currently ongoing (with fieldwork due to conclude in December 2013), and findings from participant observation, questionnaires, focus group discussions, semi-structured interviews, and informal interactions with students and teachers will be discussed.

Findings so far suggest that even while defining a so-called ‘Indian mentality’ which dictates appropriate gendered behaviour, young women and men in this study are also questioning and challenging dominant assumptions about femininities and masculinities which they face on a daily basis. Young people’s ideas about how – and if – they can challenge gender and sexuality norms and change their society will also be explored in this paper.
Educational Achievements and the Role of Private High Schools in Japan, Taiwan and Britain

Aizawa, S., Cheung, Y-M.  
(Chukyo University)

This paper addresses the following two research questions: In the era of educational expansion, what role does high school choice play, in terms of the choice between public and private, and between academic and vocational education, in Japan, Taiwan and Britain? How high school students go to colleges in these three societies? Japan and Taiwan have both experienced a rapid expansion of secondary education in the process of late-industrialization. In these two societies, high school tracking decides the students’ educational careers. In addition, people in these two societies are inclined toward the belief that national and public schools are more prestigious than private schools. Therefore, the role of private high schools will be different in these countries than in the British.

As a result of the comparative quantitative analysis, students with higher achievements tend to go to public academic high schools, whereas students with lower achievements tend to go to private high schools in Japan and Taiwan. During the educational expansion in both societies, private high schools have supplied opportunities for students of a lower achievements and a lower social status. Meanwhile, this research confirms the existence of a new trend in private school education in these two societies: the rise of private academic education in the younger cohort in the similar way as the British society.

Conditional Equality in Privatised Schooling: Is There a Public Good in the Private Sector?

Boyask, R.  
(Plymouth University)

In light of the proliferation of public/private partnerships and greater private involvement in state-funded schooling, relationships between public and private interests require consideration beyond recognition that such relationships represent an erosion of the public good in the schooling sector. The research reported in this paper is asking and beginning to answer questions about the nature and quality of compromises made by privatised schools in pursuit of social justice. This work is significant in an increasingly privatised schooling sector where schools that have a commitment to equality must negotiate some form of compromise between their values and the prevailing competitive norms of the market.

The findings presented in this paper come from a study on the possibilities for social justice within privatised schooling funded by the British Academy/Leverhulme Trust. It reports on a survey of fee-paying schools in England which identified schools who express a commitment to equality (in the sense of either equal relationships within the school and/or relationships of mutuality with groups outside of the school) in one or more of the dimensions of school governance, curriculum, pedagogy, intake or outcomes. Unsurprisingly these schools are very rare, comprising less than 4% of the private fee-paying schools in England. The paper presents initial findings that show how these schools realise their commitment to equality. It presents data on the nature of the internal and external relationships of the schools, and uses this data to evaluate the kinds of equality promoted through liberalisation from the state.

The Way School Composition Plays Differently in Two Similar Educational Systems

Martin, E., Danhier, J.  
(Université Libre de Bruxelles)

The Belgian educational field consists of separate systems reflecting the division of the country in two major linguistic communities. Even if these educational systems keep sharing important similarities in terms of structures or funding rules, they present a huge gross and net gap between their respective students’ achievements. Since both systems are characterized by high levels of segregation, school composition is expected to have some effect on achievement. Multilevel models will be consequently tested on the new PISA 2012 data. Based on previous results, we anticipate that family background (socioeconomic, language and ethnicity) still has a deep influence on achievement at both student and school levels. Moreover, in a system functioning as a quasi-market and where grade repetition and tracking are widely used, the position of students in the hierarchical system is expected to mediate this background effect. We will reproduce previous analyses which confirm that academic and socioeconomic segregations have extra but different negative effects because of the specific segregation profiles in both parts of the Belgium. As a conclusion, a detailed analysis of the way characteristics play differently in similar systems can help to intervene appropriately.
Intersections of Social Class, Ethnicity and Gender in New Zealand Year 9 Students' Feelings about Maths

Pomeroy, D.
(University of Cambridge)

This presentation examines the relationship between New Zealand Year 9 (13-year-old) students' feelings about maths and the students' social class, ethnicity, and gender. It draws on emerging findings from a recent study that aims to explore the complex intersections of social class, ethnicity, and gender in a nation in which ethnicity is the primary focus of educational equity policies and research. Nearly all Year 9 students (about 450) in three socially mixed schools completed a questionnaire about the extent to which they enjoyed and valued maths, their self-confidence in maths, and whether they thought they had 'a mathematical mind' or 'felt stupid' in maths class. Twenty of these students then participated in semi-structured interviews to examine in more depth their feelings about maths.

An initial broad brushstroke analysis revealed that social class, ethnicity, and gender all constitute axes of inequality in the experience of learning maths, in ways that could be considered predictable. However, a more nuanced examination of the data showed how contingent these findings are. For example, the gendering of enjoyment of maths seems to operate quite differently in Asian, white, and Pacific ethnic groups. The presentation will explore intersections such as this, and reflect on the implications that subject-specific sociological research could have for subject-specific educators with a social justice orientation.

Sociology of Religion
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 13

E-reading, the Bible and the Network Society

Hutchings, T.
(Durham University)

In the last five years, reading the Bible on a digital device has become increasingly common among evangelical Christians in many regions of the world. The rise of the smartphone and tablet have allowed Christian programmers to create apps to access, analyse and share biblical texts at any time. The most popular of these products (YouVersion) recorded its 100 millionth download in the summer of 2013, and a thriving marketplace of rivals has now emerged.

Production of these digital Bibles is driven by the traditional evangelical understanding of the Bible as the Word of God, a powerful agent acting to transform the lives of readers, and digital Bibles remediate many traditional evangelical reading practices. However, we can also use these Bibles as case studies to help trace patterns of religious and social change. Digital technologies have accelerated long-term social trends, contributing to the emergence of ‘the network society’ (Castells 2009) and ‘networked individualism’ (Wellman 2012). These Bibles can be analysed as networks, through which new patterns of attention and authority are forming (Wagner 2010).

This paper uses interviews, surveys and software analysis to study YouVersion as an example of ‘networked religion’. The creators of this app have leveraged the affordances of mobile media and digital social networks to promote their understanding of Scripture, receiving international attention and funding, while more traditional publishers have struggled to compete. The relationship between publisher, reader and text is shifting as religious groups and individuals respond to wider changes in the organisation of society.

Rethinking Religion and Public Life in Media-rich Late Modern Societies: A Theory of Religious Re-publicisation

Herbert, D.
(University of Agder)

A combination of the rapid development and dissemination of media technologies, the liberalization of national media economies, and the growth of transnational media spheres is transforming the relationship between religion, popular culture and politics in contemporary societies in ways not adequately accounted for in existing sociological theories of religion (secularisation, neo-secularisation and rational choice), and still largely neglected in sociological theories of media and culture. In particular, it points to a series of media enabled social processes (de-differentiation, diasporic intensification and re-enchantment) which mirror and counter processes identified with the declining social significance of religion in secularization theory (differentiation, societalisation and rationalisation), interrupting their secularizing effects, and tending to increase the public presence or distribution of religious symbols and discourses, a process described as religious ‘re-publicisation’. These processes have implications for religious authority, which is re-
configured in a more distributed form but not necessarily diminished, contrary to neo-secularisation theory. Furthermore, contrary to rational choice theory, the increased public presence of religion depends not only on competition between religious ‘suppliers’, but also on the work done by religions beyond the narrow religious sphere ascribed by secular modernity to religion, in supposedly secular spheres such as entertainment, politics, law, health and welfare, and hence has implications for the relationship between politics and popular culture central to socio-cultural studies.

Queer Youth, Facebook, and Faith: Facebook Methodologies and Online Identities

Falconer, E., Snowdon, R., Taylor, Y.  
(Weeks Centre for Social and Policy Research)

‘Making space for queer-identifying religious youth’ (2011-2013) is an Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) funded project, which seeks to shed light on youth cultures, queer community and religiosity. Whilst non-heterosexuality is often associated with secularism, and some sources cast religion as automatically negative or harmful to the realisation of LGBT identity (or ‘coming out’), we sought to explore how queer Christian youth reconciled their sexual and religious identities. The dearth of studies on queer religious youth, combined with an emerging and continuing interest in the role of digital technologies for the identities of young people, call for this timely study into ‘Queer Youth, Facebook and Faith’. Based on interviews with 38 LGBT, ‘religious’ young people, this paper examines Facebook, as well as wider social networking sites and online environment and communities, as an important facet of this reconciliation to today’s queer religious youth. Engaging with the key concept of ‘Online Embodiment’ (Farquar 2012), this paper employs a closer analysis of embodiment, emotion and temporality to approach the role of Facebook in the lives of queer religious youth. The paper further explores the methodological dilemmas evoked by the presence of Facebook in qualitative research with specific groups of young people.

Religion, Social Media, and ‘Civil Society’ among Chinese Christians

Lim, F.K.G.  
(University of Agder)

This paper examines whether religion, through a case study of online Christianity, contribute to the development of civil society in China. We discuss how the global interconnectedness of the Internet influences the Christians in China and the diaspora, in terms of communicating their faith, building their communities and furthering their cause. Herbert (2011: 633) has noted that electronic media has enabled ‘wider circulation of religious symbols and discourses across a range of social fields, which tends (even in secularized societies) to move religion out of the differentiated religious sphere to which it is notionally confined in liberal versions of modernity and into various contested public spheres’. If this was the case, the Internet and social networking sites may very well challenge many governments’ concern to keep the secular and religious spheres separate in their attempt to maintain social harmony in multi-ethnic and multi-religious societies. Our paper investigates if users of the Internet and social media for religious purposes in China see their activity as contributing to the development of civil society.

The Sociology of Dominant Ideologies: An Unexpected Reunion between Pierre Bourdieu and Luc Boltanski

Susen, S.  
(City University London)

The main purpose of this paper is to illustrate the enduring relevance of Pierre Bourdieu and Luc Boltanski’s ‘La production de l’idéologie dominante’, which was published in Actes de la recherche en sciences sociales in 1976. A re-edited version of this study was printed in book format as ‘La production de l’idéologie dominante’ in 2008. This new edition was accompanied by a detailed commentary, written by Boltanski and entitled Rendre la réalité inacceptable. À propose de « La production de l’idéologie dominante ». In this commentary – which contains not only various revealing personal anecdotes, but also several important sociological insights – Boltanski provides an insider account of the genesis of one of the most seminal pieces he co-wrote with his intellectual father, Bourdieu. Yet, the
theoretical contributions made in ‘La production de l’idéologie dominante’ and, to an even greater degree, those made in ‘Rendre la réalité inacceptable’ have been largely ignored in the Anglophone literature on contemporary French sociology. This paper aims to fill this gap by offering a fine-grained analysis of both texts, arguing that the ‘dominant ideology thesis’ – according to which ‘the dominant ideology is the ideology of the dominant groups in society’ – is far from obsolete. The paper concludes by examining the extent to which the unexpected, and partly posthumous, intellectual reunion between ‘the master’ and his ‘dissident disciple’ equips us with powerful conceptual and empirical tools to challenge recent discourses on the alleged ‘end of ideology’.

Why and How Social Scientists Need to Study Moralities
Jordan, J.
(University of Cambridge)

Studies have shown that morality is often a tool of domination. However, as some have pointed out (Zigon, 2008; Sayer, 2011), the move to cultural relativism has led to an embrace of moral relativism which leaves this important aspect of human interaction understudied. For this reason, I believe it is necessary to expand the way we conceive of morality from a set of dominant social principles to the process by which these principles are reproduced and disrupted by subjects for whom there seems to be a nearly universal tendency to engage with moralities in an active way throughout their lives. The question then becomes, how do we study and build understandings of moralities in a way that is responsible, self-reflexive, and has the potential to promote a strong but flexible moral fabric for the societies we live in without (re)producing the same sorts of violently dominating discourses which we wish to displace. Drawing from the theories of Bourdieu and anthropologist Jarrett Zigon, I will present and discuss some methodological approaches to the study of morality which attempt to distinguish it from other forms of social interaction as well as elucidate the ways in which the processes of social change and adaptation may stem from forms of moral action. I believe that these approaches to studying moralities highlight their role as a means not only of social reproduction but more importantly a means of social change.

Subordination and Perceptions of Injustice: Differing Dispositions among Palestinians in an Israeli City
Pasquetti, S.
(University of Cambridge)

Drawing on Bourdieu’s theory of habitus and incorporating insights from feminist and critical race and legal scholarship on the creation of “subjugated knowledge,” this article investigates the dispositional production of distinct perceptions of injustice, politics, and morality among differently situated members of a subordinated population. Based on ethnographic fieldwork within and across the West Bank and the Israeli city of Lod, I explore how the political meanings attached by Israeli Palestinians living in Lod to key issues in their lives—especially drug use and dealing, low formal education, and police arrests—stands in interpretive tension with the moral judgments through which West Bank Palestinians, who have moved to the city and remain there precariously, interpret and act upon the same issues. This article traces this interpretive divergence to two dispositional formations: one that has emerged under protracted conditions of police and security surveillance in Lod and the other that has been produced over time by military rule in the West Bank and imported to Lod by West Bank Palestinians who moved there. It analyzes the durability of these two sets of practical orientations while also discussing some instances in which West Bank Palestinians living in Lod tentatively converge towards their co-nationals’ interpretive framework. It concludes by calling attention to the role of dispositions in studies of identity-formation and boundary-work as well as issues of submission and resistance in contexts of ethnonational (or ethnoracial) subordination.

Work, Employment and Economic Life
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 06

A New Start? Older Apprentices in the UK
Leonard, P., Davey, G., Fuller, A., Unwin, L.
(University of Southampton)

Dating from medieval times, the concept of apprenticeship is internationally recognised and one that evokes the sense of the young novice learning the skills of a trade from an ‘old hand’. However, in England, apprenticeships for those aged 25 or over have been introduced since 2004 and there were more than 200,000 apprentices starting the government-supported programme aged 25 or over in 2011, of whom almost 4,000 were aged 60+. The training and
development of older workers assumes ever greater significance within the context of extending working lives, yet very little is known about the growing numbers of older apprentices and the organisations in which they are located. This paper examines the reasons for undertaking an apprenticeship at a later stage in the lifecourse, and how these are intersected by gender, class, region and sector. In addition, we explore some of the organisational benefits and challenges associated with employing adult apprentices.

Drawing on new fieldwork conducted in five case study organisations located across England, our case studies generated illustrative, qualitative evidence about the experiences, benefits and challenges for apprentices at older ages, as well as for the organisations taking them on. In that older apprenticeships form non-standard choices for both organisations and individuals, they provide a lens onto the ways in which the dynamics of work may be changing in a context of austerity and demographic change. The research contributes to both policy and theoretical debates about transitions, workplace learning, and labour market participation across the life-course.

Neither Ethnic nor Religious: Black and Muslim Penalties in the UK Labour Market

Khattab, N., Modood, T.
(University of Bristol)

In this paper we revisit the question of ethnic and religious penalties in employment and argue that there are no ethnic penalties in the UK. What has been previously labelled as ethnic penalties (Heath and Cheung 2006) is in fact a proxy for racial and Muslim penalties resulting from colour and cultural racism (Modood 2005). Thus, we expect all Muslim groups to face this penalty regardless of ethnicity, but also expect all black groups to face a racial “Black” penalty regardless of religion. A group that face both racial (Black) and cultural (Muslim) penalties (e.g. Black-Muslims) will have the lowest performance, or will be the most disadvantaged.

We examine this argument by analysing the odds of avoiding unemployment amongst various ethno-religious groups in the UK using data obtained from the UK LFS 2002-2010. The data clearly show that there are significant differences between the groups studied in relation to their ability of avoiding unemployment. Surely these differences cannot be explained by their qualifications, length of stay in the UK (generational differences), employment status (self-employment vs. employed), age or marital status. All of these factors have been controlled for, therefore the observed significant differences have to be associated with factors other than those used in the analysis.

The observed differential penalties are strongly associated with the blackness and Muslimness of the groups providing a sound evidence for the colour and cultural racialization of Black and Muslim people in the UK.

Negotiating Retirement

Williams, G., Beck, V.
(University of Leicester)

Following abolition of the default retirement age in 2011, it is not clear how retirement decisions are made, especially where employee and employer needs and expectations do not match. A key issue is who controls the timing and decision making process of retirement in organisations?

A possible solution for employers is the use of performance management (PM), especially as this is recommended by the DWP (Müller-Carmen et al., 2011). However, preliminary statistical analysis of LFS data shows that there has been little change in reported reasons why people leave jobs since the abolishing of the default retirement age. This paper questions how the process of deciding about retirement has changed since 2011. Is there a relationship between extending working lives and the use of performance appraisal or performance management for older workers? And if the use of performance management has increased, what implications does this have for the workforce as a whole? Alternatively, how is the retirement decision and process negotiated between employers and employees?

The paper is based on preliminary analysis of a Freedom of Information (FoI) request to public libraries. Library staff were chosen as a target group because they are a clearly defined group of public sector workers. At 35.2% the proportion of public library service employees who are aged between 55 and 64 is higher than for the whole economy (13%) (LGA, 2011). In addition to the FoI information, the paper draws on interviews with 10 managers, employees and trade union representatives.
Occupational Hierarchies, Precarity and Racialisation of Indian IT Workers in Singapore

Velayutham, S., Wise, A.
(Macquarie University)

Drawing on empirical research among Indian IT workers in Singapore, the paper advances two propositions: 1) there has been insufficient consideration of skilled migration in terms of national and racial hierarchies of opportunity, rights and conditions; and 2) the literature on skilled transnationals has been too receiving country centric. Today IT has become associated with India in ways that naturalise precarious forms of employment and attracts less favourable conditions than occupational categories more associated with White professionals. We argue that conditioning occurs via four intersecting factors. First, Singapore has a long-standing tradition of visa hierarchies which situate White transnational elites at the apex of the occupational hierarchy, and South Asian workers at the bottom. Although South Asian workers have traditionally been low waged low skilled, perceptions of the recent flow of middling transnational skilled Indians builds upon this history of racial sorting. Second, we suggest consideration needs to be given to deeper social, cultural and historical analysis of how labour has been conditioned historically and at present in sending countries like India and how this in turn translates into conditions in receiving countries with respect to what workers accept as ‘their due’ and consider to be normal. Third, we suggest a more global circulation of colonial era ideas of racial hierarchy continue to cast a long shadow even to the most modern of occupations like IT. Finally, IT as an industry has emerged as a quintessential post-industrial service industry characterised by highly precarious subcontracting forms of transnational labour supply.
Thursday 24 April 2014 at 13:30 - 15:00  
**PAPER SESSION 5**

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Moving Here, Staying There: The Coincidence of Mobility and Place

Schnuer, G.
(University of Luxembourg)

How can we conceptually grasp the simultaneity of movement and inertia? The paper will draw on data from research that looks at cross-border residential mobility along the Luxembourgish-German border. The short-distance relocation of the home across a national border from Luxembourg into Germany, whilst maintaining close connections (esp. through employment) to Luxembourg, initially serves to illustrative that mobility and sedentariness can occur together non-paradoxically.

Rather than focussing on empirical results, the paper will use these to question the inflationary use of the term ‘mobility’ by trying to explore theoretical questions raised by the cross-border mobility about the relationship between ‘dwelling,’ ‘place,’ and ‘mobility.’ The overlapping and constantly intertwining reality of these concepts in the lives of these residential ‘migrants’ can prompt us to constructively rethink these concepts as non-exclusive forms of what I will consider ‘movements.’

In the paper I will try to outline four ‘types’ of movement, focussing on two: ‘mobility’, which specifically describes the movement between two places will be juxtaposed to ‘circulation’. The latter is movement that does not leave a place, but happens within somewhere – it is not, however, the same as inertia. The final two version of movement (circling and drifting) might be covered if time permits.

This conceptual shift from ‘mobility’ to ‘movement’ (of which mobility is just one particular type) will be related to some empirical examples, showing how it helps research recognise the expansiveness of places, where people can move to somewhere that is nonetheless still here, rather than necessarily there.

Letting Agents, Landlords and Tenants: Structural Holes, Social Capital and Social (Dis)integration

Gould, P.
(University of Manchester)

This working paper seeks to examine the relationship between letting agent, landlord and tenant in the private rented housing market. Representing 10% of the UK housing market and expected to double in the coming decade and with the popularity of ‘buy-to-let’ schemes, private rented housing is causing both concern and optimism for the future of UK housing. Private landlords use letting agencies for a number of reasons including market access, legal expertise and convenience; letting agents act as a broker between two individuals (landlord and tenant). Within social capital research, the gaps between two individuals who have weak social connections (ties) are called ‘structural holes’ (Burt 2001); an individual whose network spans across the structural hole can gain competitive advantage by linking all together. Using interviews from landlords and tenants, describing their relationships and experiences with letting agents, it will be argued brokers in late capitalist society, functioning under profit-maximising rationality, facilitate social disintegration. That is, for there to be low levels of trust between individuals, for individuals and groups to be closed off, disconnected and dispersed provides the opportunity for purely entrepreneurial activity. The relationship between letting agents, landlords and tenants is one that when situated within the perspective of social capital research, can give empirical insights into broader theories surrounding the workings of late capitalism and modernity through the disintegration of the social sphere and detraditionalisation (Beck 2005).

The ‘Council’ Estate and Being Place(d): The Use of Space and the Construction of Identity

Leaney, S.
(University of Sussex)

The estate is a place in the British imaginary; the estate locates, it locates those who live “on” them in their physical and moral disconnection from society. The estate has become a way to speak “class”; a base-line against which “respectable” identity may be constructed. Building upon conceptualisations of the estate as constructed through cultural representations of space, I think about how this occurs within the internal space of the estate.
Thursday 24 April 2014 13:30 - 15:00
PAPER SESSION 5

The paper will focus on two aspects of my doctoral research: firstly the use of space on the estate and secondly the ways in which place locates the self. I consider the tensions between urban and rural space, exploring notions of purity and dirt. I look at internal conflicts on the estate and both spaces that disconnect and unite people on the estate. I explore relational identity construction and place, briefly outlining a theory of place that connects place in the local and the lived, with place within broader political and academic debates concerning social class inequalities. I explore the construction of the self through the construction of the “other”, with a particular focus on “others” within and without the estate.

Drawing on my ethnographic research tracing educational opportunities for young people on an estate located on the eastern side of an English city, I explore “being-on” an estate. Through an account of the estate in its complexity, the paper aims to understand the ways space is used on the estate to build communal identity and struggle for distinction.

Cities, Mobilities, Place and Space 2
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 15

Does the Dominant Policy Discourse of Youth Justice Absenteeism as ‘Non-compliance’ Account for Journey Making Inequalities in England and Wales?

Brooks-Wilson, S.
(University of York)

Young people’s journey making can be complex, with material deprivation often having a profound impact on the accessing of essential local services. Youth offending teams can be understood as offering such services for convicted young people as they address important needs connected with health, education, employment and housing. However, around six per cent of all youth court orders in England and Wales still remain incomplete. This figure rises to over 16 per cent in some areas of high deprivation, with absenteeism for some appointments reported at around 50 per cent. Nevertheless, we still know very little about the context of these incomplete orders.

When circumstances or behaviours result in mandatory court order expectations not being met - such as through absenteeism - informal and formal mechanisms provide a response. As a result, some young people can become incarcerated, despite committing a non-imprisonable offence. The dominant policy discourse of ‘non-compliance’ emphasises notions of responsibility and individual choice. However, this has limited discussions about the capacity for young people to meet requirements, meaning that journey making difficulties have remained somewhat disconnected when discussing absenteeism.

This discussion will be grounded in new empirical evidence, gathered in two areas of high deprivation where order incompletion rates exceeded 15 per cent. The narrow, dominant discourse of ‘non-compliance’ will be contested using practitioners’ and young people’s views and experiences of journey making and transport inaccessibility.

Fractured Communities: Using a Community Conflict Model to Explain How Negative Portrayals of Young People Shape an Interpretation of Hostile Intent

Wilson, A.
(Nottingham Trent University)

The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act introduced a changed the way the authorities responded to antisocial behaviour by prioritising the local community. Crime surveys and research identified residents’ experience of crime and disorder but this was soon translated into policy that addressed their fears and perceptions of disorder. The proposed changes to the regulation of antisocial behaviour set out in the Injunction to Prevent Nuisance and Annoyance continues a process of lowering the threshold for censure by the authorities. This process has been dominated by the empowered voice of the victim, a welcome development but one that has marginalised the voice of the perpetrator and diminished our understanding of the problem.

This paper is drawn from observations made during the course of fieldwork for several research projects in disadvantaged areas that were experiencing high levels of crime and disorder. The focus is on repeated acts of antisocial behaviour that become protracted conflicts between a resident and young people. Drawing on a community conflict model to disaggregate the differing forms of communal conflict the paper explains how many incidents develop from a misinterpretation of intent and an over-reaction to an innocent action. Using case studies of reasonable and unreasonable responses to ASB the paper illustrates the importance of understanding victim-perpetrator interaction to
appreciate that the defining down of behaviour has the potential to increase a sense of injustice among young people who are treated as a threat and responded to with hostility without good cause.

Applying Spatial Theories to Questions about Young People’s Aspirations and Progression Post-16: Interrogating Boundaries, Capitals and Relationships with Place

Farnsworth, V., Higham, J.
(University of Leeds)

In this paper we apply spatial perspectives to education using a sociological lens. Our aim is to craft a cross-disciplinary framework suited to inquiries into questions about how young people navigate the post-16 education landscape. We will use theory to develop a framework that is accountable to the role of place and space in this process (e.g. the meanings they evoke and the boundaries they represent).

Through a thought experiment, drawing on existing research on progression into education, training and/or work, we first use Lefebvre and Bourdieu to consider the way an individual’s relationship with place and spatiality can mediate actual and imagined engagement with places such as school, the classroom and the workplace. Concepts from spatial theory and cultural geography are re-worked for an educational context, with notions such as habitus and capital re-interpreted in the context of questions about post 16 decision-making and agency. Recognising the intersections of theory and method, we then consider the ways methods highlighting semiotics and subjective experience could be used to investigate Lefebvre’s trialectic notion of space. Finally, by running the thought experiment through Deleuzian philosophy, we explore the un/affordances of the dialectical perspective offered by Lefebvre compared with the folding metaphors offered by Deleuze. Our hope is that framing these questions in spatial terms opens up new avenues for not only research but also policy and practice in education. Such a framework could mean a new set of explanations (and solution strategies) for low motivation and poor attainment among marginalised youth.

Culture, Media, Sport and Consumption

The Consistency and Inconsistency of Taste across Cultural Fields: Finland and the UK Compared

Purhonen, S.
(University of Helsinki)

The idea of distinct and identifiable lifestyles that characterize different social groups implies that people should have, at least to a certain degree, meaningfully consistent taste preferences across different areas of life, or, cultural fields. For instance, those who like a certain type of music (e.g. classical or rock) are assumed to like also literature of the similar kind (e.g. poetry or who-dunnits), and so on. If the criterion regarding the ‘similarity’ is connected with the degree of cultural legitimacy, we could thus identify lifestyles representing different levels of legitimacy (and call them, e.g., ‘highbrow’, ‘lowbrow’, etc.). Bourdieu’s theory of taste is a well-known and elaborate example of this type of reasoning, emphasizing the role of coherent, class-related habitus as a mechanism – the ‘unifying principle’ – behind the structural homology between tastes manifested in different fields. Recently, however, Bernard Lahire has criticized Bourdieu’s view of coherent habitus and consistent tastes by focusing on intra-individual plurality and inconsistency (‘dissonance’) of taste dispositions. Lahire has also shown, using data from France, that consistent taste profiles are much rarer than different types of mixed tastes combining varying levels of legitimacy. This paper considers the dispute between Bourdieu and Lahire and empirically addresses the question of consistency of cultural taste across several fields using comparable and representative data from Finland and the UK. The analysis is based on a variety of variables measuring taste and cultural participation in fields of music, literature, the visual arts, cinema, television and other leisure time activities.

Class Dis-identification and Cultural Preferences: Experimental Evidence from the UK

Reeves, A., Holman, D., Gilbert, E.
(University of Oxford)

With the rhetoric of class becoming less salient in the UK, how do individuals identify with or distance themselves from specific class positions? Although people are often unwilling to describe themselves in terms of social class, they are more likely to ascribe class position to others. In this context, cultural preferences have become increasingly important signifiers of class position. Yet, because the barriers to expressing a cultural preference are low, such preferences may vary depending on context and also the nature of the interaction. Thus, expressing a particular cultural
preference may be used in situations where individuals want to assert their class position without using the rhetoric of class. Using an experimental design (n = 400), we randomize the ‘salience of class’ and then examine whether there is change in the intensity and frequency of cultural preferences between the intervention and control groups. We test the robustness of our intervention by measuring whether treatment and control groups are comparable on a range of pre-intervention covariates. We then use difference-in-means tests to estimate the average treatment effect of the treated. Third, we use multivariate regression to estimate whether the effect is diminished once we control for covariates frequently associated with cultural preferences. Our findings contribute to debates concerning the place of cultural consumption in shaping social position and also refine our understanding of how economic and health inequalities persist through the process of cultural exclusion.

Feeling European: The Role of Transnational Consumption Practices on Identities
Hanquinet, L., Savage, M.
(University of York)
Our paper presents preliminary results of the FP7 EUCROSS quantitative survey exploring cross-border practices within six European nations (Germany, Italy, Spain, UK, Denmark and Romania). Based on two logistic regressions, this paper assesses the extent to which cross-border practices (mobility and consumption practices) can be associated with both European and global identities (feeling European - feeling citizen of the world). We show that transnational consumption practices are crucially associated with both European and global identities, and are more important than socio-demographic variables and personal experiences of mobility. The paper also attempts to disentangle processes of cosmopolitisation and europeanisation of daily lives in the context of globalisation. Are the most mobile the most European? Or is it only some specific practices that trigger a higher affinity with the idea of Europe? Can cross-border practices be related to a greater cosmopolitan attitude defined as openness to diversity? We show that specific cross-border practices related to Europe (e.g. purchase in the EU – and not outside the EU, preferences for European cuisines, familiarity with specifically European countries) are associated with a stronger European identity. Other practices are associated with a global identity, such as listening to global music, indicating a certain degree of differentiation between the two processes.

Reconceptualising Hard Rock and Metal Fans as a Group: Imaginary Community
Hill, R.
(University of York)
This article defines a new framework within which to study hard rock and metal fans. I argue that dominant frameworks in metal studies (subcultural theory and the concept of scene) are inadequate for understanding the experiences of women fans; the underlying gendered epistemology results in their dismissal or, at best, a systematic reduction of their experiences. Utopic visions of hard rock and metal as a community do little to change this understanding, as they conceal systematic discrimination that plays a crucial role in forming women’s specific experiences. I contend that a new framework is necessary that takes into account a wider spectrum of fandom and addresses fans’ reported feelings of togetherness, whilst opening up the genre’s culture for a critique of its structures. I contend that my framework of imaginary community can bring new perspectives to studies of fans. The article falls within the context of debates about metal’s inclusivity, and about concepts in popular music studies. I build upon the work of feminist popular music theorists to give a critique of masculine hegemony in stories about rock music; and upon science fiction fan research and feminist critiques of community to argue that community is not a neutral term. I draw on Anderson’s theorisation of the nation as imagined community, extending it to develop the concept ‘imaginary community’. This concept enables consideration of how women fans imagine themselves as part of a community without eliding difficulties imposed by structural sexism, and brings the focus back to pleasure in music.

Families and Relationships 1
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 20

The Impact of the ‘One-child’ Policy on the Future of Chinese Migrant Transnational Networks
Tu, M.
(University of Kent)
It has been three decades since the new Chinese migration emerged after the ‘open-door’ Policy in 1978. Among the latest arrivals are the single-children generation: the product of the ‘one-child’ policy in 1979. As a result, average
family size has become smaller. There is a trend towards ‘small-family culture’ replacing the traditional big-family culture. Such change is likely to shape the way the single-children generation perceive the notion of family and their role within it.

The single-children generation has been described as independent and high-achieving as well as spoiled and selfish. However, growing up in a China where dramatic changes take place, it is not clear whether being the only child will cause new patterns of family relationships.

Today, the single-children generation constitutes a significant factor among Chinese migrants. While traditional Chinese migrant networks largely rely on extended families and kinship connections, how has the shrinking size of families impacted on the future of the transnational Chinese migrant network?

In comparison with earlier Chinese, who have siblings and larger extended families, the single-children cohort is arguably more closely tied to filial obligations and is disadvantaged with regard to establishing a transnational family network. However, migrants’ mobility can be gained through concentrated parental investment.

How do single-children transnational families negotiate family relationships when the child is faced with overseas settlement decision and their parents get older and need looking after? The Chinese single-children migrants is a new demographic that requires research into its character, scope and significance.

**Time, Distance and Emotions in Transnational Families**

Dunne, N.  
(University of Edinburgh)

Transnational families are becoming increasingly prevalent in the context of the feminisation of migration, which has been partly fuelled by the demand for workers to fill care labour shortages in the global North (Parreñas, 2001, 2005). Thousands of overseas nurses have come to the UK to work in institutional and long-term health and social care sectors, with India and the Philippines being the main countries of origin in the most recent wave of recruitment. Research on this migration flow points to the difficult working situations that many of these migrant nurses experience, as well as their negotiation of both proximate and transnational caregiving arrangements (Smith et al 2006). Parallel to these developments is the explosion of new communication technologies (Madinou & Miller 2012). Now, an Indian nurse in Glasgow can use text, Skype, Viber or email, and social networking sites such as Facebook to keep in touch with her family. Building on the literature of transnational families and emotion work, this paper presents preliminary findings of an in-depth qualitative interview study with migrant nurses from India in the UK. Specifically, it identifies three key interrelated dimensions of the transnational family experience - time, distance and emotions - and argues for the need to take seriously the emotion work involved in ‘doing’ transnational family and the implications of this work for transnational family-friendly policies.

**Families and Relationships 2**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 09**

**Feeding Time and Time for Feeding, How Feeding the Family can be a Source of Cultural Capital for Mothers in the UK**

Parsons, J.  
(Plymouth University)

Drawing on the work of Bourdieu (1984) it is well documented how ‘foodies’ use food and foodways as a means of displaying cultural capital (Johnston and Baumann, 2010) or even ‘culinary capital’ (Naccarato and LeBesco, 2012). There has been less work exploring how mothers use feeding the family (DeVault, 1991) as a source of cultural capital for themselves. Three quarters of the seventy-five respondents in my UK study were parents and the mothers fed their family’s ‘healthy’ food as a means of performing a particular middle class habitus. This paper will examine how mothers were engaged in ‘healthy’ foodwork as a means of positioning themselves as ‘good’ mothers or ‘yummy mummies’ (Allen and Osgood, 2009). Feeding was central to maternal identity and part of intensive mothering practice (Hays, 1996). Indeed this foodwork was not just about the provision of ‘proper’, family meals (Murcott, 1995). In my respondents’ accounts, taking time to prepare meals from scratch, sourcing organic and/or local ingredients, accommodating each individual household members food preferences or individual health needs, being able to afford to waste food, to take time over the preparation and eating of a meal around the table together, were all aspects of an
aspirational model of feeding the family. I argue that in the child-rearing field feeding the family has become a means of acquiring cultural capital for the self, because it takes time.

Changing Families, Changing Food? Food in Working Families over Time

O’Connell, R., Brannen, J.
(University of London)

Debate about UK children’s diets is taking place within the context of a whole range of social and economic changes, one of which is changing patterns of family life. With the rapid growth in the employment of mothers with young children, dual earning households have become typical. Public anxieties about children’s diets suggest contributory factors including parents’ lack of time, a supposed decline in ‘family meals’ and increasing use of ‘convenience’ food. Whilst some survey research finds maternal employment and children’s dietary intakes are associated, little is known about how UK families negotiate everyday food practices in the context of paid employment or how family food practices change over time.

Analysis from a multi-method longitudinal study funded by the ESRC and Department of Heath seeks to address these issues. The paper analyses the relationship between parental employment and children’s diets and the practices and processes which shape family and children’s diets over time. Drawing on life course theory and contextualising qualitative findings within analyses of large scale datasets, the paper asks how changes in the eating habits of children and families relate to transitions, interventions and shifting contexts including: changes in children’s lives, changes in parents’ jobs and working hours, family income and rising food prices. It is suggested that the ‘long view’ offered by multi-method longitudinal research offers the possibility of developing realistic understandings of how and why individuals and families eat as they do.

Delights and Discomforts: Children Articulating Significant Relationships through Sensory Foodscapes

Gunson, J., Warin, M., Moore, V.
(Flinders University)

This article explores how children engage in sensorial dimensions of food as a way to communicate identity and social relationships in their day-to-day lives. We draw on sensuous scholarship in Sociology and emerging literature on children’s foodscapes to present findings from qualitative interviews and focus groups with 10-14 year olds in South Australia. Our focus was on how children from areas of socio-economic disadvantage negotiate daily food practices within the family, with their peers, and in wider community environments. It is well established that experiences of food and families are intimately entangled, and we suggest that using a sensory ‘lens’ – of embodied responses to foodscapes - can build upon the meanings and significance of those entanglements. Children described their sensorial responses to certain foods and food practices, for example, how the warm smell of home cooked foods brought forth memories and pleasures of an absent mother’s care, or the sounds of open-mouthed eating by family members evoking disgust. Children used these descriptions of the taste, smell, sounds and touch of foodscapes to express the delights and discomforts of significant relationships in their lives, notably those with parents, carers, and siblings. We argue that the intersection of food practices and relationships provides both comfort and tension and that these take on heightened significance in contexts of socio-economic disadvantage. Sensory experiences of food are both embodied and relational, and as such offer valuable insight into the nature of children’s agency with regard to food preferences and choices.

Lunchboxes, Accountability and Family Display

Harman, V., Cappellini, B.
(Royal Holloway, University of London)

In this study lunchboxes are understood as an artefact linking together discourses and practices of doing and displaying mothering, marketplace and government discourses of feeding children and broader issues of care and surveillance in private and public settings. These links were analysed through mothers’ narratives on their everyday practices of making lunchboxes for their children. Data was collected through semi-structured interviews employing photo elicitation with parents of children aged nine to eleven. The findings reveal that mothers see lunchboxes as an everyday, mundane and routinized tool for doing and displaying motherhood outside domestic walls. They are required to account for their lunchbox practices to others including their own children, the school, other family members, and other mothers. These actors demand different (and sometimes contradictory) displays of motherhood. This paper extends the literature on displaying families by illuminating how mothers from relatively hegemonic families engage in processes of display with reference to different audiences. It points to the importance of being mindful of the political and economic context in which families live; specifically the current landscape where parental knowledge is being questioned with regard to the provision of healthy food. The paper argues that as well as displaying family to
children and audiences outside the family, an important part of lunchbox preparation was a display of ‘good mothering’ to the self.

**Frontiers**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 01**

**PRESIDENTIAL EVENT FEATURING THE WINNER OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO BRITISH SOCIOLOGY AWARD, SARA DELAMONT**

**A Gradient of Unfamiliarity: Sociology, Ethnography and the Epistemology of Ignorance**

*Sara Delamont  
(Cardiff University)*

The title comes from Woolf’s (2011: 17) *Tales of the Barbarians: Ethnography and Empire in the Roman West*.

The paper addresses two interrelated themes

1. ethnographic research in sociology

and

2. the epistemology of ignorance.

and uses them to propose strategies to address three urgent issues facing British Sociology. The break-up of Britain, self-defeating citation patterns, and exclusionary attitudes to some sub specialities.

Central to the paper are an unapologetic commitment to ‘peopled ethnography’ (a useful concept of G.A. Fine’s), to feminism, and to research which fights familiarity. As a researcher whose career has been spent in ‘pariah sites and profane places’ (to quote Bernstein) the paper faces issues of internal colonialism, sexism and stigmatised sub specialisms.

**Lifecourse**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 07**

**Predicting Wellbeing over the Lifecourse**

*Chanfreau, J., Lloyd, C., Byron, C., Roberts, C., Craig, R., De Feo, D., McManus, S.  
(NatCen Social Research)*

This presentation will report on the findings and policy implications from a research project funded by the Department of Health to identify predictors of wellbeing at key life stages. Using secondary analysis of major UK surveys – the Millennium Cohort Study, Understanding Society and Health Survey for England – we explored the range of characteristics and circumstances associated with wellbeing in childhood (age seven years), teenage years and adulthood.

We found that levels of wellbeing vary across the life course: wellbeing dips in the mid teens, at midlife, and again among the oldest old. Differences in life circumstances explain much of this variation and to some extent what predicts wellbeing also differs by life stage and for different groups. However, many predictors remain consistent across the life course. Social relationships inside and outside the home are key at all life stages and people with higher wellbeing have more positive relationships: with less shouting and bullying, and more eating together and feeling supported. Different aspects of the environment both at home and at school or work also play an important role. Higher wellbeing is linked with positive neighbourhood social capital, while an over-demanding job and a disruptive school environment both predict lower wellbeing.

The presentation will draw out the similarities and differences in what predicts wellbeing at different stages in the life course with a focus on what these findings mean for a wide range of policy arenas – from bullying and behaviour management in schools to neighbourhood re-generation.
Young people, ‘youth’ and the transition to adulthood are increasingly a focus of national and international attention. This paper looks at the role of HIV/AIDS policy in shaping this transition in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. In particular it examines how dominant policy narratives have shaped young people’s sense of self, as well as how young people themselves actively use this constructed identity, to negotiate their transition to adulthood in a resource-poor setting.

The research found that dominant policy narratives offered young people a valuable resource as, through the active deployment of this identity within certain ‘spaces’, they could establish a route to social and financial capital, despite acknowledging that such identities bore little resemblance to their lived realities. These policy narratives also led to a sense of dependency among young people. When faced with no longer being included within this ‘age’ group young people struggled to come to terms with their own identity and who they would ‘be’ next.

This research demonstrates the complexities in the construction of youth identity and the transition to adulthood within policy and the relationship to the lived reality. The findings suggest a need for better understanding of the policy/person interface, beyond traditional measurements of success and failure.

Stardoll: A Safe Haven? (De)constructing tween Spaces Online

Gutteridge, I.
(University of Warwick)

Current concerns over childhood are located online in what are perceived to be risky spaces, situated here the tween is at the centre of anxieties about girlhood. This paper investigates both aspects of these contemporary issues through data collected from the popular tween website Stardoll and blog The Ugly Side of Stardoll. Firstly this paper will explore the ways that prominent discourses of (tween) age appropriateness structure the way that Stardoll is presented as a safe space. The way that these narratives draw on contemporary concerns as well as discourses of neoliberalism and postfeminism will be discussed.

Secondly the pervasive narratives of safety on Stardoll will be contradicted with girls’ accounts of negotiating the site as a safe space. For some girls the contradiction between narratives of safety on Stardoll and their experiences led them to create an alternative space, The Ugly Side of Stardoll, where these issues could be expressed, discussed and acted upon. Through their blog the girls police certain behaviours on Stardoll that they judge to be inappropriate for the tween nature of the site. I will argue that the girls use their age and experience in online spaces in order to justify their position as community moderators. Throughout this paper the importance that Stardoll and the girls who use the site place on age as well as the ways it is used to justify or limit behaviour will be interrogated.

Transforming Later Life: Physical Activity Careers

Tulle, E.
(Glasgow Caledonian University)

In the last 10 years there has been what might be called a ‘turn to physical activity’ in later life, manifested in a veritable explosion in pronouncements, initiatives and research programmes dedicated to normalizing physical activity up to and in old age. The reasons for this shift are multiple and inter-related. We can identify three key processes: population ageing, the construction of welfare as in crisis and the medicalization of every aspect of our lives. Within this discursive space, physical activity perceived as an important weapon in the fight against the burden of ageing, in particular chronic illness and welfare dependency.

The language of physical activity borrows from the neoliberal discourse of health – framed as compliance and a problem of individual behaviour. Being physically inactive has been reconstructed as deviant behaviour to be corrected by interventions and health promotion messages. Given the persistent low levels of physical activity participation, this paper will propose an alternative framing of relevant issues which draws attention to contingency and the complexity of factors involved in the success or otherwise of physical activity being incorporated into everyday life.
In contradistinction to dominant constructions of physical activity, I will adopt an approach which sees physical activity as both outcome and process, time-bound and contingent. One becomes physically active and one remains physically active, or not. Thus I will use the concept of career to describe and explain the instability and vulnerability of this ‘behaviour’, shifting attention away from individual motivation.

**Medicine, Health and Illness**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 02**

‘The More Fat the Better’: Viewing ‘Food as Medicine’ and Altered Food Norms in Families Using the Ketogenic Diet

_Webster, M._  
(Royal Holloway, University of London)

The Ketogenic diet is a high-fat diet used to treat drug-resistant childhood epilepsy. It has been widely noted that there are negative meanings attached to fat and fatty foods. Additionally, the meanings attached to foods are often transferred onto the people who eat them, or by proxy onto parents with regard to the foods they feed their children. There is, however, currently no literature exploring views on Ketogenic diet or its use within the family from a sociological perspective. Drawing upon individual in-depth semi-structured interviews with parents that have a child whose epilepsy is being treated with the diet, this paper will present findings from an on-going study being undertaken for a doctoral thesis. It will be argued that parents using the Ketogenic diet to treat their child’s epilepsy come to view ‘food as medicine’ and, as a result, negative associations with fat become irrelevant for parents. Additionally, when families come to view food in this way, taken-for-granted norms related to food and eating often become reversed within the family. For example, table manners are given little importance and a child eating a limited variety of meals is not seen as a cause for concern. It is intended that this research will contribute to the wider literature on the use of diet as a medical treatment within the family.

Online Presentations of Health Behaviours and Digital Interactions: How Goffman’s Work, can be Utilised to Understand the of buying of Prescription Medicine from the Web

_Sugiura, L., Pope, C., Webber, C._  
(University of Southampton)

The provision and purchase of prescription medicines are typically regulated by national or state law. Regulatory rules for prescription medicine can vary in different countries and may not be subject to other countries regulatory authorities. The Web has introduced new challenges to the purchase and supply of medicines and can expose consumers to health risks and potential criminal behaviour. The sale of medicines online has made it easy to bypass regulatory risk-management systems. The Web has increased accessibility, its global reach means medicines are available in some jurisdictions and not in others; affording any person anywhere to procure them. The Web is also an information resource, providing the setting to encourage consumers to discover and buy medicine. People can use the Web to discuss buying medicines online and provides new opportunities to avoid stigmatisation and manage their illnesses and medicine purchasing in a private or backstage spaces.

This paper reviews Goffman’s ideas regarding dramaturgy and interaction as performance, as well as his concepts of the presentation of self and stigma to show how these ideas remain salient for scholars interested in studying the Web and digital communication, before going on to suggest how, in my own work, Goffman’s concepts can be used to shed light on new health behaviours such as the purchasing of prescription medicines via the Web.

‘We are a Generation Who Learns Things Just by Doing’: Exploring the Impact of Mobile-enhanced Learning on Medical Undergraduates and Qualified Doctors

_Joynes, V., Fuller, R._  
(University of Leeds)

For the last seven years, Leeds Medical School has provided medical students with a suite of mobile resources for both learning and assessment, with iPhones provided to all fourth and fifth year students to enable them to access these resources as a compulsory aspect of their undergraduate study.
This paper reports the results of a mixed-method study incorporating surveys, focus groups and interviews. Participants were drawn from students from all years, junior doctors who used the resources during their degree and clinicians who supervise and assess students during clinical placements.

The purpose of the study was to explore the impact of mobile resources in the undergraduate curriculum, focusing on how students and teachers use and access resources for learning and assessment. Initial results suggest that use of these resources is fundamentally changing the way that students and staff are learning while in clinical settings. Students are personalising their learning, using mobile resources in a time and place which best suits them. This paper reviews the implications for curricula of the future and the support needed for students and staff.

**The Potentiality of Change: Examining the Complexity of Online Sexual Health Services**

Chabot, C., Shoveller; J., Gilbert, M.
(University of British Columbia)

The provision of online health services is a rapidly growing field in biomedicine and is imbued by health care providers, policy makers, and clients with great potential. This potentiality can be articulated in positive, negative, or ambiguous ways, depending on how it is embodied by the various actors involved in the complex adaptive systems that are modern health care services. This paper draws on a natural experiment underway with regard to the launch of an online testing service for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in Vancouver, Canada. The study examines some of the ways whereby potentiality is expressed and discusses the utility of this concept in modern biomedicine and the life sciences. We employ critical discourse analysis of policy documents and in-depth interviews with 30+ health care providers, administrators, and policy makers engaged directly in the launch of this service. We examine how online STI/HIV testing is regarded as having the potential to change sexual health provision in a myriad of (sometimes unanticipated) ways. We describe the ways in which its potential benefits (e.g., encouraging testing clients’ agency; the promise of providing testing to more clients in a cost-effective manner) are represented. We also discuss the concerns evoked by some health care providers and policy makers regarding its possible risks (e.g., privacy breaches). Moreover, we lay out the terrain to show how uncertainty and ambiguity (e.g., balancing usability and accessibility with the need to control health care costs) also are implicated in notions of potentiality.

**Methodological Innovations**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 11**

**MSM Responding to HIV/AIDS: Can an Online Survey Generate Nuanced Qualitative Data?**

Kavanagh, B.
(The Open University)

This presentation sets out to explore if online surveys can generate nuanced qualitative data in addition to substantial quantitative data. While the advantages of using online surveys for collection of quantitative data have been well established, particularly for sensitive topics, there has been little discussion about how they can be utilised for garnering more nuanced qualitative data. In analysing how MSM understand HIV risk and whether this is represented in sexual health messages, my own research utilises a series of unfolding vignettes, which tease out topics such as when MSM should disclose their HIV status, to potentially reveal nuanced qualitative data in free text boxes. Research has shown that respondents feel more comfortable revealing risk behaviours in these scenarios than in direct questions (McKeganey et.al. 1996). In addition, various images have been used to stimulate wider discussion on research topics. These have varied between the use of previous sexual health messages to encourage critical reflection on particular campaigns, to the creation of mock dating profiles to understand how MSM serosort on dating websites. Images such as these, not only stimulate respondents, but can also keep respondents interested in completing online surveys (Bryman, 2012). This paper will discuss the challenges of designing such a survey, present some preliminary findings and evaluate how these results may compare with findings generated by other forms of qualitative research.

**The Promise of Big Data: New Methods for Sociological Analysis**

Tinati, R., Halford, S., Carr, L., Pope, C.
(University of Southampton)

The current emergence of ‘big data’ is both promising and challenging for social research. Beyond the scale of these data per se attention is drawn to their proportionality, they represent ‘whole’ data sets; they are dynamic, capturing...
social activity in real time, over time; and they offer information on what people do and say ‘in the wild’ rather than what they say they do in surveys and interviews. The digital nature of these data also opens up new potentials for data mining and data linking, connecting pieces of data - individuals, groups, topics, places and events. However, to date, realising the potential of big data in the social sciences has been limited by the methodologies in use. Specifically, we suggest that social scientists have approached big data with methods that cannot explore many of the qualities that make it so appealing.

In response, we present a new software tool for harvesting and analysing Twitter data which begins to address some of these limitations. Working our case through an analysis of political mobilization around the communications stream of a protest in the UK, we show how the combination of quantitative and qualitative Twitter analysis drawing on ‘wide data’ might help to connect Twitter research with emblematic sociological concerns for mobilities, networks and flow. We also offer a live demo in which participants can interact with the software in order to explore the analytical capabilities that it offers sociological research.

Visualizing Personal Network Data: Three Examples from a Study of Eating Disorder Websites

Tubaro, P., Casilli, A.A., Mounier, L., Pailler, F. (University of Greenwich)

The graphical representation of connections through visually appealing diagrams (socio-grams) has traditionally been a strength of social network analysis and a useful complement to the analysis of social structure. Today, network data visualization techniques are enjoying ever greater popularity thanks to computational advances and availability of large datasets (‘big data’).

In line with these tendencies, the proposed presentation uncovers new software tools for the visualisation of personal network data, with different solutions for the three stages of data collection, analysis, and dissemination of results. These tools were developed within the research project ANR-ANAMIA, a large-scale study of the networks, online sociability and health behaviours of persons with eating disorders.

Specifically:

- ANAMIA EGOCENTER is a graphical version of a name generator, to be embedded in a computer-based survey to collect personal network data;
- ANAMIA CORPUS enables to aggregate, organize and rank responses to a questionnaire containing personal network information about respondents;
- ANAMIA PERSONAL offers a single format to represent individual network data consistently, to compare and contrast them; with a unique procedure, it identifies important network members and ties among them.

The presentation outlines the conception of these tools, discussing their capacity to mediate between classical data-gathering methods (surveys) and the specific challenges and opportunities of present-day Internet research. It examines the usability of the three tools, with emphasis on potential future applications to a wider range of personal networks studies. Finally, ethical issues and best practices (in terms of intellectual property rights and open-access) are addressed.

Rights, Violence and Crime

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 12

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Troubling Women? Voices of Former Female Volunteers in the Irish Republican Army and Their Experiences of the Violence of Incarceration

Wahidin, A. (Nottingham Trent University)

Carceral violence has been used against political prisoners all over the world. The paper draws on findings from a forthcoming book entitled: Ex-combatants, Gender and Peace in Northern Ireland. This paper will examine the use of strip searching as part of ritualised state violence against women with reference to former female political prisoners in Ireland and how they resisted. This paper will argue that the role of strip searching, was used in an attempt to break
the spirit of former volunteers in the Irish Republican Army through the enactment of causing pain (Scarry, 1985), but one which was also experienced as gender differentiated, in that it was sexualised. The process of entering the closed world of the prison immediately serves to reinforce an awareness of the loss of privacy and bodily integrity. The testimonies give the level and intensity of the violence of incarceration at the hands of the State (Scranton and McCulloch 2008).

Is FGM an Issue of Underclass? Gender, ‘Race’ and Influence as they Pertain to the Eradication of Female Genital Mutilation in Western Nations

Burrage, H.
(Independent)

Recent studies indicate that female genital mutilation (FGM) is a growing problem in contemporary Western nations, as the diaspora from parts of Africa and Asia (and e.g. indigenous Australia) moves into host communities with little previous knowledge of this particular form of child abuse.

Challenges in eradicating FGM are many; it is even increasing in some communities where incomers find themselves outside the mainstream. An estimated average 50 British girls and women daily are at serious risk of FGM, yet there have been no successful prosecutions.

The response to greater contemporary awareness of FGM in places such as Britain, Australia, the USA and mainland Europe has ranged from opportunist misappropriation of religion as the ‘cause’, to claims that ‘interfering’ amounts at best to cultural disrespect or even racism - whilst the fundamental evidence that FGM is an extreme form of patriarchal power is largely ignored.

This paper considers these competing perspectives as elements in the (for this writer) non-negotiable struggle in the UK and elsewhere to eradicate FGM forever.

The UK Government recently ‘promised’ £35m to the United Nations to bolster work on eradication, but it remains unclear how this significant sum will be used; whilst at the same time FGM continues to kill girls and women, and to create a gendered underclass.

At some point - perhaps quite soon - a serious debate about the adequacy or otherwise of mainstream conjoined services for preventing FGM may at last emerge, along with recognition of the patriarchal oppression which underpins it.

Gender Based Violence and Trafficking in Women

Yousaf, F.N.
(University of Connecticut)

Trafficking in human beings, a modern day slavery, is a transnational phenomenon that affects all countries of the world in varying degree. According to the United Nations, human trafficking has become the second largest, and the fastest growing criminal industry in the world. Trafficking is considered a gendered phenomenon because a substantial majority of trafficked persons includes women. Mainly guided by feminist standpoint epistemology, this study draws upon gender and human rights literature to analyze the intersecting macro and micro structural factors to understand the issue of women’s trafficking in Pakistan. Drawing upon the experiences of trafficked women, I argue that trafficking should be considered, not simply in terms of patriarchal cultures and power of men over women, but in terms of women’s vulnerable positions within a larger political economy. Trafficking cannot be studied as a standalone category of violence, where women are victims of violence that results from the oppression of men against women, but it must be seen as a phenomenon that occurs within a multidimensional continuum of violence, which intersects with entrenched structural inequalities and make some segments of society vulnerable to exploitation, often repeatedly, by others. Moreover, I analyze trafficking related policies to explain how the understanding and construction of ‘victims of trafficking’-based on specific (often narrow) understandings of the causes of such violence-lead institutions and policies to address trafficking in specific ways, which not only often fail to address its root causes, but also the needs of trafficked women.
Sociology, Psychiatry and Urbanicity: Re-vitalising the Archive

Fitzgerald, D., Rose, N., Singh, I.
(King’s College London)

Up to about 1950, psychiatric questions were at the heart of sociological theory and research. This interest is traceable not only through the classic studies of Faris and Dunham (1939) or Hollingshead and Redlich (1954) on urbanicity, class and mental health - but through a more cosmopolitan attention to the aetiological intersections between social and urban life, the embodiment of poverty and class, and the development of psychiatric and neurobiological problems (Cobb, 1931; Burrow 1937). That work is now little remembered. And yet such was the level of attention that in 1967 two prominent sociologists were moved to criticize their colleagues for having become so ‘intrigued with mental illness as a phenomenon’ – even daring ‘to learn for themselves how “it” occurs’ (Schatzmann and Strauss, 1967: 4).

It scarcely caricatures the history of sociology to say that Schatzmann and Strauss’s critique held sway. In the following decades, sociology moved from being a prominent co-producer of psychiatric knowledge to being, perhaps, the foremost critic of psychiatric labelling, and psychiatric power (Scheff, 1964, Foucault, 2008). Certainly, these critiques were not based on fantasies. But in this paper we want to risk reimagining and revitalising that archive of connection and shared interest. Tracing the history of crossings between urban sociology and psychiatry, we ask: what happened to that older discipline, with its lively interest in the rich intersection of urban and social space, and the psychiatric and neurobiological vicissitudes of social life? What could a 21st-century sociology take from its archive?

Rethinking the Biosocial Nexus in a Postgenomic Age: The Significance of Epigenetic Research

Meloni, M.
(University of Nottingham)

Molecular epigenetics is probably the most conceptually significant transformation highlighting a different way of understanding the connection between biological and social events in the postgenomic era. By making the connection between environment and genome visible at the molecular level, epigenetics may provide a productive new paradigm for understanding how environmental and socioeconomic factors co-act on an equal footing with genetic ones. In my paper I will try to flesh out the implications of epigenetic research for the social sciences/theory by addressing five key points: 1) How are social categories (race/ ethnicity, class, gender) and environmental factors (from maternal care, to food and toxins) being increasingly conceptualised today in molecular terms (Landecker, 2011) as forms of exposure to genetic expression (Wild, 2012)? 2) How is epigenetics going to reshape and possibly undermine distinctions between natural and social inequalities (Loi et al., 2013) on which many conceptions of justice still rest (e.g. Rawls)? 3) What political implications arise from a return to a neo-Lamarckian view of inheritance, which is implicit in epigenetic research (Jablonka and Lamb, 2005)? 4) How is epigenetics research targeting some specific groups (for instance, the pregnant women) as a site of intervention and surveillance (Richardson, 2014)? 5) How will the discovery of the reversibility of epigenetic effects contribute to a new motivation to intervene and control/improve the epigenome? And how will this transform views of biology as a form of destiny?

Affected Bodies and Technoscientific Objects

Quinlan, A.
(Lakehead University)

Technoscientific objects are commonly cast as distant and unfelt by the researchers who study them. How technoscientific objects act on researchers, their emotions, and bodies is rarely explored. This paper reflects on a feminist Science and Technology Studies project on the Canadian Sexual Assault Evidence Kit (SAEK), a forensic tool used to document survivors’ physical injuries and identify perpetrators of sexual assault. I reflect on my experiences of tracing the SAEK in Canadian medicolegal practice with semi-structured interviews with 51 police, nurses, scientists, and lawyers and textual analysis of survivor narratives and institutional texts. Through these reflections, I examine how empirical objects can ‘get under researchers’ skin’ and be felt through researchers’ bodies. In doing so, this paper examines intersections between affect and technoscience and considers how affect can serve as a methodological resource for studying technoscience. The paper proposes that emotional and embodied responses to technoscientific objects can deepen understandings of not only the objects themselves, but of the world(s) of relations in which they operate. The paper concludes by proposing artistic rendering as a method for capturing affect in studies on technoscience.
Thursday 24 April 2014 13:30 - 15:00
PAPER SESSION 5

The Making of the Epigenetic Body

Martin, P., Meloni, M.
(University of Sheffield)

How do life experiences affect the body, brain and behaviour? The means by which social factors become somatically embodied is poorly understood. The emerging field of epigenetics promises to bring a new wealth of evidence to help understand these processes. Epigenetics involves molecular mechanisms that translate social-environmental information into altered patterns of gene regulation and provides a paradigm for understanding “how the social gets under the skin”. Our paper analyses the emergence of what might be called the ‘epigenetic body’ which is characterised by four key features:

Shifting causalities: The epigenetic body represents a shift away from the Weismannian body of twentieth century biology, “a causal dead end” that saw causation going unidirectionally from the genotype to the phenotype. Instead the focus is on a two-way interaction between genes and environment.

Changing temporalities: The epigenetic body is constituted as not only embedded in its present but also profoundly inhabited by the traces of its past, the memories of our ancestors’ environment persisting in the present as marks on our genomes.

Plasticity and reversibility: The discovery of the reversibility of epigenetic changes fuels a new motivation to intervene and control/improve our epigenome; biology is no longer destiny.

A flattened molecular ontology: The understanding of social categories like food, class, poverty et cetera are increasingly reconceptualised in terms of their molecular effects on the body.

Together they constitute a new complex of social/ethical/political demands and expectations that have major implications for the social sciences.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 1
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 03

The Racial Logics of Communist and Post-communist States

Law, I.
(University of Leeds)

The often hidden, denied and unacknowledged racial logics of communist regimes in Russia, central and Eastern Europe, Cuba and China are identified in this paper. For many of these regimes racism was something that happened elsewhere, never been fully recognised, addressed or challenged. The constraining influence of Marxism-Leninism on overt expressions of racism acted like a cloak to obscure the ways in which processes of racialisation have shaped state strategies, the pervasive hostile behaviours and attitudes of state employees and the private worlds of families and intimate personal relations. As this constraining influence was lifted in the slow and fast post-communist transitions across these regions and as neoliberal economic shock therapy wrought fundamental changes the new racial logics of post-communist states are identified with their associated new exclusions, renewed racisms and expanding inequalities. Lastly, the significance of this analysis for rethinking the theorisation of processes of planetary racialisation are addressed.

Marxism and Anti-racism: The Bolsheviks and the Russian Revolution 1917-1919

McGeever, B.
(University of Glasgow)

This paper sets out to make an original contribution towards the sociology of antiracism through a unique case study of the Bolshevik attempt to confront antisemitism in the immediate aftermath of the October Revolution of 1917. Based on extensive fieldwork in the Russian archives, the paper offers an analysis of the antiracist political formations that coalesced around the early Soviet state apparatus during the revolution and Civil War (1917–1919). The paper develops and builds on Gramsci’s conception of the hegemonic apparatus by bringing into sharp focus the various types of individual and collective agency that actualised the struggle against antisemitism during the Civil War. Whilst traditional interpretations of the Russian Revolution have assumed that the campaigns against racism and antisemitism were conceived and carried out by the Party leadership (i.e. Lenin and Trotsky etc), this paper will show that in the case of antisemitism, the anti-racist project that emerged within the Soviet state was in fact the product of a
unique racial formation composed largely of non-Bolshevik Jewish Marxists and leftwing Zionists. The paper will then go on to reflect on these findings, arguing that they raise critical questions for how we conceptualise and understand not only the relationship between race and class, but also the legacy of Marxist attempts to arrest the racialisation of social relations more generally.

Communist Anti-racism in the US: The Crusader (1921-22)

Bergin, C.
(University of Brighton)

The tension between race and class as both sites and vehicles for resistance has shaped the nature of that resistance for over 250 years. This paper investigates the often overlooked role of black Communists in the USA in the 1920’s in shaping Communist discourses of ‘race’ during the Depression. In recent years there has been impressive revisionist history which has overturned the cold-war paradigms of this period in which Communism was cast as parasitic and opportunist in relation to African Americans. This paper builds on that revisionist work and is a Marxist analysis of this history in order to comprehend the discursive field of black Communism in the US. The fact that many of the writers and activists of the period were Caribbean migrants imbues their writings with a distinctive anti-colonial as well as anti-racist invective which also attempts to create a space for interracial class politics. Concentrating on the proto Communist, African Blood Brotherhood newspaper The Crusader the paper argues that despite, or because of the complexities of negotiating race, class and colonialism, this material gives us access to a historically specific attempt to create a race/class politics attuned to the challenges of confronting the American racism.

C.L.R. James on Socialist Politics and Anti-racism

Smith, A.
(University of Glasgow)

In this paper I provide an account of C.L.R. James’ attempt to work through – as a question at once historical, theoretical and practical – the relationship between the politics of class struggle, and that of anti-racism. I focus particularly on James’ writings from the 1930s and 40s, much of which was produced whilst he was working in America, and was often published under pseudonyms in party papers such as the Socialist Appeal, and in the course of on-going debates within the anti-Stalinist left about these issues. The developing distinctiveness of James’ position, I argue, lies not simply in his defence of the integrity and autonomy of the political resistance of African Americans, but in his wider reconsideration of what might be entailed, and at stake, in a struggle for socialism. In that respect, the way in which he comes to think through the relationship between anti-racist politics and the left involves exactly the kind of ‘stretching’ of Marxism, so as to take account of differing historical modes and experiences of oppression, that Frantz Fanon also proposed. At the same time, James’ approach also extends back to a critical reconsideration of the politics of anti-racism, resisting any attempt to ‘essentialize’ race. He attempted above all to situate anti-racism in the context of historical struggle, to understand it as a movement which raised its own questions about ‘where were are going, and the rate at which we were getting there’.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 2

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 04

What’s so Safe about Women’s Space? Women, Feminism and Political Engagement

Lewis, R., Sharp, E.
(Northumbria University)

Since awareness has grown of the ubiquitous threats to women’s safety, a body of work has revealed the gendered nature of safety and of space (eg Pain, 1997). More recently debate about ‘safe space’ in feminist politics has been reignited through discussions both in and outside academia about ‘trans rights’ and access for trans male-to-females to women-only spaces (eg Browne (2009) in relation to MichFest) and well as by invocation of gender ‘equality’ and an assumption that such spaces are no longer needed in the 21st century (Budgeon, 2011). In these debates about women-only space for services (such as post-violence counselling) and for feminist organising, such spaces are often referred to as ‘safe’, but, despite a body of scholarship addressing questions of gender, safety and space, relatively little attention has been paid to explorations of the meaning of ‘safety’ for women.

This paper addresses women’s experiences of safety in a feminist women-only political space. Using research with women who attended the North East Feminist Gathering 2012, it examines in what ways they experienced the space
as ‘safe’. Focus group data reveal the space enabled them to feel both ‘safe from’ violence, abuse, harassment and misogyny, and ‘safe to’ be expressive, speak out, engage in advanced debate and, in the words of one woman ‘be cleverer’. We argue that, as well as revealing the enduring, censoring impacts of mundane misogyny, these data point to the conditions required to enable engagement as full, relational civic beings.

**Feminism after the Cold War**

*Watson, P.*  
*(University of Cambridge)*

The paper explores the significance of the rise of feminism in Poland in the last few years. This is in good measure accounted for by the formation of the Polish Congress of Women (Kongres Kobiet), which largely frames its activity in terms of the international gender equality discourse promoted by the European Union. The paper uses a critical feminist approach to probe the political effects of liberal feminist modernising discourse in neoliberal postcommunist Poland with particular reference to Kongres Kobiet. The analytical questions that are posed include: What does it mean when on the one hand a feminism is deployed in dramatically shifting contexts involving the redefinition of political economy, ideology and social relations, yet on the other hand that feminism aligns itself with a international gender equality agenda where the notion of gender is essentially fixed? How does such a feminism work as part of this context and what ends does it serve? How are postsocialist power relations that extend beyond and behind a transcendent notion of gender equality, both implicated and denied in this feminist discourse? These questions call for a more detailed analysis of both the political and symbolic economies of which mainstream liberal feminism is part. Exploring the interrelationships between the political economic and symbolic dimensions of social change will help identify the circumstances under which a feminist discourse whose aims are overtly progressive may produce and legitimise new schemes of inequality, particularly inequalities of class.

**Austerity Localism at a Time of Restructuring of the Women’s Voluntary and Community Sector in London**

*Vacchelli, E.*  
*(Middlesex University)*

The current economic crisis has become systemic, and the resulting economic shocks and fallouts have spread further across the financial sector. ‘Austerity localism’ (Featherstone et al. 2012) is adopted as a dominant political narratives by the current coalition government in order to restructure or indeed roll-back the public sector according to a normative, long-standing and politically conservative model of middle-class voluntarism and social responsibility. Austerity has significantly affected the women’s voluntary and community sector (WRC 2013). Important work by the Women Resource Centre (Hayes 2013) confirms that cuts to public spending have acted as a catalyst for the long-term destabilisation of the sector, started with the shift from needs-led grants to commissioning creating the funding crisis that now faces women’s organisations. Nancy Fraser (2009) provides a theoretical reading of the shifts occurred in the women's sector, arguing that feminist anti-economism collapsed into a politics of recognition that privileged identity politics over claims for redistribution and economic justice. In addition, feminist politics become erased in the face of neoliberal rule (Mc Robbie 2008) whilst processes of ‘mainstreaming’ have served to both acknowledge and depoliticise feminist claims (Newman 2013). The paper looks at the contradictions inscribed in the localism agenda and points to the strategies that are being enacted for the survival of the women’s voluntary and community sector in the UK, using London as a case study.

‘It was Never like, ‘this is Feminism’ … it was More like … Realising How Much Sense it Made’: New British Feminisms, UK Feminista and Young Women’s Activism

*Wadia, K.*, *Charles, N.*  
*(University of Warwick)*

This paper is based on the early findings of an on-going ethnographic study of young women and feminist activism in the UK. It forms part of a larger, EU-funded (FP7) project (MYPLACE) on the political participation and civic engagement of young people in 14 European countries, including the UK.

Over the past three years we have witnessed a sharp resurgence in feminist thinking and activism as young women have become increasingly interested in feminist ideas as one means of making sense of their lives. This resurgence in feminist practice is evidenced by the formation of myriad groups and networks across Britain and the initiation of various feminist projects and campaigns, reported regularly and widely in local and national media.

This paper examines the renaissance of this new feminism, through the example of one of the most active and publicly visible organisations, UK Feminista. It aims to do three things. First, it examines the ways in which this organisation mobilises young women, commenting particularly on its use of social media as a mobilising device; here,
we focus on the current ‘Lose the Lads’ Mags’ campaign which has had significant media coverage and early successes. Second, it asks how UK Feminista situates itself within the landscape of new feminism(s) in Britain and also in relation to the state and other key civil society actors and collectivities. Third, it discusses the ‘waves of feminism’ model and considers its relevance and applicability to organisations such as UK Feminista today.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 3  
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 10

Subverting Heteronormativity in a Lesbian Erotic Dance Venue? Queer Moments and Heteronormative Tensions

Pilcher, K.  
(Aston University)

Drawing upon insights from ethnographic research with women erotic dancers, customers and management, this paper seeks to ascertain how far a UK lesbian leisure venue, ‘Lippy’, which provides erotic dance for women customers, can transcend heteronormative sexual and gender roles for women. Utilising feminist theory, together with insights from queer theory, provides theoretical grounding for this analysis to be made. The paper begins with a discussion of the sexual-social political background behind the leisure venue’s origin, before turning to consider the venue in its contemporary manifestation. In doing so, I take three issues for closer analysis. Firstly, I question the ‘normativity’ of gendered performances within Lippy; secondly, I critically interrogate customers’ conceptions of Lippy as a ‘women’s space’, and consider which/whose bodies are seen as ‘out of place’ within this notion; and, lastly, I analyse the potential for both women customers and dancers to exercise a sexualised ‘gaze’ within this leisure venue. These issues all provide scope for thinking through how heteronormativity is negotiated and potentially challenged in certain erotic dance moments and interactions. Overall, I argue that sex work performed in non-heterosexual contexts, and in this instance, a lesbian erotic dance venue, does not necessarily subvert heteronormativity, nor is it ‘queer’ by definition. Women’s engagement with erotic dance is complex, and this paper highlights the tensions around subverting and negotiating heteronormativity, at the same time as indicating the potential ways in which we can read ‘queer moments’ of rupture, within erotic dance encounters.

Towards a Practice Theoretic Approach to Sexuality

Scott, S., Jackson, S.  
(University of York)

In our book ‘Theorising Sexuality’ (2010) we re-worked the Interactionist sociological account of everyday sexual behavior drawing on the work of G H Mead (19) and utilising the notion of sexual scripts (Gagnon and Simon 19). We do however, accept some of the criticisms of interactionism as overly cognitive and have attempted to overcome this by developing a more embodied understanding of sexuality - using the example of orgasm (Jackson and Scott 2007 and 2010) and developing the ideas of Lindemann and de Nora in order to enable an understanding of the ways in which sexual interactions are composed. While we have utilized the term sexual practice, and engaged to some extent with the work of Bourdieu, we have not until recently begun to develop fully a practice theoretic approach to the sociology of sexuality. In this paper we will engage with the work of writers such as Schatski, Reckwitz, Warde and Shove in order to set out the ways in which sexual conduct constitutes a practice and to show to what extent this approach, if brought together with interactionist ideas, can support the development of a general sociological theory of sexuality.

Sociology of Education  
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 05

‘You can Achieve Anything’: A Case Study of Polish Parents’ Educational Aspirations for Their Children

Thatcher, J.  
(University of East London)

Bourdieu saw social class boundaries as based on more than purely materialistic divisions, introducing the concepts of cultural, social and symbolic capital. For some migrant groups migration can increase their material mobility,
however, in the case of Polish migrants they can often suffer a substantial downgrading in employment when they arrive in the UK. Yet Polish migrants may come with a specific portfolio of capital or habitus produced under a post-communist society still influenced by the lingering effects of soviet communism that placed a high importance on education and cultural participation. In England there is often a correlation between economic status and education achievement. The case of Polish migrants may make the focus upon economic capital and education problematic.

A Bourdieuian model of social class is used to investigate Polish parents’ educational aspirations for their children and in particular the transmission of cross-societal attitudes towards educational mobility. Based on a qualitative case study in two English cities, this paper explores how parents’ possession of cultural and social resources influence their choice of secondary schools for their children. It will show that Polish parents frequently develop knowledge of the local education market and expand their social networks to advantage their children in receiving a place at their chosen school. However, they often hold idealistic notions of social mobility and meritocracy, even though they recognise and reflect upon the symbolic violence they experience. Their narratives will regularly deny the importance of social class in British society.

Staying Classy: How Perceptions of Honour amongst the Working Class Prevents them from Using Nepotism to get Ahead

Abrahams, J.
(Cardiff University)

Social capital for Bourdieu is central to the reproduction of class inequality in society. That is, the dominant classes secure their position and ensure it is reproduced in part through drawing upon their networks to help them and their children get ahead in many respects. Whilst much literature has focused on the ways in which the middle classes mobilise this capital, it is often assumed that the working classes lack social capital. Drawing upon qualitative interviews with a cohort of undergraduates from the Leverhulme trust funded ‘Paired Peers’ project, this paper will provide an alternative account of working class social capital. The findings show that whilst some of the working class students indeed lacked contacts or their networks were in the wrong sector, those who had access to contacts refused to draw upon them out of principle. Arguing that it was corrupt and were keen to make something of themselves alone. Meanwhile the middle class students in our project did not have a moral problem with using their social capital and were engaged in mobilising their networks to secure internships and work experience. Thus the working classes were often missing out on opportunities to get this valuable experience which was often crucial to facilitating post-uni transitions.

Negotiating Reflexives: Entrepreneurship and the ‘New’ Spirit of Education

Morrin, K.
(University of Manchester)

In order to establish ‘a culture of ambition, to replace the poverty of aspiration’ we have seen an increasing promotion of enterprise culture within educational policy and reform, where it seems to have become common sense- or ‘doxic’ to incorporate private sector principles in schools (Cuban, 2004: 13; Adonis, 2008: 15). This study seeks to analyse such ‘neo-liberal’ policy reform and impact this has upon the ‘everyday’ classed identities-or ‘habitus’ of school pupils and their parents (Bourdieu, 1977b; 1984; 1986; 2002). The paper will present a selection of preliminary ethnographic data from a study of an ‘entrepreneurial’ academy in Northern England. Data sought through, semi-structured interviews, focus groups, observations and discourse analysis, considers definitions and meanings attached to, and negotiations with ‘entrepreneurship’. Responses are seen to highlight a distinct disjuncture between political, institutional, and ‘everyday’ accounts of ‘entrepreneurship’; thus leading to questions of the concept’s ‘definability’ and subsequently its ‘accountability’. Moreover, conclusions suggest that such ‘business-led’ reforms lay claim to ‘success’ but questions remain about how under these policies, pupils are seen to ‘progress’.

Spacing as Capability? Visualising Class Related Patterns of Spatial and Developmental Inequality

Hornei, I.
(Bielefeld University)

The habitus, as a result of its environmental habitat, is known as a structured schema related to social and spatial dynamics in which a person and their mental and bodily actions are physically embedded. In order to contextualize the effects of spatial and developmental inequality within the everyday lives of young people, the duality of habitus and habitat has to be taken into account. In emphasizing class divisions and diverse social and mobile capabilities of youth across space and place, a mix of visual methods has been used. In total 22 semi-structured qualitative interviews with teenagers (aged 13-14) were collected. Through photographs taken by these young people documenting their daily routines and the places in which they occupy, the acquisition of their personal dispositions can be culturally explored.
and, by mapping their local infrastructures and networks, put into the town’s social and physical space. Whereas the photographs allow for visual insights into social life experiences within material and symbolic dimensions, the maps reveal the personal infrastructures of the young people and the relation between their capitals and the urban infrastructure. Methodologically, the concept of social class from the German research group of Michael Vester and others and their special use of hermeneutics on the habitus, provided a highly effective tool to analyse class related configurations and patterns. To demonstrate these spatial dynamics in relation to class, culture and their consequences for youth development, a few individual cases will be portrayed.

**Sociology of Religion**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 13**

**The Future of the Holy Monarchy of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and 13 Other States**

*Bonney, N.*  
*(Edinburgh Napier University)*

In addition to the exclusion of Roman Catholics from succession to the throne the accession and coronation of a UK monarch requires the swearing of oaths according to three century old laws which require the new incumbent to follow the laws of god, profess Christianity and Protestantism, and uphold and maintain, the Church of England and Presbyterianism in Scotland. The paper discusses the viability of these religious features of the monarchy in the contemporary and future UK where the non-religious constitute an increasing and substantial sector of the population, where there is also increasing religious diversity and substantial diversity even within the narrowly nominal Christian majority. Only the oaths of Christianity seemingly apply to the other 15 non-UK realms, which include Canada, where Roman Catholics now outnumber Protestants, and Australia where they are a substantial element of the population, but the other UK-only oaths can be regarded, nonetheless, as tainting the monarchy. In all the realms there are major issues as to whether Christianity can continue to provide for a monarchy inclusive of all the population. The analysis also calls into question the continued viability of the Protestant character of the monarchy of the UK itself and briefly considers the possibilities of alternative multi-faith and secular ceremonials as ways of uniting 16 diverse realms of the monarch.

**Paradoxes of Religious Legitimacy and Authenticity in an Age of Expediency**

*Hjelm, T.*  
*(University College London)*

Claims about the ‘return of religion’ or living in a ‘post-secular’ age seem to have supplanted and reversed the secularisation thesis as the received wisdom about the role of religion in the modern world. But what does this ‘return’ mean and what are its implications for minority religions? I argue, following Jim Beckford (2011), that religion has increasingly become ‘expedient’, a source for policies and practices to tackle social problems and to integrate minority populations into an imagined community. This politicisation of religion leads to situation where religious groups are ‘interpellated’ by the public discourse to formulate strategies of legitimacy. On the one hand, religious groups may be encouraged to assert their legitimacy by, for example, registering for recognised and/or tax-exempt status. On the other hand, religious groups may become drawn into legitimacy struggles by outside forces (state, media), as in the case of suspected ‘extremism’ among Muslim groups in the West. I argue that these legitimation processes have the paradoxical effect of creating internal authenticity struggles within the groups. These in turn may lead to schism, polarisation and radicalisation.

**State, Religion and the Roots of the Québec’s Quiet Revolution**

*Morrison, I.*  
*(American University in Cairo)*

Québec is often seen as both a latecomer to, and an archetype of secularization. Most accounts of the what is known as Quiet Revolution of the early 1960s describe it as a period of rapid secularization during which Québec became secular. This paper offers an account of the transformations of the Quiet Revolution that differs from such narratives of secularization. In contrast, it argues that the establishment of the collection of policies and institutional arrangements commonly referred the Quiet Revolution were not the result of an unfolding of historical forces of modernization and secularization. Rather than the creation of a secular realm in Québec, the Quiet Revolution marked the institution of state hegemony within an already-constituted secular realm. In order to demonstrate this, the
paper engages with a series of moments of struggle through which the eventual victory of forces of State were made possible. First, Québec of the 1930s, when various projects attempted to christianize what were referred to as the secular intermediary realms, existing between church, state and economy. Second, the emergence of liberal and neo-nationalist movements that portrayed modernization as that which can permit normalization, maturation, and the development of authentic religiosity. Finally, the redefinition of that which is proper to the state and that which is proper to the Church through the development of a notion of the secular as the realm of autonomy from religious authority, an autonomy necessary for the normalization and maturation of society.

**Theory**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 14**

**The Body of the Dead: Political Funerals and Revolution in a Mediated World**

*Drake, M.S. (University of Hull)*

This paper focuses on how the dead body can become imbued with extraordinary power in modernity by producing a liminal space in which sovereign authority can be called into question. It undertakes a theoretical analysis of contemporary cases using comparative historical method informed by contemporary social and political theory.

The political relation of the dead body to sovereignty is traced through the ancient and medieval worlds to the modern substitution of the body of the sovereign by the body of the people. The paper looks at how the dead body opens up a space for the contention of collective meaning in the modern public sphere through analysis of the spontaneously political funerals which provided the impetus of the uprisings in the Arab world in 2010-11. To analyse these, the paper draws on classical and recent social and political theory, from the anthropology of death (Hertz), the political sociology of the public sphere (Habermas, Latour) and the critical theory of sovereignty (Foucault, Agamben, Santner). From that application of theory, the paper proposes a framework for the analysis of the contentious political life of the dead body in our contemporary, mediated world.

**On Boltanski’s Critique**

*McLennan, G. (University of Bristol)*

At a time when sociological epistemology is under sustained critical scrutiny – not least from postcolonial-postsecular scholars – Luc Boltanski’s ‘On Critique’ (English translation 2009) offers a distinctive statement of the logic of sociological critique. In this under-discussed work, Boltanski embraces more wholeheartedly – given the tenor of his previous writings – the trope of emancipation from domination as both driver and outcome of sociological reasoning, yet continues to give both social description and pragmatic normativity their due. The result is a complex reworking of some of the residual dualities of the discipline, plus a refreshing acknowledgement that analysis and action, detachment and commitment, description and normativity cannot seamlessly be welded together. This paper evaluates Boltanski’s contribution with reference to the ‘critique of critique’ as debated by Brown, Asad, Butler, and Mahmood in ‘Is Critique Secular?’ (2009).

**Alfred Russel Wallace: A Feasible Utopian?**

*Benton, E. (University of Essex)*

November 2013 marked the centenary of Wallace’s death. His independent discovery of the principle of natural selection is now better known. Less well known is his half-century of social and political thinking and activism that followed his great tropical expeditions.

He was a prominent critic of the suffering imposed on working people, and the environmental degradation associated with 19th c. industrial capitalism. where he differed from many other critics was in his detailed proposals for reorganising social and economic life in a more just and sustainable way. Land nationalisation, decentralised patterns of democratic governance, social and economic emancipation of women, and transformation of the relations between town and country were key themes in his vision.
Towards a New Functionalism

Edwards, M.
(Leeds Metropolitan University)

Explanations of human sociality derived of an evolutionary (Darwinian) paradigm are gaining purchase in sociology, captured in what has been described as a ‘new evolutionary social science’ (Niedenzu, 2008). Such explanations can be more specifically considered in terms of an ‘adaptationist perspective’. Adaptationist explanations recognise and explore the relationship between the biological and the social; drawing on a broad church of ideas from across the hard and soft sciences, orchestrated around the notion that change is driven by biological, cultural and social rubrics of interaction and selection according to Darwinian principles. Implicit in this multidisciplinary endeavour is a functional explicant that has echoes of the now largely unfashionable and moribund structural functionalism of Durkheim, Merton and Parsons but which this paper suggests might amount to a new functionalism, in which, unlike its predecessor, the purposive social agent is situated at the centre of a social process more akin to Elias’s figurations but driven by the most fundamental of functional rubrics. Sociology has offered a range of explanations of human sociality at the proximate (manifest) level of analysis, and it has offered explanations at more latent levels of analysis. But an adaptationist perspective ‘strips away’ still more layers of functionality to reveal what is perhaps the ‘ultimate’ functional rationale. This paper suggests that an adaptationist perspective on human sociality lends support to at least considering the resurrection and development of functionalism in these new terms as a sociological explicant.

Work, Employment and Economic Life
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 06

Precarious Labour and Disposable Bodies: How Economic and Cultural Change has Impacted on Working Life in Scotland’s Lap-dancing Venues

Lister, B.
(University of Stirling)

This paper provides an up-to-date snapshot of working conditions in the Scottish lap-dancing industry. In order to collect the data, in-depth, semi-structured interviews were conducted with dancers which benefitted from the researcher’s own involvement in the industry. The inclusion of women’s voices led to the conclusion that wider cultural and economic changes are impacting negatively upon working experiences in venues by adversely altering the dynamics of supply and demand. This means power is felt to be partially shifting from workers to owners, and to a lesser extent, customers. Participants suggest that venues have changed from being enjoyable working environments where money could be made relatively easily to ones where the work embodies the characteristics of precarious labour where competition is rife and projected income is far less certain.

The research concluded that simply improving working conditions for women may prove ineffective in the facilitation of a more satisfactory workplace, due to the overriding desire for profit held by both dancers and owners in an industry which has become less financially lucrative. Ultimately, this paper reveals and explains how shifts outside the lap-dancing venues have affected dancers negatively in different ways, affecting relationships inside the venue, and the actual experience of carrying out the labour. I argue that these shifts have been assisted by the provision of State policy that fails to recognise lap-dancing as a form of labour and is not concerned with dancers safety at work.

The Social Organisation of Free Agents in the Creative Industries

Ye, R.
(Stockholm University)

The escalating casualization of work and growth of networks of ‘free agents’ where individuals work for themselves appears to be a stark contrast to William Whyte’s description of the ‘Organization Man’ some 60 years ago. A common image of freelancers in the digital and creative industries is one of individuals who prefer membership in a ‘tribe without rulers’; creative cadres moving between job opportunities, transitioning between firm-based jobs and phases of self-employment. Yet, despite what is perceived to be relative independence and creative space that is afforded to freelance creative workers, their work arrangements have been considered precarious because they lack the securities and benefits of traditional employment provisions. Studies on precarious forms of employment and social networks within creative and cultural industries are, by now, two well-documented fields of research. What seems to be missing from these discussions, however, is an empirical investigation incorporating both elements: exploring precarity as a condition, and social networks and ‘knowledge’ as a means to counter precarity. This research is
concerned, in the first instance, with the ‘wires’ of these supposedly ‘wireless workers’: how are networks amongst freelancers in the digital creative industries formed and maintained? In addition, how does the structure of their organizational networks shape the ways they navigate through their ‘freelancing career’? These questions anchor a work-in-progress mixed methods research project that will be explored via the case of the digital creative industries in Stockholm, Sweden.

**Work, Welfare and Everything in between: The Lived Experience of Precarity**

_Hudson-Sharp, N._  
_(University of Kent)_

With research on the precariousness of economic life becoming ever more popular in academic debate, this paper highlights the importance of recognizing the heterogeneity of precarious workers and how this can improve our analyses of ‘precarity’ in the future. Developing a more complex understanding of the narratives precarious workers offer about their working lives, this paper will draw upon the findings of twenty-five semi-structured interviews to explore the often undervalued complex relationship between work, welfare and wellbeing and examine the differential impacts of precarity.

The first part of this paper will develop the means of this differentiation by broadening current theoretical debate on the ‘low pay, no pay cycle’, identifying three varieties of work-welfare cyclers - the Perpetual Cycler, the Activated Cycler and the Displaced Cycler. The second part of this paper will then demonstrate the way past experiences, imagined futures and both the objective events and subjective interpretations of each work-welfare cyclers’ ‘precarity’ have a variable effect on their sense of wellbeing. Subsequently this paper will not only propose a more pragmatic approach to the study of ‘precarity’ but will also provide an in-depth insight into the way precarious workers experience and understand the insecurities of their own economic lives.
Thursday 24 April 2014 at 15:30 - 17:00
**PAPER SESSION 6**

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Between Harmony and Hotels: Reykjavik through Music Festivals and Financial Crisis

Drake, M.S.
(University of Hull)

This paper is based on observational fieldwork, interview and documentary research into two annual music and culture festivals in Reykjavik, Iceland. Both events are studied as responses to the economic and political crisis in Iceland ensuing on the collapse of the banks in 2008. These are two very differently-scaled events, with different organizational forms, but both are non-profit, and are not directly related to the promotion of Iceland as a tourist destination. Rather, both events produce subjective conditions which function as conditions of creativity. The effect of such events has enabled the imaginary reconstruction of Reykjavik as a ‘creative city’.

This has subsequently produced countervailing post-crisis trends in urban development which are currently displacing the more spontaneously organised creative sector, and have invoked a public controversy over fundamental questions such as what the city is. The paper analyses these events through contemporary sociological debates around creativity, cultural regeneration, and new forms of subjectivity to advance the argument that the tension between cultural and ‘real’ economic development maps out contemporary lines of social conflict far removed from the ideological frameworks which continue to structure most analysis of the post-crisis political condition.

Graffiti, Street Art and Dimensions of Exclusion in Urban Space

Arnold, E.
(University of Oslo)

Created informally and often illegally in public space, graffiti and street art are a ubiquitous presence in the urban landscape. Due to the anonymous and surreptitious nature of the practice, the motivations of these artists are not always known. Through examination of artistic works in Montréal (Canada) and Oslo (Norway), this research suggests that dimensions of creative, economic, political, and social exclusion may be potential motivators.

As anyone may participate, graffiti and street art may be considered highly democratic and egalitarian. Graffiti and street art allows for expression unfettered by the politics and economics of public art commissions while voluntary exclusion from private commercial art spaces hints at the anti-capitalist and anti-establishment philosophies of the graffiti subculture. This form of expression is accessible to those without formal art training, those not associated with art communities, and those without other creative outlets. Bypassing formal avenues for political discourse, graffiti and street art may permit an immediate and uncensored voice on a wide range of issues in public space. While certain groups (e.g. women) may often be excluded from public space, female artists may be empowered through their participation in a male dominated subculture and in the ways they reclaim the typically male and patriarchal urban space.

Using visual and psychogeographic methodologies, this paper examines how graffiti and street art addresses issues of exclusion in urban space, looking at specific examples from fieldwork conducted in Canada and Norway. This paper forms part of the project Geographies of Street Art: http://i.ae.org/streetart

Reading Needs and Reading Together: The Work of Language in the Public Library

Robinson, K.
(London School of Economics and Political Science)

This paper considers how specific forms of social change are enacted in the public library, which itself has undergone significant changes in responding to a shifting and more diverse public (Luckham, 1971; Newman, 2007). The public library is valued as a public social space, particularly in places of perceived social change and ethnic diversity (Greenhalgh, 2003) and consequently, increasingly offers social and educational activities, reflecting understandings of social change as producing social need.
In this paper, I use my research in public libraries in Berlin to show how the perceived language need of people 'with migration background' is used as both a marker of change and exclusion (Billig, 1995). At the same time, discussions of language limitations, or language codes which are racialised, co-exist with another language, Berlinerisch, the local dialect spoken by long-term Berliners, which has working-class connotations (Dittmar and Schlobinski, 1988). Berlinerisch is maligned as uncultivated, but also adopted self-consciously, parodied ironically and displayed as a badge of honour.

I discuss how a weekly children's reading group in a library in Wedding, a working class, and now 'multicultural' district of Berlin, reflects the fraught and changing language context in the area. However, I argue that by closely examining the role of language in the reading group, and the accompanying forms of collaborative listening and speaking it enables, refracts understandings of language simply as ‘problem’ into a more complex appreciation of language as social participation and social destabiliser (Hewitt, 1986).

**Culture, Media, Sport and Consumption**

**CONFERENCE AUDITORIUM 2**

**Sport as Radical Community Development: A Case Study of FC Sankt Pauli Fans**

*Totten, M.*

*(Leeds Metropolitan University)*

For many, FC Sankt Pauli fans are subcultural icons who have successfully demonstrated the transformational potential of football as a site for community organisation and resistance. This research, based on more than ten years of ethnography amongst the fans and questionnaires and interviews with key individuals, looks behind the scenes to reveal how fans maintain a grassroots social movement bottom up. This presentation will disclose how the fan community is conceived and organised, its composition and relationships. It will show how a collectivist approach is adopted and non-hierarchical control embedded. It will uncover how power structures are challenged, fans empowered, activism cultivated, and the tactics employed. Authentic voices of fan activists convey a critical praxis which propagates leftist libertarian ideology and manifests as participatory democracy. This presentation offers an insight into how fans organise to influence; a vision for others to emulate.

**Football Fans and the Red Bull Franchise: Reflections from SV Austria Salzburg**

*Millward, P.*

*(Liverpool John Moores University)*

This paper tells the story of the commercialisation of Austrian elite association football, and fans responses to it. Specifically this paper uses fieldwork and library based research to tell the story of SV Austria Salzburg, a regional league football team that was formed in 2005 after fans of parent club, also named SV Austria Salzburg, left behind their support after it was purchased by soft drink company Red Bull and renamed Red Bull Salzburg. The paper makes decisive contributions to the sociologies of football, fandom/consumption and the derivatives of commercialisation, building upon work the author published about the English Premier League in The Global Football League: Transnational Networks, Social Movements and Sport in the New Media Age.

**'Being a Fan is Our Job': Towards a Theory of the Ultras**

*Doidge, M.*

*(University of Brighton)*

Italian fan culture is a central image of Italian football. Passionate fans help create a carnival atmosphere full of flags, fireworks and songs. It can also result in violence, including the death of a policeman in 2007. Ultras are distinct from the hooligan form of support that originated in England. A significant part of this fandom is comprised of ultras, mainly young men, who perform their support through choreographies, chants and violence in opposition to their rivals. Through analysis of ultras we can see how groups embody the local traditions and political interests of members. This paper will present the historical development of the ultras in relation to the political economic development of Italian football; this provides a strong political foundation for many of the groups. The ritualistic practices of the ultras will be elucidated to demonstrate the carnivalesque performance of the ultras. Within this performance, the ultras present their group identity. This identity helps structures their interactions with other groups. Although the ritualistic performance helps produce the emotional focus that sustains the group, external agencies also impact upon the wider
ultras identity. In particular, the police and the state have helped shape a broader collective ultras identity. Through the ritualistic performance local ultras groups grow, fragment and yet remain united to an over-arching social movement.

Families and Relationships 1
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 21

The Baby Boomer Generation and the Problem of Knowledge
Bristow, J.
(University of Kent)

The sociology of generations has attracted an awakened interest in recent years, sparked in part by high-profile media and policy discussions about the problem of the ‘Baby Boomer’ generation. While this discussion tends to focus on resource issues (for example, pensions and healthcare), it relates to a deeper question at the heart of the sociology of generations: the relationship between past, present and future, mediated through biological existence and affective ties. Mannheim’s seminal essay on ‘The problem of generations’ situated this problem within a wider sociology of knowledge, to do with the transmission and renewal of society’s accumulated cultural heritage. My research on the construction of the Baby Boomers as a social problem indicates that current debates about the generation gap are presented in both economic and cultural terms, reflecting a wider existential anxiety about the uncertainties apparently unleashed by liberal economic and social policies in the second half of the twentieth century. This paper will examine how the problematisation of generations has emerged as an attempt to manage this uncertainty, through implicit and explicit calls for economic, behavioural, and intellectual restraint.

Friendship Strains: The Social and Emotional Work of Friendship Making and Maintenance
Neal, S., Vincent, C., Iqbal, H.
(University of Surrey)

While children and young people’s friendships have been the focus of extended social science study, there has been less scrutiny of adult friendships. In sociology the work that has been conducted on adult friendships has tended to look at: friendship as an emotional and social resource for surviving and thriving in late modernity as family formations reconfigure; how friendships may be a way of building belonging and attachment to places; and how friendships can be a part of people’s social and economic capital and social inclusion/mobility. However, there has, with a few exceptions (see Smart et al 2012 for example), been much less emphasis on the difficulties, tensions, ambivalences and strain involved in adult friendship relations. This paper draws on qualitative data from the authors’ current ESRC project exploring adults’ and children’s friendships across ethnic and social different in super-diverse urban geographies. We use the accounts of the participants - their articulation of anxieties and their stories of conflicts and more negative emotions associated with their own and their children’s friendship experiences and practices - to look at ways in which friendship relations also deliver uneasy collisions of personal and wider social worlds. In particular we examine how these tensions are refracted through the lens of social and ethnic differentiation and consider the ways in which, in contexts of socially and culturally mixed populations, divisions of ethnicity and class are reproduced and/or managed, and/or avoided and/or transcended.

Families and Relationships 2
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 09

Involving Significant Others: Relational Investments, (Re)negotiations and Disruptions
Temple-Malt, E.
(University of Manchester)

In this paper I examine relational negotiations that were triggered when couples’ announced their civil partnership and the efforts couples made to involve significant others in the plans and preparations for the civil partnership. I illustrate how anxieties about disrupting established relationships encouraged individuals and couples to prioritise the feelings and comfort of their significant others (Smart 2007). The willingness to negotiate and use strategies such as ‘emotion
work’ to manage these relationships and rebuild disrupted relationships undermines arguments about the declining significance of family. Additionally, my findings challenge assumptions that having access to a union such as marriage would strengthen relationships with family. My findings imply that organising civil partnership celebrations impact on familial relationships in a myriad of ways that are far more complex and complicated than previously understood. I demonstrate how announcing the civil partnership to these significant others disrupted the equilibrium of these relationships. This disruption encouraged both the couple and their significant others to engage in ‘emotion work’ as they worked to achieve a suitable and authentic display of commitment and support at the couples’ celebrations. Finch’s (2007) idea of audiences within families is developed who need to be seen to be displaying family solidarity to each other. I then examine how the absence of traditional scripts to guide how a civil partnership should be organised led to improvisations as new relational scripts emerged from involving significant others in the preparation of the civil partnership ceremony. Such improvisations led to relational investments, surprises and disappointments.

‘Encounters with Acquaintances and Strangers’: Civil Partnership and Relational Displays

Temple-Malt, E.
(University of Manchester)

In this paper I assess the significance that civil partnership has as a resource for displaying a same-sex relationship in routine encounters with acquaintances and strangers. I begin with a critique of existing debates and assumptions that entering a civil partnership would automatically lead to greater recognition and promote tolerant attitudes towards same-sex relationships in all situations. My criticism stems from the types of processes and rules that shape the kinds of exchanges and interactions that can be had with different groups of people (Goffman, 1963/1971). I proposed developing an alternative approach from which to assess the impact that legal recognition has on encounters with acquaintances and strangers which meant attending to the situational details of an encounter (Heaphy 2009). Here I focused on both the climate in which the encounters themselves took place and to the dynamics operating in interactions with acquaintances and strangers. This meant concentrating on the processes involved in how and to whom a formalised same-sex relationship can be displayed. I then explore how participants managed the presentation of their relationship in encounters with neighbours (acquaintances). I then evaluate participants’ narratives of encounters with work colleagues. This is followed by an outline of how participants presented their relationship whilst out and about in public in the presence of strangers. The final part of the paper closes with an examination of participants’ narratives of how they encountered members of the medical profession and arranged holidays.

Caring Relationships, Daily Online Intimacies and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning and Asexual Young People’s Wellbeing

Speirs, J.
(University of Glasgow)

This paper presents research from the first UK study of LGBTQQA young people’s experiences of wellbeing online. Discrimination and homophobia have many negative impacts on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning and asexual (LGBTQQA) young people’s lives but still, many young people get by, manage, and construct positive lives for themselves. In a field that focuses on vulnerability and the prevalence of mental health problems, in this study I seek to understand LGBTQQA young people’s narratives of wellbeing and how they build coherent, resilient identities.

I have carried out an ethnographic study of LGBTQQA young people comprising a multimedia online survey, interviews, diaries and periods of online observation. Young people from a range of locations in Scotland were recruited in person, whist international participants took part online. The study drew upon multisensory ethnographic practices that seek to go beyond what can be spoken to capture diverse fragments of young people’s lives. Themes such as caring, everyday intimacies, friendship and wellbeing will be explored in this paper.

This paper provides an insight into an underexplored area of research, using an innovative methodology that engages with the intertwined nature of online and offline in young people’s lives. It fills gaps in understanding the resources that LGBTQQA young people use and create to manage feelings and relationships and suggests new directions for further research.
An Applied Visual Sociology: Picturing Harm Reduction

Parkin, S.
(University of Huddersfield)

This paper emphasises Pierre Bourdieu’s (1965) view that ‘nothing may be photographed apart from that which must be photographed’. In addition, it aims to challenge the indiscriminate use of photography - especially when used for illustrative purposes - in the discipline of sociology. Whilst the latter may concur with Prosser’s view that images represent ‘visual quotes’, the actual disciplinary value of such ‘illustrative’ material (in terms of ontology, epistemology, theory, application) remains limited (if not worthless).

This paper aims to show how visual methods/data can make meaningful contributions to sociology, reflect the foundational precepts of ‘sociology’ (as a discipline concerned with reform) and facilitate modest (yet significant) moves towards ‘changing society’. With reference to empirical/ethnographic research conducted throughout the UK (2006-2011) the author demonstrates how photography, (as applied research in the field of public health and injecting drug use), can also articulate Bourdieu’s notion of an ‘activist science’.

More significantly, this paper provides an overview of how visual data can inform and challenge established constructions of a particular public health concern. In this instance, the application of visual methods in an ethnographic study of street-based injecting drug use (heroin/crack-cocaine) informs the disciplinary challenge underlying this paper, in which the methodological, analytical and applied value of street-based photography is made apparent.

In summary, this paper will demonstrate how visual data may assist a policy framework of harm reduction - as both a process and an ideal - via theoretically-situated and applied interpretation.

Creating an Impact with Death?

Woodthorpe, K., Rumble, H.
(University of Bath)

This session will showcase a recently completed project entitled ‘Dead and Buried’. An innovative research venture that engaged with a group of young people aged 17-25 who were not in education, employment or training, the project’s focus was on exploring death and natural burial through artwork. Taking place over 7 weeks during 2013 in Bristol, the young people participated in art workshops to generate their own creative response to death. Culminating in a week long public exhibition, the project was captured on film by Gary Thomas. This session will show the 10 minute film, with a view to generating a discussion about the purpose of research within Universities and the current impact agenda being pursued. As a project where the remit was explicitly public engagement and making a difference to the lives of the participants, this session intends to examine the opportunities and pitfalls in engaging in such work, and the relationship between academic scholarship and social change.

Researching Sex Workers in the UK: A New Appreciative Approach

Binch, L., Ahearne, G.
(The University of Sheffield)

Sex work and sex work research is an area that has provoked much discussion and debate from several spheres such as; political, economical, moral, legal, and social. In recent years academic research surrounding the area of prostitution and the sex industry has continued to evolve but what is lacking is the need for participation appreciation within the methodological approach. This paper will be delivered by joint speakers, and will develop an understanding of the current research each presenter is undertaking and why these methodologies are so important. This paper argues that as researchers of such stigmatised and marginalised groups our research methods must ensure that the participants are valued, engaged with, and not spoken for or about. Research on sex work must give traditional ‘subjects’ a space to speak and for their lived realities to not be overshadowed by theory. This involves using participatory action research; ethnography; visual methods such as photo ethnography; reflexive practices; life history interviews and taking an ‘appreciative’ approach.
Social Policy and Regulatory Interventions: A Social Worlds Approach

Dobson, R.  
(Kingston University)

This conference paper is a theoretically informed contribution to existing debates about regulatory social policy and ‘practice ontologies’, by way of reference to empirical data from the English Housing Related Support Sector, an analysis of welfare practitioner performances and practices, and the application of a social relations approach to welfare practice. The empirical research that is referenced contributes to policy, sociology and criminology debates, which have argued that social policy and welfare are increasingly punitive, controlling, conditional and disciplining. Using these debates as an intellectual foundation, and informed by anthropological (Lea 2008) feminist post-structural and psycho-social (Hunter 2012) theorising on relational power and politics, this paper offers an alternative perspective. I suggest that the study of ‘regulatory interventions’ – understood here as welfare practitioners’ efforts to control, challenge and change the behaviour of ‘problem’ people – is helpful for theorising social policy in conceptual terms. Specifically, using practitioner performances and practices analytically, in relation to regulatory techniques, makes visible the social relations of policy. I argue that the concealment of the social relations of welfare and policy are easily done in a context of critical concerns about contemporary cultures of punishment. I suggest that the research contributes to theoretical debates about the formation of ‘the state’ via a study of ‘local state’ social subjects. I conclude that the research supports a body of work that theorises social policy ‘as social’ by conceptualising relational connections between affect, agency and power, welfare institutions and the state.

Frontiers 2

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 18

PRESIDENTIAL EVENT WITH THE ACTIVISM FORUM AND RACE STUDY GROUP: LEARNING FROM STUART HALL – ACTIVISM INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY

A panel and discussion around key themes from Stuart Hall’s work and their contemporary relevance: the role of the university; authoritarian populism; postcolonialism and the politics of identity. Speakers include:

Radice, H.  
(University of Leeds)

McLennan, G.  
(University of Bristol)

Bhambra, G.K  
(University of Warwick)

St Louis, B.  
(Goldschmists, University of London)

Kapoor, N.  
(University of York)

Chairs: Lisa McKenzie (London School of Economics and Political Science) and Nirmal Puwar (Goldsmiths, University of London).

Medicine, Health and Illness

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 02

‘The Problem Here is that They Want to Solve Everything with Pills’: Differentiating and Integrating Multiple Meanings of Medications

Adams, W., Todorova, I., Guzzardo, M., Falcon, L.  
(Northeastern University)

Taking medications are complex symbolic acts, which have physiological, symptomatic and mood consequences, and are infused with diverse meanings regarding body, identity, and society. This paper focuses on the meanings of medications for Puerto Ricans living on the United States mainland, who experience stark health disparities compared to other Latino and non-Latino populations. The main aims are to gain an understanding of the way multiple cultural and personal meanings of medications (including pills, inhalers, pumps, etc.) are integrated, and to identify ways in
which mainland Puerto Rican experiences and understandings of medication can be applied to other immigrant or disadvantaged populations. Data is drawn from thirty qualitative interviews, transcribed and translated, with older Puerto Ricans living in the Eastern mainland United States. Participants report taking an average of 8 medications each, indicating their importance and prevalence, and insurance coverage was common. Thematic analysis indicated four prevalent themes: Redefining Life and Self through Medication; Embodiment of medication use; Critique of the dominance of pharmaceuticals in health care practices; and Medicine dividing the island and the mainland. The change and loss of self through one’s interaction with medication is indicated throughout. Medications and medication use capture the dilemma of immigration, where easier access to medication occurs in immigrant-receiving states but only in an isolating environment of excess pharmaceuticalisation.

**Medicating Sleep? Patient and Professional Perspectives on Prescription Hypnotics in UK Primary Care**

*Coveney, C., Jonathan, G., Williams, S.*

*(University of Warwick)*

The treatment of insomnia has been controversial and under debate for many decades and the prescription of sleeping pills is a highly moralised issue. Measures are currently underway to reduce hypnotic prescribing in primary care in the UK in favour of non-pharmacological methods such as sleep hygiene and CBTi, which are now easily accessible and available for download via digital patient information leaflets and computerised health ‘apps’.

In this paper we look at GP views of prescribing hypnotics in primary care to treat sleep problems and compare and contrast these with patient perspectives and experiences. Data is qualitative in nature, drawn from focus groups with chronic users of sleeping pills and semi-structured interviews with General Practitioners.

In our analysis, we examine the degree by which the views of patients with respect to both aetiology of their sleep problem and prescription of pharmaceuticals converge or diverge with that which is evident in medical discourses on these matters. We discuss the role of so-called lay ‘expertise’ in the therapeutic management of sleep problems, the perceived value of pharmaceuticals, and the importance of building mutual trust between GPs and patients in the medical encounter.

Our paper contributes to recent work on the (de) pharmaceuticalisation of society, the changing nature of the doctor – patient relationship in the digital age and lay experiences of chronic illness.

**Challenging Times: Exploring Temporalities in Women’s Accounts of Their Experiences of Abortion**

*Beynon-Jones, S.*

*(University of York)*

Medical and policy discourse concerning abortion in Scotland, England and Wales enacts a particular set of understandings of time, which are routinely used to frame public debate about this aspect of women’s reproductive lives. Within such discourse, pregnancy is conceptualised in terms of quantifiable units of time, whose passage can be used to ‘measure’ the meaning of abortion. As a metric, the passage of pregnancy time is used in attempt to capture a range of public health concerns including the ‘riskiness’ of abortion procedures, their economic costs, and the extent to which abortion services are accessible. It is also used in more explicit attempts to define the meaning of abortion for pregnant women, for example, through efforts to restrict provision of the procedure at later gestations. This paper draws on women’s interview accounts of abortion in order to explore how the meaning of time is articulated by those with lived experiences of this situation. It aims to highlight the complex ways in which women’s narratives both reinforce and subvert hegemonic accounts of temporality and abortion.

**Methodological Innovations**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 11**

**Counting Better? An Examination of the Impact of Quantitative Method Teaching on the Statistical Anxiety and Confidence of Sociology, Criminology and Social Policy Students**

*Chamberlain, M., Hiller, J.*

*(Loughborough University)*

This paper reports the results of research concerned with students’ statistical anxiety and confidence to both complete and learn to complete statistical tasks.
Data were collected at the beginning and end of a quantitative methods statistics module. Students recognised the value of numeracy skills but felt they were not necessarily relevant for graduate employability and preferred to study with words rather than numbers. A statistically significant reduction in anxiety and increase in confidence to complete statistical tasks were found (p = <0.05). However, a large number of students remained anxious about their ability to complete statistical tasks. They also seemed to feel more confident about doing and learning less complex procedures.

The paper argues that these results reinforce the need to provide students with additional mathematical and statistical support outside of quantitative method courses as well as that numeric learning materials and study tasks need to be embedded across the curriculum within substantive disciplinary modules. The design of numeric study tasks also needs to be carefully considered to ease the transition for students from simple to more complex statistical procedures while simultaneously reinforcing the importance of numeracy skills for examining substantive disciplinary topics and promoting graduate employability.

Swarm Research in Service of Researching Publics

Basten, F.
(Orléon)

Many have grown accustomed to the idea that academe is the sole source of significant scholarship. When it comes to knowledge about the social, society is still largely unheard. [name] is a campus of independent researchers who want to change this monopoly. ‘The public’ is not silent nor ignorant. Therefore, the divide between public and private sociology can be challenged, with consequences for public decision making and democratic arrangements in knowledge creation. The public has research capacities that this campus wants to bring out. To do so, we are developing swarm research as a methodology. In this paper I describe the four principles that underpin it. First, it is narrative. We use events and the stories we collect there as our data and input to create meso stories that give the events their logic. In turn, our meso stories focus our attention to relevant events. Second, it is networked. We collaborate in the swarm as a learning environment in which we invite others to participate. Third, we assume complexity and look for patterns that help us, part of these patterns, to make sense of what is happening. Fourth, we deconstruct the event and its context, deliberately seeking a breakdown of the normal to open up new perspectives and reach new insights. Bricolage as methodological negotiation is pivotal. With swarm research, we not only develop knowledge about the social, but also about the methodologies with which we research the social. With this, we offer a model for counterexpertise in researching publics.

The Construction of Identities in Narrative Interviews: A Methodological Suggestion from Relational Network Theory

Bernhard, S.
(Institute for Employment Research)

This contribution deals with constructions of identities in narrative research interviews and their relation to constructions of identities in less artificial settings in everyday life. Proponents of big stories rely on detailed analyses of texts produced in research interviews to reconstruct identities, while proponents of small stories prefer to investigate spontaneous and potentially fragmented identities in quotidian life. The latter criticise the former for taking identities established in a single situation and under extraordinary conditions to be representative of all identities established in the cacophony of ordinary life. However, renouncing big story research would be taking far too drastic measures. Therefore, I develop an integrated methodology that focuses on small stories in big story narratives, like e.g. stories about friendships or exceptional situations. Theoretically, the approach takes recourse to Harrison C. White’s relational network theory and in particular his identity theory. I distinguish five nested types of identities and show how these can be scrutinized using Positioning Theory as methodological guide. To illustrate the procedure I draw on narrative interviews with nascent entrepreneurs and reconstruct their positioned identities. I conclude that big story research can learn from small story research not only in studying autobiographical texts but also in guiding where and how to look for identity constructions beyond narrative interviews. Considering everyday identity performances systematically enhances knowledge derived from narrative interviewing. In the case of nascent entrepreneurs we may find such performances in business plans, in interactions with investors and customers or in the organisation of working spaces.

URGENT! Reflections on Doing ‘Quick-and-dirty’ Research, and on Sociology and Social Action

Jones, H.
(University of Warwick)
This paper will be a reflection on attempts to do scholarly research at a pace that can influence social change. As an early applicant to the ESRC Urgent Grants Mechanism, I will use that experience and the associated research to discuss (1) the need for ‘urgent’ sociology, (2) the pace of research – and the practical (and less-practical) politics of doing ‘fast’ academic research and (3) why fast research and theoretical reflection are not mutually exclusive. The paper will take a methodological approach which emphasises the practical politics of research and research methods including relationship building, access and production of knowledge, and the ethical, political and social contexts and responsibilities of sociologists, sociology, and research institutions.

Rights, Violence and Crime
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 12

SOCIOLOGY OF RIGHTS

Communicative Citizenship Actions, Human Rights and Construction of Social Memory: The Case of the Social Movement of Victims of Eastern Antioquia, Colombia

Tamayo Gomez, C.
(University of Huddersfield)

In this paper I would like to present the experience of two social movements of victims of Eastern Antioquia (Colombia) that have been developing different types of communicative citizenship actions in order to claim human rights in the midst of the Colombian armed conflict. Specifically, I will focus on the experience of the Association of Victims of Granada Town (ASOVIDA) and The Provincial Association of Victims to Citizens (APROVIACI), and how these two association of victims have been implementing and adapting in their communicative citizenship actions different forms of socio-political action having as a reference other victims’ groups of the world such as Women in Black (Serbia), Mothers of Plaza de Mayo (Argentina) and May our Daughters Return Home (Mexico).

My two principal arguments in this paper are: first, these two Colombian experiences are relevant examples of how it is possible to implement different types of socio-political actions of other parts of the world in order to construct other social memory narratives from a counterpublic perspective in particular armed conflicts. My second argument is that one of the primary purposes of the concept of communicative citizenship is to understand the different socio-communicative actions, practices and tactics associated with the contemporary struggle for recognition and significance for different actors in public spheres. The analysis in this paper is based on results of a narrative analysis of 48 interviews that I conducted with different members of ASOVIDA and APROVIACI in October and November of 2012 as part of my doctoral research fieldwork.

Challenging Gender? The Emergent Debate on the Rights of Intersexual Persons in Europe

Ammaturo, F.R.
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

The human rights of persons with intersexual conditions have been rarely addressed in public fora of discussion on human rights. Mainly approached under a strictly medical perspective, this issue has been treated as a ‘psycho-social emergency’ (Chase 1998) and has led to a practice focusing on corrective surgeries performed on intersexual newborns in order to ascertain the ‘true gender’ of the infant and eliminate sexual ambiguity. However, associated with this process of normalisation is also a strong discomfort that these individuals may feel once they have grown up. The issue, therefore, is highly contentious and it is in need of being addressed systematically under a human rights perspective.

This paper will consider the emerging debate in Europe in this field. Departing from the recent Resolution voted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (2013), the main human rights organisation on the continent, this analysis will focus on the way in which intersexuality is slowly beginning to be framed as a ‘human rights issue’ and how this may potentially entail a challenge to the medicalisation of intersexuality. Moreover, the paper will also try to discuss the extent to which this emerging debate can also be seen as a broader attempt to rediscuss and rearticulate notions of gender that are more malleable and less normative and prescriptive.
Talking Officially: How Survivors of Genocide Talk about Their Experiences and Who Listens to Them Talking

Asquith, L.
(Nottingham Trent University)

‘I started talking, well I started talking as soon as I was free, in France. And then I found that people didn’t want to know, and didn’t believe me anyway. Then I stopped talking…I suppose I never really stopped talking, but I stopped talking officially.’

(Tabitha, Holocaust survivor from Hungary)

In saying this, Tabitha shines a light on how talking about violence is not as simple as it sounds, with societal, familial and political pressures all affecting who speaks, what is spoken and how it is heard. This paper explores the nature of talking about genocidal violence, and the reasons why and when people begin to talk and how that talk is received by the wider society. It does this through utilising Pierre Bourdieu’s ideas about language and power, giving prominence to where dominant agents have silenced the survivor’s narrative and how some narratives of genocide have become the dominant narrative.

This research takes a comparative approach in considering the construction of dominant narratives and the impact of the Holocaust as an archetypal genocide upon later genocide survivors’ talk.

This paper firstly covers how talk is received by wider society and draws on differences between the survivors of the Holocaust and survivors from Bosnia and Rwanda. The paper then moves on to consider what prevents and what facilitates talk about violence. Finally this paper examines why certain narratives of violence become dominant and how narratives can change from being unheard to being the authoritative voice in recollections of violence.

Risk, Security and Human Rights Defenders

Nah, A.
(University of York)

The term ‘human rights defender’ has a relatively recent history. Understood with reference to the 1998 Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, this term draws attention to the importance of defending the rights of people engaged in human rights work. This term is usually invoked in relation to individuals, organisations, and communities at risk, highlighting their need for (international) protection. Over the years, a transnational community of donors, non-governmental organisations, networks, and governments has formed around human rights defenders, developing mechanisms and strategies to increase their protection. While many human rights defenders around the world face risks because of their work, they don’t always take steps to manage their own security. The reasons for this are wide-ranging, including: the lack of knowledge and training on risk management and mitigation; psychological and cognitive barriers; prevailing ideas and social norms amongst HRDs that inhibit action; the lack of resources and commitment by colleagues; and limited conceptualisations of ‘security’. Some HRDs – such as those who work on women rights, sexual orientation and gender identity rights, as well as the environment – experience higher risks. This paper assesses the (potential) contribution that sociology – in particular the sociology of risk and the sociology of rights – can make to our understanding of the way that human rights defenders manage risk and personal security.

Risk, Globalisation, Climate Change and Beyond

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 07

Developing a Framework for the Analysis of Energy Intensive Domestic Social Practices

Roberts, T.
(University of Surrey)

Energy consumption increasingly permeates every aspect of domestic life in modern industrialised countries. In the UK, for example, domestic energy consumption accounts for over a quarter of total CO2 emissions (Energy saving trust 2012). The availability of cheap on demand electricity has resulted in a fundamental reconfiguration of everyday practices. However, the complexity and interconnectedness associated with these practices presents many challenges for understanding the nature of domestic energy use. This paper aims to develop a framework for the
analysis of domestic energy demand by building on the growing body of theoretical and empirical literature that utilises social practice theory to improve understanding of suitability issues. This approach offers the opportunity to explore the nature of these practices rather than focusing on the individuals who undertake them. By utilising data generated through a series of walking interviews (N=15) around people’s homes we identify energy intensive practices, break them down into the elements from which they are comprised (i.e. materials, competencies and meanings) and use the findings to develop a framework to further study domestic energy use. The data also provides us with an interesting insight into domestic energy practice and how these may be challenged to reduce consumption.

Social Practice Theory, Sustainable Development and Neo-behaviourism

Adams, M., Hanna, P.
(University of Brighton)

Human behaviour is now established as a vital contributing factor to various dimensions of ecological degradation. The urgency of the need to understand the human behaviours involved, as a basis for intervention and amelioration is also largely agreed upon. Policy, government and institutional initiatives have focused on techniques of social persuasion and cognitive-behaviourist models, aimed at gradual individual behaviour change. However, following a great deal of debate over which behaviours are deemed problematic and how they are understood, social practice theory has emerged as the foremost challenger of established approaches. In fact in recent years social practice theory approaches to sustainable development have secured significant research funding and related outputs, and it now wields substantial influence in academic and policy circles. Accordingly this paper takes as its starting point a timely critical engagement with the application of social practice theory to understanding human behaviour in relation to environmental crisis. We question the extent to which it can be translated into meaningful interventions, examine ethical and ontological concerns related to its conceptualization of the person and reflect on its own associations with behaviourism. The authors conclude with an exploration of the potential avenues for future theoretical and empirical work in this area.

How to be Good? Exploring Knowledge and Competences for Sustainable Living

Butler, C., Shirani, F., Parkhill, K., Groves, C., Pidgeon, N., Henwood, K.
(Cardiff University)

Practices are held to entail entanglements between meanings (incorporating socio-cultural and symbolic meanings, ideas and aspirations), materials (including things, technologies and infrastructures), and competences (referring to know-how, skill and technique) (Shove et al. 2012). Knowledge is thus implicated in practice in multiple ways. On one level, having the skills to operate particular technologies constitutes a form of know-how pertinent to many practices (driving or cycling for example). On another level, we derive knowledge of how to act from other people and from things, responding to them in our enactments of particular practices. For example, sitting at a desk typing involves multiple competences that form the basis for our successful enactment of that particular practice – knowledge of computers, chairs, and desks gleaned both from other people and from the things themselves. Most of us know how to act in ways acceptable and ‘normal’ to others but much of our knowledge about how to act pertains to practices and lifestyles that are in general socio-environmentally unsustainable. In a context where there are imperatives for change questions remain regarding how we can know how to act and live in more sustainable ways. This paper will present an analysis of narrative interviews (participant n = 68) undertaken with participants living within very different social contexts. The analysis will address questions regarding what kinds of knowledge and uncertainties exist about sustainable practice and how people living in various contexts go about gaining competences in practices that are understood to be more sustainable.

Sustainable Consumption and Theories of Practice

Warde, A.
(University of Manchester)

Theories of practice are currently widely employed across the disciplines of the humanities and social sciences and have become increasingly prominent in discussions of sustainable consumption. Theories of practice promise new perspectives, first by providing an alternative to models of individual choice, whether based upon the sovereign or the expressive individual, and second by uncovering and exploring phenomena normally concealed in cultural analysis. Quite often social scientists who find theories of practice convincing at the level of theory express degrees of uncertainty when designing empirical research projects and analysing the results. This paper will reflect upon the promise and the difficulties of applying recent versions of practice theory in empirical inquiries about climate change and sustainability. It will consider some issues of method, including the definition of scientific objects, the boundedness of practices, accounting for change, operationalising key concepts, and generating macro-level
explanations. Illustration will be drawn from recent substantive empirical work in the sociology of sustainable consumption.

Science and Technology Studies
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 08

Governing Big Data: Ethnographic Study of a Data Access Committee

Murtagh, M., Turner, A., Minion, J. (University of Bristol)

Big data in biomedical research do not come ready-made; and are not just Big. Demand for data sharing and data linkage has produced a proliferation of data access committees (DACs), whose composition, remit and guidance vary widely. DACs perform a study-level or multi-study gatekeeping function, often in parallel with study ethics committees, reviewing applications and granting permission to access to data and/or samples. Despite their centrality to the data economy, little is understood of DAC practices and their effects on bioknowledge production.

Over 18 months, we conducted ethnographic research in a DAC responsible for access to data and samples in four cohort studies. Observation field-notes, study documents and communication, transcripts of interviews and audio-recordings of face-to-face, teleconference and preparatory meetings provide the data for analysis.

DAC members faced a range of difficult decisions, often operating in the absence of clear guidance or precedents. Members strived to reach professional and ethical decisions using a range of rhetorical strategies to rationalize allocation of access to finite resources, assess potentially controversial research that could negatively impact the reputation of the originating study, or could harm the dignity of participants. Decisions involved negotiating: multiple relationships with funders, research users, study guardians and policy makers; governance oversight and ethical prohibitions; and, technical and administrative structures and strictures. The paper describes these practices and the epistemic and non-epistemic values inhering to them. While this research provides some insight into local decision making in one DAC, further research is needed to encompass the diversity of DACs internationally.

Opening up a Dark Habitat and Opening up Data: The Co-emergence of Scientific Collaboration, Infrastructure for Data-sharing, and Data-sharing Practices

Darch, P. (University of California, Los Angeles)

Allied to the movement promoting Open Access publishing is the Open Data movement, which aims to facilitate and encourage the open sharing of research data amongst scientists across multiple disciplines and institutions. Studies of scientists’ data practices link barriers to data-sharing with lack of appropriate infrastructure, cultural issues regarding norms and reward structures, and lack of trust amongst researchers. However, there have been fewer studies of actual instances of successful data-sharing. Furthermore, little attention has been paid to the implications of successful data-sharing for the structures of collaborative scientific work.

This paper will present findings from a longitudinal ethnographic case study of a large, distributed, multidisciplinary collaborative project studying subseafloor microbial life. This project aims to build a community involving researchers from disparate backgrounds, and to develop infrastructure for the exchange of knowledge, methods, and data. This case study is therefore an ideal opportunity for studying the co-emergence of scientific collaboration, infrastructure for data-sharing, and data-sharing practices.

By carefully deconstructing a single observed instance of data-sharing, this paper shows that the sharing of data between researchers in different institutions or disciplines is a rare and fragile accomplishment that involves the interplay of multiple factors. These include high levels of trust between researchers, alignment of researchers’ interests, opportunism in exploiting possibilities afforded by infrastructures, and all this underpinned by serendipity. Conversely, when data-sharing does occur, it promotes new scientific work across disciplinary and institutional boundaries, reconfiguring the structure of the collaboration.
In analyses of education and social change, black British communities are still too often positioned, as Paul Gilroy has observed, either as problems or victims – crises to be theorized by white intellectuals. This has had the effect of obscuring black social agency and, in particular, the historic role of black British thinkers and activists in changing British society. Though often marginalized, the UK has robust black public intellectual traditions, rooted in dialogues with the sociological materials of pan-Africanism, Marxism, feminism, post-colonialism and post-structuralism. Key figures of the post-war era include Ambalavaner Sivanandan, Stuart Hall, John LaRose, Bernard Coard, Maureen Stone and Hazel Carby.

The field of education is a key space in which black British political and intellectual positions have been defined and differentiated. This paper is based upon a recently completed cultural-historical review of post-war black British writing on education and social justice (Warmington, 2012, 2014). Its sources are scholarly, campaigning and teacher-activist literature produced since the early 1960s, when the first post-war black educational movements emerged, to the present. In sociological terms the paper develops these sources into counter-storytelling; that is, it suggests co-ordinates for re-telling the history of race and education in Britain, not primarily in terms of legislation, policy or media coverage but through the work of black public intellectuals and activists. It argues that asserting black intellectual agency in accounts of post-war social change is vital to resisting the objectification of black Britain.

Where have All the Radicals Gone? The Disappearing Legacy of Black Radicalism

Andrews, K.
(Newman University)

Black radical politics has a long and significant tradition of resistance to racial inequality. The twentieth century has seen the emergence of Ethiopianism, Garveyism, Pan-Africanism, Black Nationalism, the Black Panthers and revolutionary liberation movements in Africa and the Caribbean. However, since the 1970s Black radical politics have been in terminal decline to the point where there now seems to no radical articulation of Black politics. This paper will examine the reasons behind this decline in Black radicalism focusing on two main arguments. Firstly, the success of the Civil Rights approach was that it meant the Black middle class in the West could gain access to success in the mainstream, essentially incorporating the Black middle class into wider society. The impact of this incorporation also gave the impression that success in the mainstream was open to all. As Black populations have become, or are seen to become, less on the outside and more on the inside of society this has broken the idea of radical politics. Secondly, Black radical politics since the 1960s has developed into a cultural nationalist politics of identity, where liberatory practice is seen to the embrace of an African centred lifestyle and mentality. This cultural nationalism is devoid of a politics of resistance and has broken the link of radicalism to action. For a Black radical politics to re-emerge it is necessary to deal with the issue of incorporation of Black populations into the West and reject the trend to towards cultural nationalism.

Leveraging Race into the Mainstream or Creating Minority Ghettos: The Role of Black and Minority Ethnic Self-organised Groups in UK Trades Unions

Henry, L.
(London Metropolitan University)

Formal and informal associations of BME workers have been in existence in the UK for decades. Most were created in order to challenge discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity and national origins. However, to date these groups have been the subject of little research, a reflection of the limited sociological attention that has been devoted, since the 1980s, to the workplace and its institutions as sites to study racism, anti-racism and identity formation. The paper draws on interviews conducted with three unions and discussions with Equalities Officers at other unions which were part of a European Commission funded pan European study exploring the role of trades unions in challenging racism in the workplace and beyond. The paper addresses the roles of black and minority ethnic self-organised groups in
trades unions in the UK focusing on two salient emerging issues. Firstly it explores contestations of the purpose of self-organised groups particularly whether self-organisation by minority ethnic groups within trades unions is an end in itself or a means to leverage anti-racism into mainstream union activity. Secondly the paper explores the implications of organising collective action on the basis of anti-racism and political blackness in multi ethnic workforces focusing on processes of inclusion and exclusion embedded in these notions.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 2

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 04

‘Bad Boys and Hard Girls’: Disaffected Pupil Identities in Northern Secondary School

Swann, S.
(Sheffield Hallam University)

This paper provides a fresh approach to examining the long-standing debates over disaffection, and in particular social class differences in educational achievement, through a mixed methods methodology and the showcasing of new research. By observing pupils as they engage with peers and teachers in school, disaffection is seen and heard in ‘real’ events which constructs disaffection differently from objective statistical evidence on school exclusions. Rather than a homogenous identity, this paper illustrates disaffection as layered and resting on a series of issues located on the crossroads between the cultural context of the neighbourhood and the public sphere of the school. It plots in a detailed way how these structures interact and mesh to create disaffected identities. Disaffection does not emerge in a vacuum or without a cause and pupils arrive at school with a wide variety of experiences and it is from these that they interpret, understand and act out their identities. Whilst the study in part seeks to describe and understand the social world of the school in terms of the pupils’ interpretations of the situation, it analytically frames the perceptions of pupils within a wider social context. In particular it focuses on the relationships between schooling and the wider macro structures and social relations that underpin disaffection. This approach makes the research both critical and interpretative and also able to shed new light on educational policy across England based on an understanding of the role of disaffection.

A New Start for Taking Part? An Evaluation of the New ‘Education and Inclusion Subsidies’ for Children in Low-income Families in Germany

Wenzig, C., Achatz, J., Becher, I.
(Institute for Employment Research)

In most European countries, children and adolescents are still at greater risk of poverty and social exclusion than the rest of the population. Growing up in poverty might have detrimental effects on the child’s development. In order to tackle child poverty and prevent children from its negative consequences “Education and Inclusion Subsidies” have been introduced in Germany in 2011. These additional means-tested benefits are aiming at improving material welfare of children in low-income families as well as social inclusion, e.g. through covering costs for school trips, daily meals or cultural activities.

In this paper, we analyse the knowledge and usage of the new subsidies by the entitled families. Our main research questions are as follows: Are there groups like children in large families, with migration background or in rural regions that are left behind due to lack of information or opportunity costs? Does the new benefit contribute to enlarge social inclusion for needy children by opening up participation?

For our analysis we use the sixth wave of the panel study “Labour Market and Social Security” (PASS), which is an annual household panel survey for research on unemployment, poverty and the welfare state in Germany. The questionnaire includes several items concerning knowledge and usage of “Education and Inclusion Subsidies”. It also contains comprehensive information on the income and living conditions of different types of households.

Negotiating Identities and Post-compulsory Educational Tracks of Young People in a Tailored Support Project

Määttä, M., Saastamoinen, M.
(University of Eastern Finland)

This paper investigates how young people negotiate their identities and educational prospects in an EU-funded, educational support project in Finland. The project aims to enhance educational and vocational possibilities for 15–24-year-old young people who have dropped out of education and are not employed. The students have experienced a
range of obstacles in their paths from compulsory school to upper secondary studies; most of them have discontinued their earlier vocational studies. The project offers them an easily accessible career counselling service and referrals to other services when needed. In the project young people study individually tailored courses of vocational education in a group based learning environment. Together with the project workers this forms a learning community that differs from comprehensive and vocational schools.

The analysis is based on interviews of young people (18) and project workers (5). The analysis so far suggests that young people’s definitions of themselves and other young people in the project are partly affected by the difficulties they have experienced but also by the broader project and societal contexts. The topical political anxiety about youth exclusion and NEET-populations directs what kinds of identifications are possible for these young people. We are interested in what kinds of identities are negotiated within and through the project, by young people and project workers. What kinds of identities are accepted and internalized, what kinds questioned, ironised or denied?

Social Divisions / Social Identities 3
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 10

Has Protest Increased since the 1970s? How a Survey Question can Construct a Spurious Trend

Biggs, M.
(University of Oxford)

The literature on political participation asserts that protest has increased over the last four decades, in most countries. The trend is derived from surveys asking about participation in various types of protest, including demonstrations, boycotts, and strikes. The latter question covers only ‘unofficial’ strikes, which made sense in the context in which it was formulated, Britain in the early 1970s, and with regard to the original theoretical aim, measuring ‘protest potential’. The absence of a general question on strikes, however, distorts our understanding of participation in protest. This is shown using two sources of data on Britain in the 1980s and 1990s—surveys of individuals and catalogues of events—which comprehensively measure strikes. In both sources, participation in strikes greatly exceeds demonstrations. Adequately measuring strikes overturns two accepted findings about the characteristics of protesters, that they are highly educated and Postmaterialist. Official statistics show a dramatic decline of strikes in Britain, as in many other countries, since the 1980s. This decline offsets the increase in demonstrations and boycotts, making it implausible that the total volume of protest has increased. The episode illustrates how a set of survey questions, when widely replicated, can construct the phenomenon investigated by social scientists.

‘Governing through Community’: Local Actors, Rural Governance and the Discourse of Community Empowerment

Dinnie, E., Galan-Diaz, C., Lackova, P.
(James Hutton Institute)

The discourse of community is increasingly used to achieve a variety of policy goals, and gives rise to a number of institutions, policies and initiatives spanning private, public and third sector organisations. The discourse of community offers that which neither the state nor society can supply, namely, a normatively based form of social integration and citizen involvement rooted in collective principles to a common good.

This discourse has been important to rural governance changes over the last two decades because it implies devolution of power away from the central state to rural communities themselves. One problem is that ‘community’ is assumed to exist as a stable, fixed unit that merely needs to be empowered. The obstacles to community empowerment that exist in contemporary societies are often ignored, and the extent of diversity and value pluralism frequently neglected.

Our paper explores how different actors use the discourse of community in order to understand how power is exercised, contested, and negotiated within these new configurations of governing. We find that part of the attraction of community lies in its ambiguity, allowing meaning to be contested between local actors, who associate it with non-instrumental goals (such as family, stability and emotional attachment), and institutions and non-local actors who use it for more instrumental aims. These contested meanings have implications for inclusion and engagement of local actors in state-directed policies through local agencies, and challenge the ideology of governance shifts towards the local.
The British Radical Tradition, Social Movements and the Labour Party

O’Donnell, M.
(University of Westminster)

This paper discusses a form of radicalism that is distinct from but compatible with socialism. The paper reflects Craig Calhoun’s The Roots of Radicalism (2012) and my own research on American radicalism. Calhoun delineates four recurring characteristics of this ‘form’ of radicalism: tradition, community, morality and history. I give somewhat more emphasis to demands for autonomy by social movements, partly sought through an extension of grass-roots democracy. Calhoun argues that the focus of socialism on state power has tended to overshadow the relevance of more diffuse social movements. It may be no coincidence that Calhoun is an American and my research on the American New Left indicates that the characteristics of radicalism he describes were even more marked than in the British New Left – perhaps reflecting the relative strength of the communitarian and socialist traditions in the two countries.

A main practical question is how social movements can effectively engage with the ‘socialist’ Labour Party. In the United States the impact of the Tea Party movement on mainstream politics has been substantial and in principle movements of the left can aspire to similar effect. Protest movements such as ‘Occupy’ are likely to maintain a defining extra-parliamentary dimension but might be more effective in closer dialogue with the political centre. I will argue that the radical narratives of community and autonomy, especially as expressed through institutional democracy, require the support of a national party if they are to be adequately implemented.

Sociology of Education

Parental Choices or Migrant Decisions? A Case Study of the Baltic Families in Ireland

Sabanova, I.
(Trinity College Dublin)

The paper is based on a PhD research conducted with Baltic migrants in Ireland. By looking at parental practices and choices about children’s education, the research explores processes of social class dynamics as well as socio-historic conditions of the Baltics that shaped everyday reality and aspirations of these families before they moved to Ireland. The research provides an in-depth understanding of the social world of research participants by exploring their social and material circumstances, their experiences, perspectives and histories.

The concept of Habitus is an important methodological tool which allows us to provide a better understanding of hidden dynamics of social class and decision-making processes, especially in the context of family migration. It allows us to explore how decisions are linked to conscious and unconscious practices of families despite being relocated in a different geographic and cultural context.

Overall, the paper contributes to the scholarship within sociology of education, by emphasising diversity within the migrant/ethnic group and arguing that classed identities are particularly vital in relation to leisure, mobility and education opportunities.

The Production of Educational Expectations: An Empiric Inquiry on Symbolic Violence

Romito, M.
(University of Milan)

In Italy, the transition from lower to upper secondary school is crucial in reproducing educational inequalities. Research shows that working-class and immigrants pupils display an higher propensity to enroll into vocational tracks then other groups, even when previous school performance is the same.

Through a one year ethnographic observations in two lower secondary school in the area of Milano (IT), my research aim to open-up the ‘black box’ of orienting practices at the passage to upper secondary school. Classrooms and orienting practices have been analyzed during the months preceding high school enrollment and the overall decision-
making process has been investigated through observations and interviews with parents, students, teachers and orienting experts.

Research evidences suggest that teachers’ orienting advices are conditioned by issues related students ascribed memberships (in particular social class and ethnicity). However, in Italy, teachers’ indications are not binding and families are formally free to choose the type of school track they prefer. Thus, which is the relevance of orienting practices on school transitions?

My aim is to show how issues of social closure through the school system may be addressed looking at the symbolic domain. Drawing on Bourdieu’s concepts of field, habitus and cultural capital, I wish to show how teachers’ views on students’ educational potential may have a performing power. In particular, observing familial decision-making through time, allow to outline how orienting practices may depress educational expectations of working class and immigrants families pushing them to opt for less educationally ambitious school trajectories.

Sitting at a Desk in School Does Not Mean You Learn Anything: Quantity and Quality of Education in Rwanda

Abbott, P.A.  
(University of Aberdeen)

This paper will use a political economy approach to evaluating the impact of educational policy in Rwanda. Rwanda has targeted expanding and improving the quality of school education in a bid to achieve Education for All by 2015. However, while nearly a 100 per cent net primary school enrolment has been achieved only about 50 per cent of children complete primary school and, even with recent expansion, only about 20 per cent of children go on to enrol in secondary school.

The paper will explore the factors that explain the low completion rate drawing on the 2010/11 Integrated Household and Living Conditions Survey and qualitative research carried out in 2012 and 2013. The main argument of the paper is that while poor children are significantly disadvantaged in the education system and are less likely to complete than those from more affluent homes this is as much to do with in school factors as home circumstances. Children from poor homes are attending school but they are not making their way through school and completing.

Sociology of Religion  
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 13

Religiosity of Turkish and Moroccan Immigrants and Their Descendants in Europe

Ersanilli, E.  
(University of Oxford)

The religiosity of immigrants in Europe has become a popular topic for research. In particular a lot of attention is devoted to studying immigrants from Muslim countries, since these form a significant population that tends to be much more religious than the mostly secularized Europeans. Where recent quantitative studies show that secularization is stagnating, qualitative studies have found the emergence of localized version of Islam; such as a French, Dutch or British Islam. Quantitative studies that have used general population surveys may have underestimated the role of cross-national differences because of problems of sample selection. One of the few cross-national migrant studies, TIES, focuses on the second generation. This paper aims to complement existing knowledge by analyzing data from a migrant-survey conducted in six European countries (SCIICS) among two immigrant groups (Turks and Moroccans) and includes multiple generations. It looks at four indicators of religiosity: religious identification, mosque visits, observance of dietary rules, and religious orthodoxy. It examines a range of individual level factors including social contacts with majority group members and residence country identification. At the residence country level, effects of policies of religious accommodation are explored. The results show several significant cross-national differences but these cannot easily be traced back to differences in religious accommodation or religiousness of the majority population. The relations between religiosity and social contact and identification with the residence country show some differences across countries.

Religion and Value Orientations in Europe

Schnabel, A.  
(Bergische Universität Wuppertal)
Sociological literature on Europe often claims a close relationship between religion and values on one hand and shares values and social cohesion on the other: shared values seem to be important for the inclusion of societies and religion is seen as one of the prominent providers for such shared values. It is, however, left unclear what values are and how they are generated. One attempt to get closer to the question of what values people prefer is offered by Schwartz. He provided a Value Scale that is claimed to be reliable over different social contexts and cultures.

On the basis on the European Social Survey 2004 comprising of this Value Scale, we analyse if it is possible to identify particular value clusters for religious people that differ form those preferred by a-religious people and if such patterns are stable across Europe. One of the major findings suggests that religious people in Europe differ form a-religious people in being more conservative and perceiving rules and customs as very important in their lives.

Only if we are able to show such differences it is possible to claim that there are shared religious values that may have the potential to integrate societies. The presentation contributes to a better understanding of what values are and how they are generated in order to help to understand how they work in society. Religion is seen as a key element here.

Exploring Religion, Spirituality and Mental Distress in Northern Ireland

Carlisle, P.
(University of Stirling)

Since the turn of the twenty first century there has been growing interest across a range of disciplines regarding the contribution spirituality and religion can make to mental health care. Research suggests that spiritual and religious activity and beliefs are important aspects for those experiencing mental ill health and who express these topics as relevant of their identity. There are indicators that social work as an international profession is beginning to engage with spirituality as part of its professional discourse and commitment to best practice. However in the UK the profession has been reluctant and ambivalent to actively explore this subject.

Northern Ireland has been shaped by political conflict historically based upon religious divide. Religion is closely linked with cultural identity and due to the political conflict is a sensitive and challenging subject. Despite evidence which highlights the importance of spirituality and / or religion for some of those with mental health problems the issue is not explicitly addressed in mental health service provision. The recent review of mental health and learning disability service identified the need to develop a recovery orientated approach to service provision. Spirituality is included in recovery orientated approaches, and the Bamford Review identifies this yet no follow up work has promoted its development. The issue of spirituality and religion in mental health care is particularly interesting in Northern Ireland given its socio-political and cultural context in addition to the evidenced association of recovery, spirituality, religion and mental health.

Religion that Heals or Harms? An Examination of the Association between Religion and Depressive Feelings in Europe

Van Der Bracht, K., Van de Velde, S.
(Ghent University)

Gender differences exist in religious involvement and depression, with women reporting significantly higher levels in both. Most research finds that women benefit more from religion than men, as they are more involved than men in many facets of religion. Unfortunately, the vast majority of current research is conducted in Anglo-Saxon and non-secular settings. In the current study, we aim to examine the association between gender differences in depression and religion from a cross-national comparative perspective. First results based on the European Social Survey (2006-2007) showed that religion, as measured by subjective religiosity and frequency of praying is associated with higher levels of depression, in both men and women, but more pronounced in women. These finding contradict the most frequent finding that religiosity is related to fewer depressive complaints, especially among women. We intend to further investigate our results by incorporating both individual indicators such as church attendance, as well as contextual moderators, such as religious context into our model.
Bourdieuian, Marxist and Weberian Complementary Insights into Class Relations: Class as Relations of Differences in Productive Resources

Curran, D. (Lancaster University)

Erik Olin Wright has suggested that Bourdieuian, Marxist, and Weberian approaches to class analysis should be understood not necessarily as opposed, but rather as emphasizing different explanatory priorities. Thus Wright provides a powerful basis for moving beyond the either/or condition of accepting one and rejecting all of the other approaches to class. Despite this insight, Wright has not yet provided a basis for integrating these approaches and many class theorists continue to assert the incompatibility of these different class theories. In response, this paper provides an approach based on Savage, Warde and Devine's CARs framework that understands class relations as relations of differences in 'productive resources' that generate reciprocal advantages for some and disadvantages for others. On this class framework each of these three approaches to class, Bourdieuian, Marxist, and Weberian, can be understood as identifying different, but not incompatible, processes in which differences in productive resources generate advantages for some and disadvantages for others. Bourdieu's approach to class identifies differentials in 'productive resources' such as economic, cultural, social, and symbolic 'capitals', and the advantages and powers that emerge from these differentials. A Marxist approach to class identifies the advantages and disadvantages based upon differentials of possession of the means of production. And again, a Weberian approach to class relations identifies the powers and differential advantages and disadvantages emerging from differential 'market capacities'. As such, bringing together the insights generated from these frameworks’ different explanatory priorities can address important lacunae in each of three approaches to class.

Hope after Nature? Environmental Ethics and Ontological Politics in New Materialist Theorising

Garforth, L. (Newcastle University)

In this paper I analyse two major contributions to the new materialism in social theory (see eg Coole and Frost 2010 New Materialisms), and consider the conceptual resources they offer for thinking differently about social futures with nature. Bruno Latour (especially Politics of Nature 2004) and Jane Bennett (Vibrant Matter 2010) reject nature/society binaries and urge us to recognise new forms of lively entanglements between the human and the nonhuman. These approaches question the assumptions of conventional ecological philosophy and environmentalist politics. They refuse the ground of a separate ‘nature’ on which ecocentric visions of a sustainable future have been built. They insist that environmental crisis can only be addressed by a radical re-cognition of entities, agencies and networks, and a re-organisation of how they come to matter in social and political life.

I argue that both theorists capture modes of active, creative, messy, hybrid life that have the capacity to unsettle social-environmental categories and suggest an odd kind of utopian hope for futures after nature. It is a hope rooted in careful descriptions of how the world is rather than speculative visions of what might be; hope that recognises the capacity of the nonhuman world to surprise us; hope based on slow modes of thinking and acting in and with the natural world. I show how these thinkers are making vital contributions to social and political theory, as well as offering new resources for imagining alternative socio-environmental futures.

From Elective Affinities and Selection to Base/superstructure and back: Reviving Some Dead Dogs

Varul, M.Z. (University of Exeter)

The phenomenon of the ‘Anatolian Tigers’ also known under the (self-chosen) misnomer ‘Islamic Calvinists’ has given new currency to Weber’s Protestant Ethics thesis. But the application so far has been superficial, which makes it
necessary to revisit the structure of his argument, and specifically to re-evaluate his concept of ‘elective affinity’ (Wahlerwandtschaft). The odd way Weber’s theses are formulated against Marxian historical materialism but at the same time rely on a crude theorem of (Darwinian) selection by ‘economic interest’, thus affirming a vulgarised form of materialism as residual explanation for the persistence of the ‘secularised Protestant ethic’ also necessitates to revisit the dead dog that is the architectural metaphor of base/superstructure (Basis/Überbau). I will suggest that by reinterpreting this pair of concepts in a theory of praxis as division between base routines and superstructural reflection/direction (rather than ‘economy’ or ‘relations of production’ vs. law, religion, ideology etc.), both Weber’s concepts of ‘elective affinity’ and of ‘selection’ can be understood in a way that makes them fruitful for understanding current developments (such as the mentioned one in Turkey). I will also argue that, as a collateral benefit for critical theory, such a reinterpretation puts distancing and separation in focus, which allows us to reflect on the counter-intuitively liberating aspects of alienation as well as the problematic aspects of de-alienation in post-Fordism (reflecting on critical-theory concerns about the totalitarian potential of de-differentiation between base and superstructure brought forward by Adorno, Marcuse and Krahl).

Reconsidering Social Forces

Zitouni, B.
(Université Saint-Louis Bruxelles)

Ecological radical movements have reinvigorated the critique of capitalism. Besides raising the arguments of exploitation and inequality, of subjugation and hegemony, which are still valid grounds for opposing capitalism, they now also question the very patterns of progressive thinking that still rely on growth, on development, and on various technical fixes or productive forces to move ahead. See the claims made by the degrowth, transition and dumpster divers’ movements, for example, which call for a more inventive theoretical imagination that unsettles the premises of our thinking.

This paper argues that sociology should meet that call, re-explore the premises and, more specifically, reclaim the old concept of social forces. Rather than using the concept to emphasize the perseverance of the social order and the weight of society (which needed emphasizing at the time), sociology should now use the concept to bring out the forces that reside in collective action. Sociology, then, would be the discipline that concerns itself with collective intelligences.

Such a change triggers others, for it means we would take sides, change sides. We would look for the people’s intelligence and the difference people make. We would move beyond heroic tales and become more technical, asking how the forces of the social persevere and how they bring about change. We would explore narrative moulds that are able to express the collective intelligence at play. In sum, we would turn today’s planetary ordeal into an opportunity for revitalizing our founding principles and our raison d’être.

Work, Employment and Economic Life 1

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 06

Working Conditions and the Definition of Employment in Social Movement Organizations

Kandlik Eltanani, M.
(University of Edinburgh)

In the last decades Social Movement Organizations (SMOs) went through processes of professionalization, which are reflected in their transition from being based primarily on volunteers, to employing on a wide scale. As part of this transition, the boundary between volunteers and workers has become blurred, marking a forming frontier in the way the labour market is perceived. This presentation will investigate the way Israeli peace SMOs view their employees, and the working conditions these employees experience. The results presented are based on a randomly sampled survey of 200 workers from 33 organizations, three workshops with organizations’ representatives, and several in-depth interviews with key figures in the field of Israeli peace SMOs. Working conditions, including salary and weekly hours, will be discussed in the context of the conditions provided in the Israeli labour market. The effect of personal attributes, such as gender and nationality, on working conditions will be presented and compared to those relationships in the wider labour market in Israel. Furthermore, I explore the different types of employment, including full-time and part-time workers, contract workers, workers for scholarship, and free-lancers. The way these employment arrangements affect working conditions as well as the way workers are seen (or ignored) will be examined. This research reflects on working conditions and relations within civil society, as well as mark a path for new definitions and outlooks of work and workers.
Young Adults’ Experiences of Welfare Agencies

Hadfield, S.  
(University of Leicester)

Young adults who are ‘not in education, employment or training’ are identified as a problem whether in times of economic prosperity or in recession by government, policy makers and the media. This paper will outline how young adults’ unemployment experiences, identity and sense of self are affected by contact with agencies Connexions and Jobcentre Plus. This research will use recent developments in sociological theories of social class to explain young people’s subjective identity in regards to relationships with agencies that are used as a method of governance. This paper will further outline the complexities of trying to define the unemployed youth, reflected in the policy crossover of the agencies.

This paper will present empirical findings from research that was conducted over a two-month period in 2013, in Jobcentre Plus and Connexions. This is a qualitative study, using semi-structured interviews with 16 unemployed young adults (18-24) defined as being of NEET status. This research was conducted for an M.Res dissertation. The aim of the study was to explore how young adults construct and navigate their unemployment experiences through agencies that seek to change their status from unemployment. Further, this paper will outline the methodological and ethical realities of conducting field research within agencies.

At Breaking Point: Work Intensification and Stress in UK Nursing

McIlroy, R.  
(Royal College of Nursing)

In light of recent care failings in the NHS and some independent healthcare providers, the nursing profession has been subject to an unprecedented level of scrutiny regarding how education and work is organised and regulated as well as the values and beliefs of the workforce.

Meanwhile, nursing leaders warn that organisational factors, particularly pressure arising from staffing shortages and heavy workloads, present the biggest risk to patient care rather than intrinsic beliefs or values held by the workforce.

Against this background, this paper seeks to examine the psychosocial working conditions of nursing staff, presenting results from surveys of Royal College of Nursing members. Using the HSE management standard indicators, these surveys suggest high and worsening levels of work-related stress related to a high level of job demand combined with low decision latitude and dissatisfaction with the level of involvement in workplace change.

This paper seeks to locate these findings within the wider context of recent developments in the UK workplace. Research conducted in 2012 for the UK Commission for Employment and Skills shows that workers feel more insecure and pressured than any time in the past 20 years. Findings suggest that the speed of work has quickened and this is added to the pressure of working to tight deadlines. The finding that work has intensified most sharply for women and especially women working full-time has particular resonance for the nursing profession which is predominantly female.

Work, Employment and Economic Life 2

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 15

Time, Space and (In)flexibility: The Importance of Employment Relations

Cohen, R.  
(City University London)

This paper explores the relationship between employment relations and variability in working times and places. Work that occurs at variable or non-standard times and places continues to be simply classified as ‘flexible’, yet recent debates over zero-hour contracts again highlight that temporal variability may constitute unpredictability, rather than flexibility. Likewise studies of homeworking and mobile work show that work that occurs in non-standard places can nonetheless be very inflexible. Furthermore, qualitative studies of self-employed workers regularly find a contradiction between these workers’ avowed enjoyment of conditions of ‘flexibility’ and the multitude of empirical inflexibilities, pressures and constraints revealed by analysis. This paper empirically and conceptually differentiates different forms of temporal and spatial variability and highlights the (in)flexibilities that these involve. The paper uses mixed-methods. Merged data from ten years of the Quarterly Labour Force Survey is employed alongside qualitative interviews and a
self-completion survey of employees and self-employed workers in three occupations. Key differences between the self-employed and employees are identified and are shown to be associated with different incentives for, and conditions of, temporal variability. The paper demonstrates that temporal variability has a curvilinear relationship with hours, meaning that it is associated with very short and with very long weekly working hours. There is also a strong relationship between temporal and spatial variability. On the other hand associations between gender and temporal variability are in large part produced by occupation and employment relation, something that is revealed by within-occupation analysis.

**Bringing the Labour Process into the Debate over Changes in Capitalism: A Human Resource Approach to the Transformation of the German Production Model**

*Benassi, C.*  
*(London School of Economics and Political Science)*

This paper investigates the growth of contingent work in the German manufacturing sectors of Diversified Quality Production, which are characterised by high-quality and technologically advanced products. These sectors represent the core of Coordinated Market Economies (CMEs), and traditionally rely on a stable specific-skilled workforce and on labour-management cooperation.

In the debate about changes in national capitalism, the dualisation literature argues that core sectors of CMEs are stable while liberalisation has affected the service periphery. This dual equilibrium is supported by a cross-class coalition; labour and management have an interest in maintaining specific skills and good working conditions in the core while cutting costs at the periphery for increasing export competitiveness. Other scholars, instead, contend that liberalisation is a pervasive phenomenon which is creeping into the core as well.

This paper provides evidence in support of the latter literature strand. It argues that employers’ interests in retaining a specific skilled workforce has decreased because of the fragmentation and standardisation of the labour process. This is due to the automation of production segments and to changes in the organisation of work. Thus, the core workforce can be more easily replaced through contingent workers.

The paper is based on quantitative survey data showing increasing standardisation of work tasks and overqualification of the workforce; and on qualitative evidence about the changing nature of work from interviews in German automotive plants.

**Inter-organisational Relations: Why Do They Matter to Active Labour Market Policies?**

*Ingold, J.*  
*(University of Leeds)*

Employers are a critical component of any policy strategy to assist unemployed people into the labour market. Across industrialised countries the delivery of active labour market policies increasingly involves a mix of contracted providers to deliver employment services. This brings to the fore ‘employer engagement’, drawing attention to the interactions which take place between providers and employers to move unemployed people into work.

The increasing multiplicity of organisations involved in active labour market policies exposes a significant gap in knowledge about the complex processes and inter-organisational relations involved in employer engagement, which cannot be explained by institutional and governance structures alone (Blois, 2002). A focus on employer engagement necessitates new conceptual tools which can adequately capture the dynamics of the partnerships, exchanges and linkages between organisations (Marchington et al, 2005). Such relations are inter-dependent: inter-personal relations are fragile without strong institutional or organisational-level influences, but inter-organisational relations cannot be sustained without significant links at the inter-personal level (Marchington and Vincent, 2004).

This paper aims to explore how focusing on the dimension of inter-organisational relations in active labour market policies can illuminate this area of public policymaking. The paper draws on a current project which examines the different contracting regimes of the UK and Denmark and presents recent research findings from employer surveys and interviews with providers and stakeholders. By bridging policy analysis and organization theory the paper aims to contribute theory development and understanding to improve policy design and delivery.

**Pulling Old Strings: The Implications of Different Paths to Representation**

*Preminger, J.*  
*(Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)*

During the last thirty years, neoliberal governments have been acting against organised labour, labour parties have ceased representing workers, unions have been weakened and are paralysed by overbearing bureaucracies, and the
neocorporatist regime, which once mitigated an unequal balance of forces, has been undermined. Labour is struggling against these trends through traditional channels as well as new organisations and frameworks, which in recent years has led to some notable successes in improving the employment conditions of those in nonstandard work arrangements. This paper will suggest, however, that the different forms of organising facilitate different kinds of worker participation, affecting workers’ ability to control their working lives and impacting on the durability of the organising initiative.

The paper investigates two cases of representation involving precarious work in Israel: a drive by a coalition of groups including a young union to organise cleaners employed via an agency; and the efforts of a large, well-established union to improve the employment terms of agency workers through sector-wide collective agreements with the State and employer organisations. Through analysing these cases, the paper discusses the various sources of worker power in relation to changing forms of representation, to the efficacy of diverse kinds of opposition to neoliberal trends, to the labour-capital balance of forces, and ultimately to the fragmented status of labour in the emergent industrial relations regime.
Friday 25 April 2014 at 09:00 - 10:30
ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS
Cities, Mobilities, Place and Space 1

RounDTABLE 1, Sports Hall 2

After Fukushima: New Architectural Tendencies in Contemporary Japan

Tamar, T.
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

On 11th March 2011, the largest recorded earthquake struck the northeastern coastline of Japan. It caused a massive tsunami which wiped away almost everything in affected areas and created a meltdown and hydrogen explosion at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station. Over 80,000 residents were compelled to evacuate and stay in temporary shelters, due to the risks of spreading radioactive contamination. The official casualty record on 10th October 2013 shows 18,535 deaths and 398,898 houses and buildings destroyed. The Fukushima catastrophe has had an enormous impact on Japanese society. The catastrophe has led to important practical and conceptual shifts in contemporary Japanese architecture and to a reconsideration of the complex relations between technology, politics, economy, and society, and also the fundamental relationship between humans and nature. The 1960s Japanese modern architecture movement, Metabolism had the ambition to create a new Japanese society through techno-utopian megascale total city planning. The Metabolists as self-defined 'social architects' had unshakable faith in social intervention. In contrast, the new generation of Japanese architects, after the Fukushima, no longer pursue the evolutionally social change, rather the event made them re-consider the meaning and purpose of architecture and what architects can do for people who have had everything snatched from them by technology (nuclear power station) and nature (earthquake and tsunami). Drawing on the architectural projects of Tange Kenzo and the Metabolists in the 1960s and the Ito Toyo's 'Home-for-All project' in 2011, the paper explores this major paradigm shift in Japanese architectural theory and practice.

The Making of Rurality in Hong Kong: Changing Villagers’ Perception of Rural Space

Lai, A.C-O.
(Lingnan University)

In Hong Kong (HK), the New Territories (NT) was once considered as rural area or periphery of HK because of its physical appearance with huge agricultural area and thousands of villages and community and poor accessibility. Throughout 99 years’ British ruling and 16 years’ HKSAR governing, the NT were experiencing unprecedented rate of social and economic development from mainly agricultural area to new towns and major infrastructures. Ever since HK became a predominantly urban area, the rural NT has been regarded as the principal warehouse of HK values. The sense of rural not only depends on the physical characteristics of rural, but also it depends on how Hongkongers experienced and expressed in rural area.

Facing those rapid changes in rural area, rural dwellers need to have lifestyle adjustment to adapt the rapid changing environment of their living places. Also, influx of urban dwellers migrates to rural area to achieve their own ideal lifestyles and forms of lifestyles are diverse. Interest groups are formed to achieve their own ideal lifestyles and influence the public that their ideal lifestyle can be a possible alternative to have a better life. Various social groups want to have influence on the forms of rural development which favour their own benefits. However, the diverse lifestyles would create tension among stakeholders involving in rural issues and attempting to define their own perception of rural.

‘Gangs of Romanian Gypsy Squatters’: The Politics of Structural Anti-Ziganism

Grohmann, S.
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

Austerity Britain faces a new homelessness crisis as an overinflated housing market meets funding cuts to frontline services. Squatting, until recently a last resort option for tens of thousands who could not obtain other accommodation, is incrementally being made illegal. The rhetoric surrounding the 'squatting ban' follows a peculiarly racialised logic which equates squatters with Romani, Gypsies, and Travellers, all groups that still remain among the most marginalised factions in Britain. At the same time, both squatters and Roma/Travellers are increasingly being targeted by private security firms specialising in evictions for private land owners and local authorities. Taken together
these policies have led to increased political solidarity between the two groups, such as in the recent case of the violent eviction of a traveller site at Dale Farm.

Based on 18 months of ethnographic research with squatters and travellers, this paper compares communalities and differences of anti-squatter and Romani/Traveller discourses. It argues that both groups occupy a particular, shared position in the public imagination, which presents them as the racialised economic “Other” of the capitalist subject. As crisis and austerity continue to shake public confidence in recovery and individual economic security, hostility against this Other rises, resulting in increased anti-squatter and anti-Roma sentiment throughout Europe. I argue that this process follows a similar pattern as that of ‘structural anti-Semitism’, as defined by Moishe Postone, and propose ‘structural anti-Ziganism’ as an analytical category to discuss anti-squatter and anti-Roma/Traveller discourses.

Zimbabwe’s Saving Grace: Remittances and Household Livelihood Strategies in Glen Norah, Harare

Mukwedeya, T.
(University of the Witwatersrand)

The political and socio-economic challenges over the last decade broadly referred as the ‘Zimbabwe crisis’ has witnessed the flight of millions of Zimbabweans to different parts of the world as a means of livelihood. As a result, remittances being sent back to support families are estimated to be around USD1 billion a year. Despite these huge flows of remittances to Zimbabwe, studies that try to understand their implications amongst recipients are scant. This paper takes a micro-level approach by looking at the role of remittances in household livelihoods in the high density suburb of Glen Norah in Harare primarily by examining the practice and character of remittances and how they are used by recipient households. Importantly, the paper also traces how the practice and character of remittances have changed overtime in response to changes in the political economy. The paper utilizes longitudinal evidence primarily gathered from in-depth interviews with recipient household in Glen Norah at the peak of the crisis in 2008, after the unity government in 2010 and in 2012. This paper demonstrates that households have not been passive victims of the crisis, but rather have been active actors who through their own agency have continuously adopted a multiplicity of strategies to allow themselves to manage in the crisis. This paper shows how patterns of remittances have changed with the fluid economic and political environment to allow households to cope as the crisis manifested into different dimensions.

Stigmatising Spaces: The Case of Wales and the Creation of the British State

Mears, R.
(Bath Spa University)

Sociologists have elaborated and broadened Goffman’s concept of stigma to include stigmatised social spaces. In the USA the concept of a stigmatised space has been operationalised by medical sociologists, among others, to analyse the impact of such spaces on health status. Others have used the concept of stigmatised social space to understand the media reporting of urban disturbance and social protest. There are innumerable examples in European history where dynamics of state centralisation attempt to absorb and assimilate minority ethnicities, with attendant processes of resistance. European nation-state formation involved the absorption and assimilation of distinctive ethnic and linguistic groups. In many cases elite groups attempt to depict the people, and the spaces with which they are associated, in ways that are stigmatising. In the case of the creation of the United Kingdom state, the Welsh were absorbed into the nascent British state in the 16th century with no regard for any distinctive institutions or identity. The paper draws on British Government documents up to the 19th century to explore such power dynamics. The paper discusses this broadening of the concept of stigma away from an individual trait or characteristic to include places, and the ways in which a stigma of place is operationalized to denigrate the ‘out’ group. The insider-outsider figuration is particularly useful in explaining such processes. Not only do we observe systematic denigration of the ‘out group’ but the language used to describe the out group illustrates broader Eliasian concepts of ‘group charisma’ and ‘group disgrace’.
Notes for a Mediator Spatiality: Introductory Considerations on Social Movements’ Catalysers

Grandi, M.
(Federal University of Rio de Janeiro)

The issue about the mediators, organizers, external agents or catalysers is frequently found among some Latin-American studies concerned with social movements. Usually these agents are considered mainly as ‘outsiders’ of the social movements in which they are involved in. Nevertheless, the binary internal-external seems to not be so useful when the analysis seeks to have in account the context of intense circulation and constant encounters of trajectories that take place in the everyday space-time. In this paper, therefore, I briefly raise some reflections about this ‘external’ characteristic always attached to these agents, taking as references some considerations about Brazilian favela activisms on Rio de Janeiro and its relations with the urban space. In order to do so, I base my thoughts on some statements of favela’s dwellers and activists, in addition to the bibliographical debate with some works that address the issue in the Portuguese literature. Finally, I suggest that the sharing of daily spatiality and temporality could be helpful to understand the practice of these agents and the dynamic of some urban social movements.

Representing Race in the Public Sphere: Contrasting the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) with Research Presented via Edmonton Public Library Theatre

Spencer, B., Kelly, J.
(University of Alberta)

The purpose of this paper is to explore the ways in which ‘race’ or ethnicity has been, and can be, represented in Canada and to make a number of other observations that challenge the ‘Central/Eastern’ representation of the formation of ‘two-nations’ Canada. Therefore this is not just a critique of how the CBC ignored ethnicity in a major piece of ‘public pedagogy’ but a lament for a missed opportunity to present the multi-ethnic, multicultural origins of Canadian experience – a missed opportunity which is sadly repeated almost daily. Finally, we will discuss how community engagement as ‘public pedagogy’ can be a major component of university research.

The paper discusses the failure of the CBC to use a black actor to portray Sir James Douglas (known as a ‘Scotch-West Indian’) and sets this failure within the history of racialization in Canada.

The second section of the paper proposal discusses how educators can engage community in developing a play about their experience in coming to Canada, forming a community, and becoming Canadians of Caribbean descent (African Canadians). It also records the success of the 3 performances of the play before a total audience of 400 – a local example of an alternative public pedagogy portraying race and representation.

Culture, Media, Sport and Consumption 1

Framing Public Interest: (En)gendering Harm in British Television Advertising

Quigley-Berg, J.
(University of Warwick)

This paper will explore the regulatory discourses of ‘harmful’ television advertising content in relation to gender and sexuality between 1990 and 2012. Using the case study of gendered/sexual violence in television advertising, the paper will aim to problematise gendered/sexualised harm and the role of advertising regulation in serving public interest.

Drawing on feminist debates on censorship and freedom of speech, it will bring to the fore some problems in the regulation of harmful gender and sexuality speech in British television advertising, arguing that there is a lack of debate around the gendered/sexualised nature of harm in this area.

British television advertising as been regulated on a statutory basis since the beginning of commercial television. Whilst gender stereotyping and sexism in advertising content have been the focus of many academic studies since it was put on the public agenda by second wave feminism, very few have paid specific attention to the regulation of such speech/imagery and how social and political change has shaped advertising regulation in this field.

This paper will outline and criticise some of the assumptions and discourses underpinning regulatory policies and decisions in relation to harmful gendered/sexualised advertising speech. I will argue that moral harm takes precedence over a concern for the promotion of harmful attitudes (towards women) and appeals to fear. This in turn
Wearing the Privilege: ‘Bodily’ Consumption, Emotions and Inequality

Karademir Hazir, I.
(Middle East Technical University)

This paper examines how cultural capital shapes the ways women experience their ‘presented self’ in social interactions. The analysis draws on 44 in-depth interviews conducted as part of a larger project on ‘bodily consumption’ (clothing, exercise and body care) in Turkey. It adopts Entwistle’s approach to self-fashioning as an ‘embodied practice’, and uses the conceptual tools Goffman and Bourdieu offer to analyse the link between women’s appearance driven experiences and wider class-cultural processes. The analysis demonstrates that, regardless of the volume of capital they hold, the majority of the sample presume that the ‘dressed body’ does have a value and enhance or limit opportunities suggesting the relevance of using the term capital while referring to such embodied competence, as Bourdieu did. Moreover, there appears to be a correlation between the contents of the emotional responses and women’s class-cultural positions. The extracts reveal that (aesthetic) categorizations the ‘dominant’ make are internalised by those who suffer from such hierarchies most. The material is then contextualised into the class dynamics in Turkey, where self-fashioning has always been a value-laden domain since her top-to-bottom modernisation. By focusing on how the tastes are lived in the everyday, this paper clearly reveals the subtle processes through which class privileges are manifested and reproduced. Furthermore, it calls for an emphasis in the repercussions of having distinct taste profiles, which could enhance our understanding of taste, power and cultural exclusion more directly than the interrogations of the correlations between taste and class position.

Sexercising to Orgasm: Embodied Pedagogy and Sexual Labour in Women’s Magazines

Frith, H.
(University of Brighton)

Depicted as a physiological reflex and the ‘natural’ outcome of ‘sufficient’ stimulation in biomedical discourse, orgasm has been exposed by social scientists as fertile ground for the articulation of gendered ideologies and heteronormativity. Exploring the construction of orgasm in Cosmopolitan magazine using thematic analysis, this paper explores embodied work in the context of the shift towards a postfeminist sexuality, and the neoliberal shift towards the rational management of sex as work. The paper argues that the magazine offers a ‘pedagogy of the body’ by teaching women in four ways: 1) ‘knowing the body’ by becoming aware of the sensations and knowing how to touch the body; 2) ‘sexercising’ the body by exercising muscles and mastering bodily responses; 3) ‘positioning the body’ by understanding the anatomical architecture of the body and understanding how male and female bodies fit together to ensure maximum pleasure, and 3) ‘pedagogy for the boys’ by being involved in teaching and training men in understanding how to touch and manipulate women’s bodies. Postfeminist, neoliberal and pedagogical discourses merge to offer explicit instruction in how to develop a ‘technology of sexiness’ by training the body to ensure orgasmic success.

Framing the National Image of China: Attitudes towards Tibet and Xinjiang Ethnic Issues in British Newspapers

Wu, C.
(Loughborough University)

This presentation discusses the methods and rational of my research: Framing the National Image of China: Attitudes towards Tibet and Xinjiang Ethnic Issues in British Newspapers. Media plays a significant role in shaping the national image of other countries, mainly by presenting news that select and highlight limited aspects of reality. Previous research indicated the framing of international news tends to roughly conform to the home country’s foreign policy, dominant ideology and national interest. News frames of China have been studied within the U.S. media as a whole in broad political and cultural issues, or in separate, episodic events. These studies are also helpful in understanding the U.S media’s attitudes and concerns. In contrast, little research has been done on focusing the U.K. media representation of China. Since topics about China’s human rights are shown frequently in Western media, my study
focuses on the investigation of how the events related to Tibet and Xinjiang were framed and portrayed in British national daily newspapers from 1949 to 2009. It explores the frames British newspapers chose and the reasons behind the selection.

To obtain reliable and useful research outcomes, a solid methodology is highly necessary. This presentation will examine the problems of the methods used in previous similar researches and how a more effective methodology was developed and applied in my study, in the hope to generate research results that not only are authentic but also provide a substantial starting point for understanding the shaping of China’s image in the British media.

The Constructions of Gendered Post-Soviet Identity through Clothing and Dressing Choices

Pechurina, A.
(Leeds Metropolitan University)

This presentation explores the relationship between the meanings and symbolics of diasporic gendered identities and various ways these identities can be represented, expressed and categorised through clothing choices of Russian migrant women in the UK. Using the interview data with women from varied social and generational backgrounds who have migrated from Russia to the UK as part of different migration waves, this presentation will highlight how clothing choices can be used as signifiers of their gendered ethnic identity in the multicultural context of the UK. As this paper argues, while for some women their consumer choices are informed by their ambivalent orientation towards the styles produced within and outside of their imagined community as well as stereotypical images of Russianness presented in the media; for others it is a means of communicating a more complex Post-Soviet identity which redefines Russian style in new ‘diasporic terms’.

The American Project in Decline: Images and Visuals from Beijing and its Peripheries

Garrett, D.
(City University of Hong Kong)

China’s leaders believe their ascent in the 21st century will be aided by a parallel decline of Western developed powers and their monopolization of the international system. Since the 2008 global financial tsunami caused by the United States, Beijing has taken initiatives to seize strategic opportunities presented by the crisis while simultaneously undercutting the ‘Washington Consensus’ and larger US-led global order by highlighting its excesses and failures. Concomitantly, China has promoted its Chinese values and a model of economic reform without multiparty democracy as an alternative to Neoliberalism - not so much in an attempt to unseat the US as to raise Beijing’s own stock as it assists Washington’s implosion. Accompanying America’s and the neoliberal order’s decline has been a deluge of imagery (re)producing running visual narratives far superior than any authoritarian or communist propaganda chief could ever conceive. Be it the fall of Wall Street, commercials proclaiming American fire sales, the burning of London, Occupy Wall Street protests, or searing photos and videos of an emergent American police state wantonly pepper spraying docile protestors, a new composition of the U.S. and its Neoliberalism project is being crafted today- one which significantly undercuts American soft power in China, its peripheries in Hong Kong and Macau, and elsewhere. This paper examines the visual culture of American and Western decline as depicted in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region by Chinese state and local Chinese and English language media as a response to the moral panic over China’s rise.

Families and Relationships 1

Roundtable 5, Sports Hall 2

‘The Best Job in the World’: An Ethnographic Study of Animal Shelter Work

O’Connor, A.
(National University of Ireland, Maynooth and Institute of Technology, Carlow)

The recent foundation of organisations such as the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics, the BSA Animal/Human Studies Group, the International Society of Anthrozoology (ISAZ), of scientific journals such as Society and Animals, Anthrozoös, and recent ethnographies conducted on animal work would all seem to behave a gradual shift in the place of human-animal studies (HAS) in the sociological imagination.

Three emphases in the vibrant, albeit nascent HAS field of study are: animal-assisted therapy (AAT), human attitudes towards animals, and working with animals. In the latter area, several questions beckon empirical study. Little is
known about the micro and macro forces driving people to deem animal shelter work a choice-worthy occupation. The antecedents of the decision to seek work in an animal shelter are not fully understood.

This paper submits that a reflexive ethnographic approach which takes account of the sensory, corporeal complexity of the animal shelters is appropriate to unpack and make visible the social processes in formation. Shedding light on why and how these occupational communities experience and enact their work could promote a re-visioning of what it means to be human in a social world integrated into the web of nature, as embodied by other species.

Who Do You Turn to When your Relationship(s) are in Distress? Gender and Sexually Diverse Couples’ Experiences of Relationship Counselling

De Lappe, J.  
(The Open University)

Historically there has been relatively little research on gender and sexual minority relationships, dyadic and non-dyadic, in Britain. What research there has been has tended to focus on traditional Gay and Lesbian identities. Even expanded to include LGBT it can still remain limited; a whole range of other gender and sexual diverse identities (GSDs) can be ignored. From people who identify as Asexual to those who identify as Polyamorous or in some other way non-monogamous; those people involved in BDSM lifestyles and relationships; these often intersect with LGBT or Heterosexual identities, but with key differences.

There has also been practically no research in Britain on gender and sexually diverse couples’ experiences of relationship counselling. This study therefore sought to consider gender and sexually diverse couples experiences of different forms of counselling when their relationship(s) were in distress. This was achieved by conducting an online questionnaire over a three-month period aimed at a broad range of communities and networks. Questions were geared towards understanding their responses both as members of those specific communities and as service users of counselling services. At the same time an alternative demographic model was incorporated into the survey design to encourage other respondents as well as ‘L’ and ‘G’. The data analysis suggests that gender and sexually diverse couples’ perceptions of relationship counselling are a complex, intersectional mix of expectation and real-life experience in which identities play a significant role, but at present many couples feel the counselling that they have received has not been adequate.

Families and Relationships 2

Rethinking the Sexuality of Migration: Insights from a Pilot Study on East European LGB Migrants in Scotland, UK

Stella, F.  
(University of Glasgow)

Despite a growing body of empirical research focusing on migration and same-sex sexualities, this work has thus far mainly focussed on North America. Existing literature indicates that sexuality can be a key motive for both internal (Weston 1991; Cant 1993; Gordon-Murray 2009) and international migration (Manalansan 2003, 2006; Carillo 2004; Mai 2012). Mobility and migration have been seen as key strategies enabling queer practices, identities and subjectivities (Cant 1993; Weston 1991; Espin 1997), a notion embedded in widespread narratives of migration as a journey from ‘homophobic’ to more ‘progressive’ countries, from rural areas to queer-friendly urban centres and queer communities (Fortier 2001).

To date, little empirical research has been conducted on queer migration from a European perspective, despite very uneven levels of recognition of LGB (lesbian, gay, bisexual) rights across Europe. This raises questions as to whether transnational migration can be a strategy for enabling non-heteronormative practices and identities, and for accessing sexual citizenship rights, within Europe. The paper draws on a review of the literature and on the analysis of findings from a pilot study on East European LGB migrants in Scotland, UK (2013).
Comparative Childcare Policy Analysis Revisited. Examples of Central and Eastern Europe

Javornik, J.
(University of Leeds)

Comparative research routinely employs a small number of indicators to compare family policies across countries. Government expenditure, participation of children in public childcare or length of parental leave are internationally recognised policy indicators. However, they have been subject of academic controversy and are less adequate predictors of gendered policy incentives. This paper, therefore, theoretically and empirically explores and discusses how varieties of state de-familialism could be more fully captured in a cross-country perspective. It offers a methodology to reveal the latent constructs which underlie policies on parental leave and childcare services, to uncover the state assumptions about social organisation of childcare and gender roles in a country-comparative perspective. Legal regulations are central to this analysis, and combinations of policy components take centre stage. An index of state de-familialism is proposed and its analytical potential tested on eight post-socialist EU states.

Researching ‘Families of Choice’ in Poland: Central and Eastern European Realities, Western theories, and What (New) Can We Learn form Their Comparisons?

Kulpa, R., Mizielsinska, J.
(Polish Academy of Sciences)

This paper will present initial findings from the on-going research project about non-heterosexual family configurations: ‘Families of Choice in Poland’ (www.familiesofchoice.pl).

As the pioneering large scale, multi-method, project in Poland and in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE), the researchers have to necessarily draw on the existing ‘Western’ (and as it is, mostly Anglophone) literature on gay and lesbian families. This body of work is often centred around the ‘either/or dilemma’ whereby these families are discussed as intrinsically ‘radical’ or ‘assimilative’ to the dominant heterosexual models of familial life (e.g. Lee Edelman’s discussion of ‘queer futurity’). But there is also work that tries to go beyond such dichotomies (Gabb 2008; Hicks 2012; Weeks, Donovan & Heaphy 2001), and look at everyday practices of ‘queer family living’.

Inspired by the latter production, and by the recent calls for greater attentiveness to the ‘beyond West’ geo-historical, local and regional contexts, we would like to ask:

- What challenges do the CEE scholars face, when researching their ‘local’ cases, but without available ‘local’ theoretical tools and concepts, while having only the Anglophone theories available, those stemming form the (presumably) radically different cultural contexts?
- Is there anything ‘queer’ about the family and kinship in the post-communist locality?
- Is it possible to think of ‘queerness’ and ‘family’ not in opposition, but in conjunction?
- What lessons can the Anglophone scholars of kinship and intimacy learn from the non-Western geo-temporal cultures, contexts, and findings?

Social Change and Illegal Migration towards Europe: The Algerian Case

Boudebaba, R.
(University of Algiers)

Algeria has witnessed since the uprising of October 1988 considerable changes on both socio-economic and political levels. This paper attempts to shed lights on the effects of such changes on social spectrum, notably on the side of family and youth relationships. The paper focuses on analysing the newly emerged phenomenon of illegal migration (locally known as ‘harraga’), which is widely considered as the outcome of changes that characterized Algerian life during the last two decades or so. In this context the paper tends to identify the factors and implications on both Algeria and the receiving countries of Western Europe. The paper will in the end provide some suggestions and solutions.
What is the Psychosocial Anyway and Why Should Sociologists Care?

Redman, P.
(The Open University)

Although diverse, studies of the psychosocial arguably cohere around, on one hand, their attempt to understand how the social is implicated in the psychological and the psychological in the social (and to do so in a manner that does not reduce one to the other); and, on the other, their concern with what escapes knowledge or is in some sense unconscious. This paper aims to explore what sociology can contribute to these aims and, conversely, what it might learn from them. Sociology’s contribution to the first aim is not difficult to identify. Psychosocial studies have tended to focus on ways in which the wider social world shapes psychological life, somewhat neglecting the ways in which the social world may itself be partly constituted from, ‘house’ and replay psychological phenomena. Close investigation and theorisation of these processes begs for psychosocially informed sociological analysis. In its turn, such investigation seems likely to open up sociological inquiry to dimensions of the social world that, if not wholly absent from sociology have been relatively neglected: those that are irrational, affective, and potentially unconscious. Sociology’s possible contribution to the second aim is more problematic, perhaps not surprisingly since it also tends to unsettle studies of the psychosocial. To pay attention to that which is outside consciousness is to be left with an apparent paradox: what does it mean to be knowledgeable about that which escapes knowing?

A Genealogy of Market and Medicine: Relics and the Organ Trade

Decker, O.
(University of Leipzig)

In this lecture the social practice of organ transplantation and trafficking will be examined from a cultural-anthropological perspective. The increasingly neoliberal tendencies in the medical system, where human body parts are thrown together with economic concepts such as ‘raw materials’ and ‘commodities’ be subject to scrutiny. In order to understand the process of commodification and define its limits, one has to go back to the religious roots of modern medicine. The story of the patron saints of transplantation medicine, Saints Cosmas and Damian, is interesting in various respects. Not only are Cosmas and Damian reported to have deployed grafting and prayer to successfully replace a man’s leg, but their bodies also turned into commodities themselves in the form of sought after relics. The medieval trade with relics linked economic interests - they were once the most valuable commodity - with religious promises - the collection of holy body parts was to guarantee salvation in the life to come. Following Walter Benjamin, the miracle of limb transplantation will be understood as a ‘crystal’, in which the past and future mingle. Cosmas and Damian are revisited to explore the twin beginnings of modern medicine and the modern market economy. Both Marx’ concept of commodity fetishism and Sigmund Freud’s theory of the perverted use of objects turn out to be productive. Modifying their methods to adapt them to the topic at hand, the joint genesis of market and medicine will be reconstructed within the scene of sacrifice.

Equal Recognition be the Law: Reflections on the Significance of Article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for People Labelled as Intellectually Disabled and/or Diagnosed with a Psychotic Disorder

Redley, M.
(University of Cambridge)

Equality before the law is a fundamental principle of all human rights protections. Article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) asserts the right to equal legal status by focusing on (i) areas where people with disabilities are denied full legal capacity, and (ii) describing what supports and safeguards are necessary in order to ensure equality before the law. This right, as affirmed in Article 12 of the CRPD, is, however, controversial. For its affirmation places an obligation on States to abolish all legal instruments, such as, in England and Wales, the Mental Capacity Act and the Mental Health Act which permit -- albeit under tightly regulated circumstances and in the
presumed interests of the person concerned -- the imposition of substitute decisions. This paper, responding to a recent defence of the Article 12 published by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, will (1) explore the arguments for and against the CPRD’s affirmation of universal legal capacity as it pertains to people with intellectual disabilities and/or psycho-social disabilities; (2) consider the extent to which the controversy over Article 12 sheds new light on how disability is conceptualized and normalcy is enforced/resisted, and (3) assess the utility of a human rights perspective for understanding the plight of people labelled as intellectually disabled and/or diagnosed with a psychotic disorder.

The Transformative Possibility of Arendt’s Notion of Power for the Social Model of Disability

Owens, J.
(University of Sheffield)

The social model of disability has demonstrated success for disabled people in society. At the same time, it has been labelled as an outdated ideology in need of further development. Whilst the social model of disability has been used successfully for political activism, it has simultaneously created conflict and tensions within disability studies, sociology, and sociology of the body. There are pluralities of approaches to the social model of disability, all of which are relevant, but simultaneously contribute to its fuzziness and confusion. The current social model rests on a praxis of oppression, and its Marxian underpinning that envisages oppression as a class or economic phenomenon is limited. Trying to fit all into the model is counterproductive because oppression is multi-dimensional and may take many forms. Rather than discard the significant gains that the existing social model of disability has made, the suggestion is to use Hannah Arendt’s pluralistic conception of power. This enables different dimensions of distinction, and the three realms of social life; political, social and private may enable us to move the social model of disability discussion towards enhancing and expanding the existing model so that it becomes more comprehensive, useful, and usable for research, policy, and practice; benefiting both disabled people and providing a stronger theoretical position for disability studies. Developing a clear agreed theoretical approach can help build solidarity and consensus and providing us with a way to engender more collective action.

The Mental Capacity Act 2005, Culture, and Learning Disability: Uncovering the Silence of Sociology

Boahen, G.
(The Open University)

Based on a recent ethnography, this paper argues for sociological contributions to on-going debates about how the Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA) has impacted learning disabled people. The MCA changed society because, whereas in the past common law was the basis for determining cognitive capacity, the legislation established a statutory framework and expounded instances where capacity should be elicited. Theorisations of mental capacity are dominated by philosophy, medicine, and law; it is conceptualised as ‘rational’, individualised, and ascertainable through ‘objective’ tests. Arguably, missing from this literature are understandings of social situations that lead to peoples’ cognitive capacities being questioned in the first place and cultural contexts whereby people view themselves as inter-dependent rather than autonomous. Taking these issues as starting points, this paper narrates the life story of a Greek-Cypriot learning disabled service user, Abrax, who does not communicate verbally and is supported by five black African men. In Abrax’s life three social categories interacted in decision-making, thus contradicting some conceptual underpinnings of mental capacity. I argue in this paper that sociologists can provide conceptual and methodological tools - for instance cognitive sociology (DiMaggio, 1997) - to bridge the gap between theory and praxis of mental capacity. I show how these can be deployed to shape present research agendas on the MCA, and ultimately, change the lives of learning disabled people for the better.


Disabled Women, Violence and the Concept of Control

Woodin, S., Shah, S.
(University of Leeds)

Intersectional analysis is a broad and loosely – defined approach often used to analyse the relationship between different social identities. This paper considers its influence in the study of disability, moving away from a focus on identity. Instead, the use of key concepts, such as that of control, is considered here in the context of disabled women who experience violence.

Many support services for women describe the problem of men’s violence as a desire for ‘power and control’ over women and as an expression of patriarchy. Campaigns by disabled people regarding civil rights are concerned with ‘choice and control’ – being in charge of aspects of daily life rather than controlled by others. The two ways of thinking
about interpersonal control are not mutually exclusive and the need for a degree of personal control is recognised by both movements as essential for both disabled and non-disabled women. However, the two conceptions of control by the two social movement traditions – as a positive and negative force, result in different remedial strategies that can be difficult to reconcile for disabled women.

**Frontiers 3**  
**ROUNDTABLE 9, SPORTS HALL 2**

**Disability Assessment, Personal Assistance and the Shaping of Subjectivity**  
_Mladenov, T._  
_(King's College London)_

This paper seeks to explore the shaping of subjectivity in the context of disability assessment tools and procedures. The analysis takes as its conceptual point of departure the understanding of contemporary power in terms of socially and materially embedded techniques for producing specific types of subjects. The basic premise stems from the work of Michel Foucault on the constitution of subjectivity as a major site for the deployment of modern power. The analysis emphasises the crucial role played by non-human entities such as disability assessment tools in this process of ‘subjectification’.

The paper takes as its case example a procedure for assessing disabled people’s eligibility for personal assistance provided within the ‘Assistants for Independent Living’ scheme currently administered by the local authorities in Sofia, Bulgaria. Based on an in-depth analysis of relevant documents, the paper explores the norms of individual conduct, self-understanding, and the understanding of ‘disability’, ‘independence’ and social support that are embedded in the assessment tools and the procedure as a whole; as well as the relations of power implied by these norms and the possibilities to change them. Parallels are drawn with similar disability assessment procedures currently used in the UK. On this basis, broader questions concerning personalisation, responsibilisation, workfare and, more generally, marketisation of social services are addressed from a critical disability studies perspective.

**Structure/agency Theory and Relational Deservingness: The Case of Disabled People in the Welfare Field**  
_Aiden, H._  
_(Scope)_

The welfare reform agenda will see many disabled people affected by the introduction of the Universal Credit and the Personal Independence Payment. These changes are characterised by increased welfare conditionality and discourses which seek to distinguish between active and inactive welfare recipients, and genuine and fraudulent claimants, thus subdividing disabled people into discrete categories of ‘deservingness’.

Yet, despite frequent references to the deserving/undeserving binary, deservingness remains a relatively unexplored concept in the social policy literature. This is surprising given that deservingness (or desert) may act as a valid, albeit debatable, basis for welfare distribution, and given that public support for social policies may well be qualified in terms of deservingness.

The aim of this paper is to push the conceptual boundaries of deservingness by drawing on sociological theory. In particular, it employs structure/agency theory as one potentially fruitful avenue to reconsider our understanding of the processes involved in identifying the ‘deserving’ and the ‘deserved’.

This version of ‘relational deservingness’ is then considered with respect to disabled people in the field of welfare. This application shows the merits of conceptualising deservingness with reference to understandings of ‘disability’, which are often predicated on medicalised views of disability that focus on individual impairments. The paper ends by calling for an appreciation of the current socio-political climate and the agency of disabled people themselves in defining and redefining deservingness, before discussing possible implications for social policy and social theory going forward.

**Iconography of Intellectual Disability: Ways of Seeing, Ways of Being Human**  
_Rogers, C._  
_(Aston University)_

Can we eradicate disablism by understanding how images of intellectually disabled people are embedded in the social psyche? Berger in the 1970s in his classic work Ways of Seeing says, ‘image is a sight which has been recreated or
reproduced. It is an appearance, or a set of appearances, which has been detached from the place and time in which it first made its appearance [...] every image embodies a way of seeing’. Seeing (and I would argue imagining) is often how we make our immediate connection to something or someone. Therefore images in fiction and social media can shape the way people think. We know that moral panic around certain groups such as mods and rockers and more recently men wearing hoodies and Muslim men and women have been considered problematic due to images generated. However, when it comes to intellectual disability and images we find them bound up in either, heroism such as in the 2012 Olympics ‘super-human’ narrative, or ‘tragic’ as television stories unfold in conjunction with charitable events. Either way we see disabled people as more than human and therefore different, or less than human and always in need. In this paper I would like to explore theoretically and philosophically how we both look away from ‘disgusting’ images, and find them a space in the social psyche that Others those who are too different or too distressed or that we have a sense of intrigue that draws us in to view intellectually disabled people as ‘freaks’.

Frontiers 4
ROUND TABLE 10, SPORTS HALL 2

Micro-sociality and Communal Being-ness: A New Approach
Studdert, D.
(Cardiff University)

This paper explores the possibility of an approach to the Social built upon developments of the work of Hannah Arendt (Studdert, 2005; Walkerdine and Studdert, 2011; Studdert and Walkerdine, 2012). Using a concept of micro-sociality, the paper explores the micro investigation of inter-relationality in creating and sustaining community in one British market town. It also explores how the micro social relations and practices of the historical past help to create and sustain or create problems for the development of community in the present. It argues that the discipline’s capacity to understand community as inter-relationality is constrained both by Sociology’s historical privileging of the state/individual axis as the primary social form (Studdert 2005) and its inherent mechanistic methodology (ibid). It argues that both are inherited and inherent within Sociology’s role as the ideology of modernism (Bauman, 1992). The paper’s investigation of community focuses on micro-sociality and the construction of meanings-in-common within spaces of appearance. This reveals that subjectivity and meaning-in-common is constructed and sustained through repetitive micro-sociality in all social formations, be they the family, the state or community. This paper will exemplify this approach with data from recent and current research in the market town.

References

A Sociology of Fun
Fincham, B.
(University of Sussex)

Fun is taken for granted. In everyday talk people use the term anticipating that others will know what they mean when they describe something as fun. However, when asked, people struggle to define or agree on what fun is. What we know is that sometimes we have it and sometimes we don’t, one person’s idea of it is not necessarily another’s and having too much of it is sometimes frowned upon. Whilst there are references to fun in a variety of fields related to sociology - work, youth, leisure and education – a systematic interrogation of fun is practically non-existent. This paper will make the case for the establishment of a contemporary sociology of fun. Important for a sociological definition are the ways in which fun operates differently in various contexts – work, family, education, leisure etc – and this contextual aspect will be highlighted here. Also important is to note the distinctiveness of fun as performing specific social functions – and its relationship to power. The taken for granted nature of references to fun is questioned. Do people mean the same things when they talk about ‘having fun’? Why is one person’s idea of fun different from somebody else’s? The relationship between fun, happiness and wellbeing will be examined. This paper will explicitly set out to demonstrate that a ‘sociology of fun’ is a worthwhile area of study. Fun features prominently in everyday life and sociology can bring something distinctive to understanding this phenomenon.
A Qualitative Study of Gender and Work in a British Riding School

Calamatta, K.  
(University of Sussex)

This presentation will be based on a doctoral thesis that focused on employees of the horse riding school sector within the United Kingdom. The research was based on qualitative fieldwork, at two riding schools, that took place over the course of three years and asked two questions: why do women numerically dominate within the setting of the riding school? How can we best understand this phenomenon using sociological literature?

The presentation will introduce this sector, situating it within theoretical understandings of gender in the workplace and emotional labor. The riding school setting will be explored in terms of the skills that are valued by employees and the methods by which these skills are acquired. It will be demonstrated that concepts around skill provide a framework which maintains and recreates a concentration of women within the industry. Additionally, the gendered framework of the riding school will be positioned within a broader cultural understanding of the ‘innate’ skills of women, and the low value and status of these skills relative to the those ‘possessed’ by men. The emotional labour that is undertaken in relation to animals will be explicated, paying specific attention to gendered patterns displayed in this labour. Lastly, the presentation will scrutinise assumptions regarding positive emotional displays towards the horses by employees and will ask whether work with animals evokes a greater sense of emotional authenticity than work with humans.

Sociology and Art Together for Dissemination: Tourism Mobilities in the Peak District National Park (PDNP) and Wildfire Hazard

Goatcher, J., Boyle, B., Brunsden, V., Hill, R., Pritchard, A.  
(Nottingham Trent University)

Britain’s National Parks are carefully constructed and maintained places of play-full performance - they combine experience of the ‘natural’ for the urban majority (British and visitor), with various health-enhancing opportunities, and are also heritage environments. At the same time they are living and working environments through which tourists move. In so moving the tourists create hazards for that environment and for themselves. Wildfire is one of these hazards and is an increasingly (financially, socially and ecologically) costly phenomenon. This research examines the relationship between tourist mobilities and wildfire hazard in the Peak District National Park. We paid particular attention to the semiotic regime present in the National Park which directs and encourages tourist engagement, and its interaction with the sign regimes of the PDNP as a working environment. Informed by this approach, we further seek to develop visually rich and compelling strategies for dissemination of sociological findings by collaborating with an artist steeped in community communication strategies. In this way the people most likely to find benefit from the research have more immediate and accessible access to the research than would be the case with ‘traditional’ forms of academic dissemination.

From Happiness to Provisioning: Towards a Better Understanding of Wellbeing in Austere Times

Brown, A., Spencer, D., Boffo, M.  
(University of Leeds)

The study of wellbeing has been given added impetus and urgency by the financial crisis and the policy responses to it. However, the human costs of the financial crisis and ensuing austerity are not directly measured by data on GDP and unemployment. Rather, they require data that captures the actual life experiences of people. What, then, is the best way to measure and interpret the impact of the crisis on wellbeing? To answer the question, this paper will take the 2013 World Happiness Report as a point of reference. Firstly, it will be argued that there are critical flaws in the ‘happiness economics’ approach that is drawn on by the World Happiness Report in the identification and understanding of the effects of the financial crisis on wellbeing. In particular, survey data on subjective wellbeing relied upon by happiness economics cannot be taken at face value and requires supplementation with qualitative, historical and contextual data interpreted through the lens of sociology and political economy. Secondly, it will be argued that what is termed the ‘system of provision’ approach can underpin an alternative programme of wellbeing research to that of happiness economics, one that can truly penetrate into the lived experience of crisis as well as its systematic effects on wellbeing. Through the lens of the system of provision approach, key interpretations and conclusions of the World Happiness Report, in particular the surprising conclusion that world happiness has increased in the years of the financial crisis, will be shown to be reversed.
Looking Both Ways: Bisexuality and Past and Future Identities in Later Life

Jones, R.L., Almack, K., Scicluna, R.
(The Open University)

Experiences and social meanings of growing old are becoming more various, due to a range of factors such as increased longevity, cohort effects and the increased acceptability (for some) of non-traditional life courses. However, one common feature, if memory and cognitive function are unimpaired, is the ability to look back on a relatively long life course. Seen from the perspective of late in an anticipated life course, life history events may take on a different tenor than at the time of their occurrence, and imagined futures may be shaped by a sense of previous long experience. This has particular significance for the study of sexuality, when a life course perspective on sexual identities and experiences may suggest alternative meanings to those employed at the time. This is especially so in relation to bisexuality because a history of relationships with men and women, which at the time was understood to reflect changing sexual identities, could be reconfigured as consistent bisexuality. This paper draws on early findings from the first UK-based study focusing specifically on older people with some relationship to the identity ’bisexual’. This small-scale qualitative study uses life history interviews to examine both pasts and imagined futures. The paper examines what difference it makes to take a life course perspective on a sexual identity, such as ’bisexual’, and what benefits and disadvantages this might have for individuals as they grow older.

Ageing at the Margins: Troubling the Identification of ‘Older Lesbian, Gay and/or Bisexual (LGB) Adults’

King, A.
(University of Surrey)

In recent years there has been a growth in literature concerning the lives of older lesbian, gay and/or bisexual (LGB) adults, which has started to address the serious omission and invisibility of this group of adults in research, policy making, and service provision. Whilst this development is welcomed, it inevitably draws attention to the identification ’older LGB adults’ on which this is based. Using insights from queer theory, ethnomethodology and conversation analysis, this article critically troubles such identifications. It does this, not only theoretically, but empirically, by conducting a membership categorization analysis (MCA) of some data emanating from a small scoping study of older LGB adults who live in a British city. The paper argues that the identification ’older LGB adult’ is problematic yet necessary, radical and reactionary. The ramifications of this for research, policy making and practice within organisations are considered in the conclusion.

Negotiating Personal Networks: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Older People’s Networks of Support towards the End of Life

Almack, K., Patterson, A., Makita, M.
(University of Nottingham)

This paper examines ways in which sexual orientation and gender identity may impact on experiences of ageing, end of life care and bereavement. It will present a preliminary analysis of interviews carried out with 60 older lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) people (aged 60 or over). These form part of a two year UK-wide project funded by Marie Curie Cancer Care Research Programme. Descriptions of personal networks indicate great diversity of experience and significant variations in the importance of friends, families and kinship at the end of life. These accounts also highlight how relational and personal networks do not remain static throughout one’s life course. Sexual orientation and gender identity can influence the means of social support available to individuals towards and at the end of life. Previous research has indicated that LGBT people have been adept at organizing their personal networks in ways that minimize any vulnerability to discrimination. This may change in old age and at the point of planning for and needing end of life care which can introduce a whole new range of people and settings into one’s life, presenting new ‘layers’ of decisions about what to reveal and what to hide, with attendant strategies of managing perceived stigma. Our focus on end of life care and bereavement sheds light on a series of relatively neglected issues associated with LGBT ageing and, more broadly, the topics of care and support within ‘non-traditional’ intimate relationships and personal networks.
Cords of Collaboration: Exploring Political, Clinical, Private and Third-sector Interests within the Emerging British Umbilical Cord Stem Cell Bioeconomy

Williams, R.
(University of York)

This paper illustrates how attempts are being made to redress ethnicity-based social inequities in health through collaborative governance of umbilical cord stem cell banking. This technology has enjoyed a growth in popularity among clinicians delivering treatment to cancer patients, partly because it is believed that ethnic minorities are more likely to find a tissue match in umbilical cord stem cell biobanks than in extant bone marrow registries. In response, clinical experts, charities and policy-makers have sought to develop an infrastructure to increase the public collection of immunologically diverse umbilical cord stem cells.

As such, we are witnessing the novel intersection of clinicians, charitable bodies, patient advocacy organisations and private enterprise. These stakeholders come together in parliamentary meetings to discuss barriers to development, produce policy documentation and foster further dialogue. As has been noted by Emerson et al (2012), such a model of collaborative governance can facilitate discussion between parties seemingly separated by impermeable boundaries of profession and politics. The paper explores an emerging collaborative governance model that hopes to add to this burgeoning area of theoretical development.

The presented data, including interviews with stakeholders and observation of parliamentary meetings, also investigates how a perceived ethnicity-based health inequity can be strategically deployed as an actuality for specifically professional, political or civic interests; that is, how socially charged notions of race and ethnicity can be mobilised toward potentially beneficent ends. Finally, the paper also brings into relief the tenuous position of the ‘expert’ within a widening forum of stakeholders.

Inserting Influenza Vaccines into Healthcare Workers in Two Welsh Local Health Boards

Hale, R.
(University of Nottingham)

In the UK, the Department of Health (DoH) has recommended annual immunisation of frontline health and social care workers against seasonal influenza since 1999. The Joint Committee for Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) took the decision in August 2009 to prioritise front-line health care workers for pandemic influenza vaccination. This vaccination programme of health professionals began in late October 2009. During the H1N1 influenza pandemic of 2009/10, levels of seasonal and pandemic influenza vaccination among health professionals still remained generally low. This presentation examines the insertion of influenza vaccines into micro-level clinical health professional groups, departments, wards, teams and individual healthcare workers. This insertion will be considered longitudinally; that is, pre-pandemic, during the pandemic and post-pandemic. The role of HCW knowledge versus experience in accepting influenza vaccines and the work done by other HCWs and mobile vaccination clinics is considered. In addition, the discourses of health professionals concerning influenza viruses, vaccines, pandemics and vaccination programmes will be analysed. In order to do this an actor-network theory (ANT) approach will be used to provide a thick description which is constructed from the analysis of qualitative interviews and focus group discussions with health professionals. An account of both the human and non-human actors, or actants, as mediators (and not as intermediaries), in this network will be traced. The transient nature of this actor-network and future implications will also be considered.

Quantify This: Prospects for Self-monitoring Health

Weiner, K., Will, C.
(University of Sheffield)

The emergence of a lay consumer market for health monitoring devices means that people may be recording and tracking ever more aspects of their bodily status independently of health care services. The idea of such self-monitoring has entered the cultural imagination, with particular interest in wearable and mobile technologies. While media coverage tends to portray this as paving the way to a revolution in medicine, mundane and everyday forms of self-monitoring already provide significant numbers of people with information about their health status and such practices appear to fit with the policy goal of increasing ‘self-care’ in the prevention of illness. In this paper we aim to identify key sociological aspects of self-tracking undertaken independently of health services. We will consider the
potential dynamics of self-monitoring and its meaning for everyday life and the provision of health services. We will elucidate the expectations that surround the development of these technologies drawing on current scholarly and popular writings on self-tracking and mobile health technologies and identify key clinical and policy concerns about these activities. We will then look to findings from our work concerning consumer health technologies for cholesterol management to consider the everyday dynamics of health practices that remain relatively absent from popular and professional discussions. Self-monitoring raises questions about the role of health services and of individuals and raises the potential for a redistribution of responsibility and expertise relating to health. Here we consider what prospects for quantified selves.

**Medicine, Health and Illness 2**  
**ROUND TABLE 14, SPORTS HALL 2**

**Biography of the Body: How Body Size Over Time is Influenced by Lifecourse Events**

Nissen, N.K.  
(University of Copenhagen)

Background: Individual responsibility for own health status is a widespread lay assumption as well as the steering logic behind much work done by researchers and practitioners within public health. Fewer studies deal with the underlying social mechanisms that influence health practices.

Aim: This paper takes up the concept biography of the body to discuss how body size over time is influenced by life course events resulting in new experiences and new life roles emanating from a combination of social structures, individual agency and coincidences.

Methods: Qualitative in-depth interviews including talks about recent and earlier photos of the interviewees were conducted. Twenty-four normal weight and moderately overweight individuals with varying socio-demographic backgrounds were interviewed twice. Coding indicated that life course events induce changes in weight and shape, and consequently biography of the body was chosen as a theme for analysis.

Results: A number of life course events resulting in new experiences and new life roles have been identified as influencing body size. The identified events are changes in work conditions, household constellations, housing conditions and economic situations. Furthermore age, illness and pregnancy are important. In a few cases, life course events motivate individuals to take action themselves and deliberately try to change body size, but in most cases changes in body size are not initiated by the individuals themselves. Though life course events are situated and have their consequences on individual level, they also reflect structures and changes in structures on a more general, societal level.

**The Primary Care Management of Musculoskeletal Conditions and Work-related Issues: A Qualitative Approach**

(Keele University)

Musculoskeletal (MSK) conditions of a chronic nature affect work significantly often resulting in presenteeism, reduced productivity, sickness absence and long-term work incapacity. An ageing workforce means that these issues are likely to expand and more support for this population will be required. Good primary care management can result in a positive impact on occupational health outcomes. However, despite a number of studies concerned with this area, research exploring primary care management in such cases is scarce. Moreover, insufficient research exists exploring the individually differing and complex work issues of older adults (50 +) living with MSK conditions.

This study aimed to explore sickness certification within the primary care consultation and the patient experiences of the process and surrounding issues. 100 video recorded consultations of patients aged 45 years plus were observed and analysed utilizing constructivist grounded theory to develop a coding frame. A purposive sample of 20 patients aged 50 years plus, having indicated experiences of both MSK and work related issues, were identified from a cohort study and interviewed. A comparative analysis of the two data sets is underway. Early findings indicate that consultation processes and discussions surrounding the management of on-going work and MSK issues are constrained by restrictive policies and practices such as scripted consultations and time constraints. This appears to be resulting in patients developing a range of strategies to manage such issues autonomously, including...
presenteeism, which may have a negative impact upon patient health. More support is now needed for patients with such problems.

Is Research in Chronic Wound Care Focusing on the Outcomes that Matter Most to Patients?

Madden, M.  
(University of Leeds)

Chronic, complex wounds like pressure ulcers, leg ulcers and diabetic foot ulcers impact on patient morbidity, mortality, daily functioning and quality of life (Mahé et al, 2006). They are associated with ageing populations living with chronic conditions such as diabetes or venous disease and those living with various degrees of immobility. Enhancing quality of life for people with long-term conditions has been identified as a key ‘domain’ in the NHS outcomes framework (DH, 2011). There is evidence from research into other chronic conditions that the outcomes that matter most to patients may not be the primary outcomes measured in randomised controlled trials (RCTs). For example, findings from the OMERACT (Outcome Measures in Rheumatology) collaboration suggest that clinicians and researchers may not realise that certain outcomes are very important for patients (Mease et al 2008). Although wound healing is often regarded as the main aim of treatment for health professionals and patients, there has been little work which identifies and compares the treatment outcomes which matter most to different stakeholders. Drawing on mixed methods research recently completed as part of a NIHR Programme Grant in Applied Research, this paper compares sociological findings on the outcomes that matter most to patients and their health care providers with a review of outcomes measured in RCTs. It also reports on the key outcomes prioritised in the James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Pressure Ulcer Partnership (JLAPUP). The paper raises questions about health research prioritisation.

Patient Involvement in Safer Surgery: A Realist Analysis

Roche, D.  
(Cardiff University)

This study focuses on attempts to improve patient safety through promoting the involvement of patients in the planning and delivery of surgical care through the Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) programme. The broad aim of this study was to explore the extent to which patients are involved in attempts to improve their own healthcare safety, specifically considering the mechanism of effect and investigating the conditions and circumstances that are required for patients’ to adopt safety roles. Through the assessment of my data collected through observations and semi-structured interviews with nurses and patients, and subsequent interpretation of the analysis, I have sought to discover what it is about this programme that works, for whom in what circumstances and in what respects, and why. Realist evaluation is centrally concerned with testing and refining program theories by exploring the complex and dynamic interaction among context, mechanism and outcome (Greenhalgh et al 2009). This research encouraged attention to the mechanisms by which patients might contribute to their safety, the conditions under which their contributions are likely to be successful and the extent to which these interventions are likely to ensure those conditions are filled in particular contexts. The research also attempts to identify the contexts where patient involvement is most achievable and will have the greatest impact. The analytical challenge of this research was to find out how attempts at patient involvement are shaped, enabled and constrained by interaction between the context of the programme and the identified mechanisms of change.

Do Children Endanger One’s Health? The Impact of Parenthood on Subjective Health for Employees in the United States

Fuchs, B.  
(Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg)

The compatibility of family and work is a major topic of contemporary politics. Surprisingly, it has not been regarded from the perspective of the sociology of health. This paper tries to fill this research gap by investigating the impact of parenthood on health and considering the specific situation and time constraints of working parents. Previous research has shown that parenthood has different effects on specific health outcomes, such as the resistance to the common cold or the risk of depression. Therefore, subjective health was chosen as the outcome to get a broad view of the impact of parenthood. The theoretical part adapts the assumption of recovery research that individuals need a
certain amount of leisure each day to recover from housework and/or paid work in order to maintain their health. Based on the time-availability-approach and the concept of doing gender, different effects for men and women are predicted. For women, the hypotheses that parenthood has a negative impact on working mothers and no impact on mothers who interrupt their careers are drawn. For men, the hypotheses that it has no impact on either continuously working fathers or the few who interrupt their careers are drawn. Using data from the panel study of income dynamics, fixed-effects OLS and ordered logit models show that parenthood has no impact on women’s health, if continuously working or not. It has a significantly negative impact on men’s health, which does not vary for continuously working fathers and the few who interrupt their careers.

Clearing Some ‘Knowledge Space’: Communicating across Competing Discourses in Patient and Public Involvement

Maguire, K., Britten, N., Gibson, A. (University of Exeter)

Public involvement in health research can be conceptualised as ‘knowledge spaces’, relationships and structures that enable people with different sorts of expertise to work together. However these spaces are cluttered with competing discourses about patients, the public, service users, clients, consumers, survivors or people with lived experience. Predominant discourses depend on setting, background, culture, experiences or theoretical frameworks but are likely to be contested. The same terms may have different meanings within the different discourses. ‘Service user’ may indicate: any actual or potential patients and carers; specific people using services extensively or frequently; a claim of legitimacy, in juxtaposition with someone not using a service; or a power imbalance, compared ‘service provider’. Words may make identity claims. ‘Survivor’ often indicates people with impairments following serious illness rejecting the role of ‘victim’; or someone having survived mental health systems. Competing discourses echo the tangled historical, social, political and theoretical roots of involvement. From the 19th century mutual societies, through the disability rights movement (‘nothing about us without us’) and the Patients’ Charter, to an individualistic involvement with the government’s ‘no decision about me without me’.

This project is about using sociological theories to untangle some of these words. This has the aim of de-cluttering the knowledge space, while ensuring this is not achieved through allowing dominant discourses to silence more marginalised voices and prevent issues from being addressed. Narratives from participants involved in health and social care research have been reflected back to them through stories games and tangible theoretical models.

What Does it Mean to Recover? Negotiating Recovery in Grief and Bereavement

Pearce, C. (The Open University)

The use of the term ‘recovery’ has become increasingly popular in mental health care and policy. The notion of recovery began as a radical movement that critiqued the paternalistic nature of health care and sought to reclaim power back to the patient or service user. Though the initial move towards recovery sought to bring acceptance to living with an illness and to broaden the notion of recovery outside of medical requirements, as recovery has been co-opted and incorporated into mainstream practices the radical demands have gradually coincided with, or diluted by, a government agenda of autonomy and individual responsibility. Similarly in literature on grief, recovery has gained interest yet what recovery from grief entails remains contested. Current theories tend to conceptualize grief as a psychological phenomenon to be overcome, often through the use of psycho-therapeutics. Yet the controversy over the omission of the grief exclusion in the fifth edition of the Diagnostics and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders revealed how competing definitions of grief persist with little consensus on whether grief should be considered a ‘natural’ process or as potentially pathological. In this paper I suggest that investigating what it means to recover first requires looking at the ways in which people who are seen as ‘failing’ to recover are managed and treated. In doing so I will argue that though the definitions of recovery from grief remain contested, there are theories, policies, and practices that seek to guide people who are grieving towards a vision of successful recovery.

Family Involvement by Medical School Anatomy Units: Body Refusals, Disposal and Memorialisation Practices

Seymour, J., Green, T. (Hull York Medical School)

Most research about family involvement with anatomical bequeathal (the donation of bodies for the purposes of medical teaching and research) has been on the donation of bodies or organ and tissue donation. Little has been done on the impact on families when a body expected to be donated is refused by an Anatomy Unit. Nor is there research on the involvement of, and impact on, families at the time of the disposal of bodies.
Key to both of these experiences is the role of the staff of the Anatomical Units in family liaison and, with regard to disposal, the provision, or not, of thanksgiving services and memorials. Whereas there is much work on cremation, death rituals and mourning and changing disposal practices and mortuary landscapes, none of these address the involvement of family members in such events when they occur some three to five years after death and donation. In addition, mainstream death studies research has not considered the processes of mourning and memorialisation during the interim period between body bequeathal and disposal. This has practice implications for bereavement counselling services.

The paper will outline proposed research on the process of family liaison by staff of Anatomy Units and the participation of families in these three key phases; refusal, interim contact and memorialisation, and disposal. The research will add to the literature on both death, dying and disposal, and family studies and result in guidelines that will contribute to a model of good practice for Anatomy Units and bereavement counsellors.

Methodological Innovations

ROUNDTABLE 16, SPORTS HALL 2

Making up People: A Method for Researching ‘Madness’?

Armstrong, V.
(Durham University)

A vast majority of exploratory studies pertaining to stigma, madness and mental health rely upon individual semi-structured interviews, vignette studies and/or questionnaires. Focus groups are more often employed in research relating to mental health service provision and improvement rather than in exploring individual experiences of madness. Groups exploring individual experiences are more often associated with a therapeutic, as opposed to a sociological, approach. Using an interactionist framework and with reference to Ian Hacking’s concept of ‘making up people’, this paper examines the use of group arts-based methods, such as composite character creation and scenario setting, to explore individual experiences of stigma and mental health problems. Using empirical photographic examples from current doctoral research, this paper considers how such a method provides a ‘productive space’ for people to explore, clarify and construct their own views, using their own vocabulary and pursuing their own priorities. This paper proposes that this seldom-used method for researching ‘madness’ may create a space necessary for imagining alternative futures using the comparative safety of character construction. I will also discuss how an ‘ethic of participation’ in sociological research may be employed to complement a more conventional research design and deepen our understanding of lived realities of complex social phenomena such as stigma.

The Research Assemblage: A Neo-materialist Approach to Social Inquiry

Fox, N., Aldred, P.
(University of Sheffield)

The research-assemblage comprises the human and non-human elements of the research process, including the events to be studied, the researchers, the methods used and the other social contexts of research. This conception draws on Deleuzian materialism, which deprivileges human agency, focusing instead upon how these assembled elements affect and are affected by each other. At the same time, it regards the events studied by social research not as stable phenomena to be revealed by astute social inquiry, but as themselves assembled from a web of fluctuating forces.

The research-assemblage can be regarded as interlocking ‘machines’: of data collection, analysis and writing, which together take an ‘event’ and produce ‘knowledge’ in the form of research outputs. From this perspective, the relationship between the event and a research output depends upon the character of the affective flows within these machines.

We explore this formulation further by unpacking the machines involved in different social research assemblages. These approaches engineer the machines and affective flows in the research-assemblage variously. We show how differing models of social inquiry have differential effects on both knowledge and the event itself, and how the affective flows in the research-assemblagethese may be manipulated.

We conclude by considering whether attention to the micropolitics of the research-assemblage can address some of the epistemological issues in social inquiry debated within realism and constructionism.
Establishing a Robust Set Theoretic Finding from a Large n fsQCA: An Empirical Example from the Sociology of Education

Cooper, B., Glaesser, J.  
(Durham University)

Whether educational systems are meritocratic remains a central question for sociologists. Relevant comparisons of systems, across time and space, using longitudinal datasets, are undertaken mostly using correlation-based methods, focusing on the net effects of ascriptive factors and ability on educational achievement. Cooper and Glaesser have argued that the question of meritocracy can be usefully re-phrased in the language of necessary and sufficient conditions, allowing the testing of such hypotheses as, ‘for girls from disadvantaged social backgrounds, ability tends to be necessary but not sufficient for high educational achievement’. However, Ragin’s Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA), the method usually employed to test such set-theoretic configurational claims, is mostly used with small samples where the researcher has good case knowledge. Employing it to analyse large survey datasets, without in-depth case knowledge, raises new challenges. We will present ways of addressing these new challenges.

We report results from an ESRC-funded set-theoretic re-analysis of the British National Child Development Study dataset (educational qualifications as a function of social class, sex and ability, n=6,666). We address the validity and robustness of our fsQCA by employing Dusa and Thiem’s R QCA package to explore the consequences of (i) changing fuzzy set theoretic calibrations of ability, (ii) errors in measuring ability and (iii) changing thresholds for assessing the sufficiency of a causal configuration for achievement. We also address the challenging problem of paradoxical results that can arise with the use of fuzzy logic. The paper offers insights to others wishing to use QCA with large n data.

Methodological Innovations 2

The Systems Interview: Gathering Rich Data

Woodspring, N.  
(University of the West of England, Bristol)

Recently, the work of Gregory Bateson, van Bertalanffy, and other systems thinkers, has been rediscovered. Systemic theory has much to offer as an applied research methodology. This presentation explores the use of systems in formulating interview questions and conducting interviews. It is based on the data collection for the recent study, It’s All Life: The eloquence of embodiment. The interviews were informed by Coordinated Management of Meaning theory and Karl Tomm. This paper explores the application of systems approach to the research interview.

In the tradition of Bateson, applied system's theory produced rich data using non-lineal questions. Interview methodology, question construction, and communication throughout the interview process will be discussed. This methodology is particularly useful for data collection in potentially difficult areas. In the case of my research, ageing body and time was at the centre of the research. The rich contextualized data that came forward as a result of using a modification of CMM has the potential to be useful in a number of different areas.

This presentation will focus on applied systems theory as a research methodology with an emphasis on the research interview. It will explore the positioning of the interviewer within a systemic context and the use of spatial and temporal dimensions to gather rich data. The presentation will look at extending the conversation and the centrality of nonlineal question construction among other aspects of systems-based interviewing.

The Shy Girl and the Sex Workers: Managing Public Image whilst Managing Mental Health

Harper, S.  
(University of York)

In spite of the recent appearance of papers about depression experienced by students pursuing a doctorate, the breadth and depth of this emergent field is currently extremely limited. It has been noted that mental health difficulties can be caused or exacerbated by issues related to being a PhD researcher; more in-depth examination of what this means to the individual is required. Beyond this lies the difficult issue of what happens when the researcher has pre-existing mental health problems.

My own research has been troubled by experiencing depression and anxiety, alongside Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. Whilst networking with sex worker activists for a qualitative study on lap-dancer activism, I used a research diary to
promote reflexivity in the field and located specific instances when my experiences of data collection were vastly affected by social anxiety. Reflecting further on these experiences, I found a nexus of issues relating to the interviewer/interviewee dynamic and mental health.

This paper charts a specific incident in the field, networking at an event during which I experienced severe social anxiety. Through a contextualised and reflexive examination of this event, I view these experiences through the lens of work by Oakley and Goffman, as well as more contemporary work on methodology. The aim here is to explore not only the hindrances of being the ‘shy girl’ but also the potential for unexpected rewards; such as greater trust from those who may otherwise be highly sceptical and also the huge potential for growth as a researcher.

Researching Black and White Women’s Perceptions of Femininity

Igenoza, M.
(Department of Work and Pensions)

My research, Femininity as Portrayed within Western Society, explored the ways in which femininity, what Moi (1989) defined femininity as a set of cultural attributes assigned to the female sex, is racialised within western culture. It did this by investigating both black and white women’s racialised perceptions of femininity. A total of 42 women, 22 black women and 20 white women were interviewed for this research. Race is a difficult topic to research because it can create many uncomfortable feelings and powerful emotions. This was especially the case when asking black and white women to share their racialised experiences of femininity. In this paper I want to share, first of all, how difficult it was, as a black female researcher, to research race when there is a racial difference between the interviewer and participant. Interviewing white women, asking them to speak about race and whiteness, and to see themselves as racial subjects was not only difficult but was full of many uncomfortable silences. Secondly, I want to address the silences that took place during the interview process. I will discuss not only the silences of the white women but also the black women who took part in this research. When researching race, silence, or to put it another way, what is not said, is vital. When exploring a subject matter as emotive as race and women’s perceptions of femininity, silence can, and did, ‘speak volumes’.

Power Relationship Revisited: Doing Research in International Context

Tang, N.
(Sheffield Hallam University)

Power relations around sex and gender never operate in isolation (Griffin 1996). A decade ago, based on my PhD fieldwork experiences, I argued that both the interviewee and interviewer’s perceptions of social, cultural and personal differences exerted significant impact on the dynamic power relations in the interview (Tang 2002). This paper will revisit power relationship in fieldwork in international research by drawing on empirical examples from research projects conducted in different international contexts.

The paper will employ Foucaultian understanding of power as shifting, multiple and intersecting (Foucault 1980) to explore the implications of power dynamics in terms of how research relationship is understood and reflected by the researcher as well as the researched in the research process and how it exercises power in the production of the research outcome. By examining power as it flows and disperses in both research relationship and research process, the paper reconceptualises the difference, otherness, inequalities and hierarchies in ‘doing’ research in international context.

Rights, Violence and Crime 1

ROUNDTABLE 18, SPORTS HALL 2

VIOLANCE AND SOCIETY

Victims’ Invisibility and Oblivion: Interpretative Repertoires in Narratives of the Massacre of Bojayá (Colombia)

Rios, S.M.
(University of Aberdeen)

The case studied here is a massacre that occurred in the church of San Pablo Apostol in Bellavista, the capital of the municipality of Bojayá on 2 May 2002. In the massacre 79 civilians perished, 48 of them children. It occurred as a
result of a confrontation between ‘the Front 57’ of the FARC-EP guerrillas and ‘the Bloc Elmer Cardenas’ of the AUC Paramilitary Army with complicity of some members of the national Army. The massacre of Bojayá has become a milestone in the history of the conflict in Colombia and in Chocó in particular. The cruelty suffered by the civilian victims, most of them women, children, and the elderly affected the way the conflict was perceived. The representation of their suffering affected the perception of the conflict, especially soon after attempts at negotiating peace between the government and the guerrilla had failed in February 2002. This paper aims to explain the multiple ways in which narratives of social memory around the massacre of Bojayá have been constructed. In addition, it analyses the limits in the construction of a ‘social trauma’ of the massacre of Bojayá. It analyses how some elements in the interpretative repertoire of the social memory of the massacre, such as metaphors of invisibility and oblivion of victims have contributed or prevented the representation of the massacre as a crime of war and as a crime against humanity.

Struggle for a ‘Liveable Life’: Everyday Resistance against State Policies of Assimilation

Flader, U.
(University of Manchester)

Using Judith Butler’s notions of “unliveable” and “liveable life”, this paper discusses forms of everyday resistance of the Kurds in Turkey against violence of the State. Although the Turkish state has throughout the years often used methods of physical violence such as massacres, extra-judicial killings and forced village evictions against the Kurds, this paper focuses on the violence implied by policies of assimilation.

Since the founding of the Turkish Republic in 1923, the Kurds have been faced with a broad network of changing legal and administrative measures, discourses and practices which aim at producing a homogeneous Turkish national identity and eliminating all cultural differences. Everything that does not comply with this norm of national subjectivity is rendered deviant and “unliveable” forcing people like the Kurds to assimilate. Confronted with these violent policies of assimilation, Kurds have developed practices to reject these policies of subjectivation in their everyday life.

This paper examines how by subverting the specific techniques of power, the rituals, objects and the built environment with which these state policies are put into practice, the Kurds manage to undermine these violent forms of state power. I argue that, in contrast to party politics, demonstrations, civil disobedience as well as armed struggle, these everyday practices of resistance do not have an “addressee”. They do not pose demands to the government. Instead, these everyday struggles are about creating a “liveable life” in the now and therefore present a radical take on resistance.

London Riots 2011: Quantitative Evidence from 2011 Census

Kawalerowicz, J.
(University of Oxford)

The riots that swept English cities in August 2011 were the largest outbreak of collective violence in the UK since the 1990 Roll Tax Riots. In this study we focus on disturbances in London, where the riots began and which had been most affected. Using arrest records obtained from the Metropolitan Police we locate nearly 3,000 individuals and match them with Census 2011 socio-economic data on 24,045 London’s small neighbourhoods, borough level data from Metropolitan Police Service User Satisfaction Survey and data on local authority area service expenditure. We found that the number of rioters in small neighbourhood is predicted by neighbourhood’s unemployment, lack of educational qualifications, proportion of black residents, single parents, and proportion of respondents within each local authority area who evaluate police community relations as fairy or very poor. Two classes which are negatively associated with the outcome variable are proportion of managerial and professional and small employers and self-employed, additionally we found that proportion of newly arrived immigrants is a negative predictor of the dependent variable. Three findings deserve attention; first the impact of ethnicity is significantly mediated by negative evaluation of relations between police and the community. Secondly, the impact of single parent variable seems to be stronger for single parents in full time employment. Lastly, we find that spending cuts at local authority area had no effect, however this can be because people are more likely to riot when they anticipate cuts rather than as a result to contraction in spending.

Remembering Violence and Performing Post-violence Politics in Virtual Spaces

Dona, G.
(University of East London)

‘Virtual memorialisation’ - remembering and commemorating past violence in cyberspace- gives sociological insights into the ways in which Information and communication technologies influence the sociological spaces and social dynamics of remembering past violence in local, national and transnational spaces. Multi-sited and multi-temporal
research with Rwandans residing in the country and in the diaspora is combined with net-ethnography to examine the relationship between memory, politics and new social media.

Virtual sites create transnational performative narratives of social violence that are in constant transformation and dialogue with each other. Memory of the past is reconstructed in the present, and official and unofficial social actors actively engage in memories of the violent past in virtual space from their situated positionalities.

Virtual memorialisation offers insights into the sociology of violence by highlighting a dialogical tension between corporeal and a-corporeal memorialisation; a–political and political strategies for remembering the violent past; and national, transnational and diasporic subjectivities.

Rights, Violence and Crime 2

VIOLENCE AND SOCIETY

‘You Can Try, but You Won’t Stop it. It’s Always Going to be There’: Youth Perspectives on the Role of Schools in Preventing Gender-based Violence

Sundaram, V.
(University of York)

This paper reports on a qualitative study of young people’s perceptions of violence and their views on the preventability of violence. The study was based in six schools across the north of England and used a combination of youth-centred techniques, including photographs and vignettes, to elicit views on violence. A total of 70 pupils participated in focus group discussions across a range of school settings. The findings reveal that gender norms and expectations play a significant role in young people’s understandings of what ‘is’ violent, including when violence is un/acceptable and un/deserved. For example, a widely-held view was that a ‘natural’ aspect of masculinity was to be aggressive, and violent behaviour by men was therefore frequently excused and not viewed as ‘violence’. However, gender was notably absent from young people’s narratives about violence prevention. Participants were most likely to draw on psycho-social or criminological discourses to explain violence by individuals and saw the role of schools in preventing violence as limited. The centrality of gender to young people’s discourses about violence juxtaposed with the stark absence of gender from their narratives about violence prevention deserves attention. It simultaneously reveals the entrenched and naturalised place of gender norms among young people, and the impossibility of tackling violence at its cause if these norms are not explicitly addressed and challenged. The findings suggest that gender education must constitute a fundamental aspect of school-based violence prevention, so as to disrupt primary influences on young people’s use and acceptance of violence.

My Body, My Gun, My Choice: Firearm Advocacy and the Re-shaping of Feminine Subjectivity

Raisborough, J., Squires, P.
(University of Brighton)

This paper is based upon an analysis of the broad cultural politics of the US NRA (Melzer, 2009). We explore the NRA’s use of imagery and advertising which aims to broaden the appeal of firearm ownership and, specifically, encourage US women to become gun owners. We argue that an analysis of this imagery allows some critical purchase on wider constructions of feminine subjectivity in popular culture. To date, critiques of what may be called a ‘postfeminist sensibility’ (Gill, 2007), have discerned how a rhetoric of rights and empowerment, detached from feminism, is now re-attached to images of women as ironic and self-sexualised. We extend this critique to examine how this rights rhetoric has now become attached to gun ownership and to the right and implied duty of (self-)protection. We argue that what emerges is a gendered re-imagining of ‘responsible victimhood’ based on the reassertion of essentialised sex differences entailing problematic assumptions of heteronormative sexuality. We conclude that while NRA campaigns (not to mention their milder UK versions) to include women may suggest a democratisation, this comes at the price of a reassessment of conservative heteronormative values. Furthermore, the incorporation of women in advanced neo-liberal discourses of personal weaponisation raises major ethical and political dilemmas for women given the levels of firearm victimisation experienced by women (Farr et al., 2009), globally, in domestic settings (as evidenced, perhaps, by the Pistorius case in SA).
Street Girls in Cairo, Egypt: Resistance, Resilience and Vulnerability as a Response to Every Day Violence

Ali, N.
(Birkbeck, University of London)

Between Mubarak’s ousted regime, the period of military rule that followed and the elected Muslim Brotherhood, the exposure of street children to systematic violence during times of demonstrations, protests and arrests were a manifestation of a lack of effective new strategies of social change.

Children were consciously active during the revolution and were found in most places where the action takes place. This paper investigates the role of street children in particular in social movements and argues that their presence and their ‘know how’ of the spaces, their political occupation of the streets even before the uprising, facilitated considerable assistance to the revolting masses till their demands of overthrowing the regime were met. During the first weeks of the revolution, the children were active in Tahrir, often found in tents with protestors, in schools set up by activists in the sit-ins and in the midst of the battles. These social integrations were new and saw some children there because the battle against oppression was one they knew all too well and others because the street had become their home.

The dangers the children were exposed to during the first few weeks of the revolution were mainly on account of the lack of operating mechanisms and institutions to protect them. The phenomenon of systematic violence used as a tool by the state security forces towards children will be discussed and its effect on the children’s agency under the backdrop of the New Sociology of Childhood.

Risk, Globalisation, Climate Change and Beyond

Engaging with an Environmental Policy: Emergent Practices in Housing Development

Ozaki, R., Shaw, I.
(Imperial College London)

Recent climate change statistics attribute over a quarter of carbon emissions to residential energy use in the UK. To address this, a building standard (‘Code for Sustainable Homes’), was introduced to aim to reduce levels of carbon dioxide emissions and energy consumption. This paper analyses how such an environmental standard reconfigures the socio-technological relations and practices of housing professionals that design, construct, and manage social housing. We focus on how actors engage with the standard’s recommendation for incorporating low and zero carbon technologies into new buildings. We identify trajectories of practice that emerge from these engagements, which, we contend, have significant consequences for the working relationships of professional actors, and renewable energy provision and environmental sustainability. By being entwined in, and generative of actors’ practices, we argue that the Code becomes part of the socio-technological relationships and infrastructures that shape energy provision and potential consumption.

Incorporating Social Capital in Social Impact Assessment Tools of Environmental Policies

Jones, N.
(The Open University)

Social capital is regarded as one of the most successful exports from the field of Sociology to other scientific fields. In this context it has been increasingly used in the field of environmental policy. A main assumption in the literature is that communities with ‘good’ social capital will manage natural resources in a more sustainable manner. Despite the wide development and use of the concept, there has not been significant discussion on the use of social capital in social impact assessment techniques applied during environmental policy planning processes. The main purpose of this paper is to initiate a discussion on specific social capital indicators which can be incorporated in social impact assessment techniques for environmental policies focusing on two main issues. Firstly, on the potential of creating a social capital impact assessment tool for environmental policies, which will measure the impact of a specific proposed policy on the social capital levels of a community. Secondly, social capital will be examined as a parameter which can significantly influence social impacts as perceived by individuals and communities. Both issues are discussed using two examples of environmental policies which have significant social impacts: designation of protected areas and climate change mitigation policies in coastal areas. The incorporation of social capital in impact assessment methodologies will significantly assist in the inclusion of local communities in decision-making processes and may result in increased levels of public acceptability.
Sustainable Communities: Social Justice and Community-based Transitions towards Sustainability

Dinnie, E., Lackova, P. (James Hutton Institute)

The transition to a sustainable, low-carbon society will need to involve widespread changes in social relations in order to bring about the ambitious targets set for reducing emissions and adapting to climate change. Social objectives, such as empowerment, inclusion, justice and equity are important but often overlooked in projects aiming to reduce emissions or adapt to climate change. Our paper explores the social dimensions of a Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) project in Orkney in which residents of a housing association were given household energy monitors. CCF projects are community-led and require social benefits, such as enhanced cohesion, to be included as outcomes. Data was collected through qualitative semi-structured interviews and questionnaires with tenants of social housing who had an energy monitor installed in their home. Findings were mixed in relation to achieving social objectives. Participants experienced a sense of individual empowerment through improved awareness of energy costs and efficiency, a shift towards more sustainable energy related practices and awareness of energy-based initiatives in the wider community. However, their status as island tenants limited the capacity to make further changes to reduce energy usage. We conclude that social justice issues concerning the transition to more sustainable communities must be addressed through structural and cultural changes to practices and social relations governing energy use, rather than through targeting individuals or households.

Integrating the Normative Dimension of Household Energy Demand in Carbon Reduction Policy

Rushby, T. (University of Southampton)

Personal Carbon Trading (PCT) is a policy that could potentially provide a framework for radical greenhouse gas emissions reduction. Barriers to the progress of PCT as a policy option include issues around cost effectiveness, household income redistribution, public opinion and political acceptability.

Proposed PCT schemes most commonly use an equal-per-capita allocation (EPCA) to distribute emissions rights among the population and do not take into account circumstantial factors affecting per-capita emissions. While attempts have investigated methods to moderate the distributional impact of PCT through compensatory measures, no alternative method for allocating emissions rights has yet been developed.

The starting point for the paper is to problematize the equal-per-capita allocation method of allocating emissions rights. This stems from recognising a methodological flaw relating to how energy is consumed within homes. The nature of this flaw is a contradiction between two conceptions of consumption. One commonly adopted by PCT, which considers the individual as agent and one commonly used in models of domestic energy consumption which considers the household as a unit.

The paper will present a conceptual framework which can be used to integrate aspects of household energy demand from technical, social and normative perspectives. This theoretical space can be utilized in the design and evaluation of an allocation method based on an alternative understanding of household energy demand.

This research has implications for the political feasibility of PCT type schemes and speaks to broader debates about the regulation of emissions from individuals and the energy used within households.

Science and Technology Studies 1

Lending Social Credibility to High-end Science

Johnson, M. (University of York)

Those engaged in ‘pure’ or ‘basic’ science struggle to sell the value of their work beyond the advancement of natural science itself, especially in an era of economic downturn. One of the most recent themes developed to counter this issue is to stress the changes and benefits to wider society that science can bring, especially in the space sector. Using in-depth interview data from the author’s ongoing doctoral research into the UK space industry, this exploratory paper examines some of the techniques used in the space sector to lend ‘credibility’ to space science via tethering it to various conceptions of social change or public good. These include the argument that high-end science will have benefits that automatically ‘trickle down’ or ‘spin off’ into terrestrial technologies; claims that space science inspires
children, students and the public more generally, and that this has a significant positive economic effect by directing people into STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) subjects; that space research into atmospheric or geological behaviour can have a public policy impact, such as protecting shipping or disaster management; the fostering of national pride via space science achievements; and the most well-known arguments around advancing human knowledge of the universe and mastery of natural science. It will examine these arguments and their validity and relative strengths and weaknesses, assess the effect these claims actually have on decision-making processes affecting space science, and lastly consider whether justifying space programs in this way is a misguided effort in the first place.

The Reputation Economy: Creative Labour and Freelance Networks

Gandini, A.  
(University of Milan)

Based on a doctoral research combining mixed methods and ‘digital ethnography’, this contribution dwells upon the networked dynamics of creative labour across both offline and online environments, to discuss the existence of a Reputation Economy whereby reputation management across the offline and the online becomes the determinant element for the professional success of networked knowledge workers.

A decade after Richard Florida’s ‘creative class’ manifesto we are now confronted to labour markets in the knowledge economy where professionals are increasingly independent and networked, using social media resources for self-branding and career advancement. The project-based and freelance nature of contemporary knowledge work enhances the role of reputation that becomes visible and potentially measurable across social media platforms. In other words, the reputation of an independent professional within a professional network, which has always been a determinant element to build successful careers in the creative sector, combines with the use of social media for professional purposes and the increasing importance of digital marketplaces. In these contexts, reputations become visible and, under certain conditions, potentially measurable.

The Potentials of the World Wide Web in Rebuilding Post-conflict Societies

Welch, J., Halford, S., Weal, M., Stoker, G.  
(University of Southampton)

This paper extends the focus on changing society to consider the processes of building society in post-conflict contexts, where violence, displacement and the absence of legitimate governance have led to the disintegration of society and the challenge of both defining and achieving reconstruction. In particular, the paper explores the place that the World Wide Web might play in this process, as a new, multi-modal actor in representation, communication and information circulation. Drawing together an STS–rooted understanding of the sociotechnical nature of changing society, with previous research on diasporic online communities and emergent empirical interventions in fragile states, the paper explores the multiple potentials for the web as an actor of social change in this field. It identifies ways the web is conceptualised in those contexts linked to data, management, information sharing and empowerment. Using both theoretical and empirical analysis the paper suggests that these hitherto fragmented conceptualisations each carry risks and opportunities for post-conflict governance building, which are at present not taken into account by practitioners. The paper concludes by showing how these overlapping conceptualisations and the tension between top down and bottom up perspectives can give rise to both intended and unintended consequences for post-conflict governance building in fragile states.

Thinking Change with Permaculture

Ghelfi, A.  
(University of Leicester)

Transforming humans’ relation to soil is a project at the centre of the socio-ecological global movement that identifies itself as permaculture. Permaculture is a movement of alternative ecological design that takes multiple shapes: rural or urban, projects of local food production, natural building, knowledge production, and experiments with forms of social organising. Born with the observations on how a forest works as an ecosystem, the idea of permaculture consists basically in the aim of creating edible and resilient ecosystems.

Dealing with an analysis of practices and patterns grounded on my fieldwork, and focusing on permaculture as a design system, I will introduce four contributions in thinking change in technoscience from the perspective of the culture of permaculture. Here the question of change will be posed: inside an ecology of humans/nonhumans co-producing relationality; starting from the many ways in which in permaculture a technique of construction is a
Social Divisions / Social Identities 1

DIASPORA, MIGRATION AND TRANSNATIONAL IDENTITIES

 Practices of Self-organising of Eritrean People in Milan

Martignoni, M.
(University of Leicester)

Thinking diaspora through the concept of ‘diaspora space’ (Avtar Brah) and the necessity of ‘routing diaspora discourse in specific maps/histories’ (James Clifford), in this presentation I will focus on the history of the Eritrean community in Milan and its practices of self-organising.

Relying on oral history interviews, I will present and discuss how these ‘postcolonial migrants’, who arrived in Italy since the 1970s, have managed to make a living in the city of Milan. As they were among the first migrants in Italy and the first black presence in Milan, how did they negotiate their everyday life? Housing, working, permit to stay, school and childcare were not guaranteed. The Eritreans in Milan were able to self-organise trying to overcome these problems, creating their own institutions and hybridizing with existing ones. This was possible also thanks to their transnational organisation in support of Eritrea’s independence, that had a role also in the local everyday life organising.

The presentation will go in depth trying to answer to the following three questions: how the forms of organising changed through time, from 1970s to today and which are the differences between different generations (some born in Eritrea, some born in Italy) in the participation to the life of the community? Which is the role of gender inside self-organising of this community? Finally, how the diaspora space modified the life of the ‘indigenous’?

E Pluribus Unum? Migrant Organisations, Community Networks and Social Capital in Austerity Britain

D’Angelo, A.
(Middlesex University)

Research on migrant populations has increasingly adopted the concept of ‘social capital’, linking it to that of social networks and community organisations in particular. Though many consider these organisations an important means of support and integration, others have pointed out they can reinforce fragmentation within society. Either way, migrant organisations can be seen as a formalisation of ethnic-based social networks and, some would argue, as an indicator of group-level social capital. This relates to one key theoretical issue around social capital: the extent to which it should be conceptualised as an attribute of individuals, groups or a whole society.

Using Kurdish communities in London as a case study, this paper explores the networking patterns and strategies of migrant organisations and discusses the extent to which these have a direct impact on the social capital of individual users.

Although migrant organisations have been described as a direct expression of collective identity, their development is affected by various ‘external’ factors, particularly the opportunity structure of the host country. In Britain, the economic crisis and recent policy changes in a number of areas have jeopardised the existence of migrant organisations in their traditional form, redefining their role in relation to individuals and to wider society.

Thus, one the one hand, this paper adopts a highly contextualised approach; though on the other it discusses the extent to which a case study can offer insights into the challenges of integrating different levels of analysis – from the individual to the collective – in social capital research.
Pathologies of the Dislocated Aytas

Mallari, J.  
(University of the Philippines)

The Philippine Pinatubo Aytas, who belong to the Negrito group (with dark skin, curly hair and small stature), have always considered the forests their home. Because of the eruption of the mountain—actually a volcano—where they used to dwell, these displaced people were resettled in lowland areas. Being used to a self-sustaining lifestyle in the forest, they now find themselves in disadvantageous situations including economic deprivation, social isolation from mainstream culture, and racial discrimination. As they face such marginalization, these indigenous people have developed defense and coping mechanisms. Moreover, in order to survive, they need to resort to dehumanizing means such as begging— that make their case all the more an object of concern. This paper tackles the consequences of their displacement. Interviews will be conducted and the method of ‘pakikipagkwentuhan’ (literally ‘having a chat’) will be used to make them feel comfortable and unhindered in answering questions. Because of their limited ways of communicating their thoughts, questions will be simplified and adjusted for easy understanding. Inferences are to be made to provide meaningful understanding of what they express during the interviews. Based on the findings, possible interventions and policy recommendations will be made.

Palestinian Refugee Youth: Towards a Social Ordering of Cultural Dissonance

Procter, C.  
(SOAS, University of London)

Youth in refugee camps in the West Bank constitute the fourth generation of Palestinian refugees. Despite their positioning as the most protracted refugee context globally, voices of youth are rarely heard in academic debate surrounding their plight. Using ethnographic methods based on field work in the occupied Palestinian territories, this paper attends to these voices in Jenin refugee camp to address intergenerational constructions of Palestinian refugee identity. Drawing on Pierre Bourdieu it suggests that contemporary assertions of this identity are a habitual product of the structural violence of the Israeli occupation, which in turn limits the agency of this fourth generation of refugee youth. Moving beyond Bourdieu’s framework, it locates a refugee camp ‘polity’ beneath the ultimate field of structural violence marked by the Israeli military occupation. This imposes a social ordering of Palestinian identity and prompts a cultural dissonance as youth attempt to exercise agency within the micro, rather than macro structures in which they are located. As such, this paper focusses on the process of making and breaking habitus: exploring the challenge of accepting multiple identifications with the Palestinian struggle while living under the duress of structural violence. In so doing, it advances understanding of the terms ‘habitus’ and ‘agency’ by highlighting the processes and constraints inherent within them. Engaging in this topic through an ethnographic microcosm of Jenin camp offers an opportunity to explore the intrinsic contradictions and juxtapositions present within individuals and communities, and thus, most definitively, within the ongoing Palestinian struggle.

The Actual Existing ‘Postracial’? Postracial Bioscience and the Beginning of the End of ‘Race’

Paul, J.  
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

This paper explores postracial bioscience defined by St Louis (forthcoming 2013) as a robust scientific approach which without the hesitancy and contradiction of earlier critiques consistently deconstructs ‘race’. The article argues that postracial bioscience provides the affirmative basis for the ethical and political critiques that support putting the category of ‘race’ under erasure, extends beyond the empiricist assumptions of positivist paradigms and ultimately enriches epistemological, methodological and ethical understandings. Postracial bioscience is a practical application of postracial theory which pursues the unraveling of the precise relationship between racism and health with particular attention to the role of structural factors in generating, exacerbating or sustaining the impact of genetic variation on health. The article concludes that postracial bioscience offers a practical way of thinking through the postracial paradox – race does not exist as a biological category and has a problematic moral status given its often pernicious uses yet it remains necessary for identifying and combating racialised inequalities.
Phobic Politics, Difference and the Postracial

Tyrer, D.
(Liverpool John Moores University)

The continued relevance of phobia to the social sciences is indicated by its use as a metaphor for discrimination (e.g. xenophobia, homophobia) and by its often implicit relation to other concepts (trauma, abjection, emotion, affect…). However, spite of the growing literature on specific manifestations of phobia, notably agoraphobia and claustrophobia, comparatively little substantive conceptual attention has been paid to the use of phobia as a metaphor for discrimination. Critiques of the utility of terms such as Islamophobia have generally proceeded from reductive descriptivist assumptions concerning the origins of modern ideas of phobia, while their contrasting invocations are frequently apodictic, as though simply to name a phenomenon as phobic perfectly describes why it is so. In this paper I will engage conceptually with the use of phobia as a metaphor for discrimination, drawing upon genealogies of two distinct uses (xenophobia and Islamophobia) to explore the epistemic conditions under which it makes sense to speak of discrimination as phobia, the work of phobia as a naming for particular modes of discrimination, and the effects, limits and possibilities of such a naming. This will enable me to engage with a wider question concerning the ethical challenges presented by difference and responses to difference in post-political and supposedly post-racial times. This paper therefore deals with theoretical approaches to social divisions, identity and inequality.

Morality, Bureaucracy and Performativity: The Past, Present and Future of Racialised Data

Skinner, D.
(Anglia Ruskin University)

The continued relevance of phobia to the social sciences is indicated by its use as a metaphor for discrimination (e.g. xenophobia, homophobia) and by its often implicit relation to other concepts (trauma, abjection, emotion, affect…). However, spite of the growing literature on specific manifestations of phobia, notably agoraphobia and claustrophobia, comparatively little substantive conceptual attention has been paid to the use of phobia as a metaphor for discrimination. Critiques of the utility of terms such as Islamophobia have generally proceeded from reductive descriptivist assumptions concerning the origins of modern ideas of phobia, while their contrasting invocations are frequently apodictic, as though simply to name a phenomenon as phobic perfectly describes why it is so. In this paper I will engage conceptually with the use of phobia as a metaphor for discrimination, drawing upon genealogies of two distinct uses (xenophobia and Islamophobia) to explore the epistemic conditions under which it makes sense to speak of discrimination as phobia, the work of phobia as a naming for particular modes of discrimination, and the effects, limits and possibilities of such a naming. This will enable me to engage with a wider question concerning the ethical challenges presented by difference and responses to difference in post-political and supposedly post-racial times. This paper therefore deals with theoretical approaches to social divisions, identity and inequality.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 3

Diaspora, Migration and Transnational Identities

Stigma: Revisiting Goffman’s Theory of ‘Spoiled Identities’ in the Eastern European Roma Populations in Derby and Beyond

Henry, P.
(University of Derby)

Against a backcloth of over a thousand years of discrimination, oppression, segregation and latent neo-Nazi violence the Roma of the Czech Republic and Slovakia form part of a significant shift in east west migration (albeit within the European Union) to the UK. The impact on housing, education, employment, and local authority services has raised alarm in some parts of the UK and with government taking a largely myopic stance on service delivery in what they see as freedom of movement, how is this twenty-first century phenomenon impacting?

Moreover what is the experience of the migrant and what is motivating their journey to the west and their eventual settlement? Does a spoiled identity historically, transpose into stigma born out of the label associated with a Roma ethnicity, and will that effect and continue to spoil in their search for a better life? Research conducted in the city of Derby and elsewhere in the UK reflects the realities of inward migration and raises complex questions for the future of the new arrivals and settled communities, both locally and in terms of its impact on existing policy and people.

Barber, T.
(Oxford Brookes University)

The growing scholarship on ‘super-diversity’ has included an increasing focus on questions of identity, belonging and the visibility of difference (Knowles 2013, Gidley 2013, Wessendorf 2013). Britain is now considered ‘super-diverse’ not only because of the increasingly diverse make-up of the population but also because all Britons are expressing their identities in more and more ways (Fanshawe and Sriskandarajah 2010, Vertovec 2012). However, greater attention to the identifications through which these encounters are approached and the differential capacities of particular voices to participate in super-diversity, has been rightly hailed by Valentine (2008). This raises questions such as ‘how is this new diversity encountered, perceived and performed?’ and ‘how does the proliferation and complexity of markers of visible difference play out in everyday encounters to shape perceptions of who can belong and who cannot?’.

This paper addresses these questions by exploring the everyday encounters of young British-born Vietnamese in ‘super-diverse’ London. As a relatively invisible group, the British-born Vietnamese are frequently misidentified in their everyday encounters and instead ‘pass’ in various different ways as Chinese, Japanese, or ‘Oriental’. Drawing upon primary interview data and participant observation the paper argues that forms of Vietnamese passing challenges more ‘celebratory’ readings of ‘super-diversity’ by concealing and de-politicizing difference, erasing Vietnamese voices rather than allowing for their proliferation. The paper thus considers whether practices of passing may be becoming more common in ‘super-diverse’ societies.

Transnational Religious Ties and Integration: An Unhappy Couple?

Pasura, D.
(Middlesex University)

Transnationalism is often considered being the anti-thesis of integration and therefore, the extent to which transnational religious organisations are enmeshed within local contexts is less understood. This paper contributes to this discussion by examining the internal dynamics of the Zimbabwean Catholic congregation in Birmingham which is embedded in a mixed congregation. The chapter illustrates how migrants underpin their transnational religious ties by consuming homeland products, expressed differently by celebrating mass in vernacular languages, wearing of religious uniforms and the playing of African drums as well as their desire to transform existing religious communities. As the paper argues, migrants can integrate into the British society without having to give up on their ethnic, national and religious identities and practices. It can be argued that Zimbabwean Christians in Britain view transnational religious ties not only as an instrument to overcome hostile conditions in the hostland but also as a strategy for integration.

Culture, Gender and Crime: A Transatlantic Perspective

Cano, V.
(University of Sheffield)

America’s experience with immigration in the United States has waxed and waned throughout history. The racialization of Latin Americans, due to social and political oppression, has disenfranchised both adult migrants and their families. Children of Latin American migrants are at a unique disadvantage due to resettlement factors and later generations do not fare any better experiencing low social mobility and educational attainment and high involvement in crime. Latina girls experience distinctive challenges due to conflicting gender roles from their parent’s culture and American society. While England promotes multiculturalism recent events have highlighted an underlying tone of disapproval towards mass migration from Europe. Concurrently the Latin American population in England has grown considerably. Latino families are migrating not only from Latin America but Europe and with that migration trajectory young Latinas are constantly re-negotiating their identities between the influences of their parents’ culture and dominant society. In view of established theories addressing acculturation and ethnic identity and delinquency in America and the absence of theoretical models that speak to the effects of culture adherence and transfer on delinquency among minority girls, my paper aims to address three central issues surrounding culture and offending in both England and America: How do Latin American girls’ and their parents’ negotiate their ethnic identities in both countries? Does ethnic identity impact delinquency involvement? And lastly, whether ethnic identity is subject to deconstruction in adult migrants?
Intersectionalities of Youth and Indigeneity in Chile

Webb, A., Radcliffe, S.
(University of Cambridge)

In recent decades studies of identity formation among ethnic minority youth have focused on experiences of otherness related to criminal subculture, racism, indifference toward civic participation and acculturation tendencies among immigrant populations (Berry et al. 1987; Phinney 1990; Bucholtz 2002). Racialized curriculum and racially-segregated labour markets make the transition to adulthood subject to civic exclusion (Brah 1996; Gillborn 2006). Within these parameters, research has increasingly focused on youth agency and non-linear paths to adulthood (Evans and Furlong 1997; Valentine 2003), raising questions about the consequences of intersections between ethnic-racial identities and youth for senses of belonging, trajectories into adulthood, and shifting youth attitudes to future opportunity.

This paper explores these issues in relation to Chile, where racial categories are constructed around colonial histories of oppression, social division, and nation-building projects aspiring toward a whitened ideal. However, indigenous minority youth articulate and re-work racialized forms of everyday belonging (Lister et al. 2003; Brubaker et al. 2006) in relation to shifting employment, civic and national fields of meaning. Our qualitative research demonstrates that indigenous youth seek forms of economic, civic and national belonging in ways that differ from older indigenous generations, and national ideologies of difference. Addressing the intersectionalities of youth and indigeneity among the Mapuche, the paper explores how racial categories of belonging are re-worked into aspirations to become ethnic citizens within Chile’s neoliberal markets. Following youth pathways to adulthood, we argue that intersecting negotiations with ethnic identities contain important consequences for Chile’s present and future race relations.

Nihilism and the New Circuits of Urban Multiculture in Outer East London

James, M.
(City University London)

This paper is an ethnographic exploration of one YouTube grime video made in the summer of 2010 by a group of young people living in London Borough of Newham. Through engaging with the video’s principle theme of nihilism, it explores the shifting racial and multicultural formations of urban Britain and outer East London. This is achieved through a discussion of nihilism as a located discourse in the UK and outer East London, and through an engagement with the video’s performances of nihilism. The paper argues that shifting discourses and performances of nihilism point to new formations of race and multiculture in urban Britain. In particular they highlight contemporary forms of racialisation, new configurations of anti-sociability and sociability, and the possibilities and pitfalls of digital diaspora.

Colours and Curves: Racial distinctions in desires for weight loss

Appleford, K., Cappel, C.
(Kingston University London)

Over the last 30 years authors across the social sciences have suggested that western beauty is idealised and racialised (Craig, 2006; Bordo, 1993; Chapkis, 1986; Hills-Collins 2000; Omni and Winant 1994). According to Maxine Craig (2006: 163) ‘racism is inherent in dominant beauty standards’, favouring thin, fair skinned white women, over ‘ugly’, ‘fat’ black women who are commonly depicted as hypersexual, amoral, or, not least, something ‘other’. Despite ‘mainstream standards of thinness’ however, authors often argue that African-Americans tend to appreciate heavier figures (Chithambo and Huey, 2013; Evans an McConnell, 2003; Molloy and Herzberger, 1998), and are generally more likely to have high self-esteem even if over-weight.

But as the ‘thin ideal of beauty becomes more widely disseminated’ and representations of black women assimilate with notions of white western beauty, others have suggested that a cultural change is afoot, and that there is an increased desire amongst black women to lose weight. The purpose of this paper then, is to explore these ideas in the context of British women who are enrolled on weight loss programmes. Based on pilot research, which explores women’s motivations for weight loss within slimming organisations and church groups, the research examines racial differences in women’s notion of beauty and in their desire to lose weight.
Satisfaction with Social Care: The Views of South Asian and White Service Users

Khambhaita, P., Willis, R., Evandrou, M. Pathak, P. 
(University of Southampton)

National surveys indicate that black and minority ethnic (BME) respondents report lower levels of satisfaction with social care services when compared with white respondents. Examining the reasons for such differences is a necessary step in improving the provision of services for BME users. This paper draws on findings from a research project funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR SSCR) on the acceptability of and satisfaction with social care among South Asian groups. In-depth interviews were conducted with South Asian and White British users of social services, and with social care practitioners. The aim of the interviews was to compare the reasons for low or high satisfaction among the two ethnic groups.

The research is a two year case study of Southampton, Portsmouth and Hampshire and has a particular focus on social care for older people. Emerging themes in the findings include interpersonal problems with staff members, an expectation that food would be inappropriate, misconceptions around eligibility, a lack of trust and a cultural stigma from extended family and wider community members around accessing social care services. Practitioners were apprehensive about culturally sensitive behaviour, but service users reported that their priority was the continuation of services in the light of funding restrictions. The study results will facilitate gaining a greater understanding as to why South Asian groups report lower satisfaction with social care services. This will contribute to the more informed design of appropriate services in social care.

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ROUNDTABLE 26, SPORTS HALL 2

Girls in the Gang: Agency and Roles – A New Interpretation

Harding, S.  
(Middlesex University)

The role of girls and young women in the violent urban street gang has always been contested. They are generally thought to play a secondary role as also-rans, used and abused by the male gang members. If indeed their role is ever recognised they are mostly relegated to that of auxiliary or conducting what might be called ‘back-office’ functions. Such definitions deny them agency and fail to clarify their real role within the gang environment as anything other than being considered a ‘Wifey’ or a ‘Sket’. However are these narrow representations accurate or helpful? By using a fresh approach of field analysis it is possible to consider this in a whole new way. This paper suggests girls and young women have much more agency than first thought; that they play key roles within the gang and that their key roles are linked to their use of social skill. Indeed social skill can elevate them from the ordinary member. Built upon a foundation of trust, social skill is a key function, whose absence brings risks. When absent, some young women may switch to sexual strategies to maintain their place in the gang. This strategy is however fatally flawed and leads them towards multiple victimisation.

‘What on Earth is She Drinking?’ Classed Identities and (In)appropriate Femininity on a Girls’ Night Out

Nicholls, E.  
(Newcastle University)

It is widely recognised in sociological debates around gender and femininity that only certain manifestations of femininity are deemed appropriate, with the construction of successful feminine identities achieved in part through the projection of negative values onto other bodies. Through processes of ‘othering’, working-class women have long been labelled as excessive, immoral, vulgar and hyper-sexualised, in contrast to the respectable, middle-class self. However, this may be changing as the contemporary boundaries of femininity and sexuality shift, particularly in spaces such as the Night Time Economy, where a certain degree of sexualisation may be expected and the ‘rules’ of appropriate dress and behaviour may be different to other everyday situations.

This paper engages with these key debates and presents emerging findings from my ongoing ESRC-funded PhD research on the ways in which the boundaries of (in)appropriate femininity are shaped and managed through everyday, embodied practices on a ‘girls’ night out’ in North-East England.

Drawing on 26 recently completed, in-depth interviews with young women in Newcastle, this paper provides insights into the ongoing construction of particular classed (in)appropriately feminine identities. For example, cheap, hyper-
sexualised dress, excessive drunkenness and ‘manly’ drink choices, frequenting undesirable venues and vulgar or unladylike behaviour - such as fighting - are all associated with spoilt, working-class feminine identities. Participants frequently distance themselves from these so-called ‘chaavers’ or ‘slags’ through drawing on notions of disgust and taste; however there is also evidence of local resistance to this demonisation through some participants’ self-identification as proud, working-class Geordie women.

Young People’s Perspectives on Change and Continuity in Post-conflict Northern Ireland

Smith, A.
(University of Aberdeen)

This paper focuses on part of my PhD research which looks at identity and social change among young people in Northern Ireland. Northern Ireland saw sustained political violence for over 30 years, ending in a peace agreement in the late 1990’s. My research focuses on young people who were born around this time and who are part of the first generation to have grown up in post-conflict Northern Ireland.

Fieldwork was carried out using a multi-sited ethnographic design in locations throughout Belfast and Derry-Londonderry. The sites reflected the social geography of Northern Ireland, and controlled for class and gender. Data was mainly collected through recorded interviews.

It is perhaps not surprising to find that young people perceive big changes in Northern Irish society. The biggest changes are in politics and in some aspects of social life. However, there remain a number of issues that have continued. Unemployment is seen as a bigger issue to young people than traditional issues such as sectarianism, which in some places has come to be seen as part of life. Traditions such as parading, and religiously-segregated schooling has also continued. The importance of religion has declined but this in contrast to a continued adherence to religiously defined identities. The results I have found throw light onto the ways in which young people, with no previous experience of past conflict, understand the past and navigate the post-conflict environment in a time of intense social transition in this corner of the United Kingdom.

‘Teenage kicks’ in the Post-conflict City

Johnson, P.
(Queen’s University, Belfast)

Teenagers living in Belfast are growing up during a period of marked transition. While the discourse of ‘post’ conflict remains premature, Northern Ireland is attempting to move into a post-conflict era. However, ethno-national identifications continue to interlace conceptions of self and other. The purpose of this paper is to draw upon focus group interviews with 14-15 year old Belfast teenagers to uncover the manner in which young people continue to (re)negotiate identity and space within a divided society. On the one hand, vague stylistic classifiers were entangled with taken-for-granted prejudices concerning the presumed abnormality of the ‘other’ to label differing communal collectivities. Sectarianism and territoriality strongly impacted upon the use of space. Yet, at the same time, broader subcultural and generational identifications also interacted to pattern spatial strategies which, in turn, provided the context within which teenagers performed alternative versions of self and other. As such, although the respondents were actively engaged in the micro-level creation of their own distinctions, their constructs of self and other were not totally at odds with wider societal trends.

A Moshography: Experiencing the Intersections of Heavy Metal Embodiment

Riches, G.
(Leeds Metropolitan University)

The moshpit is a dynamic space that emerges and is shaped by the movements of audience members as they sporadically collide with one another at a live metal music performance. Moshpits are socially constructed spaces in front of the stage where headbanging, crowd surfing, stage diving, body slamming, and aggressive pushing are encouraged and contained. Framed by a feminist poststructural (Aitchison, 2003; Butler, 1990) and non-representational (Thrift, 2007) theoretical lens, the research highlights the importance of social practices in their production of lived spaces. This paper, which draws upon my larger ethnographic doctoral research project, focuses

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on my methodological approach which gets at the messy, embodied intersections between class, gender, subcultural identity, space and physical practices. A ‘Moshography’ as a metaphorical, methodological practice aims to capture the visceral, raw and corporeal facets of subcultural participation and practice. It is also a methodological and theoretical entree into larger debates regarding space, gendered identities and embodied practices. By using my body as a tool of inquiry and as a way to access the field, my research responds to and is part of the wider ‘affective’ shift from research about bodies to research through bodies. Villa (2011) argues that embodiment is as such intersectional in its practice and that identities are expressed on and through the body. The challenge, then, is to not just think intersectionally (Watson & Scraton, 2013) but to experience all the complexities of identity construction and performance as it is lived out in spaces of the now.

Social Inequalities in the Networked Era: Examining the Case of the ‘Unexpectedly Digitally Included’

Eynon, R. (University of Oxford)

In Britain, policy makers promote the Internet as a means to facilitate social mobility, through the provision of access to a wider range of learning, employment, networking and informational opportunities. Yet, research demonstrates that the Internet reinforces social inequalities. Individuals from better-off backgrounds tend to benefit far more from using the Internet than the less well-off.

At a time when many are concerned about growing social inequalities, and services and support are increasingly moving online, this presentation aims to re-examine this problem by focusing research on a largely ignored group of adults who despite being from less well-off backgrounds appear (based on survey data) to be successfully using the Internet to improve their circumstances.

Using data from the 2013 Oxford Internet Survey (OxIS), a nationally representative survey of how the British population access and use the Internet, this paper will identify and explore the characteristics of these individuals, the ‘unexpectedly digitally included’, and based on this information propose why members of this group use the Internet ‘against the odds’ - with a particular focus on more capital enhancing activities.

The analysis will add to the discussion on the relationships between digital and social exclusion and is designed to provide a useful quantitative framework for the second qualitative phase of the research that is planned for April 2014. Ultimately, it is intended that the findings of this study may assist in the development of policies and practices that seek to support digital inclusion.

Unveiling Struggles and Social Identity of Children of Sex Workers in Bangladesh


The paper bases on findings of a research project titled ‘Liberation and Empowerment: Attaining Dignity and Rights for Sex Workers and their Children in Bangladesh (LEADR)’. Applying explorative approach with qualitative and quantitative data collection methods, the study conducted its field research in two largest brothels (in terms of number of sex workers live) in Bangladesh. Findings illustrate that in Bangladesh, there are a number of governmental and non-governmental organizations who have been working for the development of children of sex worker’s (CSW) through a ‘Safe Home’ model. The children who receive supports from such organizations, to some extent can fulfill their basic needs and get developmental opportunities. However, the way society operates undermine the CSW and limit their rights as citizen. The study unveils that the society is still very skeptical to accept the CSW; even though many organizations are running several awareness campaigns and motivational activities. It is evident that the CSW encounter indicative comments about their identity, receive caring statement repeatedly which makes them down and limited resources for their development. Hence, the paper concludes that even though development interventions have created a space for the CSW, but a holistic approach is missing that could reshape the social perception about CSW. In addition, opportunity for more interaction with community people needs to be strengthened for mainstreaming the CSW in Bangladesh.
‘Prevent’ing Education: Anti-Muslim Racism and the War on Terror in Schools

Miah, S.
(University of Huddersfield)

Since the events of the 2001 riots, 9/11 and the terrorist attacks in London in 2005, we have witnessed a policy debate on integration of Muslim communities within a heightened security context. These policy debates on racialised minority groups have coincided with the emergence and popular appeal of a ‘new British fascism in the form of the English Defence League.

This paper will focus on the dichotomy between the rhetorical discourse of ‘post racism’, and the securitised governance of racialised minority groups within the context of education and schooling. It further demonstrates how the national meta-discourse of Muslims as a ‘pariah group’ as informed through the ‘Bush years’ shapes the experiences of anti-Muslim racism within schooling. The first section of this paper will explore the robust educational policy imperative which has emerged during the last decade and has attempted to address the ‘Muslim question’ through ethnic integration, segregation and de-radicalisation policies. Major security events at an international and domestic level have given way to policy approaches attempting to address the ‘Muslim question’ by pathologizing Muslims. The second section will draw on empirical data and highlight the framing of Muslims at a national level informs the experiences of anti-Muslim racism within schools. It concludes by arguing that, since the publication of the MacDonald Enquiry into Murder in the Playground over 20 years ago, the experience of racism continues to shape the experience of Muslims in the UK.

Constructing Change: Women in Educational Leadership in Greece

Papanastasiou, E.
(London Metropolitan University)

It is commonly held that women are under-represented in leadership positions in the education sector, even though they constitute the majority of the teaching workforce. Women face a number of ‘barriers’ in their way to educational leadership. This paper aims to discuss what women and men head teachers and teachers in Greek Primary Schools assume that the future holds for women in educational leadership in Greece. Design/methodology/approach – This paper is part of a larger study regarding the under-representation of women in educational leadership in Greece. The original study, conducted in 2011, examined in depth the professional experiences of 40 male and female primary head teachers and teachers from schools located in different districts of the Greek continent. Semi-structured interviews were used to guide the original research and the results were analysed using a feminist social constructionist approach. Similar to Skrla’s study, all participants were provided with opportunities to reflect on their experiences as primary head teachers and teachers. Findings - Both men and women suggest that change can happen and that women’s participation in leadership can be increased. Several factors were identified as being very important to women for this to happen: women’s responsibility to implement change; changes that should be implemented by state (i.e. positive action for women, help with children responsibilities) and social change is probably necessary. Finally, there were participants who claimed that there should be no change or that change could not be achieved.

Mundane Materialities: Exploring the Sensory Life of Objects, Signs and Stuff in the Workplaces of a UK University

Taylor, C., Kellock, A.
(Sheffield Hallam University)

This paper focuses on the mundane material objects, signs and stuff with which we share our days in the space of the university. It does so in order to ask the following questions:

• What do mundane objects, such as mugs, coasters and things we put on our desks, do in educational workplaces?
• What work do handwritten or typed signs do to produce affective engagements and provoke particular practices?

• Why do we collect, keep and fill our offices with stuff, such as coursework, handbooks and used flipchart paper?

The paper discusses findings from a project called ‘Borrowed Spaces: A Multisensory Exploration of Workplace Territories’ to explore how attending to the apparently inconsequential life of objects, signs and stuff in university spaces can disclose important insights about gender, identity, power and space. The project developed a sensory methodology to explore staff perceptions of workspaces through engagements with material artefacts. The paper draws on a range of data to develop an interdisciplinary theorization which brings together understandings of objects and matter from material culture (Bissell 2009; Miller 2010), analyses of space which originate in human geography (Hubbard et al. 2004; Massey 2005), and post-human material feminist theorizations of matter, intra-activity and entanglement (Barad 2007, Bennett 2010). We use Miller’s (2010: 4) view that ‘the best way to understand, convey and appreciate our humanity is through attention to our fundamental materiality’ as a springboard for elaborating an innovative account of objects, space and workplace practices in the university.

Applying Bourdieu’s Theoretical Concepts to Contemporary Secondary Education in Japan

Iso, N., Aizawa, S.
(Osaka University)

In this presentation, we point out the major difficulties for the application of Bourdieu’s theoretical concepts to secondary education in Japan and then examine alternative possibilities for its application. The Japanese reception of Bourdieu reflects the characteristics of Japanese society at that time and the reactions of sociologists. The examination of these Japanese experiences will raise important questions concerning the international reception of Bourdieu: how canonical Western culture is transformed into cultural capital associated with Japan, how the Japanese social space and its principles of differentiation are different from those of the French and the British, and how the formation of different capitals in Japan depends on transnational social processes.

We examine these theoretical questions from two viewpoints. First, we introduce the major characteristics of Japanese secondary education compared to the British and French systems. In Japan, schools are often responsible for the cultural activities students engage in after and outside school. The Japanese meritocracy has been closely involved with cultural activities conducted by schools. The second viewpoint comes alongside the first one; the composition of capitals in the Japanese social space is essentially a matter of economic capital and not very much of cultural capital. Does this mean that Japanese society is dominated by the economic principle alone? Our answer is ‘no’. To show why, we redefine ‘cultural capital’ in the Japanese context and raise theoretical questions about the manifestation of Bourdieu's ideas in non-European society.

The Forks of Law: Structure and Agency in Australian Postgraduate Pre-admission Practical Legal Training

Greaves, K.
(Deakin University)

This research investigates how Australian lawyers that teach or mentor in practical legal training engage with scholarly activities around their teaching work. The presentation discusses how Bourdieu’s and Passeron’s work on reproduction, habitus, and categories of capital, together with Bourdieu’s ‘Force of Law,’ contributes to the theoretical framework underpinning presenter’s qualitative research.

In Australia, those seeking admission to the legal profession must satisfy academic and practical legal training requirements. Practical legal training (‘PLT’) is usually completed at post-graduate level, and requires graduates to achieve ‘entry-level competency’ in ‘lawyers’ skills’, professional responsibility, ethics and other professional areas. PLT providers usually recruit lawyers with practice experience (‘PLT practitioners’) to deliver training. Some PLT providers are based at higher education institutions; others are stand-alone business enterprises. The statutory rationale underlying the PLT requirement is to protect clients and the administration of justice, and to assure the quality of legal services.

Whilst there is a long-established body of scholarly work in Australian legal education, there is a paucity of Australian research concerning scholarship of teaching and learning in PLT. By drawing on the theoretical framework informed by Bourdieu and Passeron, this study adopts the concepts of reproduction, habitus and categories of capital, to generate insights about the motivation and capacity of PLT practitioners to engage with scholarly activities around their teaching work, and the symbolic and actual resources that PLT providers supply for this purpose.
Between Religion and Secularity: The Analysis of the Gezi Park Protests in Turkey

Celik, E.
(Keele University)

The presentation will examine the interaction between secularity and Islam as understood and experienced by the young people of Turkey. It also examines changing conditions of Islamism and secularism in the country. I address the main subject of my thesis through the Gezi Park protests in Istanbul. When the protests took place, in May and June 2013, Turkish society generally, and religious people in particular, were very uncertain as to the exact nature of the Gezi Park protests. Observing developments through the various media including social media, much of the population was unsure whether the protesters were engaged in democratic action against the government and some of its policies, or whether theirs was an objection rather to the religious identity of the prime minister and the religious people who he particularly represents. Was religion the main issue, and the Islamic revival in the country? And were these protests headed for another 28th February crisis in Turkey, with who-knows-what consequences for the traditionally religious population? Did these protests demonstrate that religion cannot co-exist with secularity, and that there is a deep-rooted and irresolvable tension between religious and secular Muslims in Turkey? Analysing the data from the in-depth interviews I did during the protests with both the protesters and the people who were against protests, and the observations I made in the field in Istanbul, I try to answer the aforementioned questions.

Battle for the Minds of Our Youth: Importing America’s Culture War into Britain’s Faith Schools?

Kirkland, K.
(University of St Andrews)

British society is often typified within the media and academia as ‘post-Christian’, with many Christians following a ‘nominal faith’, and increasing numbers choosing no religious identification, the ‘nones’. Though Christianity’s authority and centrality to daily life have declined, with the Church of England ‘retreating from the political’ in recent years rather than court secular controversy; the role of Christianity and faith schools remains a wedge issue between the religious and the secular.

Around a third of Britain’s twenty-thousand state-funded schools are faith schools, 99% are Christian. Increasingly they are viewed as a battleground between the secular and sacred, a test of the bounds of acceptable religious education in an increasingly plural and secular society. As the Bishop of Oxford, Rt. Rev. John Pritchard recently argued, ‘faith schools and education are now being used as a “proxy” over whether religion should have a place in public life’. The arguments are well versed, advocates argue they boost academic performance, secularist critics see them as unfair and socially divisive even elitist for their intake practices. Within education there is now a ‘battle for the minds of our youth’ between the secular and sacred, a division that appears to be deepening with the import of lobbying tactics and Christian curriculum from America.

This paper therefore evaluates the secular-sacred split over faith schools, the import and impact of American evangelical education strategies and curriculum on Christian faith schools, and whether Britain has imported culture war?

Faith and Social Integration of Young British Muslims in Changing Society: Identity Management and Knowledge Resources

Adachi, S.
(Institute of Education, University of London)

In Britain recently, the rise in the number of youth identifying with Islam has been publicly reported. In some cases, it has been argued that such identification with Islam prevents young Muslims from integrating into the wider society. The academic literature on young Muslims refutes such assumptions and instead describes a more complex relationship between the Muslim identity and social integration. However, few previous studies have investigated the resources that young Muslims use to manage their complex identities and how they reconcile the notion of being Muslim with being British. On the basis of interview data, this presentation investigates the way of identity management focusing on knowledge resources that they use in the process of integration. The analysis demonstrates that the research participants differentiate themselves from the older generation by displaying that they are more knowledgeable about Islam. This means that young Muslims distinguish Islam from cultural conventions that are often recognised as undemocratic, and prefer to follow the teachings of Islam. The data also show that the participants
welcome the increase in the number of religious institutions in communities and the use of information technology. These developments make it easier for young Muslims to ‘research Islam’ and to be knowledgeable about its teachings. Further, this promotes flexible interpretations of the Qur’an and enables their adaptation to modern life as Muslims. Overall, this presentation will contribute to the theoretical discussion on the ‘hybridity’ of identity in reflexive modernity and to the practical debate on young British Muslims’ integration.

Sociology of Religion 2
ROUND TABLE 31, SPORTS HALL 2

Religious Peacebuilding as Emancipatory Peacebuilding: The Recovery of Social Memory by the Diocese of Quibdó (Colombia)
Ríos, S.M.
(University of Aberdeen)

This paper studies the role of religion in the construction of social memory after violence as a strategy of peacebuilding. The analysis takes some distance from mainstream literature on religious peacebuilding that considers religion as part of the ‘soft peacebuilding’ paradigm. The research focuses on strategies used by the Diocese of Quibdó (Colombia) for reinforcing bottom-up memorialisation activities aimed to broaden top-down measures of reparation and reconciliation. This paper argues that some practices of the local church are better explained in a framework of emancipatory peacebuilding. The case of the memorialisation efforts built around the massacre of Bojayá are relevant for explaining processes of bottom-up transitional justice when violence is still happening. This paper contributes to understanding the evolving role of religion in the public arena, particularly in marginal and poor social groups affected by violence.

Negotiating Identity and Ethos: The Unique Position of a Catholic Faith School in Modern London
Hanemann, R.
(University of Kent)

This research project focuses on questions about the position and identity negotiation of a Catholic secondary school in London. Situated amidst the liberal, Western, pluralistic society of modern, urban London, the school must meld together the surrounding social landscape with the education goals of the Vatican and the Catholic faith. This process of identity negotiation can be explored on several levels. Shifts in the social landscape of England require concurrent shifts in the way that the role of faith schools is understood and the topic is discussed. The debate surrounding faith schools centers on issues of community cohesion, fairness, multiculturalism, and individual autonomy. I will discuss the ways in which this debate and other aspects of the surrounding social framework of modern urban London influence many of the school’s decisions and its overall ethos. The school is required to follow the legal requirements of education in England, but its status as a Roman Catholic school requires that these legal requirements be merged with the educational demands of the Catholic Church. More than that, however, the school navigates a more nuanced process of identity formation as it attempts to transmit Catholicism successfully to students who are immersed in the surrounding liberal, multicultural society. I will explore the processes through which the school manages its various influences to develop a cohesive ethos and identity that it endeavors to transmit to its students.

Approaches to Religious Diversity in the Ismaili Muslim Religious Education Programme
Kadiwal, L.
(University of Sussex)

Current social, economic, cultural and political conditions have made pluralism a positive value today. Since religion continues to be an important political and social force, there is the need for discussing the role of religious communities in fostering religious pluralism in the global context. While the discussion may have bearing on different religious communities, the focus of the paper is on Ismaili Muslim community. Religious education has been a very important site for the debates concerning social cohesion in a pluralist society. Using qualitative research methods this empirical study examined the impact of an international religious teacher education programme offered by the Ismaili Muslim community in London on Ismaili Muslim students’ attitude towards religious diversity. Findings indicate that the Ismaili Muslim students were ‘selective pluralists’. At the beginning of the programme the participants viewed religious diversity positively on theological, humanistic and instrumental grounds but were selective about how they embraced it. After a year into the programme their attitudes seemed to be informed of academic perspectives resulting in
increased understanding of and openness towards religious diversity, while strengthening their identity as the Ismaili Muslims. As a minority within Islam, they continued to demonstrate selective pluralism characterised by ambivalence and instrumentalism.

Theory 1

ROUND TABLE 32, SPORTS HALL 2

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

Time and Theory: After Survival, for a Renewed Praxis of Social Theory

Frade, C.
(University of Salford)

This paper is an intervention in the debate on Big Data or the digital. Recognising the importance of engaging with what has become known as Big Data, I seek to re-situate the Big Data issue in a different theoretical perspective and to disrupt the debate around it.

The paper will show that the call to fully and inventively engage with the digital, or Big Data, is a strategic response which can be construed as a wager for survival of academic sociology, and that underpinning such a wager there lies a rather coherent, but essentially unstated, vision which involves ontological assumptions, epistemological and sociological assumptions and a whole stance. It is here that the paper will try to show how theory and critique are displaced by the current emphasis on method, and what the implications of this displacement are for a renewed social theory. In this connection, the paper will address the political economy of Big Data (a crucial issue left almost totally aside in the current debate) and will try to show through an ontological analysis how what is usually called ‘sociality’ is algorithmically divested of any communicative, symbolic and meaning value in order to transform it into Big Data amenable to produce economic value.

As is clear from the above, the paper also seeks to expound an alternative view. Thus, to the temporality of running after an endlessly changing time, I oppose the temporality of subjectivation, one able to subtract itself from both the supposedly inexorable progress of time and the presentist temporality of the online and now-casting. To the emphasis on method, I oppose a praxis, or a conduct of life, which comprises a collective dimension as well – a praxis encompassing and appreciative of method and methodological inventiveness, but involving action in the strong sociological sense of agency and not only as agencement or assemblage. To the risk of falling into resignation in view of the inevitability implied in the aforementioned ontology, the paper is also a call for a more combative social theory – one which is still able to feel disquiet in view of what is happening in our present times, but never abandons hope. Only such capacity for disquiet, for wonder and astonishment, I will argue, can provide the impulse for a renewal of social theory – the impulse which was at the origin of the discipline and has to be at the core of its renewal.

The Coming Crisis to Empirical Sociology: Losing Ethics to ‘Impact’

De Boise, S.
(University of York)

The need for ‘accountability’ has been used as a justification for the allocation of state funded research, for ‘social good’. This has included putting social research out to competitive tender on the grounds of ‘value for money’, ‘efficiency’ and, crucially, ‘impact’.

As Savage and Burrows (2007) note, commercial research poses a challenge to empirical sociology’s historical claims to specialised authority. However there are substantial problems with treating sociological and commercial research as similar enterprises, to be judged by metric assessment exercises. This is not only in terms of methodological rigour and research design, but also in the negation of broad questions of ethics.

Burawoy’s (2005) ASA address, amongst others, noted the worst excesses of ‘outcome’ driven sociological research, problematising the question of just who sets the agenda. This was particularly evident in the UK in 2011, where the AHRC was allegedly allocated funding in order to research ‘The Big Society’, begging the question: what or who is sociological research accountable to? Using Bauman’s (1994; 2000) conception of a critically humanist, ethical sociology - an idea that is often lost in the considerations of ethics committees - this paper intends to argue for sociology’s commitment to its subjects of inquiry, beyond narrowly-defined, instrumental conceptions of impact.
A Sociology for the 21st Century? An Enquiry into ‘Public Sociology’ Reading Zygmunt Bauman

Aidnik, M.
(University of Tallinn)

Michael Burawoy’s ‘public sociology’ presents a vision of engaged and political sociology as one of its legitimate branches. According to him, it is the 21st century social world with its increasing polarization and degradation, caused by unfettered global capitalism, that calls for a sociology that understands itself as a counter-force to these tendencies, and identifies with civil society, and its values such as critical debate and autonomy. Burawoy’s vision of public sociology that engages directly with different publics, for example labour movements, has received a lot of criticism; it has been seen as laden with left-wing ideology, proclaiming illusory moral unanimity, and undermining the discipline’s commitment to research, thus compromising its academic credentials. In my paper I will explore this topic further with a consideration of public sociology in light of Zygmunt Bauman’s social thought; one of the most acclaimed sociologists whose writings transcend academic readership. The paper will identify similarities between their understanding of sociology’s tasks, and its shortcomings, which will sediment public sociology’s cause. The main task of the dissertation is to augment public sociology from the point of view of Bauman’s writings on post/liquid modernity and his concern with ethics, and thereby increase its awareness of the ways in which contemporary societies call for sociological engagement. The paper will discuss the identity of a public sociologist through Bauman’s concept of a postmodern ‘interpreter’, which will be seen as illuminating for both political and sociological reasons.

Sociology for Optimists

Holmes, M.
(University of Edinburgh)

It can be argued that sociological pessimism is part of wider intellectual tendencies to consider optimists terribly nice, but a little bit dim. Being clever and critical is often associated with elaborating what is wrong with the world, whereas to argue that things may not always be so bad is typically thought naïve at best and complacent or stupid at worst. Sociology is often guilty of gloom and doom analyses of the state of the world. One of the major purposes of sociology is to examine the social world for flaws and to challenge saccharine and self-serving claims that individuals can succeed and enjoy if they really want to. Inequalities are rife and social problems immense and stubborn, but there are limitations to understandings that stop there. People get by, even in fairly awful conditions and sometimes they even manage to enjoy themselves. It seems a rather arrogant manoeuvre to suggest that this enjoyment is some sort of false consciousness, that they are cultural dopes, slaves to consumerism or trying to escape the ever present fear of risk. It is possible that sociologists are blind to certain aspects of everyday life (Kemple 2009). What does this do to the ‘promise’ of sociology (Back 2007; Mills 1959) and the ability of sociologists to make sense of the world and of how people make a way through it? Why and how might it be important to carefully consider the importance of firmly weaving an optimistic thread into the sociological imagination.

Theory 2

ROUNDTABLE 32, SPORTS HALL 2

VARIETIES OF SOCIAL THEORY

Sociological Theory and the Behavioural Economic Turn

Leggett, W.
(University of Birmingham)

This paper will offer a sociological critique of the increasingly influential account of human agency offered by the so-called New Behavioural Economics (NBE). This is an urgent task as NBE’s assumptions are becoming embedded in the social sciences and policy circles (eg the government’s Behavioural Insights Team, or ‘Nudge Unit’). However, the paper will also reflect on what sociology might learn from the behavioural economic turn. NBE presents itself as an advance on the discredited figure of homo economicus, and is most famously associated with Sunstein and Thaler’s bestselling account of ‘Nudge’. NBE claims to offer a more recognisably human model of the agent. It emphasises how we are subject to both impulsivity and inertia, and influenced by social norms and the ‘choice architecture’ which shapes our decision-making environments (eg the layout of a menu). While this model is indeed an advance on homo economicus, it would benefit from a much fuller appreciation of what sociological theory can offer. Specifically, NBE has a very limited grasp of ‘social norms’, and still ultimately holds on to the notion of a unified, utility maximising
Subject. However, sociology itself might draw on the more suggestive insights of NBE. In particular, NBE animates the ways in which apparently mundane, everyday settings are profoundly influential upon human decision-making. Perhaps inadvertently, NBE offers a potentially radical politicisation of how we view the contexts in which both ordinary and life-changing decisions are made.

**Stroke Acquired Impairments and the Creation of ‘Phantom’ Dispositions**

*Russell, S., Williams, B. Morris, J*  
*(Glasgow Caledonian University)*

Bourdieu’s concept of dispositions represents embodied history contained within the habitus capable of generating an array of semi-conscious practices and perceptions. Dispositions are also durable requiring conscious pedagogic effort to alter.

A stroke is a disruptive event which can result in physical and cognitive impairments and in turn rupture the learned dispositions of the habitus. Here dispositions are not changed due to a purposeful re-education the body. Rather, dispositions become threatened and altered by a sudden and catastrophic transformation within the body itself. Acquired impairments represent a disconnect between the body and the learned dispositions of the habitus exposing the complex interplay between the body, habitus and dispositions and the vital, yet vulnerable role the body plays within it.

Within this paper the phenomena of phantom limb will be used as a metaphor to discuss the experience of ‘phantom dispositions’ within the bodies of stroke survivors. For those who experience a phantom limb the limb is still subjectively felt yet has no existence in reality and therefore cannot function in reality. This lost limb has formed part of the individual’s history; knowledge of using the limb and ultimately what it meant to have the limb remains despite the individual’s inability to use it in reality. Similarly knowledge of dispositions remains within a stroke survivor’s habitus yet these dispositions cannot be realised in practice. The body ultimately denies the habitus the opportunity to actualise itself because certain dispositions are there but not there; phantasms both embodied and disembodied.

**Between Locke and Mauss: Possessive Individualism and Gift Exchange**

*Porter, T.*  
*(Keele University)*

This paper engages with Macpherson's theory of Possessive Individualism, arguing that when adjoined with Foucauldian ethics, this perspective offers fresh impetus to gift exchange theory.

Mauss’ classic essay on the gift made the now famous observation that objects exchanged as gifts, although appearing under a voluntary guise, may in fact be ‘strictly obligatory’. Mauss’ legacy is discernible in contemporary applications of gift exchange wherein the acts of giving and reciprocation are explained through normative notions of duty and obligation.

C.B. Macpherson’s seminal critique of liberal political theory traces the historical emergence of the free individual as inexorably linked to the advent of individual property rights; his reading culminates in a theory of ‘Possessive Individualism’. Accordingly, in the age of the Possessive Individual what it means to be human is i) propriety over one’s own person and capacities, and ii) freedom from dependence on the will of others.

This paper reconciles these seemingly incongruous perspectives through the application of Foucauldian ethics. From this position, morality is experienced not simply as duty or obligation, but as the ethical activity required to produce the Self as an ethical subject. This reading of morality frees gift exchange from the Maussian focus upon obligation, and posits gift exchange as a territory for the ethical production of Self and Others as Possessive Individuals.

**Looking Elsewhere: Howard S. Becker as Unwilling Social Theorist**

*Hughes, J.*  
*(University of Leicester)*

This paper centrally explores the idea of Howard S. Becker as a social theorist. It examines some of the principal conceptual imagery in Becker’s work, and considers the significance of this imagery for issues surrounding structure and agency. To this end, a critical comparison of Becker’s concept of world and Bourdieu’s concept of field is undertaken. By his own admission, Becker recognises that some of his key studies – of art worlds, jazz musicians, educational environments, and so forth – have ‘theoretical significance’. However, it is argued that Becker is something of an ‘unwilling’ social theorist; not in the sense that he avoids or is ignorant of the conceptual debates invoked by that term, but in as much as formal theory without object is profoundly at odds with key aspects of his sociological practice. To this end, the paper centrally considers how Becker has consistently ‘looked elsewhere’ in...
much of his sociological work. ‘Looking elsewhere’, it is proposed, involves reframing key conceptual and methodological problems such that they are amenable to research. It also involves an often radical rejection of the framing of certain kinds of problem, and points towards alternative modes of analysis and investigation. Ultimately, it is argued that the ‘model’ enshrined in Becker’s sociological work is intentionally not so much a conceptual one, but one of ‘doing sociology’ in ways which focus on innovation and insight. This is a model that raises fundamental question about the enterprise of social theory itself.

Work, Employment and Economic Life 1

Exploring Women’s Work Orientations in Contemporary Leeds

Kispeter, E., Yeandle, S.  
(University of Leeds)

The paper explores how women who combine employment and care work in the family experience and understand their paid work in a particular labour market, in the city of Leeds. The paper aims to contribute to research on women’s work orientations, which most often concentrates on the relation between mothering and paid work, by including the experience of women who care for an older, sick or disabled family member.

The analysis is based on data collected in focus groups and individual interviews carried out in the framework of the European Commission funded project titled FLOWS: The impact of local welfare systems on women’s labour force participation and social cohesion.

The primary focus of the analysis is on women’s understandings about (1) paid work, however women’s perspectives on (2) combining employment and care work, (3) sharing care tasks with partners/other family members and (4) the use of formal childcare / care services for older, sick or disabled adults are also taken into account.

We argue that although there are class-based differences in how women understand their paid work and negotiate employment and unpaid care work in the family, these do not mirror structural divisions between working and middle class. Rather, such differences refer to social identities in general and the development of ‘career’ as an identity in particular.

Changing Society: Women and Work/family Balance in the Middle East and North Africa

Mehdizadeh, N.  
(University of Bradford)

Women are potential agents for change and transformation in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA): quantitatively, women are a valuable human resource of economic growth and development, but women in the MENA region face a number of challenges. In the past few decades, in the countries of the MENA region, women’s level of education has increased dramatically and indeed, in many countries in this area, more women than men graduate from higher education institutions. However, although the rate of women’s labour market participation has risen in recent years, it does not adequately reflect the increase in educational level and remains low in comparison to the rest of the world. This paper will explore the reasons for this paradox, discussing the factors which explain it. Among these factors is the issue of work and family balance. This paper will use four case studies (Iran, Qatar, Tunisia and Turkey) to explore this issue and to make recommendations which could potentially improve the situation of women and families, and in turn assist in the socio-economic transformation of the MENA region.

Do Employment Policy Implementations in Germany Replicate or Challenge Couples’ Division of Labour in the Household?

Kopf, E., Zabel, C.  
(Institute for Employment Research)

A major unemployment and welfare benefit reform took place in Germany in 2005. One objective of this reform was to more strongly encourage an adult worker model of the family, with an emphasis on activating the formerly inactive. Our hypothesis is, however, that assignments to activation programmes, such as training or workfare, will in practice still tend to replicate patterns for the division of labour in the household that couples have become accustomed to. The views of case workers in employment offices and those of benefit recipients themselves about the division of labour in the household may influence the allocation process to labour market programmes. We classify couples based on each
partner’s cumulative income across the ten years prior to benefit receipt. We compare women’s programme entries between former male breadwinner households, dual earner households, no-earner households, and female breadwinner households. We analyze large-scale administrative data, applying event-history analysis. Our findings are that in western Germany, assignments to activation programmes do indeed replicate couples’ prior division of labour in the household. In eastern Germany, by contrast, women in former male breadwinner households are actually allocated to several programmes at higher rates than women in households without a clear former division of labour.

Gendered Talk: Strong and Silent or Remote and Peculiar

Butler, C.  
(Newcastle University)

This paper explores the nature of talk in the workplace and how the amount of talk relates to gender stereotypes. It considers the experiences of men and women who stammer and suggests that the women experienced greater exclusion in being women who didn’t like to chat. In performing outside the communicative norm, unlike the men who were sometimes classed as the ‘strong and silent’ type, the women were offered no such positive alternative; instead, they were considered to be remote, peculiar and unfeeling. Theoretically, this paper engages with the debates about gender stereotypes; and argues that the amount of talk is tied to a particular way of doing gender.

Work, Employment and Economic Life 2

Doing Objectivity

Flower, L.  
(Lund University)

Objectivity is viewed as central to many professions: it is the building block upon which fair and equal treatment, rational decision-making and legitimacy are based. It is associated with neutrality, impartiality, reflexivity, disinterestedness and above all, the detachment of emotional involvement. Consequently the subjectivity of objectivity is debatable. In order to untangle the subjective aspects of objectivity, this study will present how objectivity is created, learned and managed in a professional role. That is, how do we do objectivity? The methods and strategies employed to achieve this goal will be studied by focusing on a profession considered to be inherently objective and consequently unemotional: the legal profession. The emotional regimes created and utilised by law students and legal professionals will be explored using interviews and observations. Comparing and contrasting the results will enable the formation and development of an objective professional role to be mapped and analysed.

By uncovering the emotions hiding under the veneer of objectivity and by discussing the structural mechanisms involved in its creation and maintenance, a greater understanding of how we do objectivity will be garnered. In doing so, the possibility of a new concept, incorporating an awareness of the subjective, emotional processes involved in doing objectivity is opened up, that of (n)objectivity. This work has therefore implications for other professions where objectivity is central such as the police, journalism and social work along with other areas of decision-making.

To Fly, To Serve: Reframing Emotional Labour in the Airline Industry

Peyrefitte, M., Sanders-McDonagh, E.  
(Middlesex University)

Women working in the airline industry have long been a focus of academic attention. Arlie Hochschild’s (1979) important work on female cabin crew explored particular forms of labour recognizing the ways in which work could be emotional as well as physical. More recently, academic authors have noted how cabin crew are expected to cater to ‘demanding publics’ (Williams, 2003), delivering ‘quality service’ (Taylor and Tyler, 2000).

In parallel, there has been increased awareness of the ways in which women’s bodies are used as marketing tools within the leisure industry (Veijola and Jokinen, 1994; Mills, 1995; Pritchard and Morgan, 2000; Schellhorn and Perkins, 2004). In the increasingly competitive airline market, many companies continue to rely on objectifying images of women and the visual positioning of the female body as a way to promote a certain ‘image’ (Tyler and Abbott, 1998).
As such, we examine modes of labour production linking emotional labour with body work, as cabin crew strive to engage with the intensive corporeal work of fashioning their bodies to meet the prescriptive standards set out for them.

These issues will be examined through a visual and textual analysis of marketing and advertising materials, and importantly, through the Uniform and Grooming Standards Guides (issued to all cabin crew) for three international airlines. We will explore the impact of these standards on emotional labour and body work, as we suggest that this feminized and eroticized image of female cabin crew

The Spectrums of Humanity and Inhumanity in Workplace Relations: Exploring the Moral Economy of Employment through the Narratives of Migrants Working in Low Status and Low Paid Jobs in a Northern English Town

Ciupijus, Z.
(University of Leeds)

The concept of the moral economy was first introduced by Thompson (1971), who argued that social relations in employment are not solely based on the wage-nexus determined by the market but always involve an implicit normative element. This notion can be used to encapsulate the analysis of normative aspects of employment relations from the employees’ point of view. The paper draws its analysis from qualitative data collected through biographical and focus group interviews with migrants living in a Northern English town. The majority of interviewed migrants came from Central Eastern European backgrounds; however a number of participants came from outside the EU. The analysis is built around two main analytical categories: the humanity and inhumanity. Following the practice existing in grounded theory research (Charmaz, 2006), the categories originate from expressions directly coming from participants. The category of inhumanity refers to what is seen as unjust treatment and ethnically underpinned bulling, but also to the culture of managerial disrespect manifested in daily workplace interactions. Even when participants reconcile themselves to low status employment, they explicitly reject the dehumanization at the workplace. In contrast, the narrative of humanity points to mutually respective interactions between managers and workers as well as to actions of employees aimed to preserve one’s own dignity. The analysis of those narratives assists in moving the study of workplace relations towards the notion of the moral economy and highlights what labour migrants and employees more broadly expect from more humane employment relations.

Psychological Harassment Among Health Care Workers: What Can be Done?

Quinlan, E.
(University of Saskatchewan)

Psychological harassment among workers is a pressing occupational health and safety concern. No industrial sector is immune of harassment. However, in health care workplaces the prevalence of repeated, sustained aggressive behaviour toward another within an interpersonal relationship characterized by a differential in power is disproportionately high. The purpose of this paper is to increase the uptake and application of synthesized research results of interventions designed to address bullying among co-workers within health care workplaces. The paper uses a scoping review methodology to locate and review empirical studies involving interventions designed to address bullying in health care workplaces. The findings, based on reported interventions from three countries (UK, Australia, and Canada), indicate that available measures to capture intervention outcomes are limited and ethical dilemmas abound. Reported interventions include educative programming, bullying champions/advocates, and zero-tolerance policies. Evaluations of the reported interventions extended beyond bullying to include organizational culture, trust in management, retention rates, and psycho-social health of employees. The most promising reported outcomes were from participatory interventions. Increasingly, legislative instruments, collective agreements, and other regulatory mechanisms are being used to address bullying in health care workplaces. To be fully operative, the decision-makers involved in the associated policy development, training programs, and intervention implementation need to be supported with relevant information. The paper is one step towards meeting these knowledge needs. The results of the review make a compelling case for bullying interventions based on participatory principles.
Friday 25 April 2014 at 11:00 - 12:30  
**Paper Session 7**

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A REPORT ON THE STEP-CHANGES IN TRAVEL BEHAVIOUR PROJECT

In response to anthropogenic climate change and potential global resource shortages there is a widespread policy-oriented concern with how individuals and communities can reconfigure their everyday lives and adopt more ‘sustainable lifestyles’. According to this narrative, transport and mobility are central sites of necessary transformation and within the transport and planning fields there is a widespread acceptance of the need to enable more sustainable transport and travel systems and behaviour. What seems less clear is how this sustainable transport future can be realised. Transport modelling and planning often seem to rely on assumptions about the pre-determined nature and fixity of individual practices, which are often modelled as either the outcomes of rational choice or as individualised ‘habits’. Thus, there appears to be little understanding of either the contexts for ‘change’ or of its temporal dynamics. Nor is it clear that the more sociological literature on mobilities, where the predominant tendency is to focus on issues of spatiality, sufficiently addresses matters of temporality. In exploring this desire for positive change, and in attempting to understand the social and personal processes that might underpin change (or its absence), this panel will present material from the first wave of a qualitative longitudinal panel study that has collected life and mobility history narratives from 245 participants in Leeds and Manchester in northern England. Part of the larger multidisciplinary Step-Change project (http://www.changing-mobilities.org.uk), this panel study explores, amongst other things, changing travel and transport practices in the everyday and over personal and historical time.

The Time of Mobilities

Savage, M.
(London School of Economics and Political Science)

This opening paper will situate our work in the context of the varying notions of time at play in the new mobilities paradigm (NMP), a field often more explicitly concerned with spatial than temporal movement. Nonetheless, as also noted by Cresswell (2010), particular conceptions of time are at work in the NMP with, for instance, Urry arguing that the present state of mobility offers a radical break from the past. However, such depictions of rupture or epochal change are often vague about ‘duration’ and about when ‘the present’ begins. Elliot and Urry (2010) write of growth of mass travel and urbanisation across the whole of the twentieth century as a kind of present moment: this is modernity. But they also characterise the present through more recent markers, e.g. the post 1990s rise of individualised, spatially dispersed ‘person-to-person networks (enabled by communications technologies) and their eclipse of the geographically compact ‘door-to-door’ communities of the (unspecified) past. That is, historical events are sometimes presented as points in a sequence leading up to the present (and potentially an apocalyptic future), sometimes as creating an environment in which the present occurs, and sometimes as markers of a single present – a ‘modernity’ characterised by mass movement. Such broad characterisations of the present and the past are not especially helpful in addressing the complexities of specific, locally grounded, changes and continuities in travel and transport behaviour. Accordingly, this paper will outline the interventions which our focus on temporality offers the field of mobilities.

Mobility Biographies: A Narrative Perspective

Muir, S.A.
(University of Manchester)

This paper will introduce the methodological approach to the first wave of data collection in the innovative qualitative longitudinal panel study, which forms the empirical focus of the multidisciplinary Step-Change project (http://www.changing-mobilities.org.uk). The first wave involves eliciting life history narratives from interviews, alongside timelines and life diagrams, with 245 participants across the major urban conurbations of Leeds and Manchester. Our paper discusses how we are using these interviews to develop the concept of ‘mobility biographies’ (Frändberg 2008; Lanzendorf 2003; Scheiner 2008) emerging in transport studies; a model that appears to offer a number of possibilities for developing a broader understanding of the dynamics of travel behaviour. Specifically here we explore the potentials of bringing a more interpretive and narrative approach to the concept of mobility biographies, which thus far has relied on linear notions of time, on fixed transitions in the life course and a segmented approach to life stages. We focus on the ways in which life trajectories and personal histories of mobility, travel and transport
impact future behaviours through engaging both theoretically and empirically with the panel study data to examine how people’s decisions are embedded in shifting networks of relationships over time and in different dimensions of the life course.

**Moving Stories: Sickness, Trauma and Transport Planning**

*Moore, N.*  
*University of Manchester*

We have been struck by the number of trauma narratives, many of which revolve around serious illness, which have emerged in our interviews about travel and transport and everyday lives and life histories. While transport modelling begins to take on board the notion that ‘active travel’ may contribute to wellbeing, it is nonetheless the case that transport planning has historically not taken into account that people may get ill, and that this might have a bearing on transport, and transport planning. In keeping with definitions of trauma as a freeze-response, as opposed to fight or flight, and with literature on illness narratives and traumatic memory, which emphasise rupture and turning points, as well as repetition, return and forgetting, which disrupt efforts to produce progress narratives of coherent selves, our interviews similarly raise questions about the relationship between trauma and mobility in multiple registers. At the same time, other developments in mobility, around methods, have suggested a need for mobile methods, and there has been a movement to take methods on the move, doing walking interviews, using mobile phone data, doing ethnographies of travel and journeys and so on. This paper will draw on interviews to explore the multiple mobilities and lack of mobilities which the project is tracing through eliciting stories of travel and transport with a view to offering interventions into the assumptions about mobility and wellbeing which permeate both transport planning and some recent debates about research methodology.

**(Ir)rational Transport Actors: Everyday Travellers and Pricing the Ticket to Ride**

*Miles, A.*  
*University of Manchester*

Drawing on the transport and travel narratives of our panel respondents, this paper explores the ways in which people’s understandings of the relative utility and expensive of bus, tram, train and car transport are fundamentally rooted in personal biographies and the relations, habits and exigencies of everyday life. Against conventional transport studies assumptions of individuals as rational economic actors, the standardisation of time and money, and trade-offs between time and costs in decision-making processes, we explore the everyday economics of travel and transport. While efforts to generate alternative travel demand frameworks often rely on creating configurations that better reflect actual travel behaviour, or work against experimental models which demonstrate alternative structures to decision-making processes, in this paper we focus on people’s day-to-day understandings of and concerns about the costs of travel. In the context of taking everyday travel and transport seriously, we explore (a) the vernacular languages and practices of economics that participants bring to the negotiation of complex pricing structures, which are not easily compared across transport modes; (b) what kinds of lay, biographically informed, knowledges and expertise are brought into play in everyday travelling processes of travel, and (c), How might a better understanding of the everyday economics of the lived experience of travel and transport improve efforts to model travel demand?

**Culture, Media, Sport and Consumption**

**CONFERENCE AUDITORIUM 2**

**Bottom Pinching and ‘Podium Girls’: Peter Sagan and the Articulation of Masculinity in Road Cycling**

*Godoy-Pressland, A.*  
*University of East Anglia*

Whannel (2007) states that hegemonic masculinity oppresses women and this oppression is never more present than in sport. Male dominance in sport has previously encompassed the reporting of and participation in elite sports. Sports media scholars have recognised the under-representation and marginalisation of sportswomen by mainstream media. However, in the last decade studies have found increasing levels of equality for female athletes in media coverage. But is the changing mediascape reflective of the behaviour of male athletes? And how does traditional masculinity function in relation to this changing world?
Road cycling epitomises sporting masculinity in mainland Europe. The articulation of hegemonic masculinity is framed in the wider context of gender in cycling. Connell (1971) argues that masculinity cannot be understood without considering its relationship to femininity. The marginalisation of female road cyclists, discourses of sexism within the sport and decorative ‘podium girls’ re-produce gender binaries alongside hegemonic masculinity.

Peter Sagan’s bum-pinching moment at the Tour of Flanders in 2013 articulates clearly the on-going embodiment and performance of hegemonic masculinity in road cycling. This podium ‘moment’ provides an insight into the hyper-masculine world of road cycling and gives an opportunity to reflect on a traditional sport where gender roles are defined and continue to exist in an otherwise changing world. This paper will address the Peter Sagan bum-pinching moment in relation to gender roles and the media reaction to it.

**Female Football Players in England: Research Design in the Development of a Narrative for Women’s Football**

*Themen, C.*  
(University of Liverpool)

This paper examines the ways in which female football players negotiate and contest gender conventions practiced in English football. I look at female participation using Bhabha’s ‘third-space’ thesis, and argue that third-space has utility in the development of a narrative for women’s football that is demonstrative of complexities and nuances ordinarily ignored by gendered discourse performed in English football culture. In order to generate a context that will make space for women’s narratives, I index the research design to a standpoint epistemology. I explain how this informs both my own reflexive position and that of my research participants. I use open interviewees with women who have, or are still currently playing football, across an age range of 17-45 and address emergent themes to understand how gendered discourses are interpreted, relative to the grounded experiences of female football players. With the emergence of a narrative drawn from interviews, I use it as a critical voice which arises in two key areas. Firstly, the extent to which interviewees are complicit articulating adherence dominant gendered discourses, and secondly, the agency of players to actively contest gender conventions practiced in English football culture and broader implications for the development of the women’s game.

**Pink Gloves and Black Eyes: Constructions of Femininity among British Female Kickboxers**

*Channon, A., Phipps, C.*  
(University of Greenwich)

Drawing on interview data taken from two separate research projects (one conducted in the English East Midlands, the other with participants based throughout the UK), this paper discusses British female kickboxers’ discursive constructions of femininity/ies. Much previous theoretical handling of sportswomen’s engagement with ‘femininity’ has framed this as a constraining or conservative phenomenon, suggesting that the empowering and transformative potentials of sport are undermined when gendered social norms and practices dictate the terms of women’s athletic embodiment. This is seen to particularly be the case in so-called ‘masculine’ sports, wherein women are effectively pressurised into compensating for a perceived ‘femininity deficit’, often at the cost of sporting achievement. However, our data suggests that women involved in various kickboxing disciplines – sports with a decidedly ‘masculine’ public image – have complex, active, and varied relationships with femininity, which bear further examination beyond this ‘social constraint’ model. By focusing particularly on the signifying practice of wearing pink boxing gloves, we discuss the potentially transformative meanings of kickboxers’ selectively performed femininities, as described by the women themselves. While noting that some iterations of femininity can indeed constrain or limit women’s advancement in and through such sports, we suggest that femininity might also be interpreted as subversive of traditional gender norms, particularly when deployed in ways which signify ‘woman’ without precluding or restricting the embodiment of physical power.

**Questioning the ‘Homophobic/hooligan Couplet’: Towards More Nuanced Understandings of Homophobia in English Professional Men’s Football**

*Bury, J.*  
(University of Bristol)

Unlike racism, homophobia has only been on the radar of governing and anti-discrimination bodies in English football since the middle of the last decade. Drawing on an analysis of the anti-homophobia document, ‘Opening Doors and Joining In’ and semi-structured interviews with English Football Association (FA) officials and anti-homophobia campaigners, I explore how the FA conceive of and frame homophobia, with a specific focus on the men’s professional game. I argue that the FA’s understanding of homophobia strongly resembles their conceptualisation of racism insofar as both, homophobia and racism, are seen as external to the institution, clearly identifiable and devoid of historically sedimented structures of power. Building on the concept of the ‘racist/hooligan couplet’ (Back et al.
as describing the typical racist football fan, I suggest that the figure of the ‘homophobic/hooligan couplet’ embodies prevailing institutional understandings of what homophobia is and looks like in the stadium. Just like the figure of the ‘racist/hooligan couplet’, however, the homophobic/hooligan couplet is a one-sided representation of homophobia, disguising the manifold ways in which homophobia surfaces in more invisible and contested articulations. To redress the one-sided understanding of homophobia in English football, and to provide a multi-dimensional understanding of homophobia, I conclude the paper by extending an understanding of homophobia to two different arenas; first, as a structural phenomenon in the form of male homosociality, and second, as a contested phenomenon in the form of ‘banter’.

Families and Relationships 1

Reseaching Young People's Difficult Family and Personal Lives through Audio and Visual Methods

Wilson, S., Milne, E.  
(University of Stirling)

This paper focuses on the use and production of audio/visual media (music videos, computer games, television, films) by looked after young people and highlights the potential of such media in further research. It draws on a two-year exploration of practices of belonging that employed audial and visual methods (photo elicitation; drawings; sound/music recordings discussed in two interviews) in Scotland. This data and associated discussion suggested the importance of such media to participants in both blanking out and exploring difficult relational legacies and current circumstances; notably television shows and music videos often portrayed difficult family situations similar to their own. Such media seemed to provide some young people with a valuable, if fragile and often devalued, space outside of prevalent institutional, political and everyday constructions of difficult family circumstances. For example, in spite of a somewhat ‘confessional’ culture, everyday cultural norms generally discourage the open discussion of such ‘private’ family circumstances. At the same time, the semi-public nature of these young people’s family lives is represented and coagulates in case files, and the static histories they contain, often repeated at case hearings. Further such circumstances are currently deployed in stigmatising political discourses around ‘troubled’ families that divert attention from structural inequalities. We argue that such visual media provide young people with more fluid, attractive and semi-public representations of their experience that can also be used for self-exploration, and incorporated, ethically, into further research. The importance of considering the production of alternative visual representations through such research is also discussed.

Face to Face: Beyond the Public Private Divide

Thomson, R., Berriman, L.  
(University of Sussex)

In this paper we discuss emergent findings from the study ‘Face 2 face: tracing the real and the mediated in children’s cultural worlds’. Funded as a methodological innovation project by the NCRM, we are developing innovative approaches for documenting young people’s everyday routines and cultural practices, and the integration of screens and social media into these. The focus of this paper will be on how ‘privacy’ and ‘publicness’ are produced in family and peer interactions. Consideration will also be given to how such interactions shape the pace and routines of young people’s everyday lives. Drawing on rich ethnographic data we will reflect on some of the particularities of young people’s cultural worlds while also identifying common preoccupations and their implications. By tracing movement between mediated and face to face interactions we seek to enrich conceptual development in the field of personal, intimate and family relations.

An Ordinary Complexity of Care: Children’s Narratives of Everyday Care

Eldén, S.  
(Lund University)

Who takes care of the children in late modern society? What practices and relations of care are created around children from children’s own point of view? Research on children and care often take its point of departure in assumptions about the nuclear family as the hub of care. In contrast, by starting in the actual practices and relations of care that children narrate, experience and engage in, this study involving Swedish children (5-12 years old) suggests new ways of understanding children and care. There is an ‘ordinary complexity of care’ it is argued (comp.
Mason & Tipper 2008), apparent in the presence of ‘others’ than parents – e.g., grandparents, siblings, friends, neighbours – doing care in children’s lives. Also, children’s own doing of care emerges, a doing that evokes critical questions regarding children as ‘competent actors’, and calls for a discussion of the underlying assumptions of the notion of care. Care as ‘sentient activity’ (Mason 1996; Brannen & Heptinstall 2003), a concept that combines the complex ‘doing’ of care as tasks, emotions and relationships, is discussed in relation to children’s narratives, both of the care others ‘do’ for them, and the care they themselves do. The methods used in the study are qualitative interviews with different drawing exercises where the children are invited to reflect upon the, often invisible, practices and relations of care taking place in their everyday life.

‘There are Hidden Rules’: Informal Practices That Help (or Hinder) Decision Making in Child and Family Social Work

Mitchell, G.
(University of Leicester)

Following Professor Eileen Munro’s review of child protection in England between 2010 and 2011, there has been significant debate about what might improve decision making when working with children who are perceived to be at risk of harm. Taking on board Munro’s recommendations, the government introduced Working Together 2013, which claimed to acknowledge uncertainty in this area and reduce bureaucracy, thereby giving experts the freedom to make decisions based on their professional judgement. However, an analysis of this document has illustrated that the underlying message of formal guidance remains the same – uncertainty is not tolerable in this context. Moreover, the nature of professional judgement and how it is formed in practice is unclear. The paper will draw on interviews with qualified and non-qualified social workers and research diaries completed by respondents. It will reference the sociology of scientific knowledge and translation studies to explore informal factors that influence how social workers make judgements about the risk of harm to a child, and the subsequent decisions based on this judgement. For example, what is the role of tacit knowledge in this process, and how is this knowledge shared with others? And what helps this form of knowledge translation run smoothly, and what hinders it? In this way, the paper offers a new perspective on what takes place when social workers take the necessary ‘next step’ beyond formal rules and guidance in order to make decisions about children and their families.

Families and Relationships 2

Between the Bedroom and the Bible: Exploring the Sexual Relationships of Unmarried Heterosexual Christians

McAleese, K.
(Queen’s University, Belfast)

‘Between the bedroom and the Bible’ will be a dynamic presentation, offering analysis from the presenter’s current study of the spiritual and sexual lives of practicing Christians as unmarried heterosexuals in relationships. This exploratory study uses biographical narrative interviews and focuses on the relationships of heterosexuals with a self-professed Christian faith, a faith which traditionally confines sex to within heterosexual marriage. In spite of this teaching, previous research has shown that the majority of self-identifying and practicing Christians are sexually active prior to marriage, so the stereotype of the apparently un-sexual unmarried Christian living the ‘no sex outside marriage’ lifestyle is at best deficient, an unexamined ‘truth’ which this presentation will explore.

Offering a fresh look at individuals’ lived experience of being sexual in the context of their religious faith and romantic relationship, this presentation will question overarching stereotyped ‘norms’ as participants’ stories are discussed, including: whether they see their sexual relationship as a blessing from God or a sin and consequent effects on the relationship; porn use and addiction; effects on the relationship of their definition of ‘sex’; and a consideration of dynamics of power and pleasure. It will context analysis within existing research, offering supplementary material from clinical practice.
Friday 25 April 2014 11:00 - 12:30
PAPER SESSION 7

From a Spark to the Cosy Fire of Domesticity: An Exploration of the Place of Love in Arranged Marriage Practices

Pande, R.
(Durham University)

This paper discusses the affective register of arranged marriage practices among British-Indians. It will present the various discourses of love that underlie the exercise of an arranged marriage. It will theorize love as a set of competing discourses, meanings and practices which shape our relationships with the ‘other’. Drawing upon semi-structured interview data, I show that contrary to popular conceptions of arranged marriage as a cold and calculating practice, considerations of love and romance form an important part of its exercise. Its practitioners distinguish between different forms of love and the accompanying obligations to individuals, family and society at large. Although it is not regarded as the sole basis of marriage, love is nonetheless seen as a key ingredient in sustaining the longevity of a marital union. This paper illustrates the various grammars of love used by British-Indians and critiques the normative conceptualization of love as always being instinctive and subjective. More widely, I use the example of love in arranged marriages to show how consumer culture driven expressions of romantic love are involved in promoting a particular way of ‘being in the world’ by privileging certain identities over others.

Self-disclosure of Cohabitation to Others

Yoo, H.
(University of York)

In contemporary western culture, cohabitation is not a major issue and has already become a normal practice in everyday life. However, the institution of marriage is still the pivotal relation in Korea that can in fact authorise people to acquire ‘adult citizenship’ (Josephson 2005: 272). Moreover, same-sex couples’ cohabitation has been hardly discussed in Korean academe because first, it is neither legalised nor illegal by law, only excluded and expected to be hidden; second, given that homosexuality is not generally accepted in Korean culture, the issue of same-sex couples’ cohabitation is constructed as outside of public interest.

Little attention has been paid to the question of how widely cohabiting couples disclose their relationship status to others and in what ways they talk about it. To shed light on this unexamined issue, this paper centres on four issues: first, the themes that emerged from my interview data in which the unmarried cohabiting couples talked about disclosing their relationship to others. These others are categorized in terms of relationships, ranging from parents, siblings and friends to working colleagues and neighbours. Second, I examine whether or not there is a specific disclosure pattern among heterosexual, gay and lesbian participants. Third, I investigate whether or not there is a specific disclosure pattern for women (heterosexual women and lesbian women) and for men (heterosexual men and gay men). And finally, I shall inquire into how one’s biological sex and sexual identity intersectionally operate on the ways and degree of cohabiting couples’ disclosure.

Frontiers 1
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 01

QUANTIFIED SELF AND SELF-TRACKING: DATA, SELF AND HEALTH

This panel has been arranged by the newly formed Quantified Self Research Network which was established in September 2013 in order to bring together scholars who are interested in understanding the development of self-tracking devices and techniques. This event will comprise of a panel of three speakers who will offer empirical or theoretical insights which will help to set the agenda for this new area of sociological study.

Although individuals and populations have been subject to statistical measures for more than a century the potential for quantification has increased dramatically in recent times. Perhaps the most distinctive characteristic of the contemporary quantification of the self is the extent to which individuals are encouraged, and often willing, to quantify themselves and engage with the analytical potential this enables.

We take quantified self in a broad sense to refer to the (semi-)formalised movement and community which has built up around the use of, and sharing of ideas on, commercial self-tracking devices and technologies. In addition we are also interested in those techniques and practices which are used by clinicians and patients to monitor health and the myriad ways in which our bodies and activities are monitored without our direct participation.
The impacts of quantification of bodies and practices on individuals will be explored from a number of different perspectives in order to unpick the social and ethical consequences of quantification as well as explore the professional and personal practices which enable it.

‘Data Gone Wild?’: The Quantified Self Assemblage, Technologies of the Self and the Value of Data

Lupton, D.
(University of Canberra)

In this paper I analyse the conditions that have come together to make the quantified self assemblage possible. I argue that the quantified self has emerged in the context of the current cultural moment of data-utopia, or the belief that data are superior forms of knowledge, combined with the affordances of contemporary digital technologies that allow individuals to produce large masses of data about themselves. Another dimension is the participatory features of social media, which encourage people to share their data with others as part of a self-tracking community or competitive endeavour. These discourses and practices intersect with others concerning individualisation (the idea that we are the authors of our own destinies), the neoliberalist privileging of self-responsibility and the importance of attaining knowledge about the self as part of working upon and improving the self. The technologies of the self that self-tracking involve demonstrate the different forms of value with which data may be invested, including economic, affective, social/communal, personal and transformative. They also underline the growing importance individuals are placing upon exerting control over their own data and customising it for their own purposes.

The Relationship between Self-quantifying Technologies and the Self: The “Construction” of Self-improvement

Dudhwala, F.
(University of Oxford)

There has been a recent trend towards people using personal, digital technologies to track and quantify certain aspects of themselves for the purposes of self-improvement. With such a growing number of people engaging in ‘self-quantification’ using more and more readily available technologies, important questions need to be asked about the impact that these ‘self-quantifying technologies’ have on the people that use them. What “counts” as ‘self-improvement’ and as ‘self-quantifying technologies’? What are the advantages and disadvantages of the use of the term ‘construction’ vis-à-vis its several cognates: ‘enactment’, ‘performance’, ‘embodiment’, ‘construction’, ‘doing’, etc.? In light of these self-quantifying technologies, does it make sense to make a distinction between them and the self?

Through the use of literature in the sociological stream of knowledge known as Science and Technology Studies, in this paper I study the relationship between self-quantifying technologies and the self, and the implications for the ‘construction’ of self-improvement. I do this by ethnographically studying the practices of two groups of people over a period of three years and one year respectively: the London Quantified Self and an Oxford based triathlon club. In becoming a member of both of these organisations I am able to make sense of how ‘self-improvement’ is ‘constructed’ through the use and discourse of ‘self-quantifying technologies’. Through this ethnographic method, I offer some insights into the broader issue of the relationship between self-quantifying technologies and the self, an area of research that is still under researched in the Science and Technology Studies field.

Making it Count: Marathon Swimming and the Quantification of the Self

Throsby, K.
(University of Leeds)

Marathon swimmers love to count – laps, strokes, hours and minutes, metres and miles, degrees of temperature, wind speeds, mls of energy drink… The details are documented in personal training diaries, public blogs, discussion forums, social media and official swim observer reports, drawing on a combination of quantification technologies including accelerometer-based watches, GPS tracking systems, digital thermometers, meterological devices and websites as well as the real-time pen-and-paper documentation of swims by official observers. These processes of self-quantification ostensibly map performance, enabling swimmers to track their own training progress, but this constant quantification can also be seen as a form of identity work orientated to the production of belonging within the marathon swimming social world. In particular, displays of quantification are used to demonstrate a commitment to the values of marathon swimming and an appropriate level of swimming, as well as positioning geographically dispersed individuals in a status hierarchy. Furthermore, specific forms of quantification serve as the verifying mechanism for marathon swims, most of which happen literally out of public sight. This paper argues, then, that the multiple processes of self-quantification in marathon swimming are simultaneously informational and social in function; that counting is central to making swimming count.
PEER REVIEWING: TIPS AND PITFALLS
The peer review process lies at the heart of academic activity – playing a key role in the evaluation and dissemination of research findings. Learning how to review is therefore an important element of being an academic. Joint WES Editor in Chief, Irena Grugulis (University of Leeds) will lead this session exploring the process of peer reviewing articles submitted for publication in journals.

Close Communalization as a Mode of Professional Work: A Sociological Analysis of Palliative Care
Cotovio Martins, A., Resende, J. M., Dionísio, B. M.
(Universidade Nova de Lisboa)
In our communication, we will discuss data collected in the frame of the project Building paths to death: an analysis of everyday work in palliative care, financed by the Portuguese government, which focuses upon the ways by which Portuguese professionals of medicine, nursing and social work deal, in the frame of palliative care, with specific forms of social complexity. Studies about palliative care suggest that this type of care tends to be significantly adapted by professionals to each socio-cultural context. Dealing with end of life, death and mourning issues or in a frame of care tends to presuppose some form of professional sensibility to socio-cultural differences. In our research, we found that patients, their families and staff members bring different experiential and personal careers, built in their relation to disease, caring institutions and dying trajectories, to the level of interaction in the frame of care. The confrontation of these different careers produces different claims of legitimacy in the social processes which daily occur in palliative care. We found that professionals invest a significant part of their work building arrangements which may reduce complexity associated to the social tensions derived from the presence of different personal and experiential careers and claims of legitimacy, in order to promote patients’ comfort and diminish patients’ suffering in their end-of-life trajectories. These arrangements are social devices suitable to reduce complexity by appeasing tensions between social actors, obtained through close negotiation.

Compassionate Care in a Hospice: The Value of Aesthetic Rationality
Fisher, P., Freshwater, D.
(University of Leeds)
Responding to the widespread perception that health care is often characterised by a lack of compassion, and to disturbing UK findings outlined in the Francis Report, this qualitative study of hospice volunteers considers how motivations to care may be sustained and enhanced within organisational contexts. Charitable and third sector organisations, such as the hospice in this study, have been identified as relevant to other health and social care context precisely because they are underpinned by values such as altruism, goodwill. Our approach, from a sociological perspective, seeks to provide a counter-balance to the notion that altruism or compassion are essentially qualities attached to individuals. The value of Roslyn Bologh’s feminist understanding of aesthetic rationality in fostering a sociability of care within caring contexts is considered. It is argued that dominant organisational understandings of rationality need to be extended in ways that acknowledge that compassionate care is enacted within social relationships. This, however, requires a degree of authentic emotional engagement on the part of formal caregivers that is more typically associated with relationships in the private sphere.

Dying in prison: A New Kind of Shameful Death?
Peacock, M., Turner, M., Scott, G., Froggatt, K.
(Lancaster University)
This paper proposes that dying in prison is a new form of shameful death. This shame differs from that described by Kellehear (2007) in relation to the nursing home death in the ‘Cosmopolitan era’, where shame attaches to the
circumstance and setting. In prison death, shame attaches to the person as well as to place, raising questions about practical and discursive resources available to protect the self.

In the last decade the number of older men in UK prisons has doubled, with the sharpest increases (226%) in prisoners aged over 70, a consequence of which is a rise in anticipated deaths in prison. Whilst such deaths are small in number, the trajectory is sharply upwards. Current end of life care provision in prisons is uneven, and further complicated by over 40% of older prisoners being sex offenders, many of whom are in prison for the first time in old age due to historic abuse. The nature of these shifts in the prison population raises considerable challenges for prison staff.

Because of their offences many of these prisoners would not be eligible for release on compassionate grounds. Further, many would not seek release because ‘paedophiles’ in the community may be at risk of attack, or because their offences have severed them from families and friends.

Drawing on issues raised in the early stages of a study to develop a model of palliative care for prisoners we explore this shame in the framework of the neoliberal ‘penal surge’ proposed by Waquant (2008).

Undocumented Migrants’ Barriers in Accessing Health Care and the Health and Social Care Act 2012

Mavrommatis, M.
(University Campus Suffolk)

This paper investigates the barriers undocumented migrants face in accessing health care. It explores the reasons for the existence of such barriers before the reforming Health and Social Care Act 2012, which removed some of the founding principles of the NHS Constitution such as the provision of universal coverage to all residents in a geographically defined area. Negative portrayals of migrants from part of the media have created and regenerated a strong anti-immigrant sentiment. The paper argues that prejudicial beliefs about migrants were transformed into discriminatory practices in GP surgeries from part of the administrative personnel and often doctors. The latter often raised insurmountable barriers to this group when attempting to access health care even prior to the reforming legislation. The study asserts that the removal of universal access, and the introduction of competition in the provision of health care will leave vulnerable groups including undocumented migrants with very limited access to health care. It suggests that the reforming law is in significant ways an apologist of the discriminatory practices against this group. The methods used for this research are: content analysis in online issues from high circulation newspapers; interviews with a GP who has been publishing on the issue of migrants’ access to health care, the Advocacy and Outreach officer of the Doctors of the World, and a freelance journalist who frequently reports on the issue of migration; and review of online filmed interviews published by organisations working on migrants’ rights, access to health care.

Methodological Innovations

SPECULATION IN SOCIAL SCIENCE: NOVEL METHODS FOR RE-INVENTING PROBLEMS

In this panel members of a research cluster within the Unit of Play, Goldsmiths, will collectively discuss and develop approaches to speculative research and practice. Speculative approaches to research and practice are emerging across multiple fields as a way to develop not simply descriptive engagements with topics, but rather to make propositions that invent new possibilities for research and practice. Speculation may be considered a fitting response to a dynamic world that cannot be held, observed and acted upon without effect. Relatedly, its intention to engage with the dynamic and, hence, transformative nature of ‘things’, including the way in which distinctions between ‘things’ are situational, contingent and, therefore, always in process invites us to consider what we might seek in our research effect/s. In this session, we present some of the methodological premises for devising a mode of speculative research and, through reference to a series of empirical ‘problems’, offer a series of context specific illustrations of what novel methods - textual, visual, aural, digital - might do. In contrast to the usual order of selecting methods, it is their prospective doing that will be discussed as the guide to their design. Our key concern will be to address the question: What might a speculative research approach offer to the re-inventing of otherwise seemingly near intractable ‘problems’?
Creatures of Thought: Speculative Thinking and Inventive Knowledge

Savranksy, M.
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

Speculation is, in its most general sense, a fight against probabilities. Insofar as Science, and more specifically, the Social Sciences, have traditionally been invested in producing forms of knowledge that might be capable of making probable and plausible claims about the world, at first sight it would seem that speculation cannot but remain excluded from all those practices of knowledge-production we call ‘scientific’. As I will argue in this paper, however, the opposite is the case. Indeed, by drawing on authors such as John Dewey, Alfred North Whitehead and Isabelle Stengers, I will suggest that speculative thinking is not only central to the production of scientific knowledge but also, and crucially, a creative means to reconstruct scientific modes of inquiry whenever their habitual practices have brought them to stalemates and situations of crisis. The risk of speculation, I will propose, concerns the production of what I call ‘creatures of thought'. Creatures of thought are neither theories nor methods. They behave like troublemakers. They are intellectual instrumentalities whose job is not that of providing a solution to pre-existent problems. In contrast, they operate by ingressing into a practical situation as a concern that might force the inquiry to hesitate and thus, to refrain from explaining the situation away by imposing ready-made solutions. In so doing, creatures of thought infect practices with novel possibilities so that scientific problems may be developed in inventive ways, thus allowing them to resist an otherwise likely future.

Speculative Method and Twitter: Bots, Energy and Three Conceptual Characters

Wilkie, A.
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

This paper aims to contribute to recent innovations in social scientific methodology that aspire to address the complex, iterative, and performative dimensions of method. In particular, we focus on the becoming-with character of social events, and propose a speculative method for engaging with the not-as-yet. This work, being part of a larger project that uses speculative design and ethnographic methods to explore energy-demand reduction, specifically considers the ways in which energy-demand reduction features in the Twitter-sphere. Developing and deploying three automated Bots whose function and communications are at best obscure, and not uncommonly nonsensical, we trace some of ways in which they intervene and provoke. We draw on the ‘conceptual characters’ of idiot, parasite and diplomat to try to grasp how the Bots act within the Twitter to evoke the instability and emergent eventuations of energy-demand reduction, community, and related practices. We conclude by drawing out some of the wider implications of this particular enactment of speculative method.

Pollution Sensing and the Shadowy World of Things: An Opening into Speculative Research and Practice

Gabrys, J.
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

In what ways might speculative research and practice be understood not as an individual habit of mind, but as something that is undertaken collectively and through distributed experiences? Speculation, this paper will suggest, is not simply about humans speculating about futures, but about how the potential to speculate is distributed through things. Things are propositions and potentialities for feelings and encounters: they lure us into ways of being. In this sense, any account of ‘the social’ would necessarily need to attend to the things that are continually drawing us into encounters, feelings and occasions. How might speculative research attend to the collectives constitutive of—and even cultivating—specific modes of speculation? In relation to social science research and practice, this paper considers how a collective speculative approach might further change approaches to communities, citizenship and participation—undertakings that are apparently political but proceed from more epistemic and rational-categorical starting points. How might things, more-than-humans, or a distributed range of subjects that flicker in and out of presentational encounters to recede into vague inferences reconfigure political encounters, and make openings in the social that create potentials for new encounters? This presentation will consider these questions in relation to citizen science projects concerned with pollution sensing, and will develop an account of the entities that are drawn together within pollution sensing to speculate about environmental events, politics and futures. The paper will finally consider how a speculative and collective approach to pollution sensing might help to articulate environmental politics—and citizenship—differently.
The Re-invention of Research Subjects as a Lure for Novelty

Rosengarten, M.
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

Lauding novel speculative methods may prove to be an isolated affair unless those who make up a significant proportion of the sciences learn, Isabelle Stengers suggests, ‘to shrug their shoulders’ at the authority of theory, its presupposition to know in advance and its pursuit of a world without the provocation of difference. Here I ask what might enable such a ‘shrug’ or, indeed, if there may be another source—a lure—for extending the perceptible of research? On the basis of a series of discussions with those responsible for conducting what is regarded as the ‘gold’ standard for prediction and generalization, that is, the randomized control trial (RCT) in HIV and their accounts of unexpected effects from research subject participation giving rise to RCT ‘failure’ or ‘flat results’ (no demonstration of efficacy), I’ve come to wonder whether the research subjects, themselves, might be reconceived as a lure. If RCT ‘failure’ is indicative of a transformative capacity, it may be that possibilities for extending the perceptible depend not so much on learning to shrug but that the learning process, itself, might come from a more direct exposure to research subjects unencumbered by the endeavor for generalization.

Speculation as a Constraint on Thought: Whitehead, Stengers and the Role of the Future in the Present

Halewood, M.
(University of Essex)

If ‘speculation’ is taken to refer to ‘conjecture without complete knowledge of all the facts’ (as the Collins dictionary defines the word), then we are in dangerous territory. Speculation could seem to be an invitation for mere guesswork where the absence of facts allows for unsubstantiated claims to be made. At the same time, how many sociologists (or scientists) can really say, or would want to say, that they are in complete possession of all the facts? So, in a more positive sense, speculation could be seen as a useful tool which recognizes the incomplete and processual character of the world and invites us to develop approaches to thinking and research which bear witness to the inherent dynamism of existence.

In this paper, I will attempt to outline how speculation could be a productive tool for social research but will insist that any invocation of speculation must be wary of falling into the trap of allowing for mere conjecture. Following Stengers, I will argue that openness always places a limit and a responsibility on thought or, as Stengers puts it: ‘Keeping the doors and windows open is a constraint on thinking’ (Stengers 2009, 18)

The substantial argument that I will make will outline and assess two key concepts. The first is that of speculation as set out by A. N. Whitehead in the first pages of Process and Reality. The second is Whitehead’s various descriptions of the role of the future in the present. Through these analyses, I will argue that speculation can be an important aspect of social research but as long as a limit is put on the operations of thought within such speculation. Furthermore, in order to avoid notions of determinacy and to allow for novelty within the social world and social research, the future must be inscribed within the present as a limiting but productive form of what Whitehead calls ‘conformation’. 

Rights, Violence and Crime

Enfranchisement Behind Bars: Re-imagining Prisoners as Citizens through Participatory Governance

Schmidt, B.
(University of Cambridge)

Scholars have argued that imprisonment can often act as a de-civilizing process to prisoners, whereby agential capacities are limited, impeded, or damaged. Drawing from the literature and my own research, this presentation will provide some evidence and analysis of a prison-based practice that may assist in developing civil dispositions through democratic engagement. The data suggest that fostering democratic principles in the prison setting has the potential to ‘civilize’ individuals and institutions, and more closely align them with democratic virtues that foster community, trust, procedural justice, and collaborative work towards collectivist objectives. It is my aim to present an example of how the de-civilizing process of incarceration can, in some ways, be diminished or mitigated, through the
establishment of a normative pattern of civic reciprocity through responsibility and inclusion. I will expand on ideas of character development as a necessary means in which to grow and sustain individual agency within the prison environment, and extend the discussion to consider the development of democratic character, both individually and institutionally.

Jacobs (2013: 2) argues:

If there is a large population of persons alienated from the liberal-democratic rule of law, or regard it as illegitimate, hostile, or simply of no practical concern to them, that can seriously weaken the civic culture necessary for that form of rule of law.

It is my contention that re-enfranchising prisoners through forms of participatory governance and agential engagement could lessen this and in turn, possibly strengthen civic culture and democratic character via a ground-up, procedurally-just process of engagement.

The Punishment beyond the Sentence: The Social and Judicial Stigmatization of Italian ‘Terrorists’

Rossi, F.
(Institut des Sciences Sociales du Politique)

Public talks, political appointments or social commitments of Italian 1970s radical activists incessantly raise sharp debates and controversies involving local and national political representatives, judges, victims of terrorism. Although many of those who have been condemned for ‘armed insurrection against the State’ have served their sentences, their public presence (conferences, local political roles, etc.) is constantly and strongly contested by the associations of victims and perceived as outrageous and disrespectful of their grievances.

This paper will present some of these contentious cases that emerged over the past ten years in Italy, analysing their political and social contexts. In this perspective, two major aspects will be addressed. The first one is related to the long term effects of social and judicial stigmatization of Italian ‘terrorists’. It will question the social stigmas as a form of unwritten sentence whose punishment continues far beyond the judicial one and the social mechanisms of the permanence of deviant identities. The second aspect will explore the implicit link often put forward by media and commentators between the punishment of the criminal and the right of the victim. It will therefore question how the shift towards a restorative justice culture in criminal law also strongly affects collective representations of crime and violence.

Risk, Globalisation, Climate Change and Beyond

Climate Victims, Villains or Both? Children’s Narratives of Environmental Vulnerability and Responsibility in Everyday Life

Walker, C.
(University of London)

At its crudest, climate change as a ‘master narrative’ (Lyotard, 1984) creates climate ‘victims’ and ‘villains’ – those seen as affected by climate change-driven vulnerability and those seen as contributing to the processes driving this vulnerability. In this crude narrative, an individual's positioning as a climate ‘victim’ or ‘villain’ can be as much about where they live – their local and global positioning - as the things they do. This raises questions of agency in the ways that individuals make sense of their positioning and act accordingly.

In this paper I draw case studies from multi-method PhD research with 24 families in the UK and India, with varying access to resources and exposures to environmental events. I am writing up my analyses using a case-based narrative approach and use these analyses to show some of the different ways that 11-12 year old children in these families narrate their lives and practices in relation to perceived global and local environmental vulnerabilities and responsibilities. I seek to trouble binarised understandings of climate ‘victims’ and ‘villains’, particularly those linked to children’s positioning in the Global North and South, instead exploring how narratives of environmental responsibility and vulnerability are dynamic, negotiated and relational (Riessman, 2008).

Referencing Practice Theory, I pay particular attention in this paper to children’s descriptions of practices which could be seen as environmentally adaptive or (ir)responsible, and look at how children in given contexts embed these into narratives of what they consider to be permissible and possible everyday life.
Exploring the Role of Trust and Networks on Citizens’ Perceptions for Climate Change Policies

Jones, N.
(The Open University)

The present paper aims to investigate the role of social capital parameters on citizens’ perceptions for coastal management policies aiming to tackle climate change impacts. Specifically, we focus on two social capital parameters: a) trust, referring both to social and institutional trust, and b) formal social networks, referring mainly to membership and volunteerism in Non-Governmental Organizations. We explore the impact of these two factors on citizens’ perceptions for two coastal management policies which are currently proposed in coastal areas of the UK: Hold the Line and Managed Realignment. The planning and implementation of such policies is often a very challenging task. Especially the implementation of managed retreat policies implies significant changes in the everyday activities of local communities. Results from two surveys are presented conducted in East Sussex/Kent and North Norfolk. The results of the studies reveal that social capital has a significant impact on citizens’ perceptions concerning coastal management policies. However, this influence is not always positive. A main argument of the paper is that social capital is a parameter which should be taken into consideration when planning coastal management policies for climate change in the future.

Using Social Media for Behavior Change: Lessons in Gathering Meaningful Data

Pianosi, M., Bull, R., Rieser, M.
(De Montfort University)

The paper presents a study which is focused around the question: ‘can social media be used effectively to foster an interactive, participatory process that increases environmental citizenship and reduces energy consumption in institutional buildings?’ The behaviour of users has an essential role in the socio-technical system that influences buildings’ energy use. Public participation is increasingly considered to be important in the success of behaviour-change processes and this approach is today more feasible with social media. They can in fact mediate the process, as they are doing in facilitating greater participation in contemporary society.

The research context is De Montfort University and it addresses the need to lower UK Higher Education sector emissions. In collaboration with the Sustainability Office, a Twitter account and a Facebook page have been created to build a place where staff and students can discuss about environmental and sustainability questions. A social media campaign has been designed to generate a process of engagement about sustainability.

What is key in the evaluation of the impact of social media is the methodology of analysis. Many are in fact the tools for data mining available for marketing purpose and the amount of data that needs to be analysed is vast. The paper will present the designed methodology for the evaluation of the campaign. The results will provide insights into how social media can be used in large organisation for facilitating the communication and exchange of pro-environmental information and what the impact is on behavioural change and energy consumption.

Science and Technology Studies

The Democratization and the Evolution of Medical Expertise in Burkina Faso

Sawadogo, N.
(University of Nottingham)

This paper explores how the dynamic of interdependences between social strata in Burkina from the end of 19th century to the present have led to the current shape of the internal structure of medical expertise in Burkina Faso. I make a distinction between ‘functional democratization’ and ‘institutional democratization’. The former develops following social differentiations through specialisation of functions, which make members in society functionally dependent on each other. The latter develops as a result of political contests which depersonalise political power, thus making politicians more dependent on citizens for the legitimacy of their political position. What has come to be termed ‘civilization’ in Western societies is the convergent development of these two processes, with the result of challenging any one-sidedness in the conduct of public affairs. Like the transformation of conduct and sentiments in other areas of social life, the constitution of medical expertise was one of the structural consequences of this process in these societies. Based on a long-term sociological analysis on the organisation of medical practice in Burkina Faso
from the end of the 19th century to the present, this paper argues that the current deficient state of medical expertise in Burkina Faso can also be explained as a structural consequence of democratization. While functional differentiations have made the state and its bureaucrats more and more interdependent, institutional interdependences have been weak. The internal structure of medical expertise in Burkina Faso, results from the professional one-sidedness this power balance enabled during the colonial period as after.

In Confidence: An Exploratory Qualitative Study of the Social Licence for Epidemiological and Clinical Research

Carter, P., Brown, L., Parker, M., Martin, G., Dixon-Woods, M.  
(University of Leicester)

Background

Debates about access to medical records counterpose individual anonymity against the societal benefits of research. Currently, various veto points enable gatekeepers to give or withhold proxy consent and there are proposals for opt-out rather than opt-in systems. With the UK government linking use of health records to efficient research and wealth creation, some detect a surveillance state. While technological capabilities to re-identify anonymised personal information through matching ‘Big Data’ may generate dystopic visions; scandals associated with loss of data and the delayed progress of the costly NHS IT project, suggest inefficiency rather than conspiracy.

Empirical study

We sought the views of patients, health professionals and researchers on the use of medical records for research. Most understood the principle of weighing privacy against the public interest. When evaluating studies, scientific merit but also political views and personal experience informed responses. Concerns were expressed about vested interests, including careerist researchers, paternalistic or priest-like doctors, Pharma, employers, insurers, patients with rare or stigmatised diseases, and celebrities and others at risk from ‘nosey parkers’. We found that what is known may be different from what is recorded and that definitions of ‘sensitive’ information vary.

Discussion / conclusion

The trust invested in doctors does not always extend to confidence in researchers, government, ethics committees or the pharmaceutical industry. The ‘social licence’ for research remains contested as contemporary UK policy shifts rapidly. Checks and balances offered by research governance frameworks continue to be described as protective of, or as barriers to, the public interest.

How Do Patients Interact with New Medical Technologies? A Sensemaking Perspective

Farrington, C.  
(University of Cambridge)

The growing burden of chronic disease and multimorbidity among ageing populations have led to an increased emphasis in healthcare contexts on telehealth, eHealth and mHealth. As yet, relatively little is known about the factors that may influence perceptions of usability, acceptability, and other constructs that may in turn influence long-term adherence. This presentation will introduce and explore a particular sociological perspective – the ‘sensemaking’ perspective – in order to consider how this approach could help us to conceptualise and investigate patients’ interactions with new medical technologies. By exploring patients’ pre-existing ‘frames’ – attitudes, values, beliefs, and experiences – in terms of technology, illness, medicine and science, and relating these frames to the processes through which patients ‘make sense of’ (give meaning to) new technologies, the sensemaking approach promises to generate a rich understanding of how patients interact with new medical technologies. Furthermore, since the sensemaking approach emphasises the ‘equivocality’ of technology, or the multiple possible meanings of any particular piece of technology, sensemaking research also offers the potential to establish why some patients may interact differently from others, with potential impacts on adherence. While the medical context has several distinctive features (e.g. the heightened urgency of motivation to use technology, possibly intrusive physiological and psychological interventions), the insights gained from medical sensemaking research has the potential to inform research on personal technology and the quantified self movement more widely.
Race, Nation and the London 2012 Olympic Games: The Case of Mo Farah

Burdsey, D.  
(University of Brighton)

The triumphal track and field performances of British athlete Mo Farah at the London 2012 Olympics – gold medallist in the men’s 5000m and 10000m events – were lauded not only for their impressive athletic endeavour, but also for their perceived validation of the rhetoric of diversity and inclusion in which the Games were ensconced. This paper presents a more complicated and critical reading of the relationship between Britishness, multiculturalism, the politics of inclusion and the London Games. It demonstrates how dominant narratives utilised in coverage of Farah – a black, Somali-born, Muslim man and the son of a refugee – by politicians and the media reflect complex, contradictory and exclusionary attitudes towards Islam, Britishness, race and nation in twenty-first century Britain, and reinforce the current government’s agenda on multiculturalism and immigration. The analysis argues that the public celebration of minority ethnic sport stars is fragile and contingent; their sporting successes and identifications with Britishness do not prevent experiences of discrimination and exclusion, either for them or their wider communities. Less than one year after the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, record levels of support for the anti-immigration UK Independence Party in English local elections and rising levels of Islamophobia (especially in the aftermath of the murder of soldier Lee Rigby) suggest that the putative multicultural legacy of Farah’s achievement is far from realisation.

‘They are Perhaps the Most Nationalist People in the World’: English Nationalism during the 2012 London Olympic Games

Black, J.  
(Loughborough University)

The 2012 London Olympic Games provided Britain a unique opportunity to celebrate its national identity, character and culture. However, despite the success of ‘Team GB’, references to English nationalism, amongst the English press, were largely absent. Indeed, this stood in contrast to examinations of newspaper coverage in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, where constructions of national identity were vividly represented. Certainly, whereas depictions of English culture may be widely known, the distinct lack of cultural expression in areas such as the media, reveal a notable polarity between England and the other home nations. In the face of a possible Scottish exit from the Act of Union and in light of recent comments by English footballer, Jack Wiltshire, the desire for England to have its own ‘constitutive story’ within Britain, presents an opportunity to discuss and debate English identity, post 2012 (Colley & Lodge, 2013).

Accordingly, this paper will present a selection of the English press’ coverage on both the Diamond Jubilee and London Olympic Ceremonies in order to reveal how both tabloid and broadsheet publications reflected notions of anxiety, self-deprecation and national malaise. Here, it will be argued that while such notions suggest a lingering attachment to the former British Empire, when placed in the context of Britain’s post-imperial decline, these findings can help to elucidate upon discussions pertaining to English national identity, the post-imperial decline of Britain and the possibility of an independent Scotland.

Racial and Gender Equality and Policy Landscapes in English Sports Coaching

Rankin, A.  
(Leeds Metropolitan University)

This paper focuses on the first stage of a three stage on-going doctoral study, which critically reflects on the complex issues regarding the underrepresentation of male and female, black and minority ethnic (BME) high performance sports coaches in the United Kingdom (UK). For this first stage of the research, semi-structured interviews were carried out with a cross section of key stakeholders in the UK sport policy network. The sample included equality and coaching leads from six high profile National Governing Bodies (NGBs), and five key sport organisations. This paper centres on the analysis of interviews and a critique of the policy and provision landscape for racial and gender equality, diversity and inclusion, in relation to coaching development pathways in NGBs. Using Critical Race Theory (CRT) that incorporates a black feminism framework the illusion of a ‘level-playing’ sports field governed by meritocracy and equal opportunities are examined (Burdsey, 2011; Hylton, 2012). In particular, the paper reflects on the dissociation of responsibility expressed by these sport organisations and NGBs, the tensions between an equality agenda and high performance coaching discourses, and the framing of whiteness and maleness of sport coaching by
the NGBs. The paper pushes the boundaries of theoretical engagement with critical sport research, policy and practice and contributes knowledge to cross-disciplinary academic and practitioner fields. Significantly, it sheds light on the processes of normalisation, colour-blindness and gender-blindness that perpetuate the hegemonic practices of whiteness and masculinity that have bedevilled high performance sports coaching (Norman, 2010).

‘This Team Unifies the Country!’ Contested Sports Identifications and National Belonging in Post-war Bosnia-Herzegovina

Sterchele, D.
(Leeds Metropolitan University)

The recent qualification of Bosnia-Herzegovina for the next football World Cup in Brazil has nurtured emphatic statements (notably among international media) about the unifying potential of this event, as well as given new visibility to the deep divisions still affecting the country almost two decades after the war.

Whilst Bosnjaks (Bosnian Muslims) identify with the Bosnia-Herzegovina ‘national’ team, most of the Bosnian Serbs and Bosnian Croats identify with the Serbian and Croatian national teams respectively. Since such sports loyalties have developed through a long-lasting identification-process, they can’t easily change over the night (especially considering the broader context in which they are embedded, with local politicians and mass media playing a relevant role in shaping and reinforcing different imagined communities).

However, the recent success of the Bosnian team has raised further debates about the contested nature of the multi-layered Bosnian identities. Non-Muslim Bosnians display a broad range of different attitudes towards the ‘national’ team, going from indifference or explicit rejection, to tamed or even passionate support. Despite the difficulties in measuring these attitudes, it is possible to analyse the different discursive strategies that people use to manage and make sense multi-layered and partly contradictory identities.

The paper will address this issues in relation to social divisions and collective identities drawing on content analysis of media sources about the reactions to the recent qualification of the Bosnian team to the World Cup finals, as well as ethnographic research previously conducted by the author in Bosnia Herzegovina (Sterchele 2007; 2013).

Social Divisions / Social Identities 2

The Sexual and Class Politics of Rank-segregated Space on a British Military Camp

Hyde, A.
(London School of Economics and Political Science)

This paper looks at the ways in which gender, sexuality and class intersect with formal structures of rank to produce the social order on a British Army camp. Focusing on the segregation of social space, the paper considers rank as a mode of discipline and control that extends far beyond the military chain of command. Rather, rank is explored as a complex and fluid system of social regulation that is codified through multiple axes of difference and distinction. The paper draws on ethnographic data gathered during six months’ doctoral research on a British Army camp overseas. It offers a reflexive account of how the female ethnographer was (literally and figuratively) ‘placed’ between the spaces of the Officers’ and the Sergeants’ Mess according to a range of criteria. Adapting an interdisciplinary analysis from military sociology, gender studies and queer theory, it reveals the centrality of gender, class, education and age as composite components of rank identity, as well as a pervasive tension between permissive and restrictive attitudes to sexual conduct. By considering rank as an altogether messier social system than its institutional rigidity implies, this paper questions where militarisation ‘as a process of inscription’ (Lutz 2002) gets its power – from the rules and regulations of military structures, or the class, gender and sexual distinctions they codify?

‘The Thoughts and Feelings were All There I Just Needed to Write Them Down’: The Use of Solicited Diaries in Explorations of Female Pleasure and Desire

Edwards, N.
(University of Leeds)

Plummer notes that sexual story-telling offers a way in which one can construct their intimate self, describing who one is in a particular time and a particular place. With this framework in mind, the overall aim of this PhD research is to
explore experiences of pleasure and desire in the heterosexual practices of woman-identified feminists. Influenced by Oakley’s feminist ethics and methodology, this research was designed to legitimate some of life’s most intimate experiences by employing a two-stage qualitative process which aimed to match this level of intimacy. Through solicited diaries and semi-structured interviews, seventeen women described and discussed how their feminist politics, values and identities influence their heterosexual practices, choices and attitudes.

This paper will focus on original methodological contributions to feminist sex research by outlining participants’ experiences regarding what it was like to keep a diary, a qualitative approach that is arguably underutilised (and under-researched) in feminist academia. It will address the risks and benefits participants felt were associated with the diary; the effect of knowing it would be read and interpreted by another; as well as the structure of the diary as a ‘safe space’. This will be examined through understanding the diary as an ‘intimate confessional’ and considering the non-hierarchical spirit of reciprocity implemented in the interview process. Lastly, this paper will address how the sequence of methodological inquiry, that is to say diary-interview, impacted the theoretical concerns and conceptual interests of the overall research.

Emotion and Gender in the Therapeutic Encounter between Mental Health Practitioners and Individuals Transitioning out of Correctional Facilities

Bassett, K.  
(University of York)

Sociologists and gender scholars have a firm foundation for conceptualizing how gender, specifically hegemonic masculinity, structures correctional environments as well as the daily lives of individuals held in these facilities (Cowburn 1998, Karp 2010). However, there is a shortage of literature on how gender and emotions structure the therapeutic encounters between mental health practitioners and individuals transitioning out of correctional facilities. Drawing from 15 qualitative interviews with mental health care practitioners working with individuals enrolled in reentry and rehabilitation programs in the United States and United Kingdom, this study will examine the techniques used by mental health practitioners to encourage their clients to open up emotionally. This investigation reexamines therapeutic practice as it helps individuals manage “the contradictions of modern selfhood” (Illouz 2008) by helping their clients become more emotionally competent, so that they may be more productive and successful members of society. In this sense, my work unearths how emotional intelligence can operate as a form of capital to access social goods (Bourdieu 1979, Illouz 2008), like employment and intimacy.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 3

Recognizing the Process of Identity Politics in the Artist Welfare Provision: The Case of South Korea

Jung, P.J.  
(Seoul National University)

This paper examines how specific artist welfare Act influences on the discourse of artist definition. Though KAWA (the Korean Artist Welfare Act, 2011) was formed for the purpose of improving artists’ economic and social condition, it failed to provide reasonable definition of artist, which should have been articulated for drawing a social consensus on welfare benefit distribution. Nevertheless, KAWA already began to be implemented in 2012. This paper assumes that the street-level bureaucrats are not simply allocating resources to artists; rather their practices are being influenced by KAWA. In other words, KAWA is now spilling over into the definitional conflicts of ‘who is artist’.

Based on the interviews with street-level bureaucrats, this paper tries to capture the scene where the definition of artist has to be constructed despite its vagueness. Interview data reveal the process where many shapes of artists are assumed, anticipated, rejected and negotiated around the fragile boundary of KAWA. The dynamic and often confusing process shows the mechanism by which eligibility for welfare benefit is determined. The bureaucrats, however, are not free from the structural constraints KAWA created; they are positioned to continuously impose specific identity to certain artists for KAWA’s running. The task of imposing identity is a kind of artist identity shaping along with the possibility of threatening the self-declaration of individual artists. Thus, defining artist, which was not achieved at the state level, is being performed at the street-level through the process of resource allocation to artists.
Big Society Means Big Challenges for the Third Sector
Halsall, J., Cook, I.G., Wankhade, P. 
(University of Huddersfield)

The voluntary sector, or the ‘third sector,’ as it is frequently known in social policy circles has been at the centre of social action in the UK for many years. When the New Labour Government came into power back in 1997 the third sector had become more visible and the government of the day had greater expectations of the positive impact that the third sector promised. Since this time there has been a belief in central government that the third sector plays a vital role in enhancing civil society and of strengthening the functionality of local communities.

In May 2010 the coalition Government introduced the concept of the Big Society. Overall the Big Society is recognised as a pivotal player in the relationship between citizens and the state. The third sector is perceived as a principle mechanism for the Big Society vision. However one of the main criticisms of the Big Society is that several organisations from the third sector view the idea as a process that permits central government to transfer the burden of public spending cuts on to the most vulnerable groups in society.

The paper aims to critically explore the Big Society’s impact in the third sector within the context of the current global economic recession. It draws attention to some of the key issues involved in the current debates.

The Rhetoric of Crisis and Austerity in Polish Media
Rek-Wozniak, M. 
(University of Łódź)

The argumentation of the proposed paper is grounded in the conviction that public debate, dominated by the elite discourses, creates the space for legitimization of policies crucial for the social order in general and specifically, for the shape of the social structure. It is frequently claimed that global economic crisis has triggered the revival of expert, political and media debates surrounding public debt, economic inequalities, the scope of state interventionism, income redistribution and social security. In context of relatively weak impact of global financial turmoil on Polish economy, as well as in the light of previous research indicating neoliberal consensus, it seems vital to identify the main features of austerity discourse emerging in public debate. For the purpose of the paper the field of inquiry will be narrowed to selected examples of press, TV and radio releases concerning austerity between 2008 and 2013. It shall address following questions:

-What actors have been engaged in austerity debates and what are the main division lines among them?
-What interpretations of possible causes and consequences of economic crisis for Polish society have been formulated?
-What actors, fields of social policy and levels of governance have been discussed in the context of austerity?
-What specific measures have been proposed and what groups and social categories have been designated as main beneficiaries/victims?

The empirical study is inspired by Teun van Dijk’s conceptual framework for the critical analysis of discourse and the public agenda.

Caste Based Exclusion in Access to Basic Amenities: Evidence from Selected Villages in India
Singh, S. 
(Indian Statistical Institute)

Today, vast majority of population all over the world and in India lack access to basic amenities such as adequate housing, domestic electricity, safe drinking water and sanitation facilities. Situation in rural areas is particularly pathetic for all households and in particular for those belonging to certain communities and ethnic groups (legally defined as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) and religious minorities of the society. In addition to deprivation these sections continue facing segregation and exclusion in the village geography and habitation pattern which has been associated with them from centuries. Their settlements, generally, prone to flooding and lack all weather roads, street lighting, etc. There is religious sanction to the idea of ‘purity and pollution’ on the basis of birth in Indian Hindu society. Scheduled Castes (formerly known as ‘Untouchables’) face discrimination and humiliation while accessing common public resources such as water, road/streets, temples, educational institutes, etc. As a result they are deprived of participating equally in all spheres of the society.

This paper discusses village level primary data collected from twelve selected villages of five states of India. Focus of analysis is on inequalities in access to adequate housing and other basic amenities across different social groups in these selected villages. Quantitative as well as qualitative data was collected from these villages along with data on
educational, occupational status, land holding and asset ownership was also collected to look at the economic status of the households of these groups.

**Sociology of Education**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 05**

**Social Class, Resilience and the Struggle to Adjust to University Life: The Experiences of Working Class Students**

Waller, R., Bradley, H.
(University of Western England, Bristol)

It is widely recognised that middle class students generally enter higher education with an advantage over their working class peers in terms of accumulated economic, social and cultural capitals from their home and school environments. However, students from all social classes can flounder during the transition from school or college to university, and being from a background where studying at HE is an expectation is itself no guarantee of success.

Using data from a three year Leverhulme Trust funded study of the experiences of working- and middle class students at Bristol’s two universities (the Paired Peers study), we explore how the struggle many working class students confront in getting to university facilitates their subsequent success there. The students for whom going to university was initially just a distant and unlikely aspiration, something to be hard earned rather than something to which they felt entitlement through birth and upbringing, accumulated resilience and self-reliance as a result of the struggles faced, qualities which armed them for challenges in the transition into university life.

**Managerialist Realism and Education Reform: The Case of School Governance**

Wilkins, A.
(University of Roehampton)

Since the 1980s British state schools have been shaped to respond to the market through the adoption of business solutions and bureaucratic machineries. Over the last few years these governance tools have become increasingly more widespread and intensified with schools and the people who run them (trustees, sponsors, senior leadership and specifically school governors) performing management and audit responsibilities previously carried out by the local authority (legal, premises, health and safety, strategic planning, marketing, employment, to name a few). Recent announcements and statutory guidance from the DfE (2013) and Ofsted (2011) highlight the huge liabilities and responsibilities to be undertaken by school governors working within such a ‘high stakes’ environment. Specifically they emphasize the role of school governors in facilitating ‘effective governance’: providing scrutiny of direction, enabling strategy and ensuring accountability.

In this presentation I draw on in-depth interview and observation material taken from an ESRC-funded (2012-2015) large scale study of 8 different types of school (converter and sponsored academy, free school, co-operative trust, voluntary-aided and maintained) to highlight the relationship between school governance, performativity and neoliberalism. Specifically, I borrow insights from social and organizational theory (Bevir, Foucault, Peck and Jessop to be precise) to highlight the role of democracy, business ontology, managerialist realism and re-regulation in the field of relationships and practices governing present-day education reform.

**Sociology of Religion**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 13**

**Discourses of Love, Compassion and Belonging: Reframing Christianity for a Secular Audience**

Reynolds, N.
(Loughborough University)

The religiously plural nature of the UK means that the dominant public discourse tends towards religious neutrality and this has implications for the way that faith organisations conduct themselves in the public realm. Using framing theory this paper examines how Christians and Christian organisations are attempting to find a narrative fidelity with those
religiously neutral discourses. The paper is based on thematic analysis of 25 semi structured interviews with Christians who work for Christian-based public service providers. It argues that participants are framing faith discourses in terms of love, forgiveness, compassion and belonging, rather than talk about God and belief directly. Christian teachings of love, compassion and belonging are being amplified to counter criticisms that Christianity is a threat to liberal rights and beliefs. The intention behind this framing is to make Christian messages resonate with public boundaries of universality thus allowing Christians to build credibility as public actors. The paper conceptualises these discourses into two social action frames: the Love Frame and Inclusivity Frame. This paper does not assess whether Christians and Christian organisations are successful in this endeavour but details how Christians and Christian organisations are responding to the challenges of working within a religiously plural landscape.

**Feminist Religious Knowledge and Family Law Reform in Egypt**

Al-Sharmani, M.  
(University of Helsinki)

I have two aims. First, I will examine a number of discursive approaches used by selected religious scholars from Al-Azhar (the main religious establishment in Egypt) and prominent legal figures, in their arguments against gender-sensitive reforms in family laws. These arguments were part of public debates, over the last decade, about recently passed laws, as well as draft ones proposed by multiple actors. Second, I will examine the work of Women and Memory Forum (WMF), an Egyptian organization, founded in 1995 by a number of women scholars, and whose mission is ‘the production and dissemination of alternative knowledge concerning women in Arab Region.’ I will analyse the discursive approaches used by Omaima Abou Bakr, a co-founder of WMF, who undertakes historical studies to unearth the roles of Muslim women, and also conducts genealogical studies of Islamic exegesis to trace the processes through which gendered constructs have been formed and developed in this tradition and which have taken on normative authority.

I argue that WMF’s new engagement with Islamic textual tradition is significant: it shows that the problem of religiously-sanctioned gender inequality is not interpretations that discriminate against women per se. Rather it is these interpretations’ underlying discourse, which perpetuates gendered notions about the nature of women, men, and their roles. Furthermore, WMF seeks to create a new religious discourse that affirms egalitarian gender relations and rights, based on an Islamic vision, knowledge, and ethics. In conclusion, I describe the challenges that, thus far, preclude the large-scale influence of the organization.

**The Role of Hindu Faith-based Organizations of the United States in the Process of Civic Engagement**

Vyas, M.  
(Birla Institute of Technology and Science)

The role of faith-based organizations in the society has become increasing relevant within the discourse of sociology of religion. When it comes to provision of social services, the faith-based organizations have a strategic advantage in terms of a pool of volunteers at their disposal. However, the role of faith-based organizations in social service provision remains an understudied discipline. The relatively ‘fluid’ and informal nature of services within the congregational model escapes the attention of mainstream academics. Though social service is an important facet of a faith-based organization, the nature of civic engagement is much wider and has many forms.

This paper tries to examine the role of Hindu faith-based organizations and key aspects of their engagement with the society including the provision of social services. It also examines how volunteers try to satiate their social, cultural and religious needs and how they face the conflicts and challenges posed by the rigors of a new society. This research consists of three case studies of different Hindu FBOs operational in the United States. The research is based on a field study comprising of six different locations in three different cities in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. At the time of writing the abstract, the fieldwork is still being undertaken. The sample space, so far, has consisted of more than a hundred volunteers. Qualitative data has been obtained through semi-structured interviews with clergy members and religious lay leaders. These faith-based organizations are transnational in nature and comprise of a large chunk of immigrant population.
Theory

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 14

MARXISM AND HISTORICAL MATERIALISM

Exemplars, Tradition and Criticism: Comparing Dewey’s and Gadamer’s Approaches to Problem Solving

Crucikshank, J.
(University of Birmingham)

The recognition of fallibilism entails a dialogic conception of knowledge. Dewey held that democracy as an ethical way of life required citizens who value participation in public life as an end in itself to subject elites to account through critical dialogue about the normative ends pursued and the means used to realise those ends. This is a stronger position than Habermas’s. Habermas took the rules of dialogue to be beyond dialogue and abstracts dialogue from social pressures and normative commitments to hold that the goal of dialogue is consensus. By contrast, Dewey recognised that the outcome of dialogue may be contested because it was driven by normative commitments. Motivating the conception of democracy as an ethical way of life is a conception of science as both an ethical and epistemic exemplar characterised by open, critical dialogue. Dewey recognised that science involved emotional commitments to theories but failed to recognize the extent to which social pressures would shape the production of scientific knowledge. This use of science as an exemplar is thus problematic because whilst recognising emotional commitments it failed to offer a way of explaining how dialogue can occur with such pressures. It thus becomes difficult to see how the normative commitment to possessive individualism, that Dewey took to characterise liberal democracies, can be transcended, by turning to such an exemplar. Gadamer offers a more useful way of conceptualising how social pressures – or ‘tradition’ - co-exist with dialogic criticism.

Guilt and Knowledge: The Phenomenological Twist of Contemporary French Theory

Palacios, M.
(Birkbeck, University of London)

This paper elaborates on how recent French debates articulate themes and concepts which were relevant in German thought before the second world war. This is relevant because of a dialogue which is emerging between post-structuralism and phenomenology, and a theoretical turn that can be appreciated in many of current post-structuralists theorists (including J. Butler, J.L. Nancy and J. Ranciere). The turning away from existential phenomenology in German thought after the war has been widely documented, however this late ‘phenomenological twist’ which happens in an open dialogue with Heidegger, has received much less attention. Although this project is quite theoretical, it addresses political questions about the relation between guilt and knowledge, and the ‘sociological’ conditions of production of knowledge more widely.

Weber’s Intellectualization Process as a Possible Sociology of Knowledge

Neri, H.
(University of São Paulo)

The main effort of this paper is to provide a reasonable and alternative set of sociological explanation to the problem of knowledge – especially scientific knowledge – and its historical development based on Max Weber’s propositions. In order to do that, we reconstructed his writings aiming a possible sociological theory of knowledge that might be viewed under the term intellectualization process. As there is a lack of definition, inside Weber’s work, on what could be the meaning of some ideas, which are related to the term intellectualization - as intellectualism, intellectual, and the intellectualization itself – these ideas are often taken as being equivalent or even just a part of the classic idea of ‘rationalization’. In fact, dealing only with the rationalization’s idea we are unable to answer the problem of the knowledge. However, if we go further inside Weber’s systematical sociology, which emphasizes religion, and develop an independent analysis about the process of intellectualization, we are able to unfold these potential ideas reaching a direct approach made by Weber on the problem of knowledge and then answering some questions as: what is knowledge, how it can be produced, what is the role of social stratification on it, how it can be transmitted and in which circumstances, and even, how is it related to reality and truth. In this sense, this paper is a first step on the attempt to develop an alternative sociological theory of inter-subjective knowledge based on a very well succeeded sociological framework.
‘Industry Savvy’ Students: Globalising Aesthetics in Cultural Industry Higher Education

Pettinger, L., Goffey, A., Forkert, K.
(University of Warwick)

This paper addresses the global expansion of higher education, including the growth of private universities in Asia offering degree programmes validated by UK, US and Australian universities. It looks at how cultural industry degrees in private institutions in Malaysia promise students entry into a global elite workforce, as networked, entrepreneurial, innovative, technologically skilled and able to contribute to national development. We critically assess the nature of this aesthetic education to see how understandings of creativity, technology and markets are embedded in curricula and student experience, and consider how tacit understandings of global consumer capitalism are produced and reinforced in higher education.

Hooking ‘Casting’ Candidates in: Using Social Media for Affect

Hardey, M., Geesin, B.
(Durham University)

This paper focuses in on ‘casting calls’ for employees into the service industry in Las Vegas. The paper explores the landscape of social media that echoes America’s adult playground as a conduit for the expression of entertainment, fun and frivolity, and where, crucially, the spectacle of young and attractive bodies are used for promotion.

By deconstructing the ‘casting calls’ for young people to enter the service industry and types of communication that is promoted on social media platforms, this research critically examines the marketing messages behind the glitz and glamour. The paper questions whether luring promotional material published across a multitude of interactive spaces deliberately hides the chancy and uncertain employment of the individuals who work in this sector.

The main argument is that young people are deliberately targeted to work in a service industry that is promoted to hold a ‘VIP’ status through advertised ‘casting calls’ and a canon of content that is based on playfulness and sexual superficiality rather than secure employment prospects.

Selecting the Best Candidate in the Labour Market: Policy Implications to Formal Education

Lau, P.Y.F.
(Hong Kong Shue Yan University)

The liberal theorists suggested that achievement and meritocracy replaces ascription in modern industrial societies. Their ideas, to a large extent, go back to Weber who emphasised the role of formal selection procedures and impersonal rules in contemporary bureaucracy. Over the past few decades, the liberal theorists have come under attack on an empirical basis – for example, ascription, job commitment, personality and social skills remain vital in the selection process.

This presentation analyses the empirical results of a case study of the UK publishing sector and discusses the implications for education policy in the future. Using semi-structured interviews and participant observation, this presentation explores the traits that recruiters look for in a job applicant in various roles of publishing. The research findings suggest that in addition to technical competence, recruiters look for soft skills at all positions in the selection processes. The findings echo the policy direction of the Cabinet Office which recommended that all professions should undertake reviews of fair access in their professions and initiate the ‘raising aspirations’ scheme to provide soft skills development for an enhancement of social mobility in modern Britain. Future research agenda will be promoted: whether the preferences of recruiters match the qualities of new entrants in different industrial sectors, and if there is any discrepancy, what specific policy measures can be advocated (e.g. more training on soft skills in formal education).
The Changing Role of Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) in Young People’s Transition into the Labour Market

Simms, M., Gamwell, S., Hopkins, B.  
(University of Leicester)

Young people have been hit hard by the financial and economic crisis (Bell and Blanchflower 2011). Even before 2008, it was clear that labour market transitions for young people were becoming problematic with a growing number not in education, employment or training (NEET) (Sissons and Jones 2012). Appropriate and effective career guidance is therefore crucial the process of facilitating young people’s training, education and labour market choices.

The provision of information, advice and guidance (IAG) has undergone dramatic change since the election of the coalition government in 2010. It is therefore important to examine how these professionals act within labour markets to facilitate young people's transitions into work. Given the pace and extent of change in their roles, we are particularly keen to explore how they understand their roles in the changed context and what they see as the strengths and weaknesses of current approaches to 'job matching' in the UK.

Our findings give insight into the catastrophic collapse of IAG provision in England and the effects of this on young people and employers which is, we argue, a direct effect of the collapse of collective institutions of labour market regulation in a neoliberal economy.

Overall, the analysis is pessimistic and highlights the profound gaps in strategic action that have emerged as the UK labour market has deregulated. Sadly, young people are bearing the brunt of the absence of institutions of labour market regulation with the consequence that their transitions into work are becoming longer, less secure and more precarious.

Biocapitalism: Life Put to Work

Karakilic, E.  
(Goldsmiths, University of London)

The structural alterations that occurred in the last thirty years have substantially modified the capitalist organisation of society. The phenomenon of biocapitalism has been developed by post-operaismo scholars, referring to a process of accumulation that is not only predicated on the exploitation of physical labour and general intellect but also of the entirety of human faculties, from relational-linguistic to affective-sensorial. Accordingly, what is valued and exchanged in the labour market turns increasingly towards the subjectivity of labourer; in its experiential, communicative, relational and creative dimensions. Per contra, even though this subjection generally manifests itself explicitly, it is also internalized through the development of subtle management technologies such as ownership model – connected to bonus structure- in which the labourer enters into the stage of self-exploitation.

The paper draws on an on-going qualitative research; more specifically, in-dept interviews with financial traders and finance software engineers in United Kingdom. The presentation consists of two parts. In the first part, we argue -and unveil the relevant empirical data- that the process of biocapitalist valorisation does not only strive for the exploitation of material elements but also the immaterial elements: existential savoir-faire; the life of labourer. In the second part, using empirical data, we aim to show the ways in which the subsumption of labour to capital manifests itself through new management technologies (i.e. ownership model, bonus structures). In conclusion, we argue that self-exploitation is directly proportional to the new centrality of subjectivity within the productive process.

A Measure of Change: Governing Financialised Subjects in a Post-crisis Economy

Dowling, E., Harvie, D.  
(Middlesex University)

The fault-lines of a post-crisis economy in Britain run through the spaces and places of everyday, reorganising and reshaping work, community and social life. This paper will examine the case of ‘Austerity Britain’ to investigate how domains of social life are rendered productive for financialisation in as much as they continue to invisibilised as terrains of work. The paper shows how the state’s divestment from social reproduction is coupled with the opening up of new avenues for financial investment. The paper takes its cue from a feminist focus on social reproduction as a
central category of sociological analysis as well as a potential fault-line for politics and asks how the expansion of a social investment market is currently shaping the political economy of work and community life along the continuum of paid and unpaid labour. Consequently, the paper suggests that the link between governance, measure and subjectivity constitutes a useful field upon which to make sense of the struggle over social change in contemporary society.

**Are Manufacturing and Technology Really How Core Nations Attain Their Economic Dominance?**

_Cohn, S._

*(Texas A&M University)*

This is an analysis of the sociological determinants of the rise to core status of the wealthy nations of the world in the 19th century. Sociologists whether they be world systems theorists, neo-marxist friendly comparative nationalists or - in an earlier period - functionalists, invoke the national advantages pertaining to manufacturing and the possession of proprietary technology and consider the class structure that produces it. Most conflict based traditions invoke Amin’s unequal terms of exchange. A sociological examination of the 19th century makes these arguments untenable. Few of Amin’s conditions applied to the 19th century. Worse - nearly every major core nation EXCEPT BRITAIN obtained core status and high rates of gdp/capita on the back of commodity exports rather than manufacture. It is argued that appropriate Weberian ideal-type case for modelling the rise of mature capitalism is Australia or Canada who had trajectories far more typical of the majority of core nations is allowed for in present-day macrosociology. Such an account would lead to a lesser emphasis on the rise of a manufacturing and financial bourgeoisie and more on the undertheorized phenomena of global population flows, racial regimes of domination and agrarian relations.
Friday 25 April 2014 at 15:15 - 16:45
PAPER SESSION 8

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Tea in the Pot: A ‘Great Good Place’ in Govan

Feeney, M.
(University of the West of Scotland)

This paper will employ Oldenburg’s (1999) concept of ‘third place’ or ‘great good place’ as a lens to examine and evaluate the vital role played by a women’s group in the lives of its members.

Tea in the Pot (TITP), a voluntary women’s group in Govan, a deprived area of Glasgow, was founded in 2004. They meet twice weekly, are open to women from Govan and surrounding areas, and can be regarded as an atypical third place. For Oldenburg, third places should be open regularly as meeting places away from the ‘first place’ (home) and the ‘second place’ (work). Using material from focus groups and one-to-one interviews/ witness testimonies as methods of encouraging members to speak frankly and openly about TITP, it will be shown that the group has some key characteristics of a ‘typical’ third place. Firstly, it provides these women with a place where they can leave their personal troubles outside and enjoy lively conversation although often, in discussion, realising they share common problems. Secondly, it enhances members’ sense of ‘wholeness and distinctiveness’. This paper will demonstrate that although Oldenburg argues that voluntary organisations cannot be considered as third places because they are not open frequently enough and are often issue based, they increasingly fulfil this role in deprived areas where money and meeting places are scarce. The paper will conclude that TITP provides its members with the opportunity to affect positive change for themselves and the wider community.

Gender, Political Activism and Social Change

Takhar, S.
(London South Bank University)

Political activism can begin with a view to reform and/or transform society at micro or macro levels. The implication is that political activism means change is desirable – the significance of which is not lost when considering the role of women. Grassroots activism is often dismissed as limited when compared to the grand stage of electoral politics yet it has proved to be formidable. Central to women’s political activism is the pursuit of social change which requires an ‘agent’ who is ‘active’. The concept ‘agent’ signifies at once active initiator and passive instrument’, similarly, the concept ‘subject’ is revealed to have opposite meanings; ‘sovereignty’ and ‘subordination’ (Anderson, 1980:18). Participation in power structures and the pursuit of equality and justice are equally difficult in countries such as Britain where sexism is rife and in Egypt through the Blue Bra woman’s beating that resulted in outrage and anti-military demonstrations. This paper shows through empirical research amongst South Asian women grassroots and political activists how being excluded or located at the margins can lead to resistance and to political mobilization. The paper shows the difficulties associated with theorizing political agency and how it can be more easily associated with male public spaces and formal politics. The aim of the paper is to show women who are politically active (in formal and informal politics) rather than being regarded as ‘space invaders’ or passive (Puwar, 2004).

The Scottish Alcohol Debate: Licensing Law, Legitimacy, and Moral Panic

Beveridge, E.
(University of Strathclyde)

Scotland consumes more alcohol vis-à-vis the rest of the UK (Robinson, et al, 2010) and is deemed a national health concern. 2009 introduced new licensing laws that were further amended in 2010 and 2012. The most recent, minimum unit pricing (previously described by the European Commission as disproportionate to the problem), awaits sanction by the EC for potentially violating trade laws. The goal of licensing reform is to positively change culture through...
legislation. It is believed a tailored package of policy measures will lever out existing attitudes and usher in a southern European culture. The prominence of alcohol on political agendas, binge drinking and health concerns, the communication of the problem in the media, and the means by which retailers and manufacturers have reacted to changing institutional demands invites investigation.

This research explores the influence of moral panic (Cohen, 2002; Goode and Ben-Yehuda, 1994; Young, 2009) on institutional isomorphism (DiMaggio and Powell, 1983) and the means by which organisations mediate the panic via legitimacy management (Suchman, 1995; Oliver, 1991). A neo-institutional study, utilising a mixed-method approach reliant on parliamentary debate records and newspaper articles, further supplemented by interviews with members of chief stakeholder groups (health boards, policy-makers, police, manufacturers, retailers, and NGOs), examined using content analysis software is deemed an appropriate tool for investigation.

Research outcomes will be valuable, not just in Scotland, but to other European countries looking to reconsider ethical questions of alcohol’s appropriateness.

Ibiza Discovered? Exploring the Politics and Contesting the Practices of Contemporary Research in Ibiza

Moore, K., Bhardwa, B. (Lancaster University)

Research on Ibiza remains scant despite the island’s symbolic stature in global club/drug cultures. Here we engage with a recent body of well-publicised ethnographic research undertaken on the Balearic island (Briggs and Turner 2009, 2011; Briggs 2013). Although we welcome attempts to move away from survey-based studies of ‘risk behaviours’ through a public health lens, we critique the tendency within Briggs and Turner’s work to frame participants as cultural dupes ‘enticed’ by the “Ibiza experience”. With popular media capitalising on Ibiza’s ‘thrill factor’ via TV shows such as Ibiza Uncovered, we argue ethnographers need to guard against replicating dominant ‘common-sense’ views about ‘risk behaviours’ whilst remaining alive to how visitors to Ibiza negotiate commercialised and criminalised global club/drug cultures (Moore 2010).

Further Briggs and Turner’s laudable research efforts are largely restricted to the infamous San Antonio ‘strip’ which includes/excludes a range of people who visit Ibiza and who consume legal/illegal drugs and music genres. This inclusion/exclusion relates to issues of ‘class’, sexualities, and ethnic and racialised identities, all of which demand deeper analyses in sociological and criminological studies of night-time economies more generally. Secondly the gendering of Ibiza ethnographies needs attention in order to unpick how masculinities shape fieldwork practices and subsequent findings, just as femininities do (Bhardwa 2013).

Whilst Ibiza may be ‘uncovered’, much remains ‘undiscovered’. To conclude we suggest opening up rather than closing down a critical space in which to explore contemporary attitudes and behaviours around “hedonistic excesses” amongst both researchers/the researched in ‘high-profile’ leisure spaces.

Teenage Girls and the ‘Selfie Phenomena’: Navigating the Risks and Pleasure of Visibility

Murtell, J. (Leeds Metropolitan University)

This paper explores the politics of self-representation in relation to the practice self-portraiture, now commonly referred to as the ‘selfie’. As digital image making technologies have become increasingly popular and accessible, so too has the practice of making and sharing photographs of one’s own image (Larsen & Gomez-Cruz, 2009). Media coverage regarding the proclaimed ‘selfie phenomena’ has proliferated over the past year with a particular focus on the practices of teenage girls. Popular discourse on the practice of taking and sharing self-portraits is associated with dominant notions of female ‘otherness’; vanity, self-centredness, naivety, sexual deviance and risk. Many articles express deep concern and worry over the effects of ‘selfie’ practices including; the blurred line between private and public, the risks of revealing too much, the loss of ownership once an image is published, and the experience of stigma and bullying when images transgress norms of female ‘respectability’ are circulated (Moody, 2009, Chalfen, 2009). In contrast, media coverage also draws on the neo-liberal discourses of individual empowerment and the benefit of having control over one’s self constructed image and identity online. Academically, the politics of representation has a complex history filled with contradictory views regarding the effects of being made visible and the limits of representation (Foucault, 1977, Lather, 2001, McRobbie, 2009, Skeggs, 2005, Tyler, 1986). This study seeks to address and explore how young women engage in, negotiate and articulate both the risks and pleasures associated with the creation and dissemination of self-portraiture.
‘Call Me by My Name’: Havoc and Transgression in Breaking Bad

Work, H.
(University of Abertay Dundee)

This paper draws on Goffman’s (1971) concepts of havoc and containment and Turner’s (1969) concept of the liminal subject to address the ways in which the relationship between conformity, deviance and transgression is articulated within this critically acclaimed television drama. While the series and the character’s journey of transgression are framed by the socio-economic crisis and a position of vulnerability, it is in the tensions created in the spaces between Walter White, and his alter-ego Heisenberg, on which key moments in the drama turn. The level of ‘ritual work’ involved in his attempt to maintain credible performances as both Walter White and Heisenberg alert the viewer to the ways in which taken for granted assumptions about the nature of the social order can be readily challenged by an inconsistent and therefore unpredictable presentation of self. This potential for havoc and dissolution is reinforced by the fact that Walter White comes to enjoy the power and status that accrues to him as Heisenberg the master of crystal methamphetamine production. That Walter White gets his sense of worth from criminal activity, and by association, acts of violence posited as control and containment, allows the series to explore the ways in which havoc and transgression, order and stability, conformity and deviance are key tensions and features of the social order more generally. As such, the paper will suggest that the narrative framework of the series orients the viewers’ attention toward a sociological, rather than a populist understanding of crime and transgression.

Using Social Capital to Make Sense of Festival Volunteering

Wilks, L.
(The Open University)

This paper will report the results of an in-depth study of volunteers involved in the planning and delivery of a small acoustic music festival, Folkstock, first held in Hertfordshire in September 2013. In-depth unstructured interviews with a range of unpaid contributors to the event, including members of the management committee and on-the-day stewards, explore how these volunteers make sense of their involvement. The approach emphasises the social context of the volunteers’ experience, focusing on expressions of community, solidarity and trust. The interviews cover how ‘the ask’ was performed; personal expectations and satisfactions/dissatisfactions with the volunteer experience; and promote the articulation of values and philosophies of life. The volunteers’ engagement with the ‘heroic’ festival director, who was also interviewed, provide particular insights into the ways in which volunteer communities are built and nurtured. A spectrum of social capital theories provides a backdrop to the study. Bourdieu’s suggestion, that the volume of social capital possessed by a given agent depends on the extent of the network connections they can effectively mobilise, supplies inspiration. Coleman’s social capital-related emphasis on the potential for future reciprocity when a favour is asked of another; and Putnam’s view of social capital as a beneficial building block of community connectedness are also useful perspectives. It is hoped that the findings of this study will help festival organisers to understand the dimensions of the volunteers’ experience and thus to orchestrate a positive social experience which contributes to the success of the festival.

Transforming Intimate Lives: Normativities vis-à-vis Shifting Realities

Sultana, U.B.F.
(University of Sussex)

‘Let me tell you from my experience of love. We also loved, had good times together before marriage. But that is different from what happens now. Now it is very dirty. Love in this generation is very much sexual.’ says Sopna, an upper class 1st generation Bangladeshi woman.
Again, Doli who is a middle class woman from the 2nd generation opines: ‘It is better to show married couples; however, it is reasonable to show unmarried couples as sexual intercourse also takes place between couples who are not married. To increase awareness, it is required that advertisements show unmarried couples too.’

This paper draws from the research findings of 36 in-depth interviews across three socio-economic status groups and three generations. Since, mid 1990s there has been a major transformation in depicting intimate relationship in advertisements for contraceptives in Bangladesh. Whilst advertisements for pills continued presenting birth control within a marriage framework, condom advertisements initiated portraying sensuous sexual moments, which are heterosexual yet in most cases the marriage frame remain absent. Hence, the interviews were conducted to understand women’s responses to new-old (non) normative presence of sexualities in relation to their lived experience of sexualities. Whilst I do not attempt to reach to a generalised conclusion about women’s perceptions across the different classes and generations, yet a selection of respondents from these different social groups and their intersecting perspectives placed me in a privileged position to comprehend social realities from a wider context.

**Self Construction in Care Relationship: The Role of Food and Feeding**

Brombin, A., Belloni, E.
( Università degli studi di Padova)

Many studies (Flandrin, Montanari, 1997; Lupton,1996; Warde,1997) propose a body of concepts in which the imaginative and symbolic aspects of alimentary practice are interpreted not only as means of social identity affirmation (Bourdieu, 1983), but also as variables which are fundamental to the creation of individual identity. Thus according to a constructionist perspective, identity is considered as always constructed and negotiated in interaction with others. Starting from these premises this study aims to explore the ways of self construction related to feeding and the elderly-care which is seen as a specific kind of relationship where the identities usually seem to be rigid and unmoving. In order to elicit story of care, narrative interviews are conducted with seven primary caregivers (spouses, sons and daughters) of people with dementia. A content analysis focused on relational experiences in care, shows the importance of food and feeding in the construction of the identity for both the caregiver and the ill person. The theme of food appears as the symbolic border between three main dimensions: the recognition of self in interaction, the reconstruction of time and the expression of agency. These findings will be discussed providing some reflections on a theoretical level and on a more applied perspective.

**Doing Fieldwork: Researching the Everyday Relational Practices of Contemporary Communal Living in the UK**

Heath, S., Scicluna, R.
(University of Manchester)

This paper stems from an ESRC funded project titled, Under the Same Roof, which is exploring the different everyday relation practices of British contemporary communal living – housing cooperatives, cohousing projects, shared households and private lodgings. This research is focussing on four distinctive facets of communal living: economic, spatial, temporal and ideological. Through focusing on the intersection of these different facets within our four chosen contexts, and how they interact to generate a range of context-specific relational practices, we aim to illuminate the sociological possibilities and limits of communal living. Additionally, this research aims to contribute to a growing body of literature on non-familial relationships and forms of intimacy.

The aim is to bring out the process of doing fieldwork within the specific context of cohousing and housing co-ops. Co-housing projects and co-ops, both a type of intentional communities offer an alternative scenario to the more traditional setting of a home. Doing research within these settings provides some challenges in gaining access and conducting fieldwork, especially as there are a relatively small number of such living arrangements in Britain. Most communities are known to one another and have distinct histories. Making certain dimensions of daily life in such housing arrangements public might create tensions within the community. I contend that such challenges demand flexibility and imaginative reconfigurations in the ways research is conducted. Hence, I seek to offer some insights that might bring out new queries on the practicalities of doing fieldwork within the domestic and contemporary context of shared living.


Brownlie, J., Milne, E.J., Anderson, S.
(University of Edinburgh)

Sociologists, policy makers and, of course, those whose lives we research, share an interest in both understanding and creating social change. This paper explores this dual understanding of changing society through a focus on the
extant or everyday support, the give and take, and small acts of kindness that help us all to ‘get by’ or lead ‘liveable lives’. Although debates about the boundaries between formal, semi-formal and informal support are highly contested and politicised, these everyday practices themselves, by contrast, are often so routinised and/or mundane that they can pass entirely unnoticed. Sociologists have been engaged in recent years in mapping the demographic, technological and cultural shifts which have shaped the need for such practices in the first place (Blokland and Savage, 2008; Phillipson, 2007; Jones, Gilleard, Higgs and Day, 2012), but we still know very little about how they actually happen and about how they are shaped by and help to constitute the relationships within which they occur. In this paper we draw on a two year large scale qualitative study, funded by the JRF, which explores such practices through a multidimensional research design across three research sites within the Glasgow area (http://www.liveablelives.org.uk/). This paper considers some of the methodological and conceptual implications of researching these practices and how, in different communities (social and geographic, face to face and virtual) at particular times, we manage the affective and practical dimensions of proximity and distance in the context of needing, offering, regretting, refusing or asking for help.

Families and Relationships 2
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 09

Understanding the Phenomenon of Late Marriage among Professional Young Adults in Nigeria

Onyima, B.
(Nnamdi Azikiwe University)

Late marriage is a complex emerging phenomenon in modern societies, which could not be attributed to a single universalistic or generalized explanation. This complexity arises from direct and indirect modern socioeconomic constraints or realities in some developing countries such as Nigeria. In recent times, there has been a rise in the number of single unmarried Nigerian professional young adults, which is known as ‘left over men and women’. The phenomenon became more pronounced with the quest to be ‘modern and skilled’ as well as the gradual transition from the pre-modern choice of marriage partners by parents and relatives to the modern choice of marriage partners by the expectant individuals. This study employs the symbolic interaction theory as an explanatory framework to untangle the web of meanings attached to the ‘late marriage phenomenon’ in Nigeria as an event subjectively perceived from different lenses by both gender. Data were elicited from qualitative in-depth interviews of 40 (20 females, 20 males) randomly selected formal and informally skilled young professional adults while data were analyzed thematically based on study objectives. The study found that the phenomenon of late marriage is associated with multi-dimensional factors in which socioeconomic, religious, and cultural primordial traditions are prominent. It can be concluded that the Nigerian marriage market is saturated with implicit competition, constraints and conflicts brewing within an unorthodox new marriage market economy.

Women’s Non-parenting Intentions in Contemporary UK

Kurdi, E.
(Middlesex University)

One in five women born in 1960 remained childless, twice as many as among 1945 born women. Most developed countries show similar declining fertility patterns and a growing number of women decide on non-parenthood. The change in childbearing intentions reflects women’s newly gained freedom of contraceptive choice and their increased involvement in education and the labour force. Demographically childless women tend to be white, highly educated, and employed in higher positions. However, the phenomenon is more complex than mere professional aspirations; in fact some qualitative studies found that women valued aspects of their life, other than career as the main driving force for childless decision.

Following the population trends the topic of voluntarily childless gained momentum in the academic discourse. Qualitative studies have focused on the experiences of intentionally childlessness, the stigma attached to their choice and its management. This study aims to broaden understandings around the concept of ‘choice’ in non-parenting intentions by contextualising the decision within wider social parameters. Similarly fewer studies addressed adequately the fluidity of such decisions. Therefore this study also gives voice to women who have once identified as voluntarily childless, yet they now have parenting responsibilities.

An online survey was followed up by in-depth interviews to provide an insight to the nuances of the decision making process, as well as other aspects of voluntarily childless experiences.
‘Children are the Flowers of Heaven’: Understanding Value of Children from the Childless Women in Bangladesh

Nahar, P. (Durham University)

Since the consequences of involuntary childlessness closely relate to the value placed upon children by parents and society, a number of authors have provided insights into the value of children by means of studies on infertility both in the global North and South. In Bangladesh the dominant state ideology is to control fertility and infertility remained neglected as a state problem, where culturally ‘motherhood’ is mandatory. The cultural value of children from childless women’s perspectives in Bangladesh, who are victims of cultural exclusion due to their childlessness and undergo various negative socio-cultural consequences, has not been addressed before. I argue that childless women in particular understand far more features of the value of children for a woman in the Bangladeshi context than women with children. This article aims to provide a cultural dimension of valuing children from the perspective of childless women in the context which is a pronatalist, overpopulated, resource-poor, predominantly Islamic society. The paper is based on a qualitative study on infertility, using various qualitative research tools including, life-history, free-listing, pile-sorting, severity-ranking and focus group discussions. The study revealed, resource poor Bangladeshi childless women have a number of crucial motivations for wanting children, ranging through the economic, cultural, spiritual, emotional and political. To understand this complex relationship between valuing children and mandatory motherhood this article analyzed the value of children in the context of patriarchy. This article aims to break the silence on infertility within the discourse of reproductive health policy in Bangladesh.

Frontiers

Frontiers

Rogers Stevens Lecture Theatre 01

Changing Bodies – Changing Society

Four BSA Gender Study Group members will comprise a panel exploring the contentions and paradoxes of societies’ insistence on what constitutes normative worthy bodies. Drawing on a number of interdisciplinary theories of embodiment and structure this panel will contribute to the debate surrounding our changing understandings of bodies in society. Allen-Collinson’s paper: Feminist phenomenology and the changing running body: the pleasure/danger nexus will examine the shifting interplay of structure and agency experienced through the lived sporting body, and specifically focuses upon the changing nexus of pleasure and danger as corporeally experienced whilst running in ‘public’ space and place. In Yes, we can – challenging the mis/fit sexual body through Feminist Disability Studies Ana-Cristina Santos critiques the ways in which disabled women, as sexual citizens, are changing the way we look at sexed bodies. She focuses on disabled women challenging the notion of ‘misfit sexual embodiment.’ Ana-Lucia Santos in her paper: From ‘normality’ to transgression: intersex as a platform of resistance to the socio-sexual hegemony, will demonstrate the complexity of the human body, and shows how intersex as a ‘pathological deformation’ should be reconfigured through definitions of a “livable life” and in relation to the notion of “unconditional hospitality” to re-situate bodily difference to change the sexual system. Whilst Davy will demonstrate that the ‘gains’ of equality and diversity teaching in the medical, health and social care accreditation policies has changed from a sense of bodies to a sense of disembodiment in LGBT curricula in Higher Education.

Feminist Phenomenology and the Changing Running Body: The Pleasure/danger Nexus

Allen-Collinson, J. (University of Lincoln)

The female sporting body has been studied in myriad ways – both theoretical and methodological - over the past 30 years, including via a range of feminist frameworks. Despite this developing corpus, studies of sport only rarely engage in depth with the ‘flesh’ of the worked-out, sweating, panting, pulsating, lived female sporting body (Allen-Collinson 2011) and a more corporeally-grounded, phenomenological-sociological perspective (Allen-Collinson & Pavey, 2014) is needed to enrich our sociological understandings of women’s sporting/exercising ‘bodywork’. In this paper, I suggest that employing a sociological, feminist phenomenological framework can provide a powerful lens through which to explore narratives of the richly-textured, lived-body experiences of sport and physical activity. Drawing on data from a 3-year autoethnographic and autophenomenographic research project on female distance running, this paper examines the shifting interplay of structure and agency experienced in the lived sporting body, and specifically focuses upon the changing nexus of pleasure and danger as corporeally experienced whilst running in ‘public’ space and place.
Changing Bodies – Changing Society

Davy, Z.
(University of Lincoln)

Within medical, health and psychological accreditation policies for higher education the attempt to encourage the teaching of and be inclusive of ‘diverse communities’ in the curriculum has been argued to be a major breakthrough. Previously, teaching has tended to position heterosexuality and gender normativity—people conforming to social standards of what is ‘appropriate’ feminine and masculine behavior—as the primary context in which health and illness is viewed. Models of health care teaching that promotes these views of sexuality and gender identity over others can create a pedagogical environment in which gender stereotypes and heteronormativity—the cultural bias in favor of opposite-sex over same-sex sexual relationships — result in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people becoming ‘add ins’, if and when they are considered. Nonetheless, the breadth of language in the accreditation policies creates a situation in which LGBT people are disembodied from their lived experiences in curricula content. Drawing on interviews with academics teaching on medical, health and psychological undergraduate and postgraduate courses in the UK, this paper explores the synchronizations and contentions of teaching LGBT content to health students in light of structural and micro erasures. This paper will argue that the erasure of LGBT bodies at this stage of students’ ‘professionalization’ undermines sexuality and gender mainstreaming that may potentially influence the way that LGBT people are understood in healthcare practice and limit beneficial health outcomes.

Yes, We Can: Challenging the Mis/fit Sexual Body through Feminist Disability Studies

Santos, A.C.
(University of Coimbra)

In a context that is particularly disabling, masculinised and male-oriented, such as Portugal, disabled women are discriminated as women and as disabled people. In addition, disabled women, as a minority within a minority, often face multiple oppressions on grounds of class, economic and educational status, age and sexual orientation.

Drawing on the research Project Disabled Intimacies: sexual and reproductive citizenship of disabled women in Portugal, funded by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (reference no. PIHM/GC/0005/2008) and developed at the Centre for Social Studies, Univ of Coimbra, since April 2012, in this paper we take biographical interviews with disabled women as our point of departure to challenge the notion of misfit sexual embodiment.

The social construction of the impaired body as passive and dependent is conducive to a process of desexualisation, rendering disabled people inadequate for a full intimate life. The dominant biomedical model reinforces this process. Conversely, one cannot become a full citizen without the legal and social recognition of one’s intimate citizenship, which encompasses sexual and reproductive dimensions. These topics – which acquire additional layers of complexity in the case of women – are discussed by the participants in our study and point towards an urgent change in the way disability and sexuality are addressed by mainstream literature, institutions and the state.

From ‘Normality’ to Transgression: Intersex as a Platform of Resistance to the Socio-sexual Hegemony

Santos, A.L.
(University of Coimbra)

In 1984 Adrienne Rich said the body was our closest geography. This geography is consecutively challenged, transformed and un/done, and in this process culture plays a major role, constraining and changing how bodies become enacted and recognized.

Some bodies, at birth or in any other stage of life, or even in post mortem evaluation, are not likely to be spontaneously associated with any of the hegemonic categories: man and woman. Ambiguous genitalia, chromosomal variations, ‘aberrant’ secondary sexual characteristics are some of the attributes that an intersex body can experience.

Although biology demonstrates the complexity of the human body, most societies – especially Western ones – do not recognize intersex as one sexual variation, but as pathological deformation. This is done for the sake of preserving a normative binary sexual system, at the expense of recognizing the actual diversity which has always been in place.

Based on my master dissertation on feminist studies, this presentation critically illustrates the main sexual variations beyond the traditional binary system. Arguably, there is extensive empirical and theoretical ground to claim the need to speak of multiple sexes, instead of two. The Foucauldian notion of biopolitics is relevant to understand the control over bodies that still operates nowadays. In this regard, contemporary philosophy – namely the Butlerian definition of ‘livable life’ in relation to Derrida’s notion of ‘unconditional hospitality’ – is particularly useful to re-think and re-situate
bodily difference. I suggest intersex is essential for deconstructing the binary system and allowing for the recognition of a positive sexual variation.

**Medicine, Health and Illness 1**

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 02

**Experiencing Obesity in an Unequal World: The Muted, Desiring Body under Neo-liberalism**

*Bissell, P., Peacock, M., Blackburn, J., Smith, C.*

(University of Sheffield)

Despite the now well-documented social gradient in obesity, there are relatively few qualitative studies which locate the experiences of living with obesity in the context of social inequality. This paper addresses this omission, drawing on data from biographical interviews with obese adults living in socio-economically disadvantaged parts of northern England. We found that participants sought to position themselves as responsible, autonomous agents when accounting for their weight. We also highlight the often painful biographical work undertaken by participants where food practices and life histories were positioned in opposition to mainstream discourses of personal failure. We suggest these accounts can be viewed as weak forms of protective resistance, against 'hostile' anti-obesity discourses.

We also describe two additional themes. Firstly, we report on participants sometimes visceral but muted accounts of the enjoyment and desire associated with consuming food. We suggest that whilst these practices can be understood as providing sources of comfort and pleasure for self and others, they also appeared to have another purpose which was to establish spaces for agency and control in lives shaped by disadvantage. Secondly, we highlight how 'excess' food consumption and 'poor' decision-making around food can also be understood in the context of the growing literature around decisions made under scarcity and precarity. Finally, using Lazarrato’s notion of the ‘entrepreneurial self’ under neo-liberalism, we argue that living with obesity in an unequal world not only constructs embodied identities but also shapes capacities for discursive resistance and protection.

**Social Position and Lifestyle: Understanding the Social Variation of Cardiac Rehabilitation**

*Dumas, A., Savage, M., Bergeron, C., Diotte, J., Smith, A.*

(University of Ottawa)

The social distribution of cardiovascular diseases has been widely disseminated in studies on the social gradient in health. Although these diseases remain one of the leading causes of premature mortality and disability, health institutions and cardiac rehabilitation programs have not attained their desired health outcomes, especially among the most vulnerable groups of the population. This large study qualitatively examines the social variation of cardiac rehabilitation between 60 men from contrasting socioeconomic environments. By drawing on Pierre Bourdieu's sociocultural theory of practice, analysis of in-depth interviews clearly indicate that precarious living conditions obstruct healthy lifestyles and diminish the quality of social environments required for long-term physical recovery. In conclusion, this study calls into question health policies that have little to no consideration of embodied practical knowledge and lived experiences.

**Understanding High Rates of Chronic Heart Disease and Type 2 Diabetes: A Case Study of the Gujarati Community in Nottingham**

*Patel, R., Shaw, I.*

(University of Nottingham)

The increasing levels of chronic heart disease and type 2 diabetes amongst the South Asian community have been referred to as being 'epidemic' (South Asian Heart centre, 2011) and thus a significant priority for the NHS. There are several contributing factors to this including evidence of lower genetic 'trigger levels', smoking, alcohol use, cultural resistance to exercise and high cholesterol diets. However, in comparison to the white British community the most important contributing factor to CHD (and also to increased incidence of Type 2 Diabetes) has been recognised as 'food choice' and exercise. However, there is also a problem of ecological fallacy when trying to generalise 'South Asians' as a homogenous group when researching cultural and lifestyle factors to explain such health patterns in specific communities. This presentation will explore my qualitative research which addressed Gujarati identity, lifestyle and resistance to change in terms of diet and exercise which was prominently culturally located. I will discuss three key threads which were revealed from my semi-structured interview data: the importance of a traditional Gujarati diet
and its relationship with religion and cultural beliefs, Ayurveda and herbal foods and attitudes towards exercise. From my findings I argue, we currently find ourselves in a changing society, a diverse society and in order to tackle such health issues which have a distinctive relationship with contributory cultural factors, intervention must be made at a community level. Also, in order to promote effective change policy development has much to learn from communities.

Independent Experts or Socially Engaged Advocates: How Should Health Inequalities Researchers Work to Achieve Evidence-informed Social/policy Change?

Smith, K., Stewart, E. (University of Edinburgh)

Researchers often cite Prussian physician Rudolph Virchow's declaration that physicians are 'the natural attorneys of the poor' when defending a perceived need to do more than 'simply' research health inequalities. Yet, there remains a great deal of uncertainty about the appropriate role for academics in promoting particular kinds of change. Moreover, there is currently no clear agreement as to what health inequalities researchers ought to be advocating or how they might combine this kind of 'impact orientated' work with their 'scientific' credibility. This paper draws on various qualitative sources (including an online survey of 92 researchers with an interest in UK health inequalities; 54 interviews and 15 focus groups with members of public health research, policy and advocacy communities) plus a comprehensive literature review to examine these issues. First it considers researchers’, policymakers’ and advocates’ perceptions of post-1997 progress in tackling and understanding health inequalities in the UK. Second, it explores what kinds of policy proposals health inequalities researchers appear to support and how they frame the role of research and advocacy within efforts to achieve these kinds of policies. Third, the paper discusses how researchers who do choose to engage in advocacy balance such work with their more traditional academic roles and identities. Finally, the paper brings the findings together by reflecting on how different actors seem to interpret ‘public health advocacy’ and considering who is perceived to be a legitimate and credible ‘advocate’ and (crucially) who is not.

Patient Perspectives on Where to Dialyse: Divergent Notions of Freedom in Patient Experience of Chronic Illness

Allen, K. (University of Birmingham)

The importance of patient choice and the promotion of care closer to home have become strong themes in UK health policy over the last decade. Within end stage renal care treatment choice and self-led care at home are becoming increasingly central to service redesign. This paper draws on findings of a service evaluation of four Acute Trusts’ approaches to increasing the uptake of dialysis at home (2011-2013). It focuses on qualitative data from 100 dialysis patient interviews examining treatment choices and experience of illness. The paper explores some key differences between patient responses that underline the individual nature of patient preferences and routes to empowerment. In fact findings revealed that the home-based treatments being promoted offered a liberating option for some patients to take control of their own care, yet posed a significant and unwanted responsibility to others. Findings add to sociological understandings of the concept of wellbeing, specifically building on Aujoulat’s (2008) reconceptualization of empowerment, critiquing models of self-efficacy in chronic illness. For practitioners the study raises the complex issue of balancing person-centred approaches while undertaking service changes with self-care goals. At a policy level the study points to inherent dangers of conflating patient wellbeing with control.

Negotiating Harmonious Relationships Through Health-related Practices

Braybrook, D., Robertson,S., White, A., Milnes, K. (Leeds Metropolitan University)

The beneficial effects of marriage and partnerships on health have long been noted in the literature, but most studies considering partner involvement focus on heterosexual spouses. Given the privileged position that such relationships put individuals in to influence their partner’s health and help-seeking practices, it is important not only to consider heterosexual couples, but also couples of other sexualities. One way that partners influence each other is via health-related social control, for which partners are often found to be primary providers. Numerous studies have reported these mechanisms within heterosexual relationships, yet literature on gay couples is scarce. The current study, carried
out in England, uses empirical data from in-depth interviews to investigate the health-related social control exerted by gay men in committed relationships, and how they make attempts to affect their partner's health and help-seeking practices. Furthermore, why partners attempt to influence each other's health, and emotions stemming from such attempts, are explored. The paper provides a novel conceptualisation of influence attempts as part of a broader relationship model, rather than in isolation. In the past, reasons for influence attempts have been briefly addressed, yet it often appears assumed that attempts occur simply because partners care. Whilst caring for a partner's wellbeing is undoubtedly important, this paper will examine health-related influence attempts critically, locating identity, agency and self-interest as three central concepts. The results feed into an emerging theory of 'negotiated harmony', in which maintaining health, identity and autonomy are entwined in the joint endeavour of orchestrating harmonious partnered living.

Treatment Burden: What is it and Why Does it Matter? Findings From A Qualitative Study with Multimorbid Heart Failure Patients

Macdonald, S., Mair, F., Browne, S., Macleod, U., May, C. (University of Glasgow)

Heart Failure (HF) is a common condition characterised by morbidity, mortality and adverse effects on quality of life. Advances in treatment for HF do improve outcomes, but management is often suboptimal. People with HF experience complexity not only because the management of HF itself represents a demanding job of work for the patient but also increasingly additional work is derived from managing HF alongside other long term conditions. It is estimated that 97% of HF patients manage at least one co-morbid condition.

Different combinations of illnesses multiply the tasks of self care, adding layers of disability that make the wider patterns of work that sickness requires, steadily more difficult. Contemporary healthcare is built on a specialised division of labour, that rarely considers co-morbidity, but as they continue to multiply so the burden of treatment grows.

We aimed, via qualitative methods, to identify, describe, and explain the core components of treatment burden for multimorbid heart failure (HF) and to examine how the organisation of health services may affect treatment burden. Normalisation Process Theory was used as the underlying analytical framework.

Incoherence was a pervasive and key feature of participant accounts. Thus the core components of treatment burden were (i) the coherence work undertaken to make sense of diagnoses, prognoses and self management; and (ii) the effort involved in operationalising treatments and self management. Those with multimorbid HF experience the functional and dysfunctional effects of healthcare delivery which accumulate to have measurable effects on their capacity to operationalise treatments.

Rights, Violence and Crime

ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 12

LAW AND CRIME

‘I Collected Money Not Bribe’: Strategic Ambiguity and the Institutionalization of Corruption in Contemporary Nigeria

Dumbili, E. (Brunel University)

Recently, researchers have shown an increased interest in studying corruption in Nigeria. However, many of these studies have focused on the socio-economic consequences of corruption without exploring how corrupt practices are initiated, negotiated, executed defended and rewarded. Drawing on primary and secondary data, this study makes a novel contribution by exploring the language of corruption in Nigeria. It uses Eisenberg's Strategic Ambiguity theory to examine the extent to which Nigerians employ ambiguous languages and actions to initiate, negotiate, execute, defend and reward corrupt practices, and how this institutionalizes corruption in Nigeria. It argues that the language of corruption in contemporary Nigeria is fluid and often drawn from the combinations of a myriad of local languages, Pidgin English and the English language to suit every form of corrupt practice and every specific space in which corrupt practice is negotiated, executed or defended. It further explores how the ambiguous light punishment, outright non-punishment, state pardon of corrupt elites and the reward of other corrupt elites with government appointments engender corruption in Nigeria. The study highlights the fact that, though not all Nigerians are corrupt, those who
distance themselves from corrupt practices are seen as social misfit. The study discusses the implications of these developments, arguing that the war against corruption in Nigeria cannot be effective because, as those who appear to be fighting corruption are themselves corrupt, the frameworks with which corruption is fought are strategically manipulated to favour the corrupt elites.

**Invisible Workers’ Blood and Tear: Chinese Seafarers’ Compensation Claims for Occupational Casualties**

Shan, D.  
(Cardiff University)

This research explores the experiences of Chinese seafarers and their beneficiaries in compensation claiming processes following occupational casualties. For a long time, issues regarding seafarers’ rights in such cases have failed to attract substantial public attention. International and Chinese studies indicate that seafarers suffer higher risks of work-related injuries and deaths compared with ordinary land-based workers. Studies conducted in Australia and Canada also show that claimants for occupational casualties suffer extra psychological or physical harm during claim processes. However, there is little attention, in academic discourse, paid to the struggles of Chinese seafarers and/or their families in the processes of claiming compensation for work-related casualties.

The aims of this research are to examine the procedures for compensation claims and to explore individual experiences of that process to determine whether Chinese seafarers suffer extra harm during claim processes. Two major qualitative research methods, documentary analysis and semi-structured interview, are applied in this research. Preliminary findings based on an analysis of legal documents and records and interview data with the key informants, including claim handlers in shipping companies, maritime lawyers and judges in China, suggest that the compensation standards for occupational casualties of seafarers are not unified and the current social welfare system does not provide effective assistance for Chinese seafarers. The initial results therefore show that Chinese seafarers and their beneficiaries are most likely to suffer extra harm in the process, including intensive psychological pressures caused by the lack of procedural transparency and stigmatization by employers.

**From Chain Migration to Chain Deviation: The Effect of US Border Controls in Mexican Crime Rates and Criminal Violence**

Alonso, F.  
(European University Institute)

The main rationale of the United States (US) for increasing controls at their external borders is to provide a greater capacity for managing security threats. An increase in border controls can also deter irregular migration because it decreases migrants’ expectations of successful entry into destination countries. Therefore, potential irregular migrants may be persuaded to stay, but an ironic consequence of increasing border controls is that these people may constitute a worse security threat if labor opportunities do not increase in the formal or informal economies of their home countries because they may join transnational criminal organizations. Those who nevertheless opt for the dangerous path of irregular migration may also have a greater probability to become deviant nowadays than some years ago, as it is possible that the increase in border controls has also transformed the migrants’ environment, making it more criminogenic and violent.

**Risk, Globalisation, Climate Change and Beyond**

**ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 07**

**Corporate Influence on the Institutionalisation of the Precautionary Principle in the EU: An Analysis of Tobacco Industry Internal Documents**

Ozieranski, P., Miller, D., Gilmore, A.  
(University of Bath)

The precautionary principle (PP) is an important element of EU environmental and public health risk regulation. While its introduction to EU legislation has been extensively researched, little is known about the role of multinational corporations, an economically superior stakeholder, in the regulatory process. We analyse EU legislation, tobacco industry internal documents and publications employing a ‘power structure research’ approach to investigate the forms and extent of transnational tobacco companies’ influence on the institutionalisation of the PP in the EU in the late 1990s and early 2000s. The tobacco industry recognised the PP as a key regulatory threat and aimed to minimise its policy impact through advancing an alternative regulatory agenda including the concepts of structured risk.
assessment’ and ‘better regulation’. To this end, tobacco companies coordinated a ‘policy-planning network’ comprising transatlantic policy-discussion groups and specialised expert groups negotiating approaches to risk regulation preferred by different industries and supplying them to policy-makers. Furthermore, tobacco companies facilitated an ‘opinion-shaping process’ through sponsoring conferences and co-opting experts and civil society organisations. These corporate-supported initiatives developed policy ‘narratives’, involving manipulation of risk science, to discredit the PP. Internal discussions of industry representatives show that, unlike environmental groups, corporations supported the approach to the PP eventually adopted by EU institutions. Overall, the extent of, often covert, corporate influence on risk regulation is concerning, especially given the recent turn away from the PP in EU policy circles. The research suggests that conceptions of the policy process should incorporate covert and third party proxy influences on policy-making.

Assessment of Socio-economic Impact of National Electricity Power Transmission Project at the community level: Reality or Illusion in Nigeria

Oluwadare, C.
(Ekiti State University)

This paper examines the attitudes and potential actions of rural dwellers to the construction of a 330 power substation and power line in Ondo State, Nigeria. National experiences inform that such is a potential source of communal conflict, insecurity and abandonment of the entire project. 450 survey respondents were selected among about 200,000 population using two stage sampling process in a local government area affected by the project. Also eight focus group discussions were conducted to provide in-depth information to the research questions. From the analysis, most of the respondents who were government workers, farmers and youth artisans were supportive of the project and they all expect a better economic impact to their livelihood. to them, electricity will be more available for their businesses. But they are fearful of their farms, houses and shops being demolished without adequate compensations paid at all or paid to wrong persons. This is the past experience of governments taking over lands without rightful information and compensation. Over 60 percent of the respondents and discussants affirmed readiness to sacrifice their property in the hope of a better life when the project is completed. But they should be informed through their traditional leaders, rather than political leaders, of the process. The paper concluded that though the project is highly needed and desirable as affirmed by the people, it will disappoint the population since most of their fears will not be allayed except public officers and contractors are ready to engage with the communities.

Success Factors in Disaster Prevention and Protection Collaboration: From the NGO Perspective

Tseng, C-Y., Huang, C-F., Chung, S-A.
(National Kaohsiung University of Applied Sciences)

Due to the fact that natural disasters hit Taiwan and they may affect or have caused severe damage every year, this study thus aims to explore what the factors are to achieve successful disaster prevention and protection by analyzing the interaction relationship of the disaster prevention and protection between the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the Taiwanese government. The semi-structured in-depth interviews involving open-ended questions are the main sources of data collection of this study. Interviews were conducted with six senior heads, four CEO, one vice secretary and one social worker working in various disaster rescue associations of NGOs. Respondents were asked a series of questions focusing primarily on their experiences and opinions about participating in rescue actions as well as on the governmental policies and actions related to disaster prevention and protection. Interviews were tape recorded, transcribed verbatim and then analyzed. The interview data indicate that respect, mutual trust, and mechanism of good communication between the NGOs and the Taiwanese government are regarded as crucial factors contributing to the success of disaster prevention and protection. What is more, the findings point out the importance of establishing complementary relationship in the supply of sufficient material and professional human resources as well as good managerial mechanism between the NGOs and the government, which facilitate the disaster prevention and protection.
Ethnicity and Low Wage Traps: The Importance of Informal Workplace Processes in Labour Market Segmentation


There has been a stark increase in in-work poverty in the UK and low paid working lives are being shaped by changes in work and employment. The evolving landscape of low paid work includes a polarisation of ‘good’ and ‘bad’ jobs, a blurring of boundaries between the private, public and voluntary sectors (and related employer accountability for equalities), mini jobs and working hours underemployment, skills underutilization, living wage campaigns and superdiversity.

This paper will draw on recent Joseph Rowntree Foundation funded research to explore the dynamics of low wage ‘traps’ engaging with this changing landscape and the persistent over-representation of ethnic minority women and men in low paid work. The research involved in-depth case studies in England and Scotland in public, private and voluntary sector organisations; 65 interviews with low paid workers and 43 with managers.

Critically engaging with theories of labour market segmentation (LMS), integral to which are the macro, meso and micro-level dynamics of poverty traps, the paper will explore how while LMS acknowledges the role of household resources and labour market power, it understates the significance of institutionalized disadvantage. Focusing on the role of informal workplace subcultures in reinforcing poverty traps, the paper will consider restrictive workplace cultures of training, development and progression. It will also scrutinize social networks and the micro-politics of decision-making, policy implementation and unequal treatment that further help to constrain the enablement of low paid worker capabilities; and inhibit the potential for equal opportunities policies to institutionalize (super)diversity rather than racism and disadvantage.

Identity Work among Aspiring Low-paid Workers: Negotiating the Role of Ethnicity in Work-‘places’

Netto, G., Hudson, M., Noon, M., Sosenko, F., de Lima, P., Cildhrist, A., Kamenou-Aigbekaen, N. (Heriot-Watt University)

Studies on identity negotiation have recognised that while organisations attempt to control and shape workplace identities, individuals exercise agency in negotiating their identities and workplace opportunities. However, individuals’ ability to negotiate their identities is dependent on the strategies and resources available to them, and these are shaped by power dynamics within organisations. Drawing on in-depth qualitative research carried out in nine large organisations in Scotland and England in the public, private and voluntary sectors, this article focuses on low-paid worker attempts to negotiate their identities in order to progress to better paid work. Identity work among low paid workers is conceptualised as both driven by socio-economic struggle and constrained by such struggle. Further, we reveal that an important component of identity work carried out by ethnic minority workers is negotiating organisational use of ethnicity as a resource within the historical and social context of minority ethnic over-representation in low-paid work. We introduce the concept of work-‘places’ to draw attention to the physical and psychological experiences of organisations and their contribution to progression opportunities.
‘I Should Have Married an Englishman’: The Perceived Impact of the Husband’s Ethnicity on Gendered Division of Household Labour for East Asian Migrant Women in England

Lim, H-J.
(University of Bath)

Whilst there are many studies investigating the gendered experiences of migrant women, little research has been conducted to examine the perceived impact of their husband’s ethnicity on the gender division of housework. Therefore, this study aims to contribute to this by exploring East Asian women’s narratives about gender division of household labour with particular focus given to the ethnicity of their husbands. The data was collected via life history interviews with 30 East Asian migrant mothers living in England. Employing the concept of intersectionality, the husband’s ethnicity is used as a major intersecting factor in understanding gender relations within the family among East Asian women in this study. The findings suggest that husband’s ethnicity affected gender relations between couples. The accounts of the majority of Japanese women who got married to white British men reveal household work was shared either equally or to some extent between couples. By contrast, the narratives of the majority of Korean and a minority of Chinese women indicate that they took sole responsibilities for household labour even if some of them had full-time employment. Also, East Asian women’s accounts show racialised understanding of gender, presenting British men as egalitarian and participatory in childcare, contrary to the depiction of East Asian men as traditional and patriarchal. However, further analysis of the data reveals the persistent gender divided relations between couples, with the majority of the women, including most of those whose husbands were British, continuing to take the primary responsibility for household labour.

‘White Shadow’: A Case Study of Polish Migrants and School choice

Thatcher, J.
(University of East London)

Focusing on Polish migration, this paper will seek to explore the role that age, class and race have in shaping ‘the migrant experience’. Through studying a set of predominantly ‘white’ migrants, the often-perceived stereotypical opinion that Polish migrants are seen as possessing a ‘desirable’ cultural proximity to British people – in comparison to other migrant groups – is challenged by analysing the migrants’ feelings and experiences about their own and that of their children’s interactions with British people in the educational field. Narratives of social divisions, ethnicity and education markets in two English cities are explored. Like other educationally successful migrant ethnic groups, Polish migrants often displayed ambition and a strong understanding of deferred gratification (Reay et al, 2011). Interesting questions about middle-class advantages in education are questioned as the majority of the Polish parents were educated to master degree level, leaving professional employment in Poland to frequently work in low-skilled employment in the UK. However, in the case of Polish migrants it becomes hard to generally detangle this aspiration from their former class position in Poland. As generation Y children, they grew up influenced by the Cold War Era and were in school when the Soviet Union collapsed; they were educated in a period of transition often trapped between a crumbling communist system and the influx of capitalism. Furthermore, the paper seeks to understand if ‘whiteness’ can really act as a form of cultural capital in Britain, showing that Poles are not always accepted as ‘white’.

Migrant Families and Austerity in a Northern UK Town: In the Absence of Services

Mort, L.
(Manchester Metropolitan University)

This paper will examine the experience of newly-arrived migrant families in the context of austerity. The narratives of families and of a voluntary agency that supports families to settle in a northern UK city will be considered concurrently in order to gain a unique understanding of the everyday lived experience of austerity both from the perspective of the service and of the ‘service user’. Austerity as a practice increases social divisions both by restricting the rights of those who are ‘othered’, and by enforcing the withdrawal of public and third sector support systems. It can also be seen to be a discourse that has infiltrated our everyday lives, alongside increasing anti-immigration sentiment, which perversely scapegoats migrants as a burden on the public purse. Through ethnographic research within a voluntary agency and through narrative interviews with migrant families a multi-layered account of austerity will be discussed. The account will consider how the voluntary agency’s fluctuating ability to provide services has consequences both
within and outside of the agency, and explore the response of migrant families to welfare restrictions and declining service provision in the area. The research analysis will be approached from an intersectional understanding of oppression, particularly looking at gendered and generational experiences within the family, and at the family as a particular site of morality within austerity and immigration discourse. In this super-diverse city, I will look to draw out the ‘everydayness’ of austerity through research that locates the experience of marginalised groups as central.

Social Divisions / Social Identities 3

Class and Age: An Unfashionable Intersection?
Payne, G.
(Newcastle University)

Among other issues, the Great British Class Survey raises an interesting question about the age of people in different social classes, in other words how age interacts with class. In sociological conceptualisation and research this interaction between social divisions has been unfashionable, compared for instance with the burgeoning gender/ethnicity/sexuality/class intersectionality literature. It is of course the case that there are the sub-fields of childhood, social gerontology, and to a lesser degree, the life course, but the age profiles of classes per se have not received as much attention.

This paper demonstrates age differences among classes, using national data, as the basis of a wider discussion of three main issues: career structures and social mobility; income and asset accumulation; and structural change in the labour market. It is argued that we should expect classes to differ in their age profiles, which poses the question of how far can we distinguish the effects of class from those of age. For example, is cultural capital in the form of consumption behaviour a class marker or a product of age, life experience in an earlier era, and old habits?

The final section of the paper connects this discussion to the underlying context of social divisions and intersection, drawing on the presenter’s book published in October 2013.

Perceptions of Social Structure and Inequality
Karlsson, L.
(Umeå University)

Asking people about how they perceive the structure of their society tells us how they visualize both inequality and the structure of the class system. Following the reference group theory and the concept of the ‘availability heuristic’, people tend to exaggerate the size of their own social group; where individuals who place themselves in the middle of the stratification system also view others as located in the middle. When taking individuals age into account the reference group theory has failed to give a sufficient explanation for the way individuals perceive their society (Karlsson, submitted article). A recent study reveals that age was the most important factor for perceiving Swedish society as highly equalitarian or elitist, after controlling for a wide array of factors like social class, class identity, subjective social placement and subjective social mobility (Ibid.). Results revealed that elderly individuals to a greater extent than others perceived society as elitist discussed as the elderly to a greater extent base their judgements of a societal order on life-course projection. In this paper the validity of the reference group theory will be further tested and compared among other western countries such as: Great Britain, USA and the other Scandinavian countries: Finland and Norway. The source material is derived from the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP) in 2009 (‘Social Inequality IV’) and the results will be analyzed using logistic regression analysis.

Looking back, Looking around, Looking forward: Understandings of Opportunities and Inequality at Transitional Moments
Snee, H., Devine, F.
(University of Manchester)

How do young people make sense of inequality? How do their parents talk about opportunities for their children to ‘get on’? This paper considers subjective understandings of the education and employment landscape faced by young people in a recession. It draws on qualitative research exploring the aspirations of young men and women as they completed compulsory education, and the hopes their parents had for their future. The young people all attended the same state secondary school in a town in North West England. The paper engages with work on class identities and
class dis-identification; subjective inequalities, particularly the ways that people locate their own social position through comparison to others; and the moral and emotional evaluations that take place at these moments.

The young people and their parents spoke about opportunities and inequalities in complex and sometimes contradictory ways. Both generations drew moral boundaries and made judgements based on implicit classed discourses, while at the same time expressing a commitment to universalism. Experiences of inequalities in access to resources (including those of their own parents) shaped the older generation’s hopes for their children, yet their subjective understandings were rarely articulated using the language of class. Their children recognised unfair treatment and a difficult job market, but their accounts were often individualised, and embraced the idea that success was possible through hard work. However, there was a more explicit recognition of gender inequality among the parents, although this articulated with reference to previous generations.

Ageing, Welfare and Wellbeing: An Exploration of the Meaning of Universal Benefits amongst Older People in the UK

Milton, S., Buckner, S., Green, J., Salway, S., White, M., Moffatt, S. (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine)

The ‘welfare state’ in 1940’s Britain was originally envisaged as a commitment to the provision and assurance of care and services to enhance standards of living, seen as a universal right for all. Since the 1970’s however, with changes in political ideologies surrounding the perception of the state and its relationship with society and individuals, recipients of welfare have been increasingly stigmatised as ‘scroungers’ and ‘undeserving’ minorities. In times of austerity, the welfare state is currently the subject of much heated, emotionally charged and ideological discussion.

In this context, calls to reconsider universal benefits for older people are gaining weight across the political spectrum in the UK. Age specific discourses increasingly stigmatise older people as ‘better off’ than younger generations, while still receiving universal benefits that they do not need.

As part of a larger study exploring the intersections between ageing, welfare and wellbeing, this paper, based upon interviews with older people, explores the lived experiences of welfare in the UK. The meanings, value and stigmatisation of different types of universal and means tested benefits are explored. In the face of potential cuts and changes to the welfare system in the UK, this paper provides an empirical investigation of the meaning of welfare and benefits amongst older people in the UK, with a focus on how the introduction of conditionality might impact on daily lives; potentially fostering an increase in social divisions and inequalities.

Sociology of Education 1
ROGER STEVENS LECTURE THEATRE 05

School Influences on Out-group Attitudes and Inter-group Contacts

Papapolydorou, M. (University of Greenwich)

Over the last decade policy makers, politicians and academics have engaged in important debates regarding the effects of cultural diversity on the networks and attitudes of people (Cantle 2000; Commission for Integration and Cohesion 2007; Putnam 2007; Hemming 2011; Department for Communities and Local Government 2012). Schools are often at the centre of these debates as they are seen as important components of their communities and are expected/hoped to contribute to the promotion of social cohesion. In turn, the characteristics of schools, namely their ethnic composition and/or religious ethos, are the subject of controversy vis-a-vis the opportunities they can afford students to develop and maintain a) positive out-group perceptions, such as attitudes of tolerance toward ethnic and religious ‘others’, and b) inter-group networks, such as inter-ethnic and inter-faith friendships.

This symposium comprises three papers, which discuss these issues in the school context of England drawing on empirical research. The first paper uses quantitative data from the Citizenship Education Longitudinal Study (CELS) to address questions about the extent to which schools’ ethnic diversity is associated with adolescents’ civic attitudes. The second paper draws on qualitative data from in-depth interviews with teenage students to explore their inter-ethnic friendship formation and attitudes within ethnically diverse schools. The third paper adopts a mixed-method approach and focuses on the impact of faith schools on students’ attitudes of tolerance. The aim of this symposium is to stimulate discussion among the conference delegates on these timely issues and encourage the generation of new ideas for further research.
Ethnicity and Students’ Friendship Formation in Ethnically Diverse Schools

Papapolydorou, M. (University of Greenwich)

This paper attempts to explore the role of ethnicity in the friendship formation of students within ethnically diverse schools. Friendship formation across and within ethnic groups is relevant to social capital theory, which is widely discussed in the academic community. Putnam (2007), one of the main social capital theorists, has argued quite controversially on the basis of his area-level data in the US that ethnic diversity reduces social capital both across and within ethnic groups, even when controlling for income levels. This paper investigates the extent to which Putnam’s suggestions are valid in another context such as multi-cultural schools in London.

The data is drawn from individual interviews and focus groups carried out with Year 12 students from different ethnic backgrounds, who studied in four London ethnically diverse schools. All data was transcribed verbatim and analysed using a thematic content approach.

Findings suggest that Putnam’s model does not hold true in the case of ethnically diverse schools in London, as most students formed both inter-ethnic and intra-ethnic friendships. Furthermore, most students expressed positive thoughts about the ethnic diversity of their school. Yet, a smaller group of students considered inter-ethnic friendships difficult to form and maintain. A number of barriers were brought forward that related to perceptions of ‘otherness’ and to lived and/or feared experiences of racism. The paper concludes that despite the positive inter-ethnic mixing of most young people within ethnically diverse schools, impediments, such as racism and individual attitudes, still hinder the formation of inter-ethnic friendships among some students.

School Ethnic Diversity and Adolescent’s Civic Attitudes in England

Janmaat, J.G. (Institute of Education, University of London)

The current paper investigates the effect of school ethnic diversity on adolescents’ civic attitudes in England. These attitudes concern inclusive dispositions towards immigrants, social trust and perceptions of an open climate of discussion, which are widely considered to be core values underpinning liberal democracy. Use is made of panel data of the Citizenship Education Longitudinal Study (CELS) to explore these relationships. Ethnic diversity is measured with two indices at the school grade level: ethnic fractionalisation and minority proportion. With regards to inclusive attitudes on immigrants the paper finds that the positive effect of diversity disappears once prior levels of the outcome are included in the model. This points to the occurrence of selection effects. Diversity further appears to have a negative impact on trust, while it shows no significant link with perceptions of open discussions. These results apply for both ethnic majority and ethnic minority respondents.

The Importance of Perceived Threats to the Faith Community in Determining the Impact of Faith Schools on Their Students’ Attitudes of Tolerance

Everett, H. (National Foundation for Educational Research)

The ability of faith schools to develop their pupils’ attitudes of tolerance is frequently questioned in the media and by academia. In particular concerns are raised about schools which are run by groups who subscribe to fundamentalist interpretations of their faith.

This paper draws on mixed methods research into the impact of faith schools on their students’ attitudes of tolerance, conducted in four faith and two non-faith secondary schools in England. It compares the attitudes of tolerance of students in two schools: an Evangelical Christian school and a Muslim school, each of which subscribes to a fundamentalist interpretation of their faith. It explores who students compare themselves with and thus perceive the ‘out-group’ to be, and focuses on the students’ tolerance of those whose behaviour contravenes their religious beliefs. The findings suggest that schools run by groups holding fundamentalist beliefs do not necessarily have a negative impact on their students’ attitudes of tolerance. Rather, negative impacts are likely to occur when fundamentalist beliefs coincide with perceptions of threat (both internal and external) to the faith community associated with the school. In these circumstances it is suggested that the intimate link between the school and its particular community results in the school reinforcing, rather than challenging, the students’ perceptions.
A Sad Story: The Impact of Ethnic Narrative Identity on the Underachievement of Students from Minority Groups in Secondary Education – An Italian Case Study

Farini, F. (Middlesex University)

Recent data from Italian Ministry of Education show that students from Ethnic Minority Groups (EMG) are underachieving, particularly in secondary schools where their failure rate (38.8% in school year 2011-2012) doubles the one of Italian students.

In the Italian pedagogical and political debate, the most frequently cited explanations for ethnic gaps in educational attainments relate to: 1) linguistic competence, 2) differences in socio-economic status. However, both explanations are not satisfactory.

With regard to linguistic competence, it must be considered that 95% of students from EMG enter secondary schools having completed primary schools in Italy. Moving on to the issue of socio-economic status, data show that students from EMG are underachieving also with respect of Italian students of the same socio-economic status. While linguistic competence and socio-economic status can contribute to ethnic gaps in educational attainments, further research is needed.

This presentation discusses the results of a research exploring how narrative identities impact on EMG students’ failures. Drawing on focus groups in 27 secondary schools, the research shows that EMG students’ identity as underachievers focuses on three factors, connected to marginalization: 1) lack of positive relations outside their ethnic group, 2) deprivation of political and social rights, as a consequence of the legal status of ‘stranger’, 3) expectations of few life chances, connected to inequality.

On the basis of these findings, this presentation aims to elicit discussion on how perceived conditions of marginalization, social disengagement, feeling powerless and frustration reinforce each other, favouring ethnic gaps in educational attainments.

Completing the Circuits: Extending the Theoretical and Empirical Scope of Circuits of Education

Gamsu, S. (King’s College London)

Circuits of education have been at the heart of sociological and geographical approaches to understanding the intersection between schools and urban change (Ball, Bowe and Gewirtz 1995; Butler with Robson, 2003; Bridge, 2006; Butler and Hamnett, 2011). This research agenda has largely focussed on the concerns of middle class school choice at the secondary stage in gentrified neighbourhoods of Inner London. However, this literature has also suggested that school choice is a ‘cumulative’ process, with parents constructing the school career of their children at the point of pre-school and primary school choice with consequential institutional destinations further ‘downstream’ (Ball et al. 2004). In this article I explore the cumulative effects of different patterns of school choice over the course of students’ educational careers, from primary to secondary school, to post-16 and up to the point of higher education choice. These ‘completed’ circuits of education are examined through a mixed methods approach using both qualitative interviewing of sixth form students in North London and Sheffield with data from the National Pupil Database to visualize and map students’ trajectories over the course of their schooling. This empirical extension of the concept of circuits of education reveals the segmentation by class and ethnicity of students’ educational trajectories over the course of their educational careers, rather than merely at one single stage or transition. Moreover, by examining circuits of education across the metropolitan and provincial urban divide, I highlight and qualify earlier research claims about the uniqueness of circuits of education in London.

Parents’ Informality: The Hidden Involvement of Middle-class Parents in Primary Schooling

Nast, J. (King’s College London)

Parental involvement is a “hot” topic in educational policy. Research has focused on its effect for school efficacy and children’s learning. Yet, such approaches have been intensively critiqued for being ignorant to social context: parents’ social and cultural capital shapes their involvement and their ability to “effectively” participate in their children’s schooling (Cozier, 1997, 2000; Lareau, 1987; Vincent, 1996). Yet, in this paper, I argue that there is an additional
dimension of inequality that often remains hidden: middle-class parents’ informal strategies of involvement. Based on ethnographic fieldwork in three primary schools in Berlin, Germany, the paper argues that middle-class parents are not only better equipped to use their capital within the field of official school regulations to support their children. They are also better equipped to get around regulations, to avoid rules, and to “outsmart” the school—by “dealing” engagement for favours, by threatening to leave the school, or by not only helping but actually doing their children’s homework. The paper highlights these informal practices and contextualizes them within the increasing pressure of marketization in schooling. Schools often go along with these strategies as they are facing similar market pressures and have to compete for “good” pupils. The paper concludes by highlighting the importance of informal practices—usually associated with deprived groups—for the middle-class and the role of cultural and social capital not only for formal but increasingly also for informal strategies of succeeding in society.

Revisiting Basil Bernstein: Social Class and Curriculum Studies

Lee, T.L.T. (Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Drawing on the case of Hong Kong’s recent curriculum reform, this study examines how the micro-educational processes of social class inequality are related to curriculum and pedagogy. The underlying question is: are there any curriculum-specific cultural advantages or disadvantages exhibited by students of different classes that contribute to differential achievement? The introduction of “Liberal Studies” as a core subject under Hong Kong’s new senior secondary education in 2009 shows the major attempt of a more thorough overhaul of local curriculum development moving towards so-called progressive education. Intuitively, one can expect that while tradition-oriented subjects and centralized examinations remain to be the main part of the senior secondary curriculum, the progressive features of the curriculum reform are likely to create new conditions and possibilities for educational competitions between classes. This study revisits the work of late British sociologist Basil Bernstein to decipher the organizing principles of how the transmission/acquisition process in Liberal Studies is class-biased, and how it affects student achievement. Based on interview data, the results show that class differences in how students study Liberal Studies are evidently manifested by their (mis-) understanding of specific pedagogic context and practice for study materials, mode of learning, testing and so on. Middle-class students tend to understand, in different ways, various forms of pedagogic context, and thus engage themselves in pedagogic practice effectively, as compared to their working-class counterparts.

Sociology of Religion

Good News to the Poor? Evangelical Leaders’ Perspectives on Class: Preliminary Reflections

McKenzie, J. (Durham University)

Sociologists of religion have observed the distinctly middle-class nature of many thriving networks and congregations within contemporary English evangelicalism. Research on evangelicalism has, however, often focused on the inequalities of gender and race, with limited analysis of the ways in which contemporary evangelicalism is shaped by class. This paper presents some preliminary findings based on qualitative data gathered through a number of semi-structured interviews with evangelical leaders. The interviews allowed for exploration of the perception of these leaders regarding the significance of the variable of social class. From the interviews, a number of questions are addressed: How do evangelical leaders reflect upon the issue of class? How is class ‘felt in the pews’ in evangelical congregations and networks? In what ways might class shape the beliefs, experience and ministry of evangelicals? It will be suggested that attention to class is critical in understanding evangelical identity and that a complex dynamic is at work, with class boundaries being both transgressed and reinforced within contemporary evangelicalism.

Human(ist) Rights: Negotiating a Place at the Table

Aston, K. (Goldsmiths, University of London)

My doctoral research looks at nonreligious ways of ‘being in the world’ (Asad, 2003); addressing the UK phenomena rationalism and humanism (Lee 2012) in their dynamic relationship with religion. Drawing on this, my empirical contribution explores questions of nonreligious rights. It was commonly asserted that morality and religion are
(wrongly) conflated, particularly in this historically Christian context. Further, geopolitical issues of migration, multiculturalism and pluralism have led visible endorsements of this narrative. The policies of New Labour (1997-2010) and the present government’s Faith Schools program, have ostensibly shifted the space for faith at the ‘public table’ (Dinham et. al 2009) marking religious groups as ‘repositories of resources’, as the go to for community cohesion and participative governance.

This leads to individuals distancing themselves from certain religious ethical practices (Engelke, 2012), often creating their own anew. Yet I propose that nonreligious organisations are also heavily reliant on human-rights discourses which align them with other ‘belief’ systems. Using ethnographic examples from humanist and rationalist institutions; the Rationalist Association and British Humanist Association, I will mark these changing discourses. How do ‘rights’ become produced in social action, thus affecting change? I address these questions, stressing secular discourses and their particular perceptions of religious institutions.

References
Engelke, Matthew (2012) ‘In spite of Christianity’ NSRN Annual Lecture

The Only Gay (Church) in the Village: Examining a Welcoming and Affirming Protestant Church in Belfast

Nielsen Donnelly, K.
(Queen’s University Belfast)

Northern Ireland is not a place often associated with progressive thought, especially in the realms of sexual orientation. The LGB&T community of N.I. is often spoken about in the wider culture as ‘unnatural’ ‘dirty’ ‘wrong’ and other such phrases.

A significant causal factor to those attitudes is the teaching of churches. While church attendance is decreasing, N.I. remains the area in the U.K. with the highest religious participation (NILT, 2012). The Christian churches in N.I. generally embrace doctrine which does not affirm the full personhood or civic participation of LGB&T persons. While there are some exceptions where such people are ‘welcomed’, there is only one known of where they are both ‘welcomed’ and ‘affirmed’.

This presentation will discuss that church, which actively promotes the civic rights of LGB&T persons, endorses religious leadership, marches in Belfast Pride and is spoken about around the city as ‘the gay church’. By drawing on ethnographic data of a year long study, this presentation will discuss how they are attempting social change both in religious and civic spheres.

Serving the City: Spatial Formations of Christian Resurgence in Gentrifying Neighbourhoods in London and Berlin

Schlüter, S.
(Humboldt University of Berlin and King’s College London)

The current social changes in cities across Western Europe are closely linked to a decline of Christian traditions. A vitality of contemporary Christianity seems only to be registered in immigrant churches (Garbin 2013), with most of the literature focused on diaspora religions or the social and cultural foundations of declining Christianity. In contrast, this paper highlights the tendency of new and growing urban congregations and their spatial formations in London and Berlin.

National churches often struggle with a decline in attendees at weekly services, especially in inner-city neighborhoods. The consequences are abandoned churches and merged congregations. However, there is a simultaneous process underway: the founding of new churches led by young and dynamic pastors. These churches attract the young urban middle-classes by creating new spaces for community and mutual interests.

This paper focuses on so-called ‘church-planting’ activities in London and Berlin as a way of ‘home-making’ (Eade 2012) for certain groups. The paper analyses the strategies, which church planters employ to attract ‘the creative classes’ in inner city neighborhoods, and presents some findings on the motives of church-attendees. The comparative analysis (Berlin/London) draws on semi-structured interviews with pastors and parishioners of recently planted churches.
Active Labour Market Policies and Social Integration in Germany: Do Welfare-to-work Programs Combat Social Exclusion?

Hohendanner, C., Gundert, S.  
(Institute for Employment Research)

Unemployment is a major risk factor of social exclusion. Perceived social integration is stronger among individuals who are active in the labour market than among unemployed individuals. This paper addresses the impact of active labour market policies (ALMP) on social integration. The focus is on the ‘One-Euro-Job’ workfare program, established in Germany in 2005 as part of a comprehensive reform of the labour market and welfare system. Being targeted at recipients of means-tested welfare benefits its principal objective is to improve and enhance the employability and social integration of hard-to-place unemployed individuals.

Against the background of labour market theories and evidence from social policy research we assume that ALMP have interpretive and resource effects that compensate for the social-integrative functions of employment and thereby foster the individual sense of being affiliated to society. Moreover, it is assumed that participation effects are related to the quality of interactions with welfare officials. We expect participation to be more effective, if benefit recipients’ interactions with welfare officials have a more participatory-supportive than paternalistic character.

The empirical analysis is based on the German panel study ‘Labour Market and Social Security’ (PASS). Applying standard and hybrid random-effects regression models we do not find an overall positive social-integrative effect of program participation. We find that the experience of being supported and integrated into decision processes by welfare officials implies a stronger individual sense of social integration. However, supportive contact with welfare officials does not seem to foster positive participation effects.

Impact of Atypical Employment on the European Demography

Tangian, A.  
(Hans Boeckler Foundation)

Since the 1990s the general employment insecurity has significantly increased in Europe. In addition to unemployment, the number of atypically employed, like part-time, fixed-term, or self-employed, has disproportionately grown. According to Labour Force Survey of Eurostat, the share of atypical employment (other than permanent full-time) has surpassed 40% in 10 of 27 Member States. The atypical employment is mostly non-voluntary and precarious. The crisis of 2008 has deteriorated the situation further.

Besides personal disadvantages, atypical employment implies also negative consequences at the macro level. In this paper, we analyze the impact of atypical employment on four factors: inequality, size of middle class, fertility, and migration. We characterize the situation in European countries for years 2000, 2005, and 2010 with the following variables: (1) % of atypical employment in the total employment; (2) inequality, measured by the Gini-coefficient; (3) size of middle class, measured in the ratio of 7-9 deciles to 2-4 deciles; (4) fertility, in number of children per woman (in the lifetime); (5) migration, in % of migration during the reference year 2000. It is shown with statistical certainty that the higher the share of atypical employment, the higher inequality, the smaller the middle class, the lower fertility, and the higher migration. These trends are becoming more salient, that is, these dependences are getting stronger with time. Predictions are also made for the situation in 2020 and 2030, showing that if the growth of atypical employment will continue the demographic situation in Europe will become critical.

Agency, Social Capital and Livelihoods: Stories of Majoori (Laboring) of the Gonds in Central India

Yadav, S.  
(University of Sussex)

In this paper, I extend the definition of social capital as defined by Pierre Bourdieu (1983, 1986, 1989) and Robert Putnam (1993, 2000) for the study of Gonds economic life in the village of Manor in the Panna district in central India. The Gonds find themselves hunting for unskilled wages within the state of Madhya Pradesh and the entire country in the form of temporary/unorganized/casual laborers. This phenomenon has escalated since 2008 due to the creation of a Tiger Reserve to protect the Tigers and the forests banning traditional forms of forest based livelihoods and has adverse impacts on the social and economic lives of the Gonds. I ask how to understand ‘labouring’ as an agency and social capital of the Gonds as temporary/unorganized labourers as they avoid falling into inferior conditions of life and to remain debt-free. Bourdieu’s ideas are important for us to understand the traditional symbolic meanings that are
associated with the process of social change driven by the state to the agrarian social base as Gonds who are subsistence and marginal farmers (1989). On the other hand, Putnam’s (1993, 2000) idea of social capital is equally essential to understand the newer forms of social capital that are being created with the Gonds’s integration to the unorganized labour market. How is this agency constituted? What are the necessary and sufficient conditions for the social capital of the poor like the Gonds?

Impact of Childhood Disability on Maternal Labour Force Participation Rates in Ireland: Factors Associated with Determining the Burden of Care on Mothers

Roddy, A., Cullinan, J. (National University of Ireland, Galway)

This paper investigates the impact of childhood disability on maternal labour force participation rates and the interplay between societal and familial factors that determine the burden of care. Using data from the first wave of the 9-year-old cohort of the national Growing Up in Ireland survey, the paper examines the association between the child's disability status and a range of maternal labour supply measures including labour force participation, turn down work activities because of family responsibilities, changes in weekly hours worked, the adequacy of special resources in schools and the distribution of household tasks between mothers and their partners. Overall the results suggest that mothers caring for a child with a disability are less likely to be participating in the labour force and are more likely to turn down work opportunities. Interestingly, mothers who do have a child with a disability who are participating in the labour force are significantly more likely to rank the adequacy of special resources in their child’s school as poor to fair in comparison to mothers not participating in the labour force who have a child with a disability. These unmet needs place greater financial strain on the family. In addition, these mothers are also more likely to rank the distribution of household tasks as fair in comparison to mothers caring for a child not participating in the labour force. Implications for public policy include the need to address these inequalities by formulating policies that provide appropriate supports and services.
Sociologies of Everyday Life
Call for Papers - Sociology Special Issue

Deadline for submissions: 31 August 2014
We are pleased to invite papers for consideration in the Sociology Editor’s Special Issue in 2015. The theme will be the Sociologies of Everyday Life.

Everyday life sociology is a well-established tradition in the discipline and interest in ways of understanding day-to-day worlds continues to be significant. These engagements are becoming increasingly interdisciplinary, across the social sciences as well as outside them. It is in this context that the 2015 Special Issue aims to provide a timely opportunity to take stock. This is intended to be a reflective moment – where has sociology arrived at in its attempts to think through the everyday? It is also intended to be an anticipative moment – what are the new logics, foci, approaches, uses, limits of sociologies of the everyday?

We aim to be able to collect together a series of papers that variously reflect the breadth and diversity of sociology’s enchantments and engagements with everyday worlds as well as the imaginative and innovative ways in which the discipline has sought to analyze and respond to it.

To see the full call for papers, please visit:
http://www.britsoc.co.uk/media/51136/sociologies_of_the_everyday_CFP.pdf

Submission Details:
Deadline for submissions: 31 August 2014 (full papers)
Word limit: 8000 words
Queries: To discuss initial ideas or seek editorial advice, please contact the special issue editors by email on sociology-editors@open.ac.uk

Submit: http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/soc

Full submission instructions are available on this site on the ‘Instructions and Forms’ page. Please read these in full well before submitting your manuscript.

All manuscripts will be subject to the normal referee process, but potential authors are welcome to discuss their ideas in advance with the editors.
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British Sociological Association 2014
23rd to 25th April, 2014
Conference Delegates Map

Key

Venues
Registration, Exhibition, Poster Sessions, Refreshments
Sports and Exhibition Centre

Paper and Plenary Sessions
Conference Auditorium 1 and 2
Rodger Stevens Building

Group Convenors Meeting
EC Stoner Building, Room 783

Conference Dinner
Refectory

Car parks
University visitors’ car parks (limited access) P
Other university car parks
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Taxi Rank
Pedestrian Only Area
Lawns

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78. EC Stoner Building
89. Roger Stevens Building
100. Conference Auditorium
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