



2022 VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Wednesday 20 to Friday 22 April

Building Equality and Justice Now



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Pei-Chia Lan - National Taiwan University
Nasar Meer - University of Edinburgh

PLENARY PANEL

Sociology Under Threat: International Solidarity:

Gargi Bhattacharyya - University of East London

Mariangela Graciano - Federal University of Sao Paulo, UNIFESP

Susan Halford (Chair) - University of Bristol

Iulius Rostas - National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (Bucharest, Romania)

Spyros Themelis - University of East Anglia

BRITISH
SOCIOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

www.britsoc.co.uk

#britsoc22

Building Equality and Justice Now

BSA Annual Conference 2022
Wednesday 20th – Friday 22nd April 2022
Wednesday 20th April 2022

Contents

Building Equality and Justice Now	3
Contents.....	3
Welcome	4
Programme at a Glance	5
Paper Session 1	8
Paper Session 2	25
Keynote Event	46
Paper Session 3	48
Stream Plenaries and Race Report.....	66
Presidential Panel	71
With Thanks and Gratitude.....	72

In this Programme

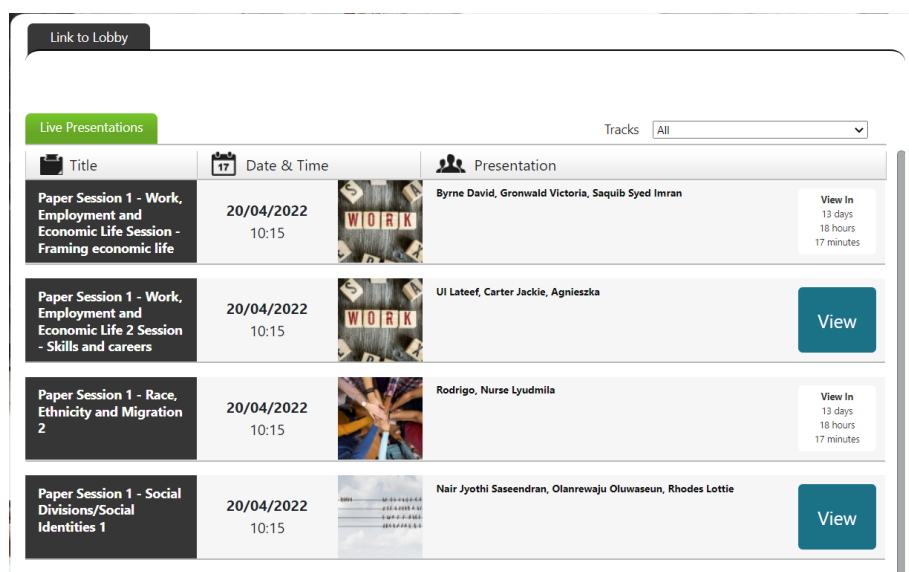
In this document, you will find the full abstracts for every session for the day. You may save a copy of this PDF document to your desktop or device for reference throughout the day. You can also use the search function (CONTROL+F) to search within this document for names, subjects and titles.

The link to the Conference Programme in the BSA Conference Lobby will update each morning to show the events of that day. To view abstracts for the full conference, please visit either *Conference Programme* or the *Resource Centre*.

To choose and watch sessions, please go to the AUDITORIUM.

You can access the auditorium from the BSA Conference Lobby. All sessions are listed by stream and author name. You can search for presentations you wish to see and can add them to your 'agenda' for the conference.

If you have any trouble accessing sessions, **please visit our Help Desk** from the BSA Conference Lobby.



The screenshot shows a web interface for the BSA Conference Lobby. At the top, there is a 'Link to Lobby' button. Below it, a 'Live Presentations' section is active, with a 'Tracks' dropdown menu set to 'All'. The main content is a table of presentations:

Title	Date & Time	Presentation	View In
Paper Session 1 - Work, Employment and Economic Life Session - Framing economic life	20/04/2022 10:15	Byrne David, Gronwald Victoria, Saqib Syed Imran	13 days 18 hours 17 minutes
Paper Session 1 - Work, Employment and Economic Life 2 Session - Skills and careers	20/04/2022 10:15	UI Lateef, Carter Jackie, Agnieszka	View
Paper Session 1 - Race, Ethnicity and Migration 2	20/04/2022 10:15	Rodrigo, Nurse Lyudmila	13 days 18 hours 17 minutes
Paper Session 1 - Social Divisions/Social Identities 1	20/04/2022 10:15	Nair Jyothi Saseendran, Olanrewaju Oluwaseun, Rhodes Lottie	View

Welcome

Welcome to the second Virtual British Sociological Association Annual Conference. The conference theme of **Building Equality and Justice Now** was chosen to encourage thinking about how sociology can contribute to working towards equality and justice as a post pandemic future began to seem possible. Since then the pandemic remains with us, particularly if we look globally, the invasion of Ukraine has occurred and other global conflicts remain. While this can feel overwhelming, it necessitates even more the need for dialogue and solidarity.

Our plenary speakers and panels are as follows:

- Nasar Meer (Edinburgh University)
- Pei-Chia Lan (National Taiwan University)
- Plenary Panel - Sociology under Threat: International Solidarity
 - Gargi Bhattacharyya, University of East London
 - Mariângela Graciano, Federal University of Sao Paulo, UNIFESP
 - Iulius Rostas, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, (Bucharest, Romania)
 - Spyros Themelis, University of East Anglia

In addition to these keynotes, delegates have the opportunity to view and discuss presentations on a wide range of topics. The conference is organised into different streams, each designed to represent one of the major areas of research sociologists are currently exploring. Each stream is open to any topic, enabling delegates to engage with colleagues in their areas of interest and expertise whilst also exploring a variety of other topics. Stream Plenaries bring key speakers together to reflect on the conference theme; there are also a number of open streams providing a forum for new, innovative and multidisciplinary work.

Thank you to everyone for contributing.

Mark Doidge, Janice McLaughlin, Rima Saini and Chris Yuill

BSA Annual Conference Organising Committee



Programme at a Glance

Wednesday 20th April 2022 - Day 1

10:15 - 11:30	Paper Session 1 with live Q&A to follow each session
11:30 - 11:45	Break
11:45 - 13:00	Paper Session 2 with live Q&A to follow each session
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
13:00 - 13:30	Open Forum – Facilitated by The Trustees
13:55	PAM PRIZE AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT
14:00 - 15:00	PLENARY KEYNOTE
	Nasar Meer Rima Saini (Chair)
15:00 - 15:15	Break
15:15 - 16:30	Paper Session 3 with live Q&A to follow each session
	Race Report Special Event
16:30 - 16:45	Break
16:45 - 17:45	Stream Plenaries & Special Activities
	Medicine Health and Illness
	Sociology of Religion
	Work, Employment and Economic Life
	Environment and Society
	Presidential Panel Session – Gurminder Bhambra

Thursday 21st April 2022 - Day 2

09:30 - 10:30	Stream Plenaries & Special Activities
	Rights, Violence and Crime
	Cultural Sociology Journal Session
	Raewyn Connell

	Marcus Morgan (Chair)
10:30 - 10:45	Break
10:45 - 12:00	Paper Session 4 with live Q&A to follow each session
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch
	MAXQDA WORKSHOP
13:00 - 14:15	Paper Session 5 with live Q&A to follow each session
	Official Book Launch: <i>The Cruel Optimism of Racial Injustice</i> by Nasar Meer
14:15 - 14:30	Break
14:30 - 15:45	Paper Session 6 with live Q&A to follow each session
15:45 - 16:00	Break
16:00 - 16:40	PLENARY KEYNOTE
	Pei-Chai Lan Janice McLaughlin (Chair)

Friday 22nd April 2022 - Day 3

09:30 - 10:45	Paper Session 7 with live Q&A to follow Each Session
10:45 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:15	Paper Session 8 with live Q&A to follow Each Session
	CITIES STREAM SOCIAL
12:15 - 13:15	Lunch
12:15 – 12:45	Open Forum – Facilitated by Trustees
13:15 – 14:15	PLENARY KEYNOTE – Sociology Under Threat Panel Gargi Bhattacharyya Mariangela Graciano Iulius Rostas Spyros Themelis Susan Halford (Chair)
14:15 - 14:30	Break
14:30 - 15:45	Paper Session 9 with live Q&A to follow each session
15:45 - 16:00	Break

16:00 - 17:00

Stream Plenaries & Special Activities

Families and Relationships

Theory

Science, Technology and Digital Studies

Race, Ethnicity and Migration

17:05

Closing remarks

17:15

Conference Closes

Paper Session 1

Wednesday, 20 April 2022

10:15 - 11:30

Cities, Mobilities, Place and Space

Withering Participation in 'Left Behind' Places? The Effect of Community Deprivation on Individual Political and Civic Membership

Franco Bonomi Bezzo, Anne-Marie Jeannet

(La Statale, University of Milan)

The aim of this paper is to understand how individuals' local community experiences of deprivation shape the way they participate in political associations. More specifically, we aim to answer the question: How does increasing community deprivation affect individuals' political and civic involvement? To test this, we exploit the spatial and temporal richness of the UK Household Longitudinal Study (UKHLS). With this data, we follow individual exposure to changing community deprivation over around 10 years (2010 to 2019) at a very granular community level where, on average, 3,000 people live (LSOAs). We measure community deprivation using the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) provided by the ONS as well as measures of subjective neighbourhood social cohesion through the Buckner index. For our outcome, we measure a multidimensional measure of political participation, which considers membership in national political parties, membership in trade unions and membership in residential associations. This multi-dimensional measure allows us to consider political participation at three different levels, the national, the workplace and the neighbourhood of residence. We use both longitudinal regression models and structural equation modelling (SEM) to demonstrate that while the direct effect of community deprivation has a positive effect on political participation, it has an indirect negative effect which is mediated by the extend of social cohesion in the community. Together, our results highlight the importance of considering community-level deprivation and the crucial role of social cohesion but for political participation as well.

The Effects of Neighbourhood Ethnic Diversity, Intergroup Contact and Deprivation on Social Cohesion and Well-being in London

Unaysah Mogra

(University of Birmingham)

This paper revives a contested academic and political debate within the social sciences on whether growing levels of ethnic diversity are harmful for the social cohesion and well-being of individuals. A large body of research in the UK has led to mixed findings and has identified deprivation as the key driver of this negative relationship. Using recent cross-sectional data from 2018-2019, this study focuses on a single metropolis - the city of London. It is one of the most diverse conurbations on earth which makes it an ideal place to test this hypothesis. This research address limitations in the literature by exploring ethnic diversity at the LSOA and MSOA levels including a range of social cohesion (perceived neighbourhood relations, civic activity) and well-being (life satisfaction, mental health and loneliness) measures. It also accounts for intergroup contact and ethnic residential segregation. At first glance, it may appear that neighbourhood ethnic diversity negatively affects the social cohesion and well-being of residents. However, once neighbourhood deprivation is accounted for, the effects of neighbourhood ethnic diversity disappears in the multi-level regression models. The models also reveal that when controlling for negative contact, diversity has a negative effect on life satisfaction but the negative effect of diversity is no longer significant when controlling for positive contact. The same is true for perceived cohesion with neighbours. This research shows that it is neighbourhood deprivation and experiences of negative intergroup contact that reduces social cohesion and well-being of individuals.

Help Thy Neighbour. Neighbourhood Relations, Subjective Well-being and Trust during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Christoph Zangger

(University of Zurich & LMU Munich)

Neighbourhoods and neighbours are important sources for people's life chances and well-being. Their importance is highlighted in times of crisis, such as the COVID-19 pandemic: Neighbours helped vulnerable and at-risk groups by providing small services and a sense of community. Using panel data from Switzerland, this study investigates how and for whom relations with neighbours changed to the better or worse during the pandemic. In a second step, changes in

subjective well-being and trust in other people, both of which dropped considerably during the pandemic and while social confinement measures were in place, are linked to changes in neighbourly relations. The results show that the negative impact of the pandemic on people's subjective well-being and trust was much less pronounced for those who improved their relations with neighbours in that time, stressing the importance of local networks for community resilience. At the same time, people with more resources prior to the pandemic were more likely to improve neighbourly relations. Consequently, this study finds evidence for a social gradient in subjective well-being and trust during the crisis that partly works through changes in neighbourhood networks. Robustness analyses by means of placebo regressions further show that the documented effects are indeed attributable to changes induced by the COVID-19 pandemic and the corresponding social confinement measures.

Culture, Media, Sport and Food

“Only Feminists care about news around Feminism”: Young Chinese Feminists’ Contradictory Attitudes towards the Feminist Filter Bubble on Social Media Platforms

Taoyuan Luo

(University of Leeds)

In the context of women boldly expressing women's rights on social media, scholars in China – similar to their western counterparts - depict a trend of feminism starting to become more visible. Relying on forty online semi-structured interviews, this paper will share some early findings from qualitative doctoral research of young Chinese women's attitudes towards feminism. This paper particularly focuses on those who self-identify as a feminist in the interviews and their complicated feelings towards the feminist filter bubble. First, it will introduce the theories of post feminism, neoliberal feminism, and popular feminism. Second, it will talk about some empirical studies of Chinese feminists and social media. Finally, it will share some early fieldwork findings. Acknowledging the existence of the feminist filter bubble, feminists in this study used the word "distorted" to describe the ecology of online feminism due to the homogeneous feminist information they received. They also described the difficulty of creating a feminist community and building solidarity between women due to the filter bubble. However, participants who willingly call themselves a feminist expressed their unwillingness to break the feminist filter bubble which creates a safe space for them to practise feminism in contrast to the hostility towards feminism outside the filter bubble. This paper aims to disentangle the interrelationships between feminist communities, young Chinese feminists, the filter bubble, and online feminism in the context of popular feminism.

Contrasting Interpretations of Social Justice in Sport: What Policy Makers can learn from Nancy Fraser

Jim Lusted

(The Open University)

This presentation will seek to examine and problematize the ways in which social justice is understood in and through sport - by academics, participants, practitioners and, in particular, policy makers. It is suggested that existing interpretations and uses of the term are invariably vague, imprecise and contrasting, leading to conceptual confusion over how the term is applied. The discussion begins by surveying the traditional theoretical positions of social justice - including the work of Rawls, Von Hayek and Nozick - and how their varied approaches have informed sporting discourse. It then offers a detailed appraisal of Nancy Fraser's theory of social justice (1999) which has been described as 'emancipatory' and 'interventional' (Lovell 2007). It locates Fraser's approach within this theoretical terrain, noting the potential of social justice theory to not just explain but also transform society (and sport). Fraser's integrated approach is then examined, which centres on a three-level framework of economic redistribution, cultural recognition and political participation. This framework is mapped onto the context of sport policy, which is often considered to have had limited impact in facilitating social justice and tackling social inequalities (Lusted 2014). It is argued that the goals and outcomes of contemporary sports policies can be more effective if they embrace a deeper, more consistent understanding social justice. It concludes by suggesting that Fraser's integrated approach to social justice offers a promising blueprint to follow in the struggle to achieve social justice in and through sport.

After the Cricket Test: Interculturalism, the ECB and the Politics of Inclusion

Chris Mcmillan

(Massey University)

In an interview with the Los Angeles Times in 1990, the then Conservative MP Norman Tebbit stated his concern with the “very severe problems of integration” in the UK and lamented that “A large proportion of Britain’s Asian population fail to pass the cricket test. Which side do they cheer for? It’s an interesting test. Are you still harking back to where you came from or where you are?” It’s a question that continues to haunt British politics, especially in England, where there is a tension between multicultural celebrations of diversity and concerns about segregated communities, an anxiety often driven by nationalist sentiments. Cricket, that most English of games, has reflected these tensions. Most notably, since 2015 the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has implicitly rejected Tebbit’s ‘Cricket Test’, promoting diversity and cultural inclusivity ahead of English national identity. This paper positions the ECB’s pluralist turn as a response to the politics of diversity in Britain, arguing that the ECB have eschewed the language of both multiculturalism and nationalist assimilation, instead occupying an intercultural approach that focuses on inclusion, community interaction and exchange. Notably, however, ECB strategy documents make no mention of class and inequality, instead preferring the language of inclusion and accessibility. In response, I suggest that this elision exemplifies the inability of intercultural approaches to speak to economic elements of socio-cultural exclusion within pluralist societies.

Craft business as usual? The Impact of Black Lives Matter on UK Professional Craft

Karen Patel

(Birmingham City University)

When George Floyd was murdered in police custody in Minnesota in May 2020, an outpouring of grief and anger followed, and the Black Lives Matter movement regained momentum. On social media a show of respect and solidarity emerged on the 2nd June 2020, known as Black Out Tuesday, where individuals and organisations around the world posted black squares on Instagram in response to racism and police brutality against black people, and in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter cause. Crafts Council, the UK’s national charity for craft, was one of the organisations who took part in Black Out Tuesday. Their post was met with a backlash from makers over their perceived lack of support for makers of colour over its entire history. The criticism the black square attracted prompted a variety of actions from the organisation evaluate their own history, image and working practices.

In this paper I examine the changes Crafts Council made in light of the backlash. The research derives from the my work with the Crafts Council as part of an AHRC funded collaboration, in which I attended and participated in various meetings and forums, and worked with staff members to put on an exhibition at the Crafts Council Gallery in Autumn 2021 to celebrate the work of ethnically diverse makers. I reflect on this collaboration and the contradictions and tensions that emerged, and discuss the extent to which equality and justice can really be achieved when action is prompted by one significant event.

Environment and Society

Civil Society Elites in the field of Power: Expertise, equality, empathy

Malin Arvidson, Laura Landorff, Anders Uhlin

(Lund University, Department of Social Work)

This study explores elite interaction at the UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP), held in Glasgow 2021. More precisely, we investigate how civil society elites negotiate access to key events and individuals of power at COP26. While the core topic of COP26 is climate action, social justice and equality is increasingly central in the global pursuit of solutions to the climate crisis. The presence of civil society organizations at COP is in itself evident of this, as is the criticism that many of these actors direct at the processes of deliberations and decisions made in connection with the conference.

In this study, we consider COP26 as a concentrate of status struggles between actors representing different fields, to use Bourdieu’s terms. COP26 is a temporary field of power that brings together actors that negotiate what capital is required to gain status. We imagine that capital related to expertise, funding and position is important, but also that other kinds of capital gains traction, reflecting how social justice, equality, empathy, and solidarity is related to status (if not power) at COP.

Based on an ethnographic study we explore elite interaction from the perspective of civil society elites. We argue that this offers an opportunity to reveal how capital is used, gained and created in this temporary field of power. Exploring these issues is key to how we can understand global negotiations addressing the wicked problems that are increasingly defining our societies.

Press discourses on the Environmental Crisis in the UK, Israel and Hungary

Nira Yuval-Davis, Isabel Meier, Rolly Rosen, Viktor Varju

(University of East London)

The article examines press discourses in mainstream centre- left and right newspapers on the environmental crisis and how this affects national and international politics in the UK, Israel and Hungary. We chose to analyse the press coverage of environmental and climate crisis issues in these countries because the mass media continues to be a key site in which forms of knowledge struggle to achieve the status of ‘common sense’ (Gramsci 1971). Our comparative approach is based on the situated intersectionality methodology (e.g. Yuval-Davis, 2015; Yuval-Davis & al., 2017; Yuval-Davis, Wemyss & Cassidy, 2019) in which both vernacular perspectives on a social phenomenon as well as the differential situated gazes of local actors in which site are encompassed in the search for factual and analytical understanding of social and political realities.

To do so, we selected one centre-right and one centre-left mainstream newspaper in which country and selected three international and three country specific illustrative case studies to study the specific constructions of the environmental and climate crisis in each of them. Our study shows how different political projects affect the ways these crises are understood, in spite of a levelling common sources of information which are commonly used by the press these days. We also found that in spite of attempts to reduce the environmental and climate change to single factors, attempts to understand them prove to be complex and multi-faceted.

References:

- Gramsci, A., 1971. Selections from the prison notes (Q. Hoare and G. Nowell Smith, Trans.) New York.
Yuval-Davis, N. (2015), ‘Situating Intersectionality and Social Inequality’ in *Raisons Politiques* no. 58:91-100, 2015
Yuval-Davis, N., Varju, V., Tervonen, M., Hakim, J. & Fathi, M. (2017), ‘Press discourses on Roma in the UK, Finland and Hungary’, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 40(7), pp.1151-1169.
Yuval-Davis, N. Wemyss, G. & Cassidy, K. (2019) *Bordering*, Polity Press

Families and Relationships

Potent Connections and Mystery-work: Making Relationships in the Context of Retreat-going

James Hodgson

(The University of Manchester)

In this paper I explore Jennifer Mason's (2018) work on ‘affinities’ in the context of retreat-going, specifically, her theorization of ‘potent’ connections or relationships. Contemporary sociological approaches tend to understand retreat-going through the lens of the self. Retreat-goers abscond from their obligations and relationships, their jobs and family duties, in order to spend time working on themselves, steeped in discourses and practices which prioritise self-discovery and self-mastery. But accounts given by retreat-goers often also emphasize the relationships and connections they make with others. In this paper I argue that Mason's (2018) work, a recent development in the sociology of personal life, can shed light on this part of the picture. I draw on data from interviews (n=27) carried out with people who went on retreat. I then outline the ways in which the relationships retreat-goers made with others could be considered ‘potent’, that is, characterized by uncertainty, surprise, and mysteriousness. Noting the importance of coordinated action in retreat-goers' accounts, I also go on to describe how potent connections appear to be collectively produced, rather than just encountered, practices which I conceptualize as ‘mystery-work.’ This paper therefore makes two contributions to contemporary sociological debates. First, it extends the existing literature on retreats by adding further detail to the relational picture. Additionally, it suggests the generation of intense or ineffable relationships via mystery-work is a dimension of personal life that may be encountered in other contexts and that this is worth further study.

Cubicle Homes under COVID-19: Space, Intimacy, and Family Practices

Ruby Lai

(Lingnan University)

This study examines how spatial injustice impacts the family lives of disadvantaged groups under the COVID-19 pandemic. While the study of housing and family is mostly concerned with how housing attributes affect family well-being, limited empirical research has looked specifically into housing size and how it structures daily interactions among family members. This study focuses on cubicle apartments in Hong Kong – an informal housing unit subdivided from a larger domestic quarter – to explore how space, both domestic and public, structures family practices; it also documents the spatial arrangements employed by tenants to alleviate spatial and structural constraints. Data has been drawn from ethnographic observation and in-depth interviews conducted with tenants living in cubicle apartments concentrated in a low-to-middle-income neighbourhood in Hong Kong since January 2021. The findings demonstrate that domestic space affects spousal and intergenerational relationships and shapes everyday family interactions. It also illustrates how tenants of cubicle homes “do” family in the face of stringent spatial limitations by deploying situational spatial arrangements that utilised both domestic and social spaces. In particular, the study reflects how COVID-19 has disrupted the fragile equilibrium sustained through the tenants’ daily household maintenances before the pandemic, and shows the strategies they used to contain these unexpected adversities. This study sheds light on the growing problems with housing inequalities and spatial injustice across the globe, revealing how structural inequalities, such as gender and class inequalities, are embodied, reinforced, and mitigated in everyday family and intimate practices.

Co-Sleeping with Partners and Pets as a Family Practice of Intimacy: Israeli Couples' Narratives of Creating Kinship

Dana Zarhin

(University of Haifa)

Despite advances in the sociology of sleep, we know relatively little about the experience of co-sleeping in general and about co-sleeping with pets in particular. In the present study we employed interviews with Israeli couples to investigate how individuals experience co-sleeping with a life partner and with pets. We make sense of the results by drawing on and synthesising four bodies of knowledge rarely brought together in one analysis: the sociology of sleep, family sociology, embodied sociology, and human-animal relations. Our findings indicate that co-sleeping with partners and with companion animals is what we term, a family practice of intimacy, whose enactment both implicates and constructs time and space as well as the body and the embodiment of the interacting parties in a way that consolidates them as a multispecies loving family unit. Co-sleeping allows couples to constitute their pets as 'kin' and to blur the boundaries between humans and animals in two distinct ways: by emphasising the personhood of pets and treating them as family members—either as children or as substitute partners; by highlighting the animality of humans, especially the unruliness of the fleshly body, which becomes most apparent in sleep. This study enhances sociological understanding of the associations between family practices and time and space and sheds light on how family practices create post-human sensory worlds of kinship.

Medicine, Health and Illness

Alcoholics Anonymous Community in the Context of COVID-19 Pandemics

Lavinia Adriana Bulumac

(University of Bucharest)

This study investigates the influence of social support, affiliation to AA, involvement and perceived stress on attaining and maintaining sobriety. A convenience sample of individuals suffering from alcohol use disorders from Romania who attend AA meetings (n=107) completed an online questionnaire in October 2020 in order to analyse the intricate bi-directional relationship between COVID-19 and sobriety and to identify risk factors associated with relapse. Results indicated that online AA meetings are perceived as less useful than the physical ones and that social distancing is a major risk factor for relapse. For 77% of the alcoholics attaining and maintaining sobriety since the COVID-19 pandemic started is more difficult. Although only 23% of the participants had relapsed, 40% out of those who maintained sobriety, experienced craving. Alcoholics who attended more AA meetings the past 12 months before the COVID-19 pandemic, reported 10 times more chances to maintain sobriety. The findings suggest that those working in the area of substance abuse should pay more attention to the influence of social support in attaining and maintaining sobriety and find

innovative ways to improve online support groups, as these appear to play an important role in becoming and maintaining sobriety.

The Potential of 'Task Sharing' to Improve Mental Health Support for Women who are Single Parents on Low Incomes

Natalie Dewison

(University of Strathclyde)

Single mothers on low incomes in the UK experience high rates of mental illness and multiple perceptual and practical barriers when it comes to seeking support. COVID-19 has disproportionately affected single parents and placed additional strain on overstretched mental health services. The pandemic has also highlighted the essential role played by community organisations and local volunteers in meeting the healthcare needs of isolated populations. Could this have inspired new thinking around the possibility of 'task sharing' in mental healthcare?

'Task sharing' programmes which involve communities in the design and delivery of psychosocial services have been long established in low and middle income countries. According to the evaluative literature, these initiatives have improved the accessibility of support, resulting in significant improvements to mental health outcomes. Similar approaches, which include training peer support workers to deliver talk therapies, have only recently begun to emerge in the UK. Strikingly little appears to be written however about how it feels to be involved in these interventions, the potential for exploitation and the acceptability to those receiving support.

This presentation will draw on findings from a participatory action research project in Edinburgh involving internet-mediated semi-structured interviews and workshops with single mothers on low incomes, peer support workers and a range of mental health professionals. Rooted in Medical Sociology, this doctoral study considers how communities can influence a therapeutic model in ways that feel meaningful and empowering. It prompts discussion around the challenges and opportunities of merging lived and professional expertise in participatory research and practice.

(In)visible Shame in Medical Education: Affect, Organizational Culture, and Social Control

Penelope Lusk

(University of Pennsylvania)

Shame is a ubiquitous and deeply social human emotion that is often stigmatized and kept hidden or private. It has been proposed as particularly salient and impactful in medical contexts, and as culturally inscribed in medical education. Medical education itself has a rich sociological history, and offers ground to consider shame as a sociocultural factor impacting individuals and organizations. Shame is especially socially relevant for marginalized individuals; Scambler (2020) offers a post-Goffman account in which stigma and shame reorient society towards capital accumulation instead of justice. I theorize shame as a manifestation of organizational culture and a tool for organizational control within medical training. Medical training serves a social function in preparing individuals for work within the NHS as caring professionals. Recognising how shame is manifested through organizational culture could enable institutions to identify sources of symbolic power and mitigate the shame experiences of medical trainees. However, following Scott's (2018) "sociology of nothing," bringing that which has been invisible to the fore disrupts both symbolic and real orders, as the omission or lack of acknowledgement as shame creates its own meaningful consequences. Foregrounding a normative affective experience in training could act to normalise and standardise affect, and in extension identity, functioning as an alternative source of social control. In order for institutional efforts to make shame visible in medical education to be inclusive and equitable, they must embrace ambiguity and incorporating and prioritising sense-making of affective realities by individuals occupying varying degrees of power within the learning organisation.

Methodological Innovations

Sociology on Screen and Beyond

Laura Harris

(University of Edinburgh)

In this paper, I bring sociological image making into conversation with contemporary artists working in moving image. I begin with a recognition that the filmed moving image remains a relatively underexplored tool for sociological inquiry. This is despite the wider disciplinary embrace of the hard-to-get-at aspects of social life—those atmospheric or sensual

experiences that shape life-worlds—to which film is particularly well suited. I suggest that this is linked to the dominance of mainstream documentary formats, with their conventions of narrative, talking-head interviews, voiceover, and directing, that can appear overly prescriptive and authoritative. Alternative approaches to the moving image are called for. Having set up this call, I answer it by turning to artists who explore social lives through working with the moving image in expansive and experimental ways, often moving beyond the screen into installation settings. I draw on examples including Angelica Mesiti. Such artists craft visual, sensory, and often emotional or poetic evocations of life-worlds that, I conclude by arguing, can help expand the horizons of what film can look and feel like in visual sociology.

Finishing Time and Moving On: Life after Punishment - Documentary Film Making Research as Public Engagement

Julie Parsons

(University of Plymouth)

Since 2015 I have worked on a series of externally funded research projects at LandWorks, a resettlement and rehabilitation project that works with people released on temporary license from the local prison and others referred through probation. This research gives people with criminal convictions the space and opportunity to detail some of their individual troubles in the context of wider systemic and structural barriers that continue to pathologise them beyond the end of their sentences. Unusually, LandWorks maintains contact with people who have been on placement at the scheme beyond the end of their licencing conditions and this has enabled ongoing longitudinal research into the lived experience of the trauma of criminalization. This research and some key narratives form the basis of a short documentary film. The film raises important questions in terms of how to counter the barriers faced by individuals caught up in the criminal justice system? It highlights the importance of creating communities of solidarity with joined-up sustained support that takes into account individual histories, whilst paying attention to some of the structural inequalities that lead people into the criminal justice system. The film showcases some of the research that seeks to engage the wider public with the voices of those rarely heard. It highlights the importance of sociological research in creating opportunities for dialogue with communities that have been hurt, through a variety of creative methods.

'Life is a journey': Visual and Verbal Accounts of Life with HIV in Zambia

Corinne Squire, Sanny Mulubale

(Bristol University)

While many live healthily, well and long with HIV, others encounter health, psychosocial and material resource challenges. These challenges intersect with wealth, gender, and racialized inequalities. Covid-19 intensifies such difficulties, many of which are little-seen.

This paper reports on a study using multiple qualitative methods to facilitate people living with HIV in Zambia's explanations of the resource contexts of their lives.

Semi-structured interviews were conducted in Lusaka, Livingstone and a nearby village, with 30 participants, addressing health, psychosocial and material resources for living with HIV. Participants also generated visual maps, wrote words and phrases associated with 'HIV', and produced photographs of everyday resources. Follow-up telephone interviews were conducted with 20 participants to address later, Covid-era resource issues.

Maps, and sometimes associations, described relations between resources, particularly resources limiting healthy living with HIV, more fully than interviews. Maps were also able to show possible 'dream' futures of lives with HIV. Photos exposed the emotional significance investing overlooked day-to-day aspects of lives such as food and sanitation. Associations documented the continuing emotional difficulties of living with HIV, more dramatically than interviews. Maps displayed otherwise-neglected features, like flooding rivers; maps, photos and associations clarified regional differences.

In this research, different qualitative approaches worked dialogically. Using visual and written media alongside interviews helped centre the research on participants' own explanations, and expanded their engagement: approaches that speak to decolonial perspectives. The research's multidimensionality also addressed the complex, interwoven resource constraints and possibilities that make up people's journeys through lives with HIV and now, Covid.

Capturing Everyday Spatial and Social Life in University Residential Dormitories: Exploring Roommate Relationships in Chinese Universities with a Mix of Visual Methods and Interviews

Guanyi Xu

(The University of Sheffield)

In this presentation, I will discuss how I used photography, emotion maps and interviews in my PhD project researching roommate relationships in Chinese university dormitories. The residential arrangement in which 4-6 students share one room during each year of their undergraduate studies presents a particular context different from most student residential environments in many other countries. How students manage the space and each other raises important questions about residential living, friendship and conflict. This is not widely researched and the few existing relevant studies in China tend to focus on the conflicts in dormitories but just attribute these to students' immaturity and lack of collective consciousness (Huang and Guo, 2016). Students' everyday negotiations and the role played by the materialities of the dorm are usually overlooked.

This presentation will reflect on how I accessed the material, relational and emotional aspects in this shared living with a mix of visual and interview methods. Visual methods are effective social analysis method in a spatial context and helpful elicitation of interviews (Heath et al, 2012). Besides photography, emotion map is another visual method used to connect space and emotion in research (Gabb, 2008). My project involved interviews with undergraduate and graduated Chinese university students who also produced photographs and emotion maps of their dorm living. These pictures are not only elicitation tools, but also key datasets which worked with interviews to reveal the complexities of the micro conflicts and intimacies in participants' everyday dorm living and their dynamic association with the material space they live(d) in.

Race, Ethnicity and Migration

Knowing Myself: Socio-Cultural Representation in Critical Thinking Education in Transnational Higher Education in Ghana

Coomerene Mullerman-Rodrigo

(The Open University, UK)

This research is derived from an MA Education and problematizes the critical thinking curriculum of an international branch campus of a British university in Ghana (a former British colony) from a critical theory paradigm. Taught primarily from a Western philosophical and historical tradition, it results in the 'othering' of African philosophy and knowledge and a pedagogical practice disconnected from learner identity, culture and society.

Presenting data gathered through narrative interviews and online forums and interpreted through thematic analysis, this research critically interrogates the lack of socio-cultural relevance and inclusivity in the curriculum and its impact on the student learning experience, as well as the wider issue of cultural imperialism through education. The student voice is engaged to reframe a new curriculum that relates to African identities, strengthens learner agency, develops better academic literacy and seeks to contribute towards epistemic justice in transnational higher education (TNHE) in West Africa.

It attempts to address two significant gaps in the literature. Firstly, paucity of TNHE research in West Africa; secondly, the examination of TNHE that goes beyond management issues and focuses on curriculum design and the student learning experience. It would be relevant to educators and teachers based in the UK and in IBCs overseas as they grapple with the challenge of decolonising the curriculum and engaging their students in education that represents their diverse identities. History has evidence of how education and educators have contributed to cultural imperialism; thus, education is not exempt from these dialogues.

The Impact of Changing Educational and Cultural 'scapes': Life Narratives of Displaced Young Individuals in Ukraine

Lyudmila Nurse, Ian Thompson

(University of Oxford, Department of Education)

Belonging to a place is an emotional and memory-related process, but it is also a complex process of social and cultural interaction that leads to individuals' "construction of their own self-identity" (Bauman 2011; Taylor 2010; Guibernau 2013). This process is particularly complex in the case of young individuals forced to migrate because of a violent conflict in their home country and to completely change social environments. Such external change poses additional challenges

for the individuals' identity formation and their integration into new communities. For adolescents, their school, family, friends and neighbourhood constitute the basis of their social support system and influence identity formation. Forced migration and a complete change of social environment, however, can distort this system of social support and pose additional challenges for young people's identity formation and their integration into new communities. A study of young displaced individuals in Ukraine, as part of the AHRC Cultural Artefacts and Belonging project, explores their pace of adaptation and the impact of changing cultural landscapes on their life strategies and emotional wellbeing from an inter-generational perspective. The study uses structured online and qualitative biographical interviewing methods with young people and their parents. The paper addresses the complex identity construction process and biographical strategies by focusing on one of the "linking" (connecting) points in an individual's emotional belonging to a particular place.

Rights, Violence and Crime

Inventing and Decolonizing Sexual Rights as Human Rights in the United Nations Conventions

Liang Ge

(King's College London)

Politics around violence against women (VAW), and reproductive and sexual rights politics constitute the two domains of contemporary body politics. However, compared to the universal consensus on eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against women, sexual rights, as an undefined term, despite its widespread currency among debates within its advocates and feminists since the 1980s, remains being excluded from UN treaties and conventions. Noticeably, the struggle for sexual rights as human rights culminated in the mid-1990s, which was marked by three international conferences: the International Conference on Human Rights (Vienna, 1993), the International Conference of Population and Development (Cairo, 1994), the Fourth World Women Conference (Beijing, 1995), although as Naira Kabeer (2015) suggests, these significant gains were a narrow version of human capabilities. Nevertheless, in the following two decades, feminists and human rights defenders have focused on preserving gains acquired during the 1990s, and have made limited advances in the attacks mounted by crescendo conservative allies represented by the Vatican, Islamic nations, and the US government. This research, via primarily deploying the 1995 Beijing Declaration and its Platform Action, and its following debates as the case study, illustrates that, in the face of the multiple conspiracies between conservative groups, sexual rights become a volatile concept which has undergone tremendous difficulties even backslides after the climax of Beijing Conference. On the one hand, sexual rights as human rights contain diverse ambivalences, and on the other, religions, geopolitics, neoliberalism, and homo-nationalism contribute to a conspiracy to colonise sexuality and sexual rights.

Speaking for the Subaltern: Understanding the Consequences of Assumptions of Universality in Lesbian, Gay, Isexual, Transgender, and Queer Human Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa

Isabel Krakoff

(York University)

This paper offers a theoretical exploration outlining how the history of assumptions of universality in human rights, as well as the underlying notion of 'the human,' manifest in contemporary lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) rights activism in sub-Saharan Africa. Because the hegemonic constructions of humanity and human rights largely emerge out of Western understandings of social, economic, and political relationships and identities, their global imposition does not always adequately account for non-Western contextual and cultural specificities or alternative understandings. With LGBTQ rights in particular, the lack of flexibility in the global implementation of Western configurations of such rights frameworks often forces non-Western activists to engage in strategic mobilizations of human rights discourse in order to foster international support and funding. Not only are these strategies not always the most effective or contextually appropriate, the reliance on universalized understandings of LGBTQ identities and needs can legitimize some anti-gay political figures' arguments suggesting that homosexuality is an 'un-African,' Western import. Rather than deny the importance of a human rights system that people can rely on globally, this paper reveals how current formulations of human rights do not achieve this goal, and must be radically rethought not only to better account for diverse identities, but also to acknowledge and incorporate non-Western ideological and historical traditions that complicate Eurocentric understandings of 'the human.'

Understanding the Impact of the COVID Pandemic on the Food Security of Families with School-aged Children: A Service Providers' Perspective

John McKenzie

(University of Aberdeen)

This paper presents evidence that suggests the COVID pandemic lockdowns brought pre-existing problems for welfare dependent families with school aged children (FWSAC) to the forefront and highlighted that low to middle income FWSAC may be particularly vulnerable to the associated impacts. Based on interviews with people working in organisations that provided emergency food services to FWSAC during the lockdowns, this paper will demonstrate that the participants believed that FWSAC experienced food insecurity for reasons that were similar to and different from other service users. We contend that many of the distinct problems experienced by FWSAC reflect pre-existing problems relating to insufficient welfare benefits, particularly during school holidays. We also argue that low and middle income families with mortgages and other debts may have been particularly vulnerable to the impacts of the lockdowns as their expenditures were not always met by welfare and because they lacked the social support and the knowledge required to negotiate the benefits system. We conclude that FWSAC may experience food insecurity due to a lack of access to sufficient economic, social and cultural capitals and that organisations like those involved with providing access to emergency food during the lockdowns may be well placed to provide them with access to the resources that could keep FWSAC out of food insecurity in and outside of emergencies.

Social Divisions/Social Identities 1

National Health Insurance Scheme and the Right to Health in Nigeria: Making a Case for the Poor and Vulnerable

Oluwaseun Olanrewaju

(Academics Stand Against Poverty, West Africa)

The National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) Act was enacted in 2004 to provide affordable and accessible healthcare to every Nigerian. It is expected that the NHIS should serve as a legislative framework for promoting the right to health in Nigeria. Conversely, the scheme has failed to achieve the desired objective due to implementation challenges and its failure to provide adequate cover for citizens living in poverty. Poverty has been identified as a major challenge that impedes access to healthcare in Nigeria. It is estimated that 83 million Nigerians suffer from poverty. In essence, about 40% of the population lack access to quality and affordable healthcare. Sadly, the right to health is not justiciable as stated in the 1999 Constitution of Nigeria. The study through primary research examines the right to health in Nigeria from the context of the NHIS and the challenges of citizens suffering from poverty. 425 respondents earning less than \$1.90 daily participated in the survey. Findings indicate that the majority of respondents are unaware of the NHIS. However, respondents that are aware of the scheme stated that their employment benefits do not cover the NHIS and that subscribing to the scheme is a challenge due to low income/salaries. Consequently, the amendment of the NHIS Act is mandatory to accommodate free medical services for impoverished citizens suffering from poverty.

Social Class as an Analytical Tool to Explore Experiences of Period Poverty

Lottie Rhodes

(Newcastle University)

Period poverty – referring to barriers in affording menstrual products – is a growing social issue in the UK. However, existing research focuses predominantly on schoolgirls. This paper discusses adult women's experiences of period poverty. I draw on recent empirical qualitative research conducted for my PhD to explore the lived experiences of women in period poverty in Newcastle upon Tyne.

Specifically, this paper discusses the influence of social class on experiences of period poverty. Working within a feminist epistemology, the research employed 38 unstructured interviews as a method of conversation between myself and women with experiences of period poverty. Most women I spoke to were working-class, however a handful of participants were middle-class. I focus the discussion on the middle-class women's experiences of period poverty to explore the subtle yet powerful differences social class has on the ability to manage period poverty. I highlight the nuanced sociocultural differences in how these women embodied their experiences, negotiated seeking support and reflected on their own situations. Drawing on participant's lived experiences I argue that working-class women found

support in friends, family and their neighbourhoods, whilst middle-class women felt a stronger sense of shame around their peers which impacted their ability to ask for help.

I explore that class plays a key role in unequal access to material, symbolic and emotional resources. Not being able to afford menstrual products transcends class boundaries but the ways in which period poverty is managed is intimately interweaved in classed imaginaries, materialities and socioemotional resources.

Social Divisions/Social Identities 2

'All this time I've wasted thinking I fitted in.' Inequality, Injustice, Citizenship and FGM-safeguarding

Natasha Carver, Magda Mogilnicka, Saffron Karlsen, Christina Pantazis

(University of Bristol)

In 2015, the UK government brought in a series of legislative changes and policy initiatives designed to prevent and eliminate FC/FGM. This paper explores the impact of these measures on notions of equality and justice in relation to (un)belonging and citizenship. Based on data collected from six focus groups in the summer of 2018, we find that efforts to safeguard children and prevent FC/FGM have resulted in widespread alienation of the target group. Participants – including anti-FGM activists – described FGM-safeguarding encounters as hostile, leading them to question the genuineness of political discourse on integration, belonging and inclusive citizenship.

Existing scholarship on the role of law and policy in shaping (un)belonging has focused primarily on nationality and immigration legislation

(Bonjour and de Hart, 2021), citizenship deprivation (Kapoor and Narkowitz, 2019) or crime-prevention schemes such as Stop and Search (Murray et al, 2021) or terrorism (Hillyard, 1993), all of which are deliberately discriminatory and hostile. Here we explore the impact of a set of laws and policies enacted with the purpose of including black and brown bodies in the nation-state and protecting them as British Citizens. This paper considers how a policy intervention which was initiated with significant support among affected groups and undertaken on an anti-racist platform, resulted in stigmatization and racism. We demonstrate the significance of naturalisation processes and discourse in framing understandings of belonging and how FGM-safeguarding measures brought to the fore for this group what Cohen (2009) terms the “myth of full citizenship”.

Postcolonial Pandemic: Inadequate Science, Deferential Business and Disposable Lives of the Global South

Anukriti Dixit, Muneeb Banday

(Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad)

Drawing from postcolonial theory (Bhabha, 1984; Puar, 2021) and grievable lives (Butler, 2004), we analyse how the Covid-19 pandemic and vaccines provide an appropriate context to deconstruct the normalization of ‘first-world’ as the priority of the pandemic. We propose to study certain empirical events related to the pandemic, including quarantine conditions for ‘third world’ persons entering ‘first world’ countries, vaccine legitimization by bodies of various ‘first world’ countries (including the WHO) and issues related to the production and supply of vaccines. We use ‘problematization’ (Bacchi, 2009) as the methodological technique to analyse the data, which includes news reports and policy documents. This involves studying the assumptions and the underlying discourses through which ‘events’ are constituted in specific ways as well as analyzing the subject positions made available in the discourses mobilized to constitute events. In our context, it involves analyzing how Covid-19 pandemic comes to be constructed as a specific ‘problem’ and is presumably ‘solved’ through particular kinds of practices and priorities.

Through this analysis, we illustrate how the ‘first world’ is deemed as the legitimate producer of ‘science’ and ‘scientific knowledge’ and ‘first world lives’ as more valuable lives. Accordingly, the ‘rest of the world’ comes to be positioned as the ‘supporting mechanism or paraphernalia’ for first-world’s practices of ‘doing science’ and saving their lives. Implications include - unpacking of the underlying assumptions in the (il)legitimacy of knowledge and science produced in the “third world” and the production (derealization) of subaltern lives and our deaths as dispensable events.

A Critical Exploration of War Metaphors during the Covid-19 Pandemic

Stefanie Petschick

(Nottingham Trent University)

In the early phases of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, narratives about key workers were often framed in the language of ‘heroism’ and ‘sacrifice’. This practice was drawing on established metaphors of illness as war, which frames medical

professionals as 'frontline' workers on 'battlegrounds' fighting an 'invisible enemy'. Moreover, this framing developed further, invoking British wartime myths by, for instance, linking the experience of lockdown to the 'blitz spirit' or naming temporary Covid-19 hospitals 'Nightingale Hospitals'. Other practices appear to be drawing on much more recent traditions of war commemoration which emerged during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The practice of a weekly 'clapping for carers' which took place for 10 weeks during the first national lockdown in 2020, is reminiscent of the tributes paid to the bodies of repatriated fallen soldiers in Wootton Bassett from 2007 to 2011.

Scholarship has shown that the language of war, sacrifice and remembrance can have a depoliticising effect in the context of war death. This paper draws on the research on war commemoration to explore how public practices, media reporting and government narratives have tried to make sense of aspects of the Covid-19 pandemic using the register of war remembrance. This paper reads these discourses in the context of a decade of austerity and public health measure that responded late, and arguably inadequately, to the dangers of a new pandemic. It asks questions about the social and political function of this war framing and argues for a re-politicisation of the debate.

On the Role of Storytelling and Humour in the Dissemination of Right-wing Populist Politics

Tim Winzler

(University of Glasgow)

This paper wishes to contribute to the understanding of the success of right-wing populist rhetoric in our times. It does so from a relational and practical epistemological basis. I first lay out the fundamental assumptions of this perspective by drawing on Bourdieu's paradigmatic chapter on 'Culture and Politics' in *Distinction* (1984[1979]: 397-465). The relational-practical perspective acknowledges the remoteness of public political discourse and the barriers to its access. From this follow, depending on the endowment with specific cultural resources, various ways of accessing, understanding and influencing this discourse through its audience. But the lack of resources also opens up the problem of dispossession and misappropriation. This leads us to study the relationship of the (interested) audience to its delegates, the interactional realm where dispossession can turn to misrecognition and then to misappropriation. Thus, rather than looking at finished right-wing populist discourse and its components or coherence, or at an abstractly constructed 'authoritarian' audience, we are compelled to focus on fuzzier 'soft markers' that make up the initial attraction of the two groups before political socialisation: characteristics of attire, hexis, and language, in short of the 'presentation of self'. I focus on the German right-wing populist Alternative fuer Deutschland (AfD) as a case in point for the importance of these soft markers. Specifically, I show how particular 'footings' in political talk – namely, story-telling and humour – are utilised to mobilise and attract the social groups most susceptible to the right-wing populist message in the current socio-economic context.

Sociology of Education

BOURDIEU AND EDUCATION

Lifestyle Space and Cultural Capital in Japanese Society

Shinichi Aizawa, Kentaro Hori

(Sophia University)

This paper aims to reproduce the approach, which inductively depicts social space according to lifestyles, on Japanese national representative social survey data. The geometric approach of the Benzécri School, used in Bourdieu's *Distinction*, is applied to Japanese social survey data. This geometric approach involves the following two steps. First, the spaces that constitute people's lifestyles are analysed by multiple correspondence analysis. Second, the technique of supplementary variables is used to derive the factors involved in that space.

The analysis that was already carried out allows us to interpret lifestyle spaces in terms of a two-dimensional measure of social space, namely the difference between the total amount of capital and the composition of possessed capital. The use of supplementary variables and the interpretation of scatter plots to supplement the interpretation of the distribution of variables have also proved quite useful for the analysis of these results. However, this result differs slightly from that in Bourdieu's *Distinction*. In the current analysis, when the attribute variables were plotted with the supplementary variables, a relationship was found that was not parallel to the x-y axes but oblique.

Educational Equality for International Students? The Role of Institutional Habitus

Jihyun Lee

(University College London)

One of the neglected aspects of internationalisation of higher education is the concern over educational equality for internationally mobile students. In the UK context, this is closely related to the dominant framing of international students as privileged student migrants, which is reinforced by structural conditions such as high tuition fees, limited financial support and a restrictive immigration system. Drawing on in-depth interviews with 55 non-EU international students who were enrolled in or had recently completed postgraduate degrees from three UK universities, this paper aims to unsettle the homogenised accounts of experiences and outcomes of those studying in the UK. This paper adopts a Bourdieusian framework, and particularly the notion of institutional habitus, to elucidate the socially and spatially differentiated flow of international students across the universities in the UK. The findings highlight that international students' experiences during and after their studies are shaped by the interplay of their social characteristics and the institutions they attend. Theoretically, this perspective allows a detailed examination of the institutional contexts which enable individual students to imagine and experience a range of opportunities after graduation, whilst drawing attention to differences between these students within each institution. Given the complexity and multiplicity of experiences of international students in UK higher education, I argue that discussions of social difference and inclusivity should include both international students and domestic counterparts alike and that demands for educational equality should be extended beyond national borders.

Place-based Habitus and the Structuring of Middle-Class Aspirations

Amy Stich, Andrew Crain

(University of Georgia)

Dominant success narratives relative to aspirational norms tend to elevate certain types of postsecondary institutions and achievements over others, as well as idealize certain career and life outcomes. As these attitudes become increasingly normative within an increasingly stratified system of higher education, the grounds for growing inequality become increasingly fertile. Indeed, not all students have equal access to the forms and amounts of capital that facilitate movement toward dominant neoliberal ambitions, such as enrolment at a highly selective postsecondary institution. Further, popular narratives surrounding success and individual aspiration often locate the inability to obtain such outcomes as an individual failure or moral deficiency. As a result, there is a pressing need for further research on the aspirational formation of a vast number of students pursuing what might be considered more modest, middle-class aspirations, which stand in contrast to more elite, prestige-seeking aspirations that are less attainable for those without a lived history of privilege. In this research, we provide an analysis of the structuring of middle-class aspirations, as observed at one less-selective postsecondary institutional setting in the USA. Our analysis is grounded in a Bourdieusian framework in order to highlight the ways distinct forms of aspiration are observed within one non-elite institutional setting. We argue that students' college-going and future aspirations are heavily structured by students' habitus as well as the habitus of their chosen postsecondary institutions. Importantly, our findings highlight particular features of habitus, namely geographic locale, in structuring aspirations and trajectories that reproduce inequality of opportunity and outcome.

Test and beyond: The Transposition of Dispositions of Taiwanese Academically Elite Students

Chi-Chung Wang, Ting-Huang Tai

(National Sun Yat-sen University; ENS Paris-Saclay)

The concept of cultural capital has been of central importance for the studies of educational stratification. However, its relation to the prevalent standardized tests in East Asia is understudied. To fill this gap, this paper focuses on 'unstable situations' where Taiwanese academically elite high school students transpose their dispositions formed by the standardized tests to other contexts. To symmetrically explore the transposition between domains of activity and the transposition in the same domain, we analyze how these Taiwanese academically elite students face two unstable situations: extracurricular musical practices and adaptation to an educational system not characterized by standardized tests. In the first case, we focus on how students transpose their competitive disposition into playing rock music. The research findings show that the competitive disposition obtained from the exam-oriented educational system has made technical competition the most significant frame of evaluation when playing rock music, facilitating a specific pattern of cultural distinction marked by the obsession with 'rankable' achievement. In the second case, we explore how academically elite Taiwanese students adapt to another educational system characterized by intensive no standardized

exams: the French preparatory class of grandes écoles of engineers. Regarding the same domain of activity (mathematics), their transposition of dispositions varies from unproblematic affinity between different schooling experiences to nuanced rupture that calls for subtle adaptation. We suggest that examining the role of standardized testing in shaping students' learning dispositions may be beneficial in revealing the more complicated patterns of the interaction between cultural capital and varying educational context.

Theory

The Dark Side of Gift Giving: Understanding Sustained Exploitation in Family Power Dynamics

Lui Chihling

(Lancaster University)

Extant gift research has predominantly focused on the role of gift-giving in producing expectations and obligations of reciprocity in both archaic and contemporary societies. Following this moral logic, more recent sociological theorising has also documented how the incapability to reciprocate can facilitate social exclusion and withdrawal, in addition to dependence. However, by romanticising the reciprocal view of giving and returning the equivalence, understandings of unequal exchanges or a complete lack of reciprocity are limited. To attenuate this knowledge gap, this article explores the dark side of gift giving in terms of sustained exploitation and how it can generate a vicious circle of affective and social destructions in the lived experience of the subjugated gift giver. Inspired by Berg et al.'s (2019) analytical approach of reading for affect, I draw on textual data from a video competition on the topic of Chinese son preference in 2020 to illuminate three interlinked mechanisms that drive sustained exploitation, each of which highlights how certain aspects of pre-exchange calculation, gift-receipt or gift-giving unfold in the service of its manifestation. The video competition elicited over 30,000 reflective comments on personal experiences of unequal exchanges within the family power dynamics and their impacts on the othering of daughters, leading them to experience and encounter profound self and social alienation. By examining these experiences, I extend and broaden the scope of sociological theorising by reviewing the moral norm of reciprocity and providing a preliminary framework for analysing the becoming of an exploited gift giver.

Prove Your Gift or Log Off: Online Charisma, Social Phenomenology, and QAnon

Dominik Zelinsky

(University of Copenhagen)

Charisma has been called a "viral" concept (Collins, 2020: 1) but sociologists seem seldom interested in how it subsists in the home hound of the contemporary virality metaphor, the internet. There seems to be something intrinsically anti-charismatic in our online lives. How could the embodied, enacted, and ecstatic carnal experience of charismatic fascination unfold in the fast-changing, distracting world of zeros and ones, in which we seem to encounter at best only mirages of others? And yet, it seems that it is in the digital world that new prophets arise. Donald Trump, whose political success has often been attributed to his charismatic appeal seems to be the prime example. Other politicians like Bolsonaro are out to emulate his success. And as the example of psychology professor Jordan Peterson shows, even intellectuals can become global charismatic 'sci-lebrities' online.

In this paper, I draw on the fields of cultural sociology and social philosophy to carve out an approach to both charisma and online experience that sheds light on how charisma subsists in the online world. In particular, I draw on the emerging field of social phenomenology to unpack online reality as a potential space of full-blooded social experiences, where affection, fascination, and solidarity are very well possible. Finally, I demonstrate my approach on the contemporary case of the QAnon movement, which has gripped the world's attention in January 2021, when its followers, formerly organized mostly online, sought to realize the history-altering role of charisma envisioned by Weber and stormed the US Capitol.

Work, Employment and Economic Life 1

FRAMING ECONOMIC LIFE

Taxation and Inequality – Why is Taxing Wealth Now on the Political Agenda in High Income Countries?

David Bryne

(Durham University)

The USA has seen a call for ‘The New Fiscal Sociology’ but most work done has been in comparative and historical work and has seriously neglected the relationship between taxation and the funding of components of ‘the social wage’ – the services in kind – health, education, cultural and leisure services, transport etc. – which form a crucial component of the real income of households in high income countries. Neoliberal policies on taxation and spending have slashed income tax (but not social security contributions) and corporation tax levels and relative tax yield alongside cuts in funding of services in kind in an era of austerity. This, together with the legislative weakening of trade unions, has been a key driver of increasing inequality.

Now, there is a marked change in the public discourse on taxation and calls not only for more progressive income and property taxes and the evening of levels of taxation on income from labour and from wealth, but for the taxation of stocks of wealth themselves (OECD, Think Tanks, Left of Labour in UK, statement by UK multi-millionaires 25th October 2021). This paper will explore the background to this development in relation to the impact of the character of post-industrial capitalism on ‘the squeezed middle’ (OECD) and the threat that poses to the legitimacy of the capitalist order, and lay out an agenda for a critical fiscal sociology in the 21st Century.

Interest Group Framing of Tax Transparency Regulation in Switzerland and the United Kingdom

Victoria Gronwald

(London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE))

This research situates itself in an increased scholarly interest in wealth inequalities (Savage 2021; Piketty 2013, 2019; Pfeffer & Waitkus 2021), which are perpetuated to an important extent by offshore financial centres or tax havens. These jurisdictions are used by wealthy individuals to hide their money through secret bank accounts or anonymous companies, out of reach of tax authorities or law enforcement agencies.

The international community has recently undertaken efforts to curb these practices. Apart from high-net-worth individuals it is mainly the wider financial sector and wealth management professionals who have been affected by these new transparency laws. We however know very little about how they have reacted to and perhaps tried to shape these regulations in theirs and their clients’ favour. This research aims to shed light onto this issue by analysing interest groups’ interaction with the laws from a framing theory perspective.

The paper analyses how financial sector interest groups frame issues around tax transparency regulation in the top two wealth management countries in the world, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. This with a view to draw conclusions about the sector’s influence on the policy process and perhaps on the limited effectiveness of regulation. The research is applying quantitative text analysis and computer-assisted qualitative content analysis to previously unexplored interest group submissions to public consultations. It takes a comprehensive approach, covering all consultations on laws related to financial account and company ownership transparency over a time period of around 20 years.

Powerful yet Powerless: Social Media Analysis of #MeToo Cases in the Indian and Pakistani Film Industry from the Institutional Work Perspective

Syed Imran Saqib, Aparna Gonibeed

(The University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University)

The study examines four high profile #MeToo cases in the Indian and Pakistani film industry using the institutional work perspective which focuses on the influences of individual agency on institutional arrangements. Through our analysis of the reportage and comments on social media platforms of these cases, we find that most public sexual harassment cases in South Asia did not lead to any material consequences for the alleged perpetrators but relatively high cost to the victims. Our study shows that women’s attempts to reign in agency by sharing their experiences on social media have largely been futile even for relatively powerful women featured in these cases. Social media discourse has served as a catalyst in spurring otherwise inefficient formal institutions (such as legal systems and HR departments) into action to address these allegations in the West. However, this has not been the experience for the Indo-Pak context as our

analysis revealed mostly misogynistic views on these cases that weakened the public support for these women, indicating the powerful role of the informal institution of patriarchy. Thus, the institutional work performed by these women by trying to control the narrative via social media does not seem to be impacting traditional mind-sets and institutions. Our paper makes a theoretical contribution by highlighting the limits of institutional work performed by women, helping to bridge the gap between mainstream institutional theory and feminist institutionalism.

Work, Employment and Economic Life 2

SKILLS AND CAREERS

Governing Through Skills: Intersecting Discourses of Fourth Industrial Revolution and Neoliberalism in the Indian Information Technology Industry

Muneeb Ul Lateef Banday

(Goa Institute of Management)

In this paper, I analyse how 'reskill or perish' has emerged as the governing logic of employment relations in the Indian information technology industry. Drawing from the analytics of governmentality framework, I analyzed industry reports and HR conference discussions to study how workforce management is problematized as a particular kind of 'problem' and employees are positioned as specific kinds of 'subjects'. The findings reveal the employers' construction of employment relations through the discourses of neoliberalism and Fourth Industrial revolution (or digital revolution). The former is mobilized to responsabilize employees for their survival and growth in the industry where one's continued employment is contingent on continuous change. The latter is mobilized to construct digital revolution as an inevitable transformation, which presents both risks (redundancy of existing jobs and skills) as well as opportunities (new job and new skills). Through such discourses, workforce management is construed as a 'problem' of supply and development of skills and accordingly continuous upskilling/reskilling is constructed as the only appropriate 'solution'. Employees are positioned as modifiable bundles of skills or abilities and governed through pastoral and disciplinary techniques of power. Through this analysis, I illustrate the shift from the language of 'rights' to the language of 'interests' in the employer-employee relations in the new economy.

The Role of Experiential Learning in Creating Equity of Access to the Workplace

Jackie Carter

(University of Manchester)

This paper will discuss and address equity of access to the workplace, with the focus on examining undergraduate social science students' experiences through a living-wage paid internship - Data Fellows - programme, at one UK University. The programme was set up in 2013 through the UK-wide Q-Step initiative (Nuffield, 2013). Three-hundred students on social science degrees have since participated: 70% women, 25% from widening participation backgrounds or under-represented groups.

Drawing on students' reflections, the presentation will include case studies and vignettes of undergraduates' experiences at the beginning, middle and end of their work placement. Examples of how such experiential learning helps social science graduates enter and progress through the workplace will be given. The paper will be framed in the light of the Social Research Association's 'Far to go: Diversity and

Exclusion in UK Social Research' (SRA, 2021) and the British Academy's 'The Right Skills' (BA, 2019) reports. Summary data will be presented to illustrate the different subject degrees and pathways of the Data Fellows (2013-2021), with those on a Sociology/joint degrees providing the focus for the paper. We will critically reflect on the extent to which these students are self-selecting. Skills, knowledge and experience gained through data fellowships will be covered.

We critically discuss the role, timing and outcomes of such experiential learning intervention programmes. Moreover, the paper aims to bring together reflection and suggest action that could improve equality of workplace outcomes through taking a holistic view rather than looking at a single slice of the education lifecycle.

Does Working from Home Hinder Career Progression? The Gender and Family Perspectives

Agnieszka Kasperska

(University of Warsaw)

This article examines the effects of home-based work on career prospects for employees from 29 European countries. Although home-based work is becoming increasingly prevalent, not enough is known about its impact on employee evaluation. Considering that remote workers are as productive as office based workers (Siha & Monroe, 2006), have higher job satisfaction (Gajendran & Harrison, 2007) and encounter fewer workplace distractions (Nardi & Whittaker, 2002), they should experience good career outcomes. However, lack of peer and supervisor interaction, combined with a threat of being less visible at work and having poorer access to training and development programs (Martinez & Gomez, 2013) could hinder career progression. The following article attempts to explore the working conditions of home-based work and incorporates the gender and family perspectives, something that is particularly missing in the existing literature. The aspects of career development prospects included in the following article pertain to perceived promotion opportunities, access to training, job visibility, rapport with supervisor and colleagues as well as job stability. Multilevel modelling was applied to cross-sectional data of the European Working Conditions Survey, which was additionally merged with country-level data of Family Policies Sub-Index in order to grasp the potential moderating effects of national contexts. The findings indicate positive effects for male home-based workers, both fathers and non-fathers, and mostly negative effects for female home-based workers, especially for mothers. Varying effects of different home-based work frequencies are observed. Family-friendly policies moderate the negative effects of home-based work on career development opportunities.

Paper Session 2

Wednesday, 20 April 2022

11:45 - 13:00

Culture, Media, Sport and Food

Tackling Food Insecurity from the Ground: The Agency of Community Food Providers

Katy Gordon, Andrea Tonner, Juliette Wilson

(University of Strathclyde)

Fourteen percent of UK households experienced food insecurity in 2019/20. Food insecurity both epitomises and exacerbates inequality. Many grassroots community food providers support food insecure households in local communities through the provision of a range of services such as emergency food aid, community meals and low-cost food retail. However, given the structural root causes of food insecurity, and the primary responsibility of the State to ensure households have adequate income to protect them from food insecurity, this research asks what agency do community food providers have to contribute to the wider change required to this pressing social issue?

The research adopts a quasi-ethnographic qualitative approach with 16 grass roots community food providers, operating in the central belt of Scotland, and 5 meso level support organisations. It draws attention to micro acts of agency embedded in the day-to-day activity of organisations.

The findings highlight a range of agentic work being undertaken by community food providers, most commonly in the form of advocacy. Collectively the organisations undertake advocacy targeted at political and public audiences, and we discuss the variety in scale and intentionality of such work across the sector. The research also develops the idea of 'everyday advocacy' where organisations use micro-acts of agency to conduct important advocacy in their day-to-day existence and offer of services. The research, therefore, contributes to knowledge on the role of small, local, grassroots community organisations in a response to the pressing social issue of household food insecurity.

Food Aid Providers and Their Responses to Food Insecurity: A Spatial Perspective

Morven G. Mceachern, Caroline Moraes, Lisa Scullion and Andrea Gibbons

(University of Huddersfield and University of Birmingham, UK)

At a time of widening economic inequalities and distributive injustices, such as the right to food not being met, this research adopts a spatial perspective to examine how food aid providers address place poverty. We use Castilhos and Dolbec's (2018) typology of spaces to advance understandings of collaborative food aid partnerships and their spatial engagement when seeking to alleviate urban food insecurity. Through an interpretivist approach including 10 in-depth interviews with food aid organisations, we determine that food aid providers are established through a variety of organisational structures and operational practices involving collaborative arrangements with third sector and other public/private sector organisations. Often flexible and responsive to demand for emergency food provision, these food aid providers help to reconfigure spaces of concentrated poverty while achieving positive social impact. This research contributes to existing literature on charitable food provision by broadening Castilhos and Dolbec's (2018) theorisation. It does so by conceptualising transitional space, an additional type of space through which transitions between spaces of food insecurity are experienced. We illuminate non-linear, porous movements from segregating spaces (i.e., emergency food provision spaces) to transitional spaces of food aid provision (i.e., food pantries via food aid membership). This concept allows for a fuller depiction of the temporal spatiality of cities associated with concentrated poverty and deprivation. We conclude by providing future opportunities for research and relevant insights for food aid organisations, such as the need to consider the strategic alignment of existing or potential collaborative partnerships with poverty reduction goals.

Charitable Food Provision as a Strategic Action Field: Qualitative and Network Evidence from Greater Manchester

Filippo Oncini, Alejandro Ciordia
(University of Manchester)

Building on qualitative and Twitter network data based in Greater Manchester, this paper aims to advance the literature on Charitable Food Provision by arguing that the sector can be usefully framed as a Strategic Action Field (SAF) (Fligstein and McAdam, 2012). The combined use of qualitative and network data is particularly helpful, as they have complementary strengths and weaknesses that can be profitably used in conjunction (Crossley, 2010). The presentation is organized in two parts. First, drawing upon a wide range of qualitative data, we will illustrate that food charities belong to an SAF focusing on i) the shared rules, understanding, and practices that characterise the organizations that belong to the field; ii) the broader field environment and its most crucial collective actors; iii) the social positioning of the most important organizations operating in the field; and iv) the impact of COVID-19 as an exogenous shock. In addition to this, we also conducted several network analyses of the digital ties (Twitter follows) between 136 food support providers active in Greater Manchester. This network of digital mutual recognition allows us to explore i) to what extent actors are mutually aware of each other; ii) whether the field is fragmented into different subfields; iii) the overall power structure of the field; and iv) the nature of the relationship with the broader field environment.

'The food is for everybody': How Food Redistribution Connects Individuals and Communities.

Perry Share, Michelle Share, Catriona Delaney
(Department of Social Sciences, Institute of Technology Sligo, Ireland)

Food waste is complex topic that repays sociological analysis. Redistribution of surplus food within the food chain has become a common approach, with a range of organisational structures ranging from food banks to community pantries to meal delivery. This paper examines how redistribution of 'surplus food' by an Irish food NGO connects individuals and communities in ways that go beyond environmental or food poverty objectives. It reports on research conducted in late 2021: a survey of community and voluntary organisations (CVOs) [n=267]; semi-structured interviews and photo-elicitation with selected organisations [n=15], service users [n=15] and focus groups [n=3]. The paper draws extensively on participants' narratives. The study aimed to investigate how the pandemic affected food redistribution. It was the first sociological study of the work of the NGO and revealed new knowledge about perceptions and practices amongst participants.

While food redistribution is often couched within an environmentalist discourse (avoiding landfill), government agencies and businesses increasingly adopt a 'food poverty' framing. The research suggests that CVOs resist the food poverty discourse and that redistributed food is integrated into a broader community-based service delivery model that stresses food as a means to build and maintain connection. This reflects the strong 'community' perspective within Irish social policy. The paper addresses the implications of these findings for food redistribution. It discusses the strengths and weaknesses of the food poverty frame and suggests that a discourse that stresses the potential of commensality and universality may have greater potential in addressing the wicked problem of food waste.

Environment and Society

Oir na mara: Island and Coastal Commons and a Tale of "Greater Wisdom" or "Foolishness"?

Kathryn A. Burnett, Michael Danson
(Scottish Centre for Island Studies, University of the West of Scotland)

Recent Scottish land ownership policy has created actual and symbolic spaces within which Scotland's people can nurture and develop collective capabilities, facilitating communities to sustain and grow. The land and sea assets of rural and island communities are dependent on their locational and situational context at "the margins", "on the edge". Such communities are sites imbued with shifting and complex narratives of place (Romance) and people (Resilience). Furthermore, the resilient and "countering" enterprise and innovation activity within Scotland's coastal rural and island commons are indicative of deeper foundations of emplaced community identity, collaborative partnerships of sustained growth and the endogenous futureproofing of "localness" as commons. This paper explores "commons" within remote rural places yet culturally defined spaces that speak to empowered and empowering realignments of periphery, margin and edge with particular reference to "buyout" community narratives and arenas. Here, embedded in social foundations and innovations of both Scotland's "place and people", the expanding ambitions for island and coastal rural community

assets and a local and global commons is realised both in policy and in practice. With illustrative reference to textual account, including Sorley MacLean's great emplaced, embodied sense of his island landscape and its Gaelic oral history, this paper asserts and assures the value in narratives that (is)lands, and assets of close and distance waters and shores, are a necessary and deeply felt and told "localness" commons identity and imagery.

Nature as Property? Reconsidering the Ownership of Land through Rights of Nature

Philipp Degens

(University of Hamburg)

This contribution explores how the discourse on rights of nature affects conceptions and imaginations of ownership, property rights, and the commons. Taking a conceptual perspective, it specifically assesses and compares proposals and initiatives to establish hybrid forms of property that institutionalise joint control by humans and other-than-humans over land. Ownership here is re-imagined not as constituting exclusive rights over a specific natural resource, but as being necessarily pluralistic and overlapping: different stakeholders might hold different and possibly conflicting, yet legitimate legal interests in the same physical space (cf Bradshaw 2020). While some proposals build on stewardship for non-human entities, others aim at recognising citizenship rights of non-human animals (Donaldson 2020). In either case, social (or environmental) obligations are regarded as being inherent to property itself.

From a sociological perspective, I argue that such conceptions that build on rights of nature entail both transformative and modernizing elements: transformative in the sense that they appear to scrutinize the strict dualism between nature and society. Arguably, however, such conceptions also represent the idea of modernization. The particular idea to reconfigure the human-nature relation in the field of property rights builds on the further extension of the scope of basic Western legal categories, not on a transformation of the concept of modern subjective rights as such. It rather resembles an expansion of rights, which has historically been understood as an element of progress in modernity per se.

People like to Complain about the Weather, but how can we prevent it Killing People?

Thomas Roberts

(University of Surrey)

People in Britain like to complain about the weather, but to date British weather has been generally fairly benign. However, each year we still see around 3,000 excess deaths each year during episodes of extreme heat and 35,000 due to cold weather. As the impacts of climate change become more severe the number of heat related deaths is likely to rise dramatically to around 7000 per year by 2050. Furthermore, cold weather deaths are likely to remain stable till at least the end of the century (Hajat et al., 2016). Consequently, there is an urgent need to rethink the way in which we inform people about the dangers of hot and cold weather and prepare health and social care services to respond to changing climatic conditions. This paper draws the findings from a series of workshops with emergency planners working across the NHS and local authorities to evaluate the effectiveness of the current systems for alerting the public and front-line workers about impending extreme weather events. The paper will consider how the current system could be improved by focusing on what information front line staff need to ensure an appropriate and proportionate response is provided.

Families and Relationships

Analysing Social Networks during the UK COVID-19 Lock-down: Time, Care, Space

Alessio D'angelo, Louise Ryan, Vrain Bellotti, Emilie Elisa

(University of Nottingham; London Metropolitan University; University of Manchester; University of East Anglia)

In this paper we draw on the results of the 'Life in lockdown' survey undertaken with a sample of UK residents during the first coronavirus lockdown of 2020. The study employed a 'Social Network Analysis' approach to map personal connections and investigate how confinement has impacted on domestic, work, leisure and social habits. Particularly, we examine the changing nature and frequency of family ties - including close and extended family - assessing their role and relative importance during these unprecedented times. Our analysis also explores the extent to which the lockdown impacted and was experienced differently by people depending on who they were confined with, raising important issues about the experience of working parents with children as well as the relationships between spouses and partners. While much of the existing literature on social networks in times of national emergencies and crises tends to focus on natural disasters that often result in homelessness and dispersal, fracturing social ties, our paper contributes

to understanding the effect of unique experiences of protracted confinement that characterised the Covid-19 pandemic. Our research is underpinned by a multi-disciplinary theoretical framework connecting literatures about 'ego-networks', family networks and social support, examining the overlaps and distinctions between these dimensions. In the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, this also allows us to reflect on the relative and changing importance of distance/proximity and physical space, and is informing our ongoing work on social networks of support in post-pandemic societies.

Rethinking Dingwall's 'Missed Opportunities' in Sociological Advocacy for People's Needs

John Holley

(Suffolk University)

The Covid crisis has challenged many professions, problematized public dialogue, and destabilized popular understanding. Dingwall (2021) asks why sociologists have been largely absent from these issues, especially when sociology's subject is people's needs and policies that can bring social progress. Dingwall identifies some medical professionals as exercising too much influence over institutions, for example, government in the UK, as in other countries. Health practitioners may take too narrow a focus. For example, 'fighting the virus' has overridden people's needs, for example, by preventing their social relationships. Why haven't sociologists spoken up about this? This large topic surely involves all social scientists. My contribution is to show how the social relationships of 'normalcy' contribute to society. For example, older people want to be with those who love them; isolation for medical reasons may be the worst situation for everyone when someone is dying. My research finds that social relationships are crucial to happiness and growth in each phase of youth: exofily in mid-childhood friendships; attraction-based courtship in teens; neo-career choice in late teens and twenties; neo-locality of householders in late-twenties; and generationally distinctive parenting later. All these relationships prove crucial to people's happiness and require society to recognize their needs. Advocacy for these relationships will add weight to sociologists' professional concern for people's needs and may result in society getting outcomes that balance medical practice with people's social progress.

Voicing the need for Culturally Responsive Support: How black and Asian Youth have Navigated Pandemic-related Change in the UK

Teresa Sharma Perez, Anita Gupta, Claudia Bernard, Monica Lakhanpaul

(Royal Holloway, University of London)

Culturally responsive policies are necessary to tackle racial injustices highlighted by the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on black and Asian families and communities across the UK. This ongoing study examines the interaction between individual coping strategies and societal structures with a view to improving support for black and Asian children and young people.

The qualitative research design was underpinned by a socio-ecological approach, combining critical race theory with a wellbeing and resilience framework, to connect micro-meso-macro social processes. Semi-structured interviews and focus groups were used to gain insight into the combined impact of COVID-19 and racial discrimination on black and Asian young peoples' everyday life, and how they navigated change. Data is comprised of transcripts and field notes collated over three months in 2021, with a total of 53 participants, aged between 12–19 who identified as black, Asian or mixed black/Asian heritage.

Findings based on thematic analysis, shed light on the interconnectedness of young people's relationships with family, peers, teachers, and community support workers for maintaining wellbeing. Young people voiced concern about inconsistencies in the policing of 'lockdown' rules, education and health practices, and being positioned differently by global justice movements. They identified local, national and global processes of change necessary for tackling systemic racial discrimination. Conclusions are drawn around the need for better alignment between coping strategies and support in order to make recommendations towards policies that respond sensitively to the wellbeing of black and Asian youth.

LIFECOURSE: OLDER PEOPLE'S LIVED EXPERIENCES

Good Time, Bad Time: Socioeconomic Status, Time Scarcity and Well-Being in Retirement

Boroka Bo

(University of Essex)

We tend to think of retirement as a great equalizer when it comes to relief from the pernicious time scarcity characterizing the lives of many in the labour force. Puzzlingly, this is not entirely the case. Using data from the MTUS (N=15,390) in combination with long-term participant observation (980 hours) and in-depth interviews (N=53), I show that socioeconomic characteristics are important determinants of retiree time scarcity. Contextual disadvantage influences well-being outcomes via time exchanges that are forged by both neighbourhood and peer network characteristics. The SES-based 'time projects of surviving and thriving' undergirding the experience of time scarcity lead to divergent strategies of action and differing consequences for well-being. For the advantaged, the experience of time scarcity is protective for well-being in later life, as it emerges from the 'work of thriving' and managing a relative abundance of choices. For the disadvantaged, the later life experience of time scarcity is shaped by cumulative inequality, further exacerbating inequalities in well-being. The final section of the article offers an analysis and interpretation of these results, putting retiree time scarcity in conversation with the broader literature on socioeconomic status and well-being.

Decolonising 'Bereavement Studies': Exploring Diverse Resources in the Face of Contemporary Global Crises

Jane Mccarthy, Sukhbinder Hamilton

(Open University / University of Reading and University of Portsmouth)

Crises facing the world today raise existential dilemmas about human being-ness, such that understanding the diverse ways in which people 'respond to death' (Klass, 1999) becomes highly significant for enhancing wisdom and resources to rise to the challenges. Yet the current field of bereavement studies is very heavily dominated by individualistic interventionist approaches, largely based in the 'psy' and mental health disciplines, and developed in high-income Minority world contexts. At the same time, the (historical) foundations of much of the 'expert' knowledge of such Minority countries are being actively re-examined from the perspective of decolonisation, raising questions about the resources available to advance such work. It is notable, for example, how poorly documented are the lived bereavement experiences of ethnically minoritized groups in the UK, and more generally in respect to the significance of relational and familial experiences in regard to death and 'bereavement'. In this presentation, we will consider examples of existing 'knowledge' from both cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary work on death and bereavement. What are the benefits and limitations of existing bereavement studies for understanding the aftermath of death in the diverse continuing lives of the living? Can such perspectives shed light on how power, inequalities, and material-discursive contexts both shape, and are shaped by, how diverse peoples respond to death? How far might experiential auto-biographical resources be brought into play, and the wisdom and insights of indigenous peoples? In this presentation we hope to open up conversations and provide some food for thought.

Gender differences in rural-urban migration and its impact on mental health in later life in China

Jingwen Zhang

(University of Manchester)

There is increasing need for policymakers to understand the particular needs and risks pertaining to women's health in the process of migration, given the rapid feminization of rural-to-urban migration in China in recent years. The role of gender has not been thoroughly investigated in previous studies on internal migration and mental health in China, especially taking account of the complexity of migration experiences over an individuals' life course. Guided by a gendered life course perspective, this study explores gender differences in the association between rural/urban migration trajectories and mental health in later life among Chinese older adults. Exploiting rich life history data from China Health and Retirement Longitudinal studies, we employ sequence analysis to identify the major migration trajectory patterns of Chinese older adults in a more nuanced and comprehensive manner. Beyond testing and explaining the association between rural-urban migration trajectories and mental health in later life, we use moderated

mediation analysis to examine gender-specific health pathways. The results indicate that: rural migrants who settle in urban regions have better mental health in later life than return migrants or rural non-migrants; migrating to urban areas at an early age is especially beneficial for women's long-term mental health; and economic achievement and institutional barriers mediate the relationship between migration trajectory and later-life mental health, with similar mediation effects for men and women. The study therefore highlights the importance of considering the role of gender when designing policies aiming to improve the health and wellbeing of migrants in China.

Medicine, Health and Illness

Mental Health, Inequality and Social Justice: a Critical Role for Sociology

Baptiste Brassard, Amy Chandler

(Australian National University / University of Edinburgh)

What is the purpose of the sociology of mental health, especially when it comes to inequalities and social justice? In this paper, we argue that much existing sociological work addressing mental health inequalities limit themselves to unimaginative agendas which describe relationships between various measures of social position (class, race/ethnicity, gender) and of well-being, but do not explain them. The dominance of what we call the 'correlation paradigm' – the multiplication of increasingly sophisticated statistical relationships between particular social positions and mental health outcomes – lacks engagement with the complex epistemology of social life, and in particular with power. Drawing on our forthcoming book, *Explaining Mental Health: Sociological Perspectives*, we propose three promising approaches (intersectional; configurational; and definitional) through which sociology can better explain how mental disorders are embedded in the interrelations between social position, the social hierarchies that structure them and the meanings that are attributed to these. Each of these approaches underlines how social position and mental health are not only correlated, but entangled.

Facing this entanglement not only requires sociology to engage more fully with the ways in which inequalities produce distress; but to name such inequalities, the structures which produce them, and the political philosophy that justifies them. In particular, the notion of social justice, in the area of mental health, raises singular issues for capitalist economies where inequalities of well-being may be understood as drivers of imperatives to work and consume.

Risk, Motherhood and Mental Illness: an Intersectional Qualitative Study

Charli Colegate

(University of Sheffield)

At the intersection of motherhood and mental illness, women experience an amplification of social scrutiny and stigma. Professional discourses of those responsible for supporting women and their families are suffused with risk-talk. In perinatal mental healthcare, there exists a paradoxical problem where women in most need may not get the necessary care. Women fear speaking about the true extent of their histories of mental health and illness. They worry their children will be removed from their care if professionals deem them too high a risk to be able to adequately parent. This is a fear women from many socio-cultural backgrounds share. However, when white, middle class standards of mothering are privileged and parenting practices outside of this 'norm' are seen as 'risky', it is not unwise to assume these fears to be more acute in some women than others: Women for whom entanglement with state institutions can often result in more harm than good. In early 2022, I will begin empirical research investigating the experiences of women whose voices are notably absent in the qualitative perinatal mental health literature – working class women and women from minoritized ethnic groups. In this talk, I will present a critical review of the literature on perinatal mental illness and the key sociological perspectives I will utilize in my study. I will also discuss how conversations with women with lived experience of mental illness as well as relevant professionals and community organizations, have shaped the study I am undertaking.

Suicide-scapes across Scotland: Approaching Suicide as a Matter of Social Justice

Sarah Huque, Amy Chandler, Rebecca Helman, Joe Anderson

(University of Edinburgh)

Suicide is unequally distributed across societies, and people who are marginalised and oppressed are at greater risk of death by suicide. Despite this, knowledge about suicide is dominated by individualised psychological and biomedical

frameworks, with sociology notably absent in public policy and discourse about suicide. Suicide Cultures: Reimagining Suicide Research is a sociologically informed, interdisciplinary project exploring how culture, social structures and inequalities shape experiences and responses to suicide in different communities across Scotland.

This paper presents preliminary findings which develop the concept of 'suicide-scapes'. Considering 'suicide-scapes' entails a focus on cultural meanings, social practices, structures and place/geography in understanding suicide. To illustrate this concept, and the benefits of in-depth, qualitative approaches to studying suicide, we focus on two examples of institutional suicide-scapes – the Scottish prison system and NHS Scotland. Drawing on narrative analysis (as part of a broader 'sociological autopsy') of Fatal Accident Inquiry reports of suicides by prisoners and NHS reviews of patient suicides, this paper demonstrates how institutional settings shape the dynamics and experiences of suicide in Scotland – including in relation to incarceration, coercion and social control.

Examining suicide from a cultural instead of purely biomedical perspective, our analysis considers differences in social experience, including those relating to socioeconomic status, gender, sexuality, disability, race, and institutional location. We show how social factors feature in existing explanations for suicide, as presented in the reports, and demonstrate how a sociologically informed, social justice-oriented approach is vital – but often missing in attempts to make sense of suicide.

Covid-19 and Mental Health of Polish Essential Workers in the UK

Paulina Trevena, Sharon Wright, Anna Gawlewicz

(University of Glasgow)

Covid-19 has exposed the UK's socio-economic dependence on a chronically insecure migrant essential workforce. While risking their lives to offset the devastating effects of the pandemic, migrant workers often find themselves in precarious employment and personal circumstances (e.g. zero-hours contracts, work exploitation, limited access to social security). This is the case for many Polish essential workers in the UK who – while employed across a range of roles and sectors – are overrepresented in lower-paid work. This paper explores the impacts of Covid-19 on the mental health of Polish essential workers in the UK, considering their diverse working and living conditions. It is based on a mixed-methods UKRI-funded study comprising of over 1,100 responses to an online survey, 40 interviews with Polish essential workers and 10 expert interviews with key stakeholders (www.migrantessentialworkers.com).

The paper finds that the impacts of the pandemic on Polish essential workers' mental health vary substantially. While 55.5% of our survey respondents reported a deterioration in mental health, 33% saw an improvement. Employment and working conditions – along family, health, and financial issues – have largely shaped these diverse experiences. Health and care staff were especially affected by increased pressures and work unpredictability during Covid-19. Some reported challenges arose from the Polish workers' migrant status in particular. For instance, they felt profoundly negatively impacted by their inability to travel to see family in Poland or provide direct support to them. Poles with mental health problems also faced cultural and structural barriers to accessing support in the UK.

Race, Ethnicity and Migration 1 Special Event

Following Emejulu and Bassel's conception of the 'politics of exhaustion' this paper suggests that among racialised groups in academic exhaustion operates quite literally as a structure of mutual recognition of the disproportionate degree of emotional labour ethnic minority women endure in HE. By looking at transnational and institutional emotional labour through the lens of 'the politics of exhaustion' this paper disrupts the idea that upwardly mobile migrant ethnic minority women experience a semblance of equality in HE. On the contrary, based on auto-ethnographic methods this paper suggests that, our transnational, gendered and racialized lives are structured in ways that require us to constantly carry out a multitude of disproportionate emotional labours. Viewed in this way, the equality agenda in HE appears to be powered by ethnic minority women's unpaid work and hence is deeply compromised. As HE institutions take stock of questions of diversity, equality and wellbeing in the current moment, we argue for the gendered and racialized politics of exhaustion to be recognised, particularly during moments of crisis such as the a global pandemic and Black Lives Matter movement.

Outsiders Within: Minoritized and Migrant Academics in the UK

Ahmad Akkad

(University of Warwick)

The mobility of international academics literature tends to celebrate the internationalisation of higher education, globalisation and transnationalism. Academic mobility is often conceptualised within neoliberal, market-oriented and

human capital terminology which acclaims academic mobility as a universal advantage. However, such an understanding of mobility is deeply lacking. This paper explores the lived experiences of displaced early-career Syrian scholars in the UK and challenges the conceptualization of mobility as a 'universal good', voluntary, or based on making career-related choices for career advancement and international reputation. Drawing on data obtained via an in-depth examination of three contrasting cases of displaced early-career Syrian scholars at UK higher education institutions, the limits and extensions of academic mobility and knowledge production are explored. The paper utilises in-depth narrative interviews which are specifically analysed for this presentation. By offering a more nuanced understanding of the experiences of displaced scholars as occupying a 'liminal' space, this paper challenges dominant discourses of academic mobility and draws on lessons learned from within liminal spaces of knowledge production to advance more responsive and equitable higher education institutions.

Migrant Ethnic Minority Women in Academia during the twin Pandemics of COVID-19 and Racism

Nazia Hussein, Saba Hussain

(University of Bristol and University of Birmingham)

Following Emejulu and Bassel's conception of the 'politics of exhaustion' this paper suggests that among racialized groups in academic exhaustion operates quite literally as a structure of mutual recognition of the disproportionate degree of emotional labour ethnic minority women endure in HE. By looking at transnational and institutional emotional labour through the lens of 'the politics of exhaustion' this paper disrupts the idea that upwardly mobile migrant ethnic minority women experience a semblance of equality in HE. On the contrary, based on auto-ethnographic methods this paper suggests that, our transnational, gendered and racialized lives are structured in ways that require us to constantly carry out a multitude of disproportionate emotional labours. Viewed in this way, the equality agenda in HE appears to be powered by ethnic minority women's unpaid work and hence is deeply compromised. As HE institutions take stock of questions of diversity, equality and wellbeing in the current moment, we argue for the gendered and racialized politics of exhaustion to be recognised, particularly during moments of crisis such as the global pandemic and Black Lives Matter movement.

'Why don't you go back from where you came from'.

Janice Smith

(Independent)

As a black female academic in a white dominated higher education institution means that I am marginalised. I find my very presence to be disruptive to the 'norm' of male, in a white dominated department, it is hard to quantify the micro-aggressions and the actual blocking of my own career development. Whilst some of this is down to individual racist and sexist attitudes, the more insidious attitudes and actions seem to arise from potentially unconscious reactions to the 'threat' of my presence and longstanding structural inequalities and academic hierarchies within a broader unequal society. This paper explores why minoritised women are underrepresented in academia. It draws upon how female academics of colour often experience racism and sexism by exclusion, which is subtle, covert, and nuanced. Women of colour are conceived as 'space invaders' (Puwar, 2004), creating liminal spaces in which to navigate a career-life. Importantly, critiquing my own personal experience through the lens of an 'outsider-within' (Hill-Collins, 1990) has allowed me to see there is strength in looking at an objective context for a lived experience. Using narrative research, drawn from my biography I give an emotional account which is informed by a subjective reality of my working-life. This makes me potentially a better academic and researcher, mentor and even champion, and more equipped for challenging injustice in the workplace. To be a pathfinder for others, or to champion them on their journey is a powerful thing. As a teaching academic, I take these responsibilities seriously.

'Migrant Academics/Sisters Outsiders: Feminist Solidarity Unsettled and Intersectional Politics Interrogated'

Maria Tsouroufli

(Brunel University London)

Feminist sisterhood has been heavily criticised by black feminists and others as installing a false sense of equality among women and over ambitious in disrupting the models and boundaries of the neo-liberal university. This paper draws on the autobiographical account of a white other, female European migrant academic in the UK to consider how intersectional disadvantage and advantage shapes feminist sisterhood configurations with profound implications for academic identities, careers, and belonging in the internationalised University and the wider socio-political British

context. The author draws on her professional trajectory to demonstrate how othering, symbolic and actual violence, intertwined with xenophobic and racist performances of professional legitimacy and authority, operate as dividing mechanisms between different shades of white feminists within the nexus of institutional inequalities, and North/South, East/West global hierarchies. I argue that the contextuality and conditionality of whiteness and Western subject hood coupled with the gendering, racialization, and ethnicization of European minorities (and other) within the pre/post Brexit context require further attention for understanding female migrant academics' projects of identification/disidentification, feminist solidarity, transnational positionalities and belonging.

Race, Ethnicity and Migration 2

Racism and Discrimination among Ethnic and Religious Minorities in Britain during the Coronavirus Pandemic: New Evidence from the EVENS Survey

Nissa Finney, James Nazroo, Natalie Shlomo, Dharmi Kapadia, Laia Becares, Harry Taylor, Dan Ellingworth, Magda Borkowska

(Centre on the Dynamics of Ethnicity (CoDE) and University of St Andrews)

Stark evidence now exists that ethnic minorities have been disproportionately affected by the Coronavirus pandemic and commentators have pointed to structural inequalities as underlying causes, including deprivation, occupational segregation and racism (e.g. Nazroo and Becares, 2020). However, a severe lack of data has hindered investigation of the experiences and causes of these inequalities. This presentation will report early results from the Evidence for Equality National Survey (EVENS), the largest and most comprehensive survey of ethnic and religious minorities in Britain. EVENS, undertaken by the Centre on the Dynamics of Ethnicity (CoDE), collected data between February and October 2021 using novel non-probability survey methods, thereby providing unrivalled data for 14,000 people, including 9,000 ethnic and religious minorities. The presentation will give methodological reflection on the innovative non-probability survey design; and early results of survey analysis. EVENS is novel in enabling robust comparison between ethnic and religious groups, allowing reliable documentation of racism across the lifecourse and during the pandemic in institutional contexts including education, employment, policing and public spaces. This presentation will focus on the patterning of experiences of racism across class, gender and age, and on whether experiences of discrimination and unfair treatment have increased from the beginning of the pandemic and in relation to the Black Lives Matter movements and lockdown restrictions. This will be a 'first view' of EVENS results, prior to release of the survey to the research community via the UK Data Service, showcasing the value of this unique dataset for building equality and justice.

Ethnic Inequalities in the Criminal Justice System in England and Wales: Evidence from Magistrates' and Crown Courts

Kitty Lympelopoulou

(Manchester Metropolitan University)

Over recent years there has been unprecedented attention to racial and ethnic inequalities in policing and the Criminal Justice System (CJS). The 2017 Lammy Review, the most comprehensive analysis of the treatment of, and outcomes for ethnic minority groups in the CJS to date, showed that ethnic minority groups are both disproportionately represented, and appear to experience disproportionately worse outcomes across different stages of the CJS. While the Lammy Review demonstrated the presence of stark ethnic inequalities, it also highlighted the lack of evidence into the drivers of inequalities. This paper draws on ESRC ADR UK funded research using Crown Court and Magistrates' Court datasets created through the Ministry of Justice Data First data-linking programme and multi-level models, to assess the relative importance of defendant, case and court factors in explaining ethnic differentials in court outcomes at different stages of the CJS. Specifically, the models examine the socio-demographic characteristics of defendants and different case characteristics such as plea, prior offending and conviction, offence type, and the presence of multiple defendants, and how they relate to court outcomes including remand, sentencing severity and sentencing length. The models further assess what proportion of the variation in outcomes can be attributed to individual (case) as well as contextual (court) factors such as court type, court case load and effectiveness. The presentation will examine whether ethnic inequalities persist after controlling for individual defendant, case and contextual characteristics and discuss the implications of findings in terms of identifying effective approaches towards tackling ethnic inequalities.

Everyday Racism Online? Young Norwegian Muslims' Experiences of Online Racism

Marjan Nadim

(Institute for Social Research, Oslo)

There is a growing research literature on everyday racism, emphasising that experiences of racism are often subtle, ambiguous and difficult to pin down, even for the actors involved. Rather than being explicit and blatant, everyday racism often manifests itself as everyday experiences of exclusion and stigmatisation. However, this research literature has often ignored the online realm, where “old-fashioned” and explicit forms of racism are present and highly visible. Based on qualitative interviews with 20 young Muslims in Norway, this paper examines how online racism is experienced and understood. More specifically, the paper traces the specificities of online racism as an experience of everyday racism, discussing how it might differ or not from face-to-face experiences and theorising around everyday racism. The analyses show that although online racism is experienced as massive and explicitly racist, it is seen as a normalised aspect of being online. Furthermore, the online realm offer possibilities for the young people to distance themselves from the racism they experience, in a way that is not possible off-line.

“I Need Political Asylum”: the Image of Russia in YouTube Blogs of Russian Asylum Seekers in the USA

Aleksandra Salatova

(HSE University)

In 2017 number of asylum applications by Russian citizens in the USA hit a 24-year record. Moreover, number of Russians granted the asylum reached 1109 in 2019 and non-immigrant admissions (Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, 2019) made up the population of a medium Russian city equalling 301321 individuals. In 2021, with a high degree of probability, we can expect the continuing growth of the number of asylum seekers from Russian Federation. Particularly the growth of the political asylums because the election cycle has ended by the ruling party victory.

The online communities have acquired a significant audience of subscribers due to the spread of the useful information on how to cross the border (primary from Mexico to the USA), the cost of the whole process, how to prepare the immigration case etc.

Our research is based on the qualitative analysis of the image of Russia in the four YouTube blogs by political asylum seekers from Russia (verbal description of the country, their vision of the political and economic situation, the quality of life and everyday comfort in contrast to the USA). The research period 2020-2021 provides the information on how their vision of Russia and their life in the Russian Federation transforms with the immigration experience. The results demonstrated the transformation of perceptions to the less negative with the ongoing period of living in the USA, the general links between characteristics of different spheres of Russian life and their representation in the YouTube vlogs and the main push-factors for the migration.

Science, Technology and Digital Studies

COVID-19 Treatment or Miracle "Cure"?: Tracking the Hydroxychloroquine, Remdesivir and Ivermectin Conspiracies on Social Media

Stephanie Baker, Alexia Maddox

(City, University of London)

One of the biggest challenges during the pandemic has been how to tackle the spread of medical misinformation about the virus. Much of the so-called ‘infodemic’ centres around potential causes, treatments and “cures” for COVID-19. In this paper we track and compare conspiracy theories on social media involving three repurposed drugs used as treatments for the novel coronavirus: hydroxychloroquine, remdesivir and ivermectin. To do this, we introduce the original concept of the ‘conspiracy course’, documenting the development of the conspiracy object, and classifying the parallels between its narrative trajectory and visibility curve. This original concept is then applied to public discourse and events surrounding these treatments over a 24-month period from 11 March 2020 when the pandemic was declared. We trace the narrative emergence of these conspiracies during the pandemic as they were amplified across mainstream and social media networks by key public figures and influencers as promising “miracle cures” through to their debunking and co-option in the media. We also critically analyse the resulting real-world consequences and accompanying silencing practices that submerge a conspiracy back into the social fringes and media margins. In analysing the trajectory of a conspiracy across social and mainstream media, the ‘conspiracy course’ provides a useful conceptual apparatus to understand how medical claims succumb to conspiracism and misinformation.

Emotional Responses to Data Visualizations about Climate Change in Two Different National Contexts

Monika Fratzczak

(University of Sheffield)

The recent increase in private, public and political use of data and the increased circulation of data through visual representations indicate that the study of data visualization (graphs, charts, maps) is gaining importance as a research subject. Despite this, there has been little sociological contribution to the understanding of everyday experiences of data visualization. Data studies has been characterized by studies of the top-down operations of data power and by a related absence of attention to experiences of data 'from the bottom up'. In this context, understanding the role emotions play in engagements with data visualization is important, as a number of practitioners and scholars argue (such as D'Ignazio and Bhargava, 2020; Gray, 2020; Kennedy and Hill, 2017 and Simpson, 2020).

To address this gap, I research explores emotional responses to data visualizations in two different national contexts in the United Kingdom and Poland. I do this through a focus on climate change, investigating data visualization about climate change produced by non-governmental organizations from the UK and Poland. I explore whether these data visualizations have an emotional impact on people, and whether and how they can prompt civic mobilization and political participation.

This empirical research uses mixed qualitative methods, including social semiotics analysis of data visualizations, semi-structured interviews with data visualization experts and designers from the selected organisations, and semi-structured interviews with diverse user participants from the UK and Poland. In my presentation, I will discuss how national and demographical differences can influence users' engagements with data visualizations.

Information Pollution in Pandemic Times: Some Insights from Sociotechnical Research

Anita Lavorgna

(University of Southampton)

The "coronavirus pandemic" struck the world in a really distinctive way, leading to an unstable and uncertain situation, affecting individuals, communities and many societies alike. In this context, and with cyberspace being increasingly used to support health-related decision making and to market health products, potentially harmful behaviours have been carried out by individuals propagating non-science based health mis/disinformation and conspiratorial thinking. This includes, among other actions, boycotting the use of masks and physical distancing, proactively opposing the use of the COVID-19 candidate vaccines, and promoting the use of useless or even dangerous substances to prevent or resist the virus. This presentation focuses on some recent studies carried out by the presenter over the past two years (based on digital ethnography, semi-structured interviews with providers and supporters of mis/disinformation, and computational approaches), shedding light on these potentially dangerous social practices, and conceptualizing them in the broader context of technology-facilitated social harms. The presentation will detail how the nature of personal interactions online and the construction of both personal and group identities through the development of an 'us vs. them' narrative are central to the creation and propagation of polluted information.

Combating Misinformation in a Virtual Community during the COVID-19 Pandemic: How Volunteer Moderators decide what Information to Remove

Alexandra Quezada

(Virginia Commonwealth University)

Online misinformation has become a growing concern during the COVID-19 pandemic. Previous studies addressing online misinformation describe how social media facilitates the spread of misinformation. Little research is conducted that details the actors on social media that combat misinformation. My research on content moderators suggest that they play an important role in the circulation of misinformation. This paper aims to investigate how volunteer moderators combat misinformation in a Reddit community that covers the spread of COVID-19. There is a gap in academic literature at the intersection of content moderators and misinformation. This project will address this gap by scraping the comments of volunteer moderators in the subreddit */r/Coronavirus* that reveal what content they deem misinformation. I will conduct a content analysis of the URL's removed by moderators and their stated justifications from the subreddit to identify trends in their decisions.

Social Divisions/Social Identities 1

Promoting Conceptions of Equality and Justice among Public Services Students through Sociological and Sociopsychological Module Content

Wendy Booth

(University of South Wales)

Promoting conceptions of equality and justice among Public Services students is essential due to their future roles in society, and the varying demographics of the people they will be required to support. Designing and delivering module content to student cohorts, especially where the majority are from fairly homogenous backgrounds (in this case the South Wales Valleys), presents some unique challenges; however, these challenges can be overcome by supporting students' critical thinking skills, and drawing on a combination of sociological and sociopsychological theories. For example, considering the impact of stop and search and the disproportionate use of such powers with young Black males, will lead to a greater awareness of issues related to racism and justice, yet this can be done not only by explaining sociological concepts, such as those related to structural inequalities, but also through social psychology and fostering empathy; in essence, encouraging students to 'walk in the shoes of others.' In addition, exploring social class and intersectionality from a sociological perspective, alongside explaining socio-psychological theories on in-groups and out-groups when discussing prejudiced and racist attitudes, can have a powerful impact. Furthermore, utilising elements of social psychology assists in teaching about unconscious bias and provides a useful starting point for self-reflection. This kind of combined approach to teaching and learning, which encourages exploring feelings and attitudes, as well as examining factual evidence and theories, provides a positive starting point for graduates to enter the workplace with a clearer idea of fairness, or equality versus inequality and justice versus injustice.

Relatively Privileged: Moral Dimensions of Subjective Class Identification

Jack Thornton

(University of Pennsylvania)

Past research has investigated why people tend to identify themselves as middle-class, regardless of their actual class position. Using interviews with 42 upper-middle-class students at an elite U.S. college, this study suggests that a "middle-ground" position between rich and poor may offer cognitive refuge from the dilemmas that can arise from seeing oneself as personally implicated in unequal social arrangements. Respondents draw sharp boundaries between themselves and wealthy classmates based on subjective differences in consumption and disposition, while also outlining a morally proper way that upper-class position can be inhabited: through humility, awareness of others' limitations, and "using" privilege. In contrast, respondents differentiate themselves from low-income peers based on the objective experience of financial hardship and material constraint. Respondents find themselves uncomfortably united with the upper class in enjoying "distance from necessity," or a comfortable, secure lifestyle that is ultimately contingent on the disadvantaging of others. Despite framing class inequality as morally objectionable, respondents express doubt that they will be able to effect change, especially in light of the need to reproduce their own privileged class position.

The Perception of Inequality in Turkey

Hasan Yenicirak

(Siirt University)

There is growing social discontent among people in Turkey, especially in recent years. This social discontent is related to Turkey's economic conditions. According to the Turkish Statistical Institute (TURKSTAT) reports gross national income (GNI) per capita, which reached the highest level in 2013 with \$12,519, decreased to \$8,599 in 2020. According to IMF reports, GNI per capita in Turkey will decline to \$7,568 in 2021.

However, these bad economic conditions did not have the same effect on all people in Turkey. While some individuals were significantly affected by these bad economic conditions, some individuals were less affected, and some individuals were not affected at all. This difference has led to the perception of inequality among people. The process that leads to the perception of inequality begins with comparisons. The comparisons made by individuals with others who are more advantageous can lead to their perceptions of inequality. The primary determinant of this perception of inequality in Turkey is political groups. The perception of inequality varies from person to person, in line with their affiliation with the types of political groups.

This study analyzes the perception of inequality in Turkey using statistical data and reveals how this perception of inequality changes according to political groups.

Social Divisions/Social Identities 2

Motherhood as Female Citizenship in Contemporary Chinese TV Drama

Sanna Eriksson

(University of York, Centre for Women's Studies)

Since the start of the reform period, Chinese official state ideology has shifted from socialism to nationalism influenced by Confucian culture. Simultaneously, 'traditional' ideas of women's greater domestic role, intergenerational dependency, filial piety, and the importance of children's education have entered public discourse and individual lived experience. Contemporary domestic arrangements where women play a central role in elderly and childcare take centre stage in popular television dramas such as *Nothing but thirty* (2020) and *A love for dilemma* (2021). Notably these series have emerged at a time when the party-state emphasises the importance of 'family values' while women struggle between careers and family expectations. In nationalist projects, women function as biological and socio-cultural reproducers of the nation (Anthias & Yuval-Davis, 1989). From a Chinese party-state perspective, women ensure national stability through their role at the centre of the family, a core unit of society (Wu & Dong, 2019). I use Gramscian 'hegemony' and 'common sense' to analyse TV dramas as means for the party-state to distribute and ensure popular consent to elite patriarchal, nationalist values. I enquire to what extent TV dramas like the above can be understood as domestic soft power vehicles for strengthening popular views of female citizenship as centred on caring responsibilities, and emphasising and shaping the role of the mother at the core of the family unit. I explore to what extent these TV dramas form a part of the party-state's nationalist project in envisioning gender specific roles for women in the 21st century Chinese nation.

Conceptualising Organisational Cultural Lag on Marriage Equality in Australian Sporting Organisations

Keith Parry, Emma Kavanagh, Eric Anderson, Ryan Storr

(Bournemouth University)

This paper details the development of a theoretical framework to understand how sexuality can be institutionalised through debates about marriage equality. We first examine 13 Australian sporting organisations concerning their support for marriage equality and sexual minority inclusion before showing they drew cultural capital from supporting episodes of equality exogenous to their organisation while failing to promote internal inclusion. We use online content analysis alongside the identification of institutional speech acts within policy to analyse results through three conceptual lenses: Ahmed's (2006) institutional diversity work, Ogburn's (1922) cultural lag, and Evan's (1966) organisational lag, from which we propose a hybrid, Organisational Cultural Lag, as a theoretical tool within social movement theory.

Sports Diplomacy and Gender Politics in the Tokyo Olympics

Tomoko Tamari

(Goldsmiths, University of London)

The paper explores how representations of woman became a contested field in the institutionalized gender inequality and male-dominated politics. Focusing on sports diplomacy in the context of the 1964 and 2021 Tokyo Olympics, the paper examines how socio-politically constructed gender discourse helped to promote 'soft-power'. According to the 2020 World Economic Forum (WEF), Japan ranks 121st out of 153 countries in the Global Gender Gap index, which is the largest gender gap among advanced economic countries. This makes us recall the resignation of the head of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics organizing committee, due to his sexist comment on women that thrust the current Japanese gender inequality situation not only into the local, but global public debate. As a consequence, the former female Olympian, Seiko Hashimoto became the president. In this context, she can be seen as a representative symbol of soft-power, an attempt to diplomatically promote the image of Japan as a gender-equal society. Analysing representations of the 'Oriental Witches', the world champion Japanese female volleyball team in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, the paper also scrutinizes the politically constructed 'paradoxical' gender discourse for the athletes. Comparing the two cases, the paper demonstrates the continuities in the (un)changing gender discourse and shows how the power of male-dominated and sexualized female discourse can oppressively objectify women. Drawing on 'the idea of performative agency'

(McNay), the paper explores the formation process of gender discourse, by analyses instabilities of gender norms along with the reformation of identities and possibilities of agency.

Gendering National Sacrifices: The Making of New Heroines in China's CounterCOVID-19 TV Series

Kailing Xie, Yunyun Zhou

(University of Birmingham)

Since February 2020, presenting the "correct" narrative regarding COVID19 pandemic is a top priority in China's state-controlled media. This paper focuses on two high-profile state-sponsored Covid-themed TV series *Heroes in the Harms Way* and *With You* based on real stories during the Wuhan lockdown. It elaborates the gendered nature of state narratives through analysing the construction and representation of heroines of COVID19. It demonstrates the centrality of the heterosexual family in these state narratives where individuals' sacrifices for the COVID19 national crisis are made meaningful and comprehensible to the public. It argues that, within this framework, heteronormative gender performance romanticises individual sacrifices, therefore aesthetically sanitising mass sufferings in such a traumatic event. Compared to socialist heroic figures, these idealized gendered subjects' personal weakness and minor flaws are tactically displayed to enhance the emotional authenticity and resonance with the contemporary audience, as long as their loyalty to the national "big family" under CCP's leadership is not compromised. It contends that COVID19 heroines though different in professions reflect stereotypical depictions of femininity and masculinity in post-reform China. While the former is associated with being caring, supportive, aesthetically appealing, highly emotional, the latter is often linked with being firmly charismatic, experienced, honour-pursuing, taking leadership roles. Consequently, this paper states that COVID19 heroines' politicised womanhood is inscribed with "the correct sacrificial attitude and gendered conduct" to serve to discipline China's new generations of "strong women", as well as to legitimise the blueprint of the Chinese nation envisioned under CCP's authoritarian rule.

Sociology of Education 1

RACIAL JUSTICE IN EDUCATION

Achieving Social Justice in Education Through a Strengths-based Approach

John Doyle

(Sheffield Hallam University (PhD Research))

This presentation will consider how a strengths-based approach within education can be effective in building equality and social justice. It challenges the notions of 'equality' and 'justice' in education when the outcome is education that does not meet the needs of marginalised and culturally diverse communities.

I will draw on the work of Tuck and Yang (2014) on 'refusal', and Tuck (2009) on avoiding 'damage' focussed research, which challenges research that problematizes communities and explicitly or implicitly portrays them as devoid of capability. It argues researchers should instead focus on the structures and institutions that create disadvantage and inequality.

I will draw on examples of two ethnographic research projects, using data collected with the Roma Slovak community in a post 16 education centre and ongoing within a mainstream and very ethnically diverse secondary school in the north of England. This research applies theories of cultural wealth (Yosso, 2005) and what Wallace (2018) describes as a 'constellation of capitals' to understand how the knowledge, skills and experiences of communities can be reflected in classroom learning. The research with the Roma Slovak community found that the student's stories showed capability and potential that can be recognised in a more positive learning environment.

I will discuss how through a Critical Race Theory (CRT) framework, the voices of the participants are central and counter stories can be used to challenge a deficit discourse. This presentation claims an equity-based approach that focusses on strengths, not deficits, is a more effective route to achieve social justice.

Contextualising Concerted Cultivation: Private Tuition, Classed and Racialized Parenting Cultures, and the Neoliberal Educational Playing Field

Sarah Holloway, Helena Pimlott-Wilson, Sam Whewall

(Loughborough University)

Supplementary education warrants greater attention in the Sociology of Education. Parents' use of private tuition to boost children's academic attainment is booming in England, but the provision is characterised by significant inequalities in access by class, race and region, with use lowest amongst working-class, White and Northern families. This paper uses qualitative research with 60 parents from diverse socio-spatial background to explore: (i) how England's marketised educational field foments the use of private tuition as a tool of concerted cultivation; and (ii) how the dispositions and resources of Asian, Black and White middle- and working-class families cohere in this context to shape distinctive tuition practices.

In highlighting the uneven growth of supplementary education markets in England, the paper makes three conceptual contributions to literature on parenting cultures and educational inequality. Firstly, it demonstrates the importance of place-sensitive research in contextualising concerted cultivation, as the neoliberal educational playing field foments demand for tuition both nationally and through neighbourhood processes. Secondly, it elucidates the need for more complex approaches that continue to explore inter-class differences in parenting cultures, but which complement this with analyses of inter-class similarity and intra-class variation where this emerges. Thirdly, it highlights the significance of racialized differences in parenting cultures, arguing that the factors shaping racialized dispositions, and the ways these are reproduced through racialized social capital, must be explored without homogenising or naturalising socially-constructed racial categories.

Falling Between the Cracks': Minority Ethnic Postgraduate Research Students in Higher Education

Shaminder Takhar

(London South Bank University)

Education prepares students for postgraduate study and employment, however this is often not always recognised or evidenced in the labour market which compounds structural inequalities (Bhopal, 2018). Although acquisition of educational qualifications particularly at postgraduate level have increasingly become the currency for employment for all ethnic groups, some at the intersection of race, gender, class, disability and religion experience highly stratified educational settings that impact on social mobility and social change. There is complexity to how minority ethnic students are viewed with overlapping factors such as socio-economic status, social class, migration and possession of social capital that impact on choices made. There are persistent inequalities in higher education and statistics show a decrease in the numbers of students transitioning to postgraduate research studies. The difference between the white ethnic group and minority groups' entry to research degrees is significant with statistics for different minority groups in postgraduate research study showing low numbers progressing to this stage (HEFCE, 2016:19). This paper is based on findings from focus groups conducted with students about their experiences of postgraduate research study. The aim is to ascertain student perception of current challenges to success. To increase participation, the students point to practical measures that universities can make which moves away from the deficit model often quoted as the underlying reason for lack of academic success for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic students (Loke, 2015).

Sociology of Education 2

COVID-19 & EDUCATION

Innovating in the Face of Covid-19 Digital Learning Challenges among Ghanaian Tertiary Students

Rabiu Asante

(University of Ghana)

Prior to Covid-19 gaining a global pandemic status, Sub-Saharan Africa's ICT infrastructure was developing at a slow pace often lagging behind the rest of the world. The only aspect that the continent may be posting higher numbers than the remainder of the world is in mobile phone subscription rates. Unfortunately, in the areas of PC ownership, internet infrastructure, online content generation, cost of using the internet, IT technical knowledge and skills, and stable electricity the continent is still far behind the rest of the world. Consequently, with universities forced to take up digital learning as a means to mitigate the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on tertiary education amid the poor ICT

infrastructure of the continent both students and the teaching faculty are expected to encounter some challenges. Indeed, the few existing research conducted on the impact of Covid-19 on higher education in Sub-Saharan Africa tends to be qualitative and often recount the challenges that students encountered while engaging with the available digital learning platforms. Acknowledging these challenges, this paper explores this phenomenon by using a quantitative approach across a sample drawn from Ghanaian public universities to examine how students are adapting to their educational demands during the Covid-19 pandemic by establishing the innovations they employed to adapt to the challenges of online learning. Students employed multi-faceted techniques such as relying on their existing social capital to bridge the gap in access to learning resources and ICT tools.

Educational Inequalities in the times of Pandemic

Surbhi Dayal

(Indian Institute of Management Indore)

COVID-19, an unknown virus, triggered a global epidemic in 2020. It has forced the closure of schools and institutions all around the world for more than a year. Nearly 1.6 billion students are physically absent from school in over 190 nations. According to UNESCO (2020), this has affected 94 percent of the world's student population, with low- and lower-middle-income nations accounting for up to 99 percent of the student population. The pandemic has replaced traditional classrooms education with digital platforms of learning but there is a large population who does not have access to any kind of digital device. This digital divide increased the gap between rich and poor. Inclusive education has been always a goal in India but during the pandemic, this educational inclusion became tenuous for children coming from marginalised communities and lower economic strata of the society. This paper focuses on the status of educational institutions in India and how a new kind of inequality related to digital devices, internet emerged during the pandemic. It further explores how this inequality affected the students physically and mentally. This paper is an exploratory paper and is based on the primary data collected from students of marginalised communities living in India. A combination of survey and the telephonic interview to collect data.

Inequality, Barriers to Opportunity, and the Lived Experience at a British School

Rebecca White

(Sheffield Hallam University)

The focus on education for this project is driven by the weight of responsibility schools have in shaping, moulding and socialising young people. Education systems as have largely turned a blind eye to the needs of marginalised groups (McGregor and Mills, 2012) and with the sheer force with which Covid-19 has hit the world, it is more pertinent than ever for educational institutions to support all young people. In order to do this, schools must understand what 'barriers' exist both socially and institutionally so that the system might change to better meet the needs of marginalised students and in turn, all students.

Research Questions:

- 1) What role and how does inequality play in the lived experiences of young people at school?
- 2) In what ways do visible and invisible barriers affect young people's equal access to the curriculum and wider opportunities within school?
- 3) Has the coronavirus pandemic exacerbated this?

An ethnography has been employed as the main research method, highlighting the importance of access, participation, and ethics in a Covid-19 world. Ethnographies are an important tool when understanding individual experience, especially for young people, as it allows for flexibility, observation and rapport building within a research setting (Russell, 2013).

This project aims to fill a knowledge gap that addresses young people's experiences of inequality on an individual level. The insight I hope to gain will offer a unique perspective of young people's experiences of inequality both before and after the worldwide spread of Coronavirus and subsequent lockdown period.

Work, Employment and Economic Life 1

SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Framing Self-employment; Cheering Capitalism

Rachel Cohen

(City, University of London)

This paper explores the ways that self-employment, sometimes understood as entrepreneurship or the coordination of small (micro or ownaccount) businesses, is framed within five key spaces: Political discourse; popular entertainment; self-help guidance; corporate advertisements and spaces of resistance (e.g. those organised by Trade Unions). It shows the ways in which the framing of self-employment within each of these cultural spaces overlaps with and reinforces frames produced elsewhere, as well as points of rupture or dissonance.

Based on this analysis, the paper argues that self-employment plays an important ideological role in reproducing contemporary capitalism. It does this, first, by presenting 'success stories' and 'origin stories' that legitimate meritocratic understandings of 'making it'. Second, it does this by providing the language and referents that underpin apparently universal conceptualisations of the 'enterprise economy' and 'entrepreneurial self'. Consequently, cultural contention around self-employment, including, for example, around the self-employed status of Uber and Deliveroo drivers, reflects and impacts wider collective contemporary understandings of work.

The paper suggests that the frames used to make sense of self-employment are important because these orient understandings, public policy and social attitudes towards self-employment, but also capitalist waged employment. At a micro-level, they also influence the ways in which self-employed workers understand and make sense of their own experiences, the language they draw upon to talk about their working lives, and to frame alternatives.

Women Entrepreneurs and the Gendered Division of Household Labour in Japan

Makiko Fuwa

(Tokyo Metropolitan University)

Using data from the Survey on State of New Business Start-ups (special surveys), 2013, this study examines the division of household labour among female and male entrepreneurs in Japan. Self-employment have been considered possible work options that can help women balance their work and family responsibilities. The results indicate that women entrepreneurs are much more likely than men to do most of the household labour. The results also indicate that factors related to the labour market—relative resources and time availability—had little effect on household labour among the self-employed. In addition, those who value fulfilling private lives over financial and business fulfilment in their business consequently bear a higher share of household labour. These findings suggest that the option of entrepreneurial business may have double-edged consequences for women. Self-employment may provide opportunities for women to continue to participate in the labour force, but at the same time, they may ultimately shoulder much of the responsibility for household labour. As a result, ironically, the gendered division of household labour could be worsened through the promotion of self-employment.

Family Networks and Self-Employed Young People in Ghana and Nigeria

Iyeyinka Omigbodun

(University of Cambridge)

This study looks at how the family ties of self-employed young people in Ghana and Nigeria shape their transition into self-employment and their working life. It is based on data from 57 semi-structured interviews conducted with self-employed workers between the ages of 15 and 35 in Ghana and Nigeria. This study fills a gap in the literature that has been dominated by quantitative studies by its fine-grained analysis and bringing in the perspective of young workers. Families were critical in providing financial support, non-financial forms of material support, practical and emotional support. Self-employed young people who had family members running businesses in the same sector were able to gain useful knowledge and beneficial connections through those ties though it could also result in rivalry and competition. The study highlights other adverse impacts of family ties that the self-employed young people identified including negative family attitudes towards self-employment and obligations that ought to be fulfilled to family members. The study shows how family ties are critical for self-employed young people working in Ghana and Nigeria where there is weak institutional support, and shows the need for studies on the impact of family ties on self-employed workers to account

for the multi-faceted nature of family support and the context in which it occurs. Further, it is argued that policymakers should target self-employed young people with unsupportive families who are especially vulnerable.

Keeping the show on the road: Live performance during/beyond crisis

Melissa Tyler

(University of Essex)

Combined with the ongoing challenges associated with Brexit, COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on those working in the UK's creative economy, and particularly its live performance and entertainment sector, already the eponymous 'gig economy'. This paper draws on a survey of 200+ participants and data from 40+ in-depth interviews to show how self-employed and freelance performers in the UK experienced, and have responded to, their livelihood being threatened by the virus and its associated restrictions since March 2020. Discussing the professional, artistic, technological and financial challenges, as well as some of the creative and co-operative opportunities that successive periods of lockdown presented, our analysis highlights both the continuities and challenges that have been created for those working on the front line of what is a radically altered cultural landscape in the UK's creative economy and culture industries. Framing COVID as a 'crisis within a crisis' and considering the changing meaning and experience of 'live' performance, it illustrates the ongoing precarity of the work and sector. Emphasizing some of the challenges faced by those campaigning for an equitable and sustainable future for self-employed and freelance performers, the discussion focuses on the dynamics of existential and financial crisis experienced by many of those who have tried to keep the 'show on the road' during COVID and beyond – as one performer put it, 'I'm a performer who can't perform, what does that make me, apart from broke?'

Work, Employment and Economic Life 2

GENDER

'You can't pour from an empty vessel': Social Policy Interventions in the Lives of Women since 2010, in the North East of England.

Suzanne Butler

(University of Sunderland)

Women have a very different socio-economic experience to men, and economic and material disadvantage add yet a further layer of complexity. The North East of England is one of the most economically deprived regions of the UK, and this study seeks to explore the experiences of women in the North East in light of social policy interventions under the 'Austerity' agenda. This research aims to spotlight the tensions that social policy interventions and public discourses create in women's lives between motherhood and financial independence. There is a narrative which expects women to be both effective nurturers of children and effective financial contributors to society. Women are simultaneously problematized and presented as the solution in a climate of limitations and restrictions. How are women able to achieve financial independence, prosper in their own lives, and create a fecund environment for the next generation to flourish, when they are economically disadvantaged and internalise a narrative that diminishes their worth? I will pose the question throughout this research; are we expecting women in the North East to pour from an empty vessel?

Politicising 'knowledge' through a Postcolonial Lens: The Context of Anti-workplace Harassment Policies in India

Anukriti Dixit

(Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad)

Colonial and imperial logics often involve artificial division of 'knowledge' into the 'economic' (the 'rational' or 'technical' side of things) and the 'cultural' or 'political' (the unscientific and often 'politically charged' side of the binary). The Orient, or the 'third world' is produced as the less credible 'knower'. Such imperialist logics of dividing 'knowers' are observable in policy practices of anti-sexual harassment laws, wherein subjects with superior social capital are produced as 'stronger and more capable knowers'. In this study, I invoke the works of postcolonial scholars such as Bhabha and Said, in context of India's anti-sexual harassment at workplace (SHW) laws and policy provisions. Data analysed includes:

A) World Bank, UN Women and IMF reports on sexual harassment

B) Related discussions on equality and social justice, with anti-SHW extra-state actors in the policies' implementations).

Predominant discourses that were highlighted are those of 'intersectionality' and 'anti-discrimination'. I argue that 'intersectionality', is co-opted through the enterprise logic as 'multiple social identities', as opposed to a complex interplay of subjectivities producing experiences of being uniquely marginalised. Discrimination, in the enterprise framework, is not a set of oppressive or unjust practices but a matter of assessment of a disrupted contract. Arbitration will have the task of assessing whose 'beliefs' about culpability and confidence in their testimony is more 'credible'.

Implications of this study include a. Re-conceptualising policy 'solutions' that engage with intersectional oppression and injustice. b. Revise policy frameworks to include practices that engage with the unequal epistemic burdens placed onto subjects.

Women and Networking: A Systematic Literature Review (1985-2021)

Martina Topic, Christine Carbery, Adalberto Arrigoni, Teela Clayton, Niki Kyriakidou, Chian Gatewood, Sujana Shafique, Sallyann Halliday

(Leeds Beckett University)

This paper analyses literature on women and networking between 1985 and 2021, as published in women and gender studies journals. Authors analysed a total of 78 articles published in *European Journal of Women's Studies*, *Feminist Review*, *Women's Studies International Forum*, *Feminist Theory*, *Gender & Society*, *Journal of Gender Studies*, *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*, *Signs*, *Women Studies Quarterly*, *Feminist Economics*, *Gender in Management: An International Journal* (previously called *Women in Management Review*), *Gender, Work & Organization*, *Feminist Studies*, *Hypatia* and *International Journal of Gender and Entrepreneurship*. Thematic analysis and three-tier coding have been used in analysing available articles. Findings reveal that organisational cultures did not change during the four decades of research as boys clubs still exist and take men ahead much more than women's networks take women ahead. Old boys clubs remain persistent and more powerful than women's networks and women do not report benefits from networking even when they engage with this, often seen, masculine practice. Women also report exclusion from important professional networks and this is a theme that consistently runs through research, and additionally, many women cannot join networks due to the social expectation that women will look after families. Networking thus presents a structural barrier and this is visible throughout decades of analysed research, with recurring and repeating themes of networking as a structural barrier, exclusion of women and persistent power and influence of old boys clubs.

Networking in a Neoliberal Academia: An Experience from a Book Club at a Northern University in England

Martina Topic, Christine Carberry, Catherine Glaister, Karen Trem, Sallyann Halliday, Joy Ogmebudia

(Leeds Beckett University)

Research on women and networking reveals that organisational culture does not seem to have changed since networking research first started in 1985. It is argued that 'boys clubs' still exist and take men ahead much more than women's networks take women ahead. Some research studies (Alsop, 2015; Macoun and Miller, 2014) argued that forming book clubs during working hours helps women because it creates bonds.

In our study, we are following from these two studies and have formed our book club. Each one of us proposed a book that means something to us and after each session, we are writing reflective diaries. We will analyse reflective diaries by exchanging them and conducting qualitative content analysis and a thematic analysis on what are the topics that matter most to us, what challenges we face at work, and also how we see the same issues that arise from the same book, which we will also link to our backgrounds (the book club consists of the white working and middle class, Black and European women, thus providing ethnic and class diversity) and possible differences in viewpoints, which will explore and celebrate differences to meanings we assign to work and discussing how to form future projects and collaborations. We will also look at what books we have chosen, why, and analyse these choices concerning race, gender and class of the author. Finally, we will consider the impact which membership of the book club has had on our careers and working lives.



BSA Philip Abrams Memorial Prize

2022 Shortlisted Nominees

The Philip Abrams Memorial (PAM) Prize is awarded to the best first sole-authored book within the discipline of sociology. It was established in honour of the memory of Professor Philip Abrams, whose work contributed substantially to sociology and social policy research in Britain. The annual winner receives a monetary prize of £1,000.

The 2022 PAM Prize winner will be announced virtually on 20th April 2022.

Natasha Carver

Marriage, Gender and Refugee Migration: Spousal Relationships among Somali Muslims in the United Kingdom

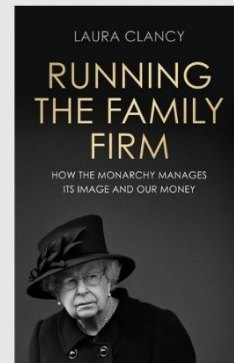
Rutgers University Press



Laura Clancy

Running the Family Firm: How the monarchy manages its image and our money

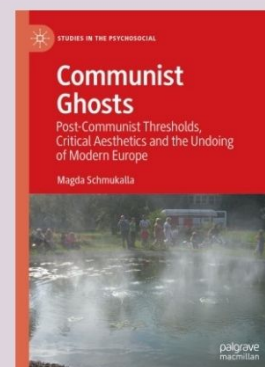
Manchester University Press



Magda Schmukalla

Communist Ghosts: Post-Communist Thresholds, Critical Aesthetics and the Undoing of Modern Europe

Palgrave Macmillan



www.britsoc.co.uk/opportunities/bsa-philip-abrams-memorial-prize/

BRITISH
SOCIOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION



BSA Philip Abrams Memorial Prize

2022 Nominees

The Philip Abrams Memorial (PAM) Prize is awarded to the best first sole-authored book within the discipline of sociology. It was established in honour of the memory of Professor Philip Abrams, whose work contributed substantially to sociology and social policy research in Britain. The annual winner receives a monetary prize of £1,000.

The 2022 PAM Prize winner will be announced virtually on 20th April 2022.

Madeline-Sophie Abbas
Terror and the Dynamism of Islamophobia in 21st Century Britain: The Concentrationary Gothic
Palgrave Macmillan

Andria Christofidou
Men, Masculinities and Sexualities in Dance: Transgression and its Limits
Palgrave Macmillan

Catherine Duxbury
Science, Gender and the Exploitation of Animals in Britain Since 1945
Routledge

Rob Faure Walker
The Emergence of 'Extremism'
Bloomsbury

Magda Schmukalla
Communist Ghosts: Post-communist Thresholds, Critical Aesthetics and the Undoing of Modern Europe
Palgrave Macmillan

Teodora Todorova
Decolonial Solidarity in Palestine-Israel: Settler Colonialism and Resistance from Within
ZED Books (Bloomsbury Publishing)

Natasha Carver
Marriage, Gender and Refugee Migration: Spousal Relationships among Somali Muslims in the United Kingdom
Rutgers University Press

Laura Clancy
Running the Family Firm: How the Monarchy Manages its Image and our Money
Manchester University Press

Abi Dymond
Electric-shock Weapons, Tasers and Policing: Myths and Realities
Bristol University Press

Emma Milne
Criminal Justice Responses to Maternal Filicide: Judging the Failed Mother
Emerald Publishing Limited

Meghan Tinsley
Commemorating Muslims in the First World War Centenary: Making Melancholia
Routledge

Kailing Xie
Embodying Middle Class Gender Aspirations: Perspectives from China's Privileged Young Women
Palgrave Macmillan

www.britsoc.co.uk/opportunities/bsa-philip-abrams-memorial-prize/

BRITISH
SOCIOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

Keynote Event

NASAR MEER

WEDNESDAY, 20 APRIL 2022
14:00 - 15:00

THE CRUEL OPTIMISM OF RACIAL JUSTICE

What can we learn from success and failure in the pursuit of racial justice in the UK and elsewhere in the Global North? One answer is that societies adapt to a form of 'crisis ordinariness' (Berlant 2011) in which the regularity of racial injustice prevails without the need for choreographed and pre-meditated racist intentionality. Underwritten by a 'racial contract' (Mills 1997), and propelled by racial mechanics in seemingly disparate and ancillary social spheres (Meer 2022), the work for a better future nonetheless endures. This is the 'cruel optimism' that we may borrow from Lauren Berlant to characterise racial justice struggles today, something animated by affective labour alongside social and political movements. Recognising this is to refuse totalising approaches that foreclose agency, minimise resistance, or collapse racial minorities into mere objects of racist social systems. It is instead to grasp how systems too are 'embodied', and not apart from racial projects. The argument advanced here is that systems, identities and societies bear the imprints of older racial injustices that are not merely restated but re-articulated in ways that may be novel, and yet share common properties with how other racial projects have been curated and sustained. Seeing racial injustice as systemic, therefore, better allows us to grasp the nature of the challenge we face. For, as Milsum (1968) put it more than half a century ago, while 'systems have some stability which resists the initiation of change', this can only be maintained 'until some threshold of forcing stress is reached'. Does our present moment of accumulated struggle promise just such a breach?

Nasar Meer is Professor of Sociology and Director of RACE.ED at the University of Edinburgh. He is co-Editor of the journal *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power*, and his publications include: *The Cruel Optimism of Racial Justice* (2022); *Whiteness and Nationalism* (ed, 2020); *The Impact Agenda: Challenges and Controversies* (co-authored, 2020), *Islam and Modernity* (4 Volumes) (ed, 2017), *Citizenship, Identity & the Politics of Multiculturalism* (2015 2nd Edition), *Race & Ethnicity* (2014), *Interculturalism & Multiculturalism* (ed, 2016), *Racialization & Religion* (ed, 2014) and *European Multiculturalism(s)* (ed, 2012).



The Cruel Optimism of



OFFICIAL BOOK LAUNCH EVENT

What can we learn from successes and failures in the pursuit of racial justice in the UK and elsewhere in the Global North?

A dominant view of racial justice has long been linked to a 'cruel optimism' which normalises social and political outcomes that sustain racial injustice, despite successive governments wielding the means to address it. Researchers, activists and minoritised groups continually identify the drivers of these outcomes, but have grown accustomed to persevering despite strong resistance to change.

Looking at numerous examples across anti-racist movements and key developments in nationhood/nationalism, institutional racism, migration, white supremacy and the disparities of COVID-19, Nasar Meer argues for the need to move on from perpetual crisis in racial justice to a turning point that might herald a change to deep-seated systems of racism.

"Essential reading for anyone seeking a deeper understanding of structural racism and how it persists, despite waves of policy and political intervention."

Carol Young, CRER

Racial Injustice

Nasar Meer

Nasar Meer

The cruel optimism of

Racial Justice



P

THURSDAY 21ST APRIL

13:00 - 14:00

Paper Session 3

Wednesday, 20 April 2022

15:15 - 16:30

Environment and Society

Building Equality in Adaptation: the Ambiguous Role of Households in English Coastal Flood Risk Management

Sien Van Der Plank, Sally Brown, Emma Tompkins, Robert J. Nicholls
(University of Southampton)

Rising sea levels and growing populations are driving increased coastal flood risk worldwide, and households are being expected to adapt. Despite an increasing body of literature on the inequalities of household vulnerability and capacity to adapt, there is less research that explores household adaptation motivation. By consolidating local organisational stakeholder expectations of households in coastal adaptation with householders' perceptions, this work exposes the inequity of assuming household responsibility in coastal adaptation.

We draw on a case study of coastal flood adaptation undertaken across three areas of England in 2018-2019, using thematic analysis of interviews with 45 local organisational stakeholders, and statistical analysis of 143 questionnaires of exposed households. We find that, in contrast to organisational stakeholders, very few households perceive householders as responsible in coastal adaptation. Whilst nearly all households surveyed are taking some form of adaptive actions, most actions are basic in nature and limited in potential to reduce flood impacts. Meanwhile, local organisational stakeholders feel they have a role in supporting household adaptation, but they themselves identify a lack of guidance and resource to fulfil this role.

The study exposes the limitations of withholding management guidance to organisational stakeholders for engagement of households in coastal adaptation strategies. Households are differentiated not only by their capacity to adapt, but by the factors that drive their motivation to do so. If local stakeholders including householders are to play a role in coastal adaptation to a rising risk, there is an increasing need to empower local organisations to promote effective adaptation.

Hot Property: Overheating Inequalities in UK's Residential Sector

Audrey Verma
(Newcastle University, UK)

Global warming is creating new axes of inequalities along the lines of those who can keep afford to keep cool and those who cannot. This paper contends that it is impossible to imagine and enact visions of just environmental futures without understanding the structural factors shaping the lived experiences of overheating. Housing is one area in which these inequalities play out, with housing policy and design in UK yet to catch up with the new realities of rising temperatures. The bulk of new-build houses, for instance, include mid- to high-rise apartments that generally do not factor in upper heat limits and are not easily remediated for thermal regulation. Many of these buildings are also what may be characterised as social or affordable housing, occupied by first-time buyers or persons on lower incomes. These housing heat-traps are arguably also most susceptible to being rendered uninhabitable in the coming decades. Where heavy focus has been on behavioural changes for mitigation, this critically fails to consider the intersecting inequalities, spatial realities and socio-legal arrangements - particularly restrictive leasehold, tenancy laws and the cladding scandal - that configure day-to-day experiences of residential over-heating. This paper draws on pilot ethnographic research undertaken over the summer of 2020 and 2021 within a leasehold shared ownership block in London, to illustrate the need to turn from technocratic ontologies and deterministic fixes, to re-centre social assemblages toward democratic policies for the anthropocene.

Families and Relationships

Parents, Policy, and Fertility: Young Chinese Adults' Childbearing Aspirations

Sampson Blair, Shi Dong

(The State University of New York)

Researchers have noted that the majority of young women and men in China aspire to marry and have children, one day. However, the larger context in which such aspirations develop has changed, considerably, over recent years. In regard to fertility plans, policy changes were introduced in 2015 which allowed couples to bear two children, but this policy was changed, yet again, in 2021, to allow for the birth of three children. Aside from these policy changes, the larger social, cultural, and economic changes in China have had a substantial impact upon young adults, who are frequently regarded as being more individualistic and materialistic, as compared to previous generations. Cultural factors, such as filial piety and the continuation of family lineage, remain salient determinants of fertility aspirations, yet these traditional factors may have lessened over recent decades.

Using multi-year samples of Chinese college students, this study examines changes in fertility aspirations from 2015 through 2021. Across the years, the expectations of young Chinese adults clearly trend toward preferences for a later age at first marriage, along with a later age at first birth. The fertility aspirations of young adults show a steady decline, despite the policy changes which allow for more births. Familial characteristics, including filial piety, do appear to influence young adults' fertility aspirations, yet peer factors have significant associations with fertility aspirations, as well. The findings are discussed within the developmental paradigm, and the potential implications for demographic changes in China over coming decades are also discussed.

Otherland? The Liminality of Childless/freeness across Women's Lifecourses and the Consequences for Intimate Citizenship

Mel Hall, Jenny Van Hooff

(Manchester Metropolitan University)

Increasing attention is being paid to the downsides of having children (e.g. psychosocial, environmental and financial aspects) and the challenges of parenting in the COVID-19 era. Delays to having children are becoming a cultural norm and, alongside demographic changes such as declining birth rates (ONS, 2020), and an ageing population, Western contexts are witnessing a moral panic surrounding the absence of children. This is of significance to scholars in the overlapping fields of personal life and childhood studies.

Building on Scott's 2018 work, 'The social life of nothing' which demonstrates the significance of absences or events that did not happen, we query the tendency to present having children or not in absolute terms. A thematic analysis of posts on a UK parenting forum provides the foundation for upcoming biographical research that seeks to understand childless/freeness as a liminal state (Turner, 1969), in the context of wider relationships. Reflecting on our analysis, we explore the implications for women's relationships and lifecourses. We argue that established categories of 'mother' and 'childless/free' overlook their porous nature and are potentially reductive. We apply the theoretical framework of Scott (2018) to conceptualise the absence of children as significant. We also draw on insights from Roseneil et al's (2020) concept of intimate citizenship and the implications of pro-creative norms in a changing context.

Silent Generation: the 'Black Children' of China's One-child Policy

Jingxian Wang

(University of Nottingham)

This research explores how the 'black children', someone like me, could be born and raised up through the negotiation between family fertility desire and the state sovereignty, when the one-child policy in mainland China was implemented from 1980 to 2016. The legacy of parents' griefs through this campaign were well elaborated, however, little is known about the injustice of being born, decided, concealed, returned, and readjusted or rejected to family recognition as a 'black child'. Allow me to clarify the term of 'black children' and distinguish it from the ethnical 'black': it is an identical rather than appearance category to describe the children who were born outside the one-child policy, which was mediated by authorities, medium, and parents, followed by citizenship's deprivation, family exclusion, societal marginalization, etc. The body of family penetrated this state-sanctioned harm into individuals' day-to-day interactions, sense-making, and identity-construction.

Stories of being 'black' started before their births and went beyond the one-child policy period. I employed twenty participants (both genders included) for semi-structured interviews and research their narratives of how to survive and respond the 'black identity' through the chronology of 'pre-birth patriarchy', 'birth and concealment', 'foster and return', 'readjustment and (un)recognition'. Their repeated unequal practices normalised their feelings of being 'abandoned', 'excluded', 'abused', and 'destroyed', also legitimized the sibling abuse and family hierarchy. Everyone starts from a family and when this fundamental institution resembled the state sovereignty, what is the real human cost of being a 'black children' who were 'camped' by the family body?

Lifecourse

YOUTH: AGENCY, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND (IMAGINED) FUTURES

Youth and Masculinities in India and South Africa for Post-COVID Futures

Shannon Philip

(University of Cambridge)

Several global sociologists have argued that young people in the Global South face severe long term impacts of the pandemic with unparalleled global socioeconomic shifts affecting employment, health, leisure, pleasure, consumption as well as youth cultures more broadly. This paper focuses on young men from India and South Africa to study their gendered and generational positions in light of COVID-19 and its challenges in both countries of the Global South. The paper studies how young Indian and South Africa men now think about their precarious futures, how they relate to women and girls in a post-COVID context and finally the paper demonstrates the many new challenges that young men experience due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its local manifestations in India and South Africa. The paper is based on longitudinal ethnographic fieldwork in Johannesburg and New Delhi, as well as online interviews with young men and women, data from social media websites and qualitative data from exclusive 'all-men' groups where young men talk candidly with each other. As a young queer British-Indian male sociologist myself, I have unique access to data from men's youth cultures in both India and South Africa giving me nuanced qualitative data on the anxieties and aspirations of young men, but also data on young men's violence towards women and their strategies to manage a post-COVID19 world. Hence this paper furthers theories of youth, masculinities, violence, life courses, global sociologies and decolonial sociology.

Conceptualising 'Activist Competency' in Youth Social Justice Activist Groups in the United States

Laura Weiner

(University of Edinburgh)

Issues of inequality, made starker by the Covid-19 pandemic, motivate young people to mobilise in their communities (and beyond) for greater equality and social justice. In the USA, young people may organise through youth activist groups – out-of-school spaces dually designed for young people to create social/political change and develop 'positive assets' (Kirshner, 2007). Current sociological theory does not fully address both aspects of learning – developmental and activist – in these spaces, and thus lacks a critical context for exploring this topic (Kwon, 2013). In response, the concept of 'activist competency' conceptualised in this research explores the social justice priorities of activist learning by considering political literacy and civic competence theories, in relation to positive youth development and informal learning literature, to explore young people's acquisition of skills, values, and/or knowledge in being/becoming an activist (Larson, 2000; Crick, 2002; Youniss et al., 2002; Fyfe, 2007). The concept also provokes dialogue around rhetoric of young activists, and in particular discussion on whether prioritising 'competency' can act as an asset or an obstacle for young people in their social justice efforts. 'Activist competency' can then be used as a critical tool, such as it is employed in this research project through a critical discourse analysis, to address the potential gap between youth social justice efforts and neoliberal policies within youth activist settings. In turn, constructing 'activist competency' allows researchers, practitioners, and those involved directly in social justice efforts to reconceptualise how young people contribute toward building a more equally just world.

Medicine, Health and Illness

A View from the Cauldron: What the COVID Pandemic Looked Like in the Heart of Dixie

Cullen Clark

(University of Alabama at Birmingham)

The American state of Alabama, whose number plates carry the motto “Heart of Dixie”, is a state of contrasts. It has one of America’s leading medical centers, yet 33 of its 67 counties have no practicing ob-gyn. Its largest city, Huntsville, is home to NASA and a thriving aerospace industry, but is represented in U.S. Congress by Rep. Mo Brooks, a climate-change denier who spoke to the 6 January insurrectionists shortly before they stormed the Capitol. It has one of the country’s 10 wealthiest communities and one of America’s poorest counties. In short, Alabama is a post-modern pastiche of inequality.

The COVID pandemic illuminated the effects of this inequality. Out of a population of 4.89 million there have been 830,789 confirmed COVID cases. More than 15,000 Alabamians have died. As expected, this devastation did not rain down upon rich and poor alike, nor was the suffering born equally across racial lines.

This presentation is a medical sociologist's auto ethnographic account of what it was like to watch a pandemic burn through his state. It is a tale of Herculean efforts by his university and others to promote life-saving public health measures, of nursing and medical students diving into the frontlines to assist medical staff at hospitals. It is also a tale of failed political leadership, poverty, racism, and the politicization of life-saving things like mask wearing and vaccination. This is also a cautionary tale that could be a preview of coming attractions for future pandemics far beyond the Heart of Dixie.

Understanding Racism-Induced Stress in the Context of COVID-19: Representations of Shame, Anxiety and Stigma in UK BAME Communities

Tanisha Spratt

(University of Greenwich)

The disparate impact of COVID-19 on UK BAME communities, despite BAME communities having ostensibly equal access to NHS services and public health advice, offers a compelling reason to take a closer look at the relationship between race, racism and health. Whilst UK government officials have attributed the increased risk of mortality amongst BAME groups to various eco-social and health-related drivers (i.e. increased occupational exposure and existing co-morbidities), researchers are increasingly becoming interested in the role of racism-induced stress in COVID-19-related deaths and serious illness. Research shows that racism-induced stress can lead to an increase in allostatic load (defined as gradual wear and tear on the body), which can weaken the immune system and significantly increases the risk of BAME groups developing negative long-term health outcomes, including: hypertension, heart disease, lupus, asthma and diabetes. With the global rise of anti-Chinese sentiment following the COVID-19 outbreak and the resurgence of Black Lives Matter following the murder of George Floyd in May 2020 came an increased awareness of how everyday forms of racism inform negative health outcomes. This presentation will explore this relationship by using online narratives of race-related shame, anxiety and stigma in the context of COVID-19 to better understand the negative ways that systemic racism impacts health.

Narrating Lives with HIV and Covid: Everyday Narratives as Theories of Covid Inequalities and Injustices

Corinne Squire, Floretta Boonzaier, Nondumiso Hlwele, Ivan Katsere, Sanny Mulubale, Adriana Prates, Simone Peters

(Bristol University)

Despite global progress towards the ‘end of HIV’, health, psychosocial and material resources remain problematic for many people living with HIV. Covid-19 has intensified such difficulties. This paper explores what we can learn about living with the multidimensional inequalities and injustices of Covid from narratives of Covid told by ‘pandemic experts’: people living with HIV in Brazil, South Africa, Zambia and the UK. Research involved mid-2020 semi-structured interviews with 86 participants about the effects of Covid on their everyday resource contexts. Interviews were analysed narratively, addressing thematic, structural, and positional elements. We approached narratives, not just as representations of lives, but as explanations or theorisations of those lives that were also positioned within particular structures of power relations.

Narrative analysis displayed distinct HIV and Covid theorisations, across and within countries. Brazilian participants' stories theorised their

Covid-era lives in relation to historical struggles for health care justice. Zambian participants' narratives of multidimensional inequalities traced Covid's local, national and international disempowerments of people with HIV. South African participants' narratives explained complex intersectional inequalities around Covid, HIV, gender, racialisation, violence, and migration. UK participants' narratives emphasised Covid's extreme marginalisation of racialized citizens and non-citizens with HIV, and now, Covid.

Race, Ethnicity and Migration 1

Everyday Politics of Recognition and (Re-)distribution: Residents' Responses to Multicultural and Economic Changes in Wongok-dong, South Korea

Jihyun Choi

(Lancaster University)

This study explores non-migrant Korean residents' complex responses to the multicultural and neoliberal processes in their multicultural neighbourhood. Based on my ethnographic fieldwork in Wongok-dong, one of the most labour migrant populated neighbourhoods in South Korea, this study probes the concerns and interests that the residents have regarding various public policies which support migrants, the large presence of migrants in the neighbourhood, and the local economy. In analysing their responses expressed through their everyday discourse, I identify elements and contexts that affect the ways in which the residents respond, and examine the emotions engaged in their responses. In doing so, I argue that their ambivalent attitude reflects their conditional recognition of diversity and migrants in Wongok-dong: cultural diversity and migrant others are valued predominantly in economic terms. Non-migrant Korean residents acknowledge class inequality and ethnic relations viewing class and (re-)distribution as only relevant to Korean 'us', not non-Korean 'Others'. They tend to interpret their experiences of forms of inequality deriving from political economic processes, including neoliberal policies and urban (re-)development, as being about migrants. Such responses highlight the tensions between recognition and (re-)distribution, as well as the intersection between class and 'race'/ethnicity. This kind of everyday politics of recognition and (re-)distribution that involves a tension between moral worth and economic value of migrants and cultural diversity is rarely discussed in studying everyday multiculturalism, though much attention has been paid to cultural or ethnic identity (re-)formations through daily and mundane encounters and interactions.

Re-imagining the Migrant Metropolis: from Top-down Integration Discourses to Inclusive Forms of Solidarity in Diversity from the Bottom Up

Silke Zschomler

(University College London)

This paper presents findings from my ethnographic research with a heterogeneous group of migrants who are navigating the complex processes of setting up a new life in London in the face of hostile environment policies and a 'brutal migration milieu' (Hall, 2017). Using migrant language education as an entry point this research highlights the impact of prominent discourses that emphasise the learning of English as a marker of integration on the lived experience of my participants.

Findings show the mismatch between top-down discourses and imaginations of immigrant integration and the reality on the ground in the context of increased migration-driven diversity and the distinct postcolonial multicultural situation of the global migrant city London where urban multiculturalism intersects with entrenched forms of inequalities giving way to the ranking and ordering of difference, the establishing of complex hierarchies of belonging and a situation in which conviviality co-exists with division, dissonance and competition (Back and Sinha, 2016; 2018). My analysis reveals how these hierarchies of belonging are manifested as hierarchies of value at the institutional level of my field site and as hierarchies of integration within migrant narratives. My work further elucidates how these dynamics are not only reproduced but also resisted and counteracted and discusses the potential to leverage migrant language educational spaces as a catalyst for a supportive sociality, alternative and dynamic place-based forms of solidarity in diversity and the fostering of convivial capabilities for more equitable and inclusive futures in the migrant metropolis.

Race, Ethnicity and Migration 2

The Promise and Problems of Race Equality Work within Higher Education

Madeline-Sophie Abbas

(Leeds Trinity University)

This paper provocatively asks not what do academics need to do to tackle institutional racism within higher education, but rather, do we even know what institutional racism within higher education looks like? I ask this question in response to my involvement in a university Black Lives Matter event where it was black students' lived experiences of racism at the university which cut to the heart of the issues. This was a poignant departure from the usual emphasis placed on theorising racism that is prioritised within the academy, both in terms of teaching and scholarship. The voice of black students within this space not only made racism transparent and tangible, but it implicated the institution and all therein accountable for recognising and in turn, taking action to support race equality; an intervention which in that moment made the promise of forging an anti-racist university conceivable. Hill Collin's (2009) delineation of a black feminist epistemology rallies us to dismantle power structures which privilege Eurocentric knowledges and invalidate other ways of knowing such as lived experiences, emotion, and dialogue as criterion of meaning. This paper explores what an anti-racist higher education institution might look like if we take seriously our students as 'agents of knowledge' (Hill Collins, 2009, p.285) as a means of decolonising, not just the curriculum, but experiences of higher education.

• Hill Collins, P. (2009). Black feminist thought. Routledge.

Say My Name: the Pronunciation of Students' Names in Contexts of Culturally Diverse Student Identities

Jane Pilcher, Hannah Smith

(Nottingham Trent University)

Personal names discursively index individual identities, including family affiliations, civil-legal identities, and socio-cultural identities of ethnicity, nationality, language and religion (Pilcher 2016). The complexity of entanglements between names and identities means that if names are mispronounced, identities are misrepresented. This may result in affected persons feeling disrespected, disempowered, excluded and/or othered (Wheeler 2016). In this paper, we focus on students' names and their pronunciation. Institutions of higher education in England are increasingly culturally, ethnically and linguistically diverse and policies of equality, diversity & inclusion have a high profile. What, then, are experiences of the pronunciation of students' names in higher education? What policies and practices are there around the pronunciation of students' names? We explore these questions using preliminary findings from a British Academy-funded research project which focuses on a) experiences of students whose names may be mispronounced, including those whose cultural, ethnic and/or racial identities are minoritized b) experiences of teaching and professional services staff in higher education whose role brings them into contact with students with a diverse range of names c) current policy and practice in higher education on the pronunciation of students' names. We argue that the pronunciation of names is an issue that must be more widely and more systematically addressed if higher education is to become more inclusive and non-discriminatory.

Student Anti-racist Activism in the Equality Chartermarked University

Ala Sirriyeh, Hannah Jones

(Lancaster University and University of Warwick)

There has been a resurgence in student anti-racist activism in recent years in response to enduring colonial and racist structures and practices in Higher Education. In the wake of the global Black Lives Matter (BLM) protests in 2020, antiracism in education has been in the public and media spotlight as students continue to organise around anti-racist and specifically 'decolonial' platforms, while many institutions already publicly embracing the language of equality and diversity now also 'decolonise' and 'Black Lives Matter'. Concerns have been levelled at institutional co-optation of the decolonial agenda and the threat this poses in negating its radical potential, echoing to some extent longstanding critiques of the Equality and Diversity agenda as corporate branding and 'a neoliberal exercise in managing social difference' (Choudry and Valli 2020: 10). In this paper we draw on narrative interviews and creative workshop data from our 2019-20 study with racially minoritized students involved in antiracism and decolonial activism in English universities to discuss how student activists navigate a space and time where racism endures yet institutional articulation of commitments to EDI and 'Decolonising' is at all-time high. We examine the constraints and openings presented here.

We outline how students navigate this contradictory landscape showing how they are often constrained yet at times also able to deftly leverage attempted co-optation from institutions to re-orientate interventions. We explore how these tensions and experiences impact on their activist trajectories, strategies and goals; and on their definitions of activism and recognition of 'success' in their campaigns.

Academic Profiling in Britain? Exploring Black Caribbean Young People's Experiences of Tracking in Schools

Derron Wallace

(Brandeis University)

Based on 30 in depth interviews and 24 focus group interviews with 120 Black Caribbean pupils along with seven months of participant observation in one of the largest state secondary schools in South London, this article examines how Black Caribbean students make sense of their concentration in lower-ranked classes. While previous research documents the academic, social and psychological implications of tracking and other 'ability' grouping practices for various racial, ethnic and class groups, comparatively little concerted attention has been devoted to how the persistent misrecognition of Black Caribbean and other minority ethnic pupils in Britain often results in academic profiling in schools. The results of this study suggest that Black Caribbean participants experience academic profiling as a signature feature of their educational experiences, whether in bottom, middle or top sets. Academic profiling is here defined as the persistent (mis)characterization of Black and other racially minoritized students based on their past achievement. The lived experiences of Black Caribbean young people suggest academic profiling is not a one-off expression of individual biases, but a cumulative construction facilitated through institutional tracking practices like setting.

Rights, Violence and Crime

Necropolitics, State Neglect and Navigating the Hostile Environment: Challenging Injustice by Transforming Systems

Katherine Allen, Joana Ferreira, Olumide Adisa

(University of Suffolk)

Migrant domestic abuse victim-survivors in the United Kingdom contend with significant, and at times insurmountable, barriers to accessing safety and justice. Uncertain immigration status and lack of recourse to public funds leaves some victim-survivors vulnerable to escalating abuse or the choice between destitution and deportation. In a national context where immigration remains politically vexed and entangled with notions of desert and 'illegality' (Farmer, 2020), the state and its agents can act as an extension or continuation of coercive and controlling home environments. This state of necropolitical exception (Mbembe, 2008) creates a substratum of 'illegal persons' who fall outside of the aegis of state protection yet are the object of intense control, surveillance and scrutiny.

Reflecting on their evaluation of an innovative multi-agency programme designed to support victim-survivors with no recourse to public funds, the researchers will adopt a systems lens to analyse how agencies collaborated to transform the local response to migrant victim-survivors, and explore how macrosystem-level factors such as austerity, public service cuts, precarious VAWG funding and Hostile Environment policies informed and undercut local systems change efforts. Drawing on their evaluation findings, researchers will frame recommendations for creating fairer and more equal systems at a local and national level.

Safeguarding Detainees in Police Custody

John Kendall

(Independent Researcher, till 31 March 2022 Visiting Scholar at Birmingham University Law School)

People who are arrested by the police and detained in police stations are vulnerable. The odds are weighted against them. They are kept in disorienting isolation and may be neglected and abused. Some detainees die in custody or commit suicide shortly after leaving custody. The presumption of innocence does not apply in the police station – only after the detainee is charged with the commission of an offence. Detainees are people for whom social justice and equality are far more than rhetoric.

Regulation of police detention is inadequate. The police self-regulate with computerised records, some of which are known to have been falsified. The Independent Office for Police Conduct deal with complaints after the event. There are

inspections of each custody block just once every six years. What is missing is frequent outside scrutiny. The UK's statutory Independent Custody Visiting Scheme facilitates unannounced visits by members of the public to custody blocks. Custody visiting should act as a regulator, providing that frequent outside scrutiny which is needed. This research (Regulating Police Detention, Policy Press 2018) is the first in-depth study carried out into custody visiting. The method used was case study with observation and face-to-face interviews with visitors, police and custody staff, solicitors and, most importantly, the detainees themselves. The scheme was found to be neither independent nor effective, and counter-productive in that it masks the need for regulation.

(Re)construction of Gender within the Institutional Discourses; How does Street Check/carding Reconstruct Binary Genders?

Haleh Mir Miri, Scott Thompson

(University of Saskatchewan)

Police Services use the practice of "Carding," or "Stop and Account," as a means to gather data about specific individuals and their communities, as well as to determine how better to deploy police resources. As a result, this act of data collection, analysis, knowledge production, and then subsequent enforcement by police officers, works to (re)construct specific forms of identities, categorizing them within the institutional discourse, and then pushing individuals into new identity performances. At issue is how gender, as a key feature of identity, is reconstructed within the policing activity of Carding, and how checks conducted in public schools impact the social? Drawing upon Dorothy Smith's institutional ethnography, and Foucault's governmentality theory, this paper analyzes the narratives of 362 street checks written by police school liaison officers within a northern Canadian city. Preliminary results show gendered presumptions in reporting the street check's narratives for those considered suspicious – including fight, theft, gang member, clothing among men, and being a victim of domestic violence and sex worker for women. While these claims might be authentic, we are intrigued by how femininity and masculinity are being constructed within the practice of Carding and how these categories of identities push individuals to forced performances. This paper presents suggestions for actionable changes in practice, training, and policy to serve justice in the community better and make police services more gender-equitable - particularly when officers are engaging with students within a school setting.

Science, Technology and Digital Studies 1

Suboptimal Health as a Boundary Object: Negotiating the Standards of Being In-between Health and Illness

Lijiaozi Cheng

(University of Sheffield)

This paper looks at the genealogy of a concept called suboptimal health (亚健康) and the way it functions as a boundary object between different actors, including Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM), the health food industry, the Chinese government, as well as lay people. Subhealth was championed as "a new concept of the 21st century" that "troubles the majority of the world population" by TCM professionals, which was initially fuelled by the commercial development of health foods in 1990s China. Since then, there have been different attempts to standardize what is meant by suboptimal health, and numerous efforts to capture, define, and measure it, as well as to treat it. For example, there is a project called Study on "Preventing Disease" and Sub-health intervention in Traditional Chinese Medicine as part of the National Science and Technology Support Plan for the eleventh Five-Year Plan period (2006 - 2010). Drawing on the work on boundary object, this paper seeks to unpack the knowledge production of this concept and examine the challenges associated with pinning down and standardizing it, in urging people to pay more attention to health, to promote the usefulness and relevance of TCM, or to promote commercial products that are claimed to tackle subhealth. This has to some degree cultivated a 'productive misunderstanding' of what exactly is suboptimal health among different actors, to the point that it is shaped as either Chinese or western, or neither Chinese nor western. How are related standards distributed and whose interest do they serve?

Walking Charts, Dogs and Discharge Summaries: Recovery Work of COVID19 Intensive Care Patients and Relatives in the UK

Annelieke Driessen

(London School of Hygiene and Tropical medicine; THIS Institute)

This presentation draws on 40 narrative interviews with intensive care COVID19 patients, and relatives, in the UK. In this presentation I theorise what patients and relatives after discharge from hospital as 'recovery work', which is done both individually as well as collectively. Often discharged early due to pressures on hospital space, and with little support available, patients and relatives describe the highest burden of recovery work in relation to 1) organising exercise and rest as part of regaining (physical) strength, 2) calibrating emotional impacts sustained during the admission, 3) obtaining tailored support, and 4) (re)framing set-backs and losses. The narrative interview by participants is both an opportunity to review and as a (gendered) performance.

The analysis highlights how patients enlist humans and non-humans into their recovery, including close family and friends, particularly those in the same household/'bubble', and dogs and technology. In doing so, it points to the need to support those who do not have such relationships. The analysis furthermore sheds light on relation between the unequal distribution of care and differences in experiences and skills pertaining to navigating a health care service landscape characterised by support that was largely improvised and emergent. At the same time the analysis demonstrates how 'recovery' comes to encompass others and thus goes beyond patients' individual health and wellbeing.

Unpacking these relational and unequal burdens and dynamics of recovery will help inform interventions that can better support patients doing 'recovery work'.

Turning Patient Data into Assets: Promissory Infrastructures, the Entrepreneurial State and the Scale-up of Whole Genome Sequencing in the UK National Health Service

Paul Martin

(University of Sheffield)

The UK recently announced plans to Whole Genome Sequence (WGS) up to 5 million citizens in the next few years with a focus on rare diseases and cancer. This follows the completion of the 100,000 Genomes Project and signals an ambition to place the UK at the forefront of the global bio-economy. This involves the creation of a massive infrastructure within the NHS to enable large scale WGS and the integration of many different types of biological, health and personal data. Operationally, this process is being driven by Genomics England, a company owned by the Department of Health, which has a business mission and structure. It is part of a series of other changes in the governance of innovation, the adoption of new technologies, and the transformation of health services aimed at making the NHS an engine of economic growth and competitiveness. This vision is a key element of the UK's post-Brexit Industrial Strategy. However, the evidence to support the claimed benefits of such large-scale investment in genomics is limited.

This paper will chart the recent history of this project and analyse the key role of a powerful imaginary that repositions the NHS as an underexploited resource for the creation of novel forms of promissory value. In particular, it will focus on new narratives concerning the creation of digital assets through the development of massive sociotechnical platforms within the health service. The paper will conclude by reflecting on the role of the entrepreneurial state in the making of new bio-economies.

Beyond the 'Empathy Machine': Digital Reality Narratives, Power Dynamics and Social Change

Rosie Wright

(University Of Cambridge)

Digital realities, such as VR and AR, are increasingly being heralded as a conduit for social change, with much of the excitement around this medium focused upon its ability to generate empathy for others, through the affordances of immersion and embodiment. However, whilst these empathy narratives have been shown to be effective for generating short-term, low commitment behavioural change, they have also been criticised for reinforcing negative power dynamics, potentially undermining more equitable and sustainable change.

I therefore argue that developing a more comprehensive understanding of digital realities and the narratives they can best afford is essential, to understand their full potential in driving and advocating for change. This is particularly important now, as the rapid digitalisation of experiences prompted by Covid-19 restrictions, alongside improved accessibility and affordability, has encouraged greater interest in this emerging technology. Consequently, through combining an integrated artefact analysis of recent AR and VR resources produced by UK charities and an auto-

ethnographical study of my experiences as a mental health lived experience educator, I have identified five further digital reality narratives which offer an alternative to empathy. In particular, I demonstrate how digital realities are well-suited to creating destabilizing narratives, through their additional affordances of juxtaposition and transcendence, which work to challenge the hegemonic logics that uphold inequalities. By doing so I hope to enable more informed decision-making by advocates, especially those from marginalised or stigmatised backgrounds, by showcasing the wider range of opportunities which digital realities can offer them as change makers.

Social Divisions/Social Identities 1

Biopolitics, Women's Fertility Desires and Reproductive Justice in China under the Changing Population Control Policy

Xiaowan Cang

(University of Oxford)

With scrapping the profound social engineering project of the one-child policy in 2016, China has entered the pro-natalist era of promoting nuclear families having two and three children following its statist model of making population control policies. Based on 57 interviews conducted from 2019 to 2021, this presentation argues that the one-child generation women have formed their own understanding of the singleton identity, with distrust of 'policies about lives', entangling with ambivalent feelings of class politics and gender politics. Their objectified body, desires and reproduction are reinterpreted in subjective narratives. They have recognised the sanctity, dignity and freedom of reproductive choices, rather than being utilised by the state for the national wellbeing. However, they have also internalised the ideal one-child family norm and identified with their singleton privileges. Only-child women have benefited from concentrated family resources and would like to continue this pattern. Therefore, more-than-one-child policies are a sharp reversal and violation of their singleton identity, resulting in opposite effects of the state's efforts. The transition from enforcing the one-child policy with propaganda 'carved in mind' for this generation to encouraging responsabilised individuals to bear more reproductive burdens entails another revolution in family relationships and household structures in which women form and reconstruct their classed and gendered subjectivity. By governing the population with legal relaxations, reproductive justice is redefined and negotiated between women, families, and the state, denying and deconstructing the state's assumptions of women's obstructed fertility desires shaped by the one-child policy, the patriarchal system and neoliberal narratives.

From Violence and Shame to Pleasure and Pride: Foetal Imagery and the Battle for the Visual-affective Sphere in Irish Abortion Campaigning.

Aideen O'shaughnessy

(University of Cambridge)

The use of foetal imagery within anti-abortion campaigns has been well-documented by feminist researchers who illustrate the role of such imagery in establishing the 'autonomy' of foetal life. Less scrutinised is how reproductive rights activists experience and respond to foetal imagery in anti-abortion campaigns, on an embodied and affective level. Taking the Irish abortion rights campaign as a case study, this research examines how abortion activists in Ireland encounter and counter foetal imagery in protest activity. It examines the work of two groups; 'Radical Queers Resist' (an LGBT activist group) and 'Angels for Choice' (a collective of 'pro-choice' performance artists) who conducted a series of 'counter-demonstrations' to oppose the use of foetal images by the 'pro-life' movement in the abortion campaign in Ireland in 2018.

Analysing data collected through qualitative interviews with activists from these groups, this research demonstrates how pro-life visual imagery literally shapes and transforms abortion activists' experience of public space. Describing their encounters with 'pro-life' posters, activists explain how these images work as an objectifying, invasive force and as a material manifestation of a culture of surveillance and reproductive coercion. Explaining their counter-protest demonstrations, activists describe how, through their performances – deploying rainbow flags, dressing as angels, singing and dancing in front of foetal images – they seek to contest the visualisation of gendered subjectivity depicted therein, to redefine the aborting body as a site of pleasure, and to operationalise a process of affective transformation which removes shame and attaches pride to the aborting body.

Gender and Familial Nationalism: Deploying Emotion to Evoke Family-nation Sentiment in Xi's China

Kailing Xie, Stevi Jackson

(University of Birmingham)

The power of emotion in mass mobilization was a key ingredient in the Chinese Communists' revolutionary victory, and remains central to party-state propaganda in post-Mao China (Perry, 2002). The wide-scale patriotic education campaign launched shortly after the Tiananmen Incident is one example (Wang 2012). Under Xi Jinping, patriotism/nationalism has become a priority for ensuring regime legitimacy, social integration, and 'harmony' (Guo 2019). One key strategy of Xi's deployment of emotional rhetoric has been his adoption of a vocabulary of family and traditional family values to evoke support for and identification with the nation-state. He has repeatedly called on citizens to unify their love for family with love for the nation through his promotion of 'family and nation sentiment' (jiaguo qinghuai) and his call for the 'Construction of Family Values (jiafeng jianshe)'. Meanwhile, however, empirical evidence reveals an increased tolerance of different lifestyles among China's citizens and an ongoing transformation of family practices, evinced by pre-marital cohabitation, later marriage, extra-marital affairs, more divorce and reshaped norms of filial piety (Yan 2021). Bringing together insights on the political mobilization of emotion (Goodwin et al. 2001; Thompson and Hoggett 2012) with theories of gender and nation (Yuval-Davis 1997, 2011), and critical perspectives on heterosexuality (Jackson 2006, 2019) and Asian familism (Ochiai 2014), this paper establishes familial nationalism as a theoretical framework to analyse the multi-layered implications of the emotionalization of Xi's propaganda work. We also assess the potential power and dangers of emotionally charged familial nationalism as a means of securing regime legitimacy.

Methodological Innovations Special Event

Participatory Action Research: Methodologies for Building Equality and Justice?

Umut Erel

(BSA)

This presentation explores the potential of participatory arts based methods for transformatory research that builds equality and justice. It looks at two related examples, PASAR which used participatory theatre and walking methods to better understand the experiences of racialized migrant families subjected to the No Recourse to Public Funds policy. This allowed us together with the research participants to articulate subjugated knowledge that challenged the legitimacy of this racist policy. This also led to engagement with wider migrant community groups, practitioners and policy makers. The participatory theatre and walking methods allowed the group more situational authority with which to conduct a dialogue with practitioners and policy makers. Working together with arts-based methods also importantly allowed us to address issues which are difficult to verbalise and allowed for affective engagements with the difficult experiences of those subjected to the NRPF policy. The second example looks at our work with two groups of migrant community activists in the UK, in the North East of England and in London. We set out to explore how migrant community organizations might be able to use participatory theatre for civic engagement, community building and activism. When the pandemic began, we needed to take the project online. This meant a steep learning curve: we explored how community building, creativity, sharing of experiences and challenging power relations of racism and migration status can take place in online participatory workshops. This presentation reflects on the learning in this project, the opportunities and limitations, as well as surprises we experienced.

Participatory Action Research: Methodologies for Building Equality and Justice?

Eirini Kaptani

(University of Greenwich)

This presentation explores a knowledge practice of racialized and ethnicised young women as co-creators. It takes place in the intersections of aesthetic and research spaces, and not in one space alone, or not by the former used for the service of the latter. This practice, unlike the standard qualitative methods, generates a creation and transformation of images and movements among bodies in the aesthetic space. It is a topo-somatic practice, as it brings into focus how the bodies are situated in the places they inhabit (Kaptani forthcoming 2022; Lecoq, 2009,). Moreover, epistemologically this practice transforms the subjects from research participants to co-creators and spect-actors (Boal, 1979; Kaptani et.al, 2021). They create images of their own reality, then enter the aesthetic space of these images to explore and change them. The aim is at transferring this knowledge they obtained in the aesthetic space back to their social realities. This is an epistemological and ethical shift, as they are moving from the positions of one-off data carriers to active

creators and analysts of their own lived experiences which is part of a decolonising, Feminist and Social Justice resistive knowledge process (Collins, 2019; Ng 2018; Tuck, 2009). This is an experience of lived knowledge that creates reparative spaces and encounters rather than merely the means and tools for data extraction. In this context by changing the aesthetics of methods we co-create reciprocal ethics of research that can only emerge if we immerse in the process of the aesthetic form and its properties.

Participatory Action Research: Methodologies for Building Equality and Justice?

Maggie O'Neill

(University College Cork)

'Walking borders' makes a case for using walking as a biographical interview method (WIBM) in order to do critical public pedagogy. Working across the arts and social sciences, using ethnographic, qualitative and interactive theatre (arts) based methods we seek to challenge and address sexual and social inequalities by working with women, groups, communities. We ask what are benefits and possibilities of our work together? In the paper we share one of our collaborative projects from the conception of an idea, to creative ways of working together, using interactive theatre methods and walking biographies, in collaboration with a direct access hostel in a Northern city. We share the outcomes both in the walk, theatre making - SUGAR and critical pedagogy that: cuts across 'procedural' methods, through an ethic of listening, trust and recognition; activates walking as a method; and 'decodes', 'interrupts' and challenges dominant ideologies of gender, class and homelessness, through a mobile, 'conjunctural analysis' (Hall).

Participatory Action Research: Methodologies for Building Equality and Justice?

Tracey Reynolds

(University of Greenwich)

This paper explores racialized migrant women community organising and grassroots activism and the way in which creative arts and participatory methodologies offer the opportunity to develop long-term sustainable approaches to community organising by these women. It shares findings from a public engagement project, with a community organisation that supports migrant women and their families in Southeast London, 'Creating Ground'. The insights generated from this research highlights how these women utilise arts-based methods (primarily filmmaking, theatre, art/drawing, poetry,) to co-create tools for community organising; to become community leaders, leading local campaigns and implementing social changes that address poor standards in temporary accommodation from migrants' families living with no recourse for public funding in their local neighbourhood. The PAR methodological approaches we use in this collaborative co-produced project also demonstrates an innovative, and inclusive ways of working 'with' rather than 'for' these women in sharing their stories about the negative impact of the UK' hostile environment on daily lived experiences. By centring the women's voices as community leaders and utilising still and moving images to construct a collective narrative of shared experiences, the women can share their experiences in ways that do not leave them exposed and vulnerable to the public gaze. These women's collective stories and their use of creative tools community organising demonstrates their strength, success, and resilience in building new forms of bottom-up community-led initiatives for local action and change.

Sociology of Education 1

PARENTING AND PRIVILEGE

Equity and Excellence in Scotland and Ontario: Inclusion of Parents for Reducing Educational Inequality in High performing and Equitable Education Systems

Max Antony-Newman

(University of Toronto)

Parental engagement in children's learning has a crucial role in the academic achievement and well-being of children (Jeynes, 2007; Lareau, 2015; Vincent, 2017). Despite its benefits, parental engagement is shaped by economic, social, and cultural capitals of parents, which often leads to increased inequality (Author, 2020; Calarco, 2018; Reay, 2004). Many education systems across the world aspire to offer both academic excellence and equity (OECD, 2015). Scotland and Ontario are two examples of high-performing and equitable education systems (Campbell, 2020; Scottish

Government, 2010), which also emphasize the importance of parental engagement (Government of Ontario, 2010; Scottish Government, 2006). This presentation offers a critical policy analysis focusing on the inclusion of parents in the excellence and equity debate and parental role in reducing educational inequality in Scotland and Canada. The study was guided by the following research questions: 1) How are parents represented in policy documents? Do parental engagement discourses empower one group of parents and marginalize others? 2) How is the role of parents in achieving excellence and equity constructed in policies? I applied a critical lens (Young & Diem, 2018) to policy documents (n=15) from Scotland (e.g. Delivering Excellence and Equity in Scottish Education, Learning Together) and Ontario (e.g. Ontario's Education Equity Plan, Parents in Partnership: A Parent Engagement Policy for Ontario Schools). Preliminary findings show that parents are constructed as "partners" to achieve the goals of academic excellence. While equity is declared as a goal, parents are rarely included as equals.

Social Class and Parenting Styles: Raising Children in Contemporary China

Sijia Du, Yaojun Li, Wendy Olsen, Nan Zhang

(University of Manchester)

Despite ample research on parenting styles, there remains conflicting evidence on whether parenting styles differ between social groups. Using China Education Panel Survey data for 2014-2015, this study identifies typologies of parenting and examines the association between social class and parenting styles in China. A major problem with typology of parenting in previous research is the use of an overly rigid two-factor model of demandingness and responsiveness. Drawing from Lareau's research on "concerted cultivation", we introduce a third dimension, labelled "cultivation". Latent class analysis results in four subgroups based on three dimensions: demandingness, responsiveness, and cultivation. Results show that Chinese parenting styles are in some ways similar to Baumrind's typologies and in other ways different from them: these patterns were labelled "tiger", "permissive", "intensive", and "neglectful". We then model the relationship between social class and parenting styles. Results reveal that (1) manual workers tend not to adopt intensive parenting, that (2) farmers tend to adopt tiger and neglectful parenting, that (3) there are no class differences among the salariat, routine non-manual and own account in parenting styles. Parenting styles do differ by other social-economic factors, such as living arrangements and parental education. This study underscores the emergence of intensive parenting in China and highlights class differences in parenting styles as one of the main drivers in children's educational development.

Economic Inequality and Intensive Parenting: Evidence from 2018 PISA

Jinghui Huang, Ming Li

(The Chinese University of Hong Kong & Tsinghua University)

Economic inequality has increased in various nations throughout the world, influencing the process of upward social mobility, in which the competitiveness of the education system and the myth of education's instrumental functions are reinforced in social upward mobility. The expense and cost of parenting and childrearing in families have risen as a result of the neoliberal wave that pushed child-rearing obligations to parents. It is established that economic inequity plays a role in the enhancement of intense parenting, which has been a common explanation in both Europe and Asia. However, the causal mechanism between economic inequality and intensive parenting must be defined further, for the intensive investment is diverse. In response to this unanswered question, this study proposes the hypothesis of multiple correlations between economic inequality and intensive parenting, including parental emotional support perceived by students and household investment. We introduce types of educational systems to moderate the effect of economic inequality. Based on the dataset of PISA2018, we analyze the relationship between economic inequality and intensive parenting with multi-levelled models. It indicates that, in general, economic inequality has had a positive effect on parental emotional support perceived by students but it has had a negative effect on home education resources investment. Furthermore, the impacts vary according to the educational system. Economic inequality has strong positive effects on emotional supports of parents in countries with egalitarian systems compared with dual-track systems. It implicates when understand parenting and enact parenting public instructions, the contextual educational system is one of crucial elements.

Sociology of Education 2

MARGINALIZATION AND INEQUALITIES EDUCATION

Not Fair, but Feasible: Managing (In)equality in the School Choice Process

Sarah Franziska Gerwens

(London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE))

In Germany, pupils are stratified across secondary school types based on their primary school performance, with socioeconomic status and “migration background” significantly impacting which type pupils attend. Drawing on critical race theory, I examine how class and racial privileges are maintained and legitimised in the school choice process, considering both institutional and individual factors. The paper builds on fieldwork in a German city, including interviews with staff in primary and secondary schools (25) and with parents/guardians (14), a policy review, as well as observations at secondary school information events (26).

The findings underline that while schools emphasise the role of children’s abilities, families and teachers highlight the importance of familial resources for educational success. They shift their focus from achieving what is fair to what is feasible – and beneficial for them.

Furthermore, privileged parents and (private) schools cultivate their advantage through school and pupil choice respectively, with Christianity a resource that, in the case of the private yet free religious schools, both draw on to identify desirable schools/students. Each is looking for a “good fit” – schools in marginalised areas, lower-track secondary schools, as well as racialized, lower class pupils fit less well. Yet, “diversity” is mobilised by many of the schools in their bid to attract students.

This underlines the impact (religious) private schools have on further stratifying school choice in Germany, opening the door for cross-country comparisons. Additionally, it illustrates how invocations of educational equality can be maintained in theory while being recognised as flawed in practice.

Exploring and Confronting Marginality and Under-Representation in Elite Higher Education through Participatory Methods: Insights from the Student Lived Experience Project

Lili Schwoerer

(Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge)

My presentation explores how participatory methodologies can enable both an exploration of, and a challenge to, inequalities in Higher Education (HE). I draw from my work as the academic lead on a year-long participatory, student co-led research project which explores how first-year undergraduate students from backgrounds that are under-represented at Cambridge university experience everyday life and study. The study involves undergraduate students as both research subjects and knowledge co-creators; while the students regularly submit different kinds of qualitative data about their experiences, the students and I collectively analyze this data through individual and group discussions. The process of analysis serves, for both me and the student co-researchers, as a way of both making sense of and confronting some of the most challenging aspects of inequality and exclusion in HE: moments of sharing led to structural and theoretical insights, while also building connections and social bonds that contrasted with the university’s often simplistic understandings of community and belonging. Contextualizing these insights within literature on Participatory Action Research and co-production, I also outline some of the challenges of this methodology in the context of neoliberal HE specifically: the bureaucratic barriers, the focus on measurable ‘impact’ and an essentializing representative politics which understands ‘difference’ as static. I conclude that nevertheless, the (always imperfect) process of participatory research can evoke visions for academic knowledge production praxis beyond these limitations.

Work, Employment and Economic Life 1

IVF, Employment and Embodiment: Analyzing Women's Disclosure Decisions within the Workplace

Patrizia Kokot-Blamey, Sarah Riley

(Queen Mary, University of London)

This paper shares findings from a qualitative project on women undergoing fertility treatment while in full-time employment. Every year in the UK over 50,000 women undergo IVF treatment (HFEA, 2020) and the challenges of such treatment on women have been brought to the fore by scholars such as Throsby (2004), Franklin (2013) and Baldwin (2018). The focus in this paper is on women's disclosure decisions within employment. This has been problematized in a number of ways. For example, Payne, Seenan and van den Akker (2018) note the importance of leave policies and that a key reason for non-closure was privacy, and van den Akker, Payne and Lewis (2017) demonstrate how decisions about disclosure were also related to fears about the potential impact on working relationships as well as the women's careers. Here, we explore specifically the extent to which this question is also one of embodiment, related to the women's sense of fertility treatment as an embodied experience with the potential to intrude on workplace norm around professionalism. The interviews were analysed through a phenomenologically informed thematic analysis following Riley & LaMarre (2021), which allowed us to centre and learn from the women's experiences while acknowledging the ways in which these experiences were temporally specific, embodied and related to their sense of self.

Scripts of Life and Death: Cultural Scripts and Communicative Conventions in Large and Small Animal Veterinary Work in the UK and Ireland

Lisa Moran, Lorraine Green

(Waterford Institute of Technology, Ireland and Edge Hill University, Ormskirk, Lancashire, UK)

This paper focuses upon discourses, cultural scripts and communicative conventions in small and large animal clinics in the UK and Ireland. Drawing upon biographic narrative interviews with 40 practicing veterinarians, veterinary nurses and veterinary specialists, we elucidate the multifaceted character of communicative conventions with farmers and pet owners during three interrelated processes: diagnosis, euthanasia and post-euthanasia. We argue that death and diagnoses are scripted, orchestrated events that involve a complex communicative 'dance' between veterinary staff, human and non-human clients (Hobson-West and Jutel, 2019). Vets draw on complex communicative conventions to justify animal death, and to diffuse anger, grief and fear, processes which link in labyrinthine ways to veterinarians' relationships with human and non-human clients in and across time.

We argue that more research on veterinary scripts are required and address existing gaps in the literature. As per our findings, scripts differ markedly in large and small animal practices, and vary according to the clinic's orientation and locations (e.g. rural, urban). Significantly, we illuminate areas of confluence and convergence in how diagnosis, disease and death are managed as socio-emotional events in UK and Irish clinics, which is scarcely acknowledged in sociological research in both countries. We propose that several factors shape and reflect veterinary communications which are frequently overlooked in extant literature on veterinary communications, including power relations, 'dirty work' (Hamilton, 2007) and 'front' and 'back stage' communications (Goffman, 1990) on life, death and disease that play out in a multiplicity of settings like waiting rooms, farmer's kitchens and pet crematoriums.

Lifting the Lid: Managing Leaky Bodies at Work

Jennifer Remnant, Sushila Chowdhry, Kate Sang, Abigail Powell

(Scottish Centre for Employment Research)

Leaking bodies threaten social order. Blood and other uncontained bodily fluids are highly regulated by societal disgust and through feelings of shame. The unbounded, unpredictable leaky body, liable to leave traces of transgressions through odours and stains must be carefully concealed in social situations – particularly that of the workplace, where there remains an assumption of the 'ideal worker' who does not leak.

There has been little exploration of the workplace as a site where illness is experienced and stigmatised symptoms, taboo within the confines of a professional context, are managed. In this paper we draw on qualitative interview data and research in process with women, trans men and non-binary people with gynaecological health conditions and experiences of incontinence to lift the lid on the workplace management of waste, and exploring workplace blood (blue) prints to explore the relationship between health, work and the workplace toilet.

The paper argues that workers' bodies remain poorly theorised as well as unrecognised in workplace policy, practice, and the working environment more generally. Employers in the UK do not adequately accommodate diverse body types or the management of bodily fluids. Consequently, they create contexts of institutional silence for employees with leaky bodies, where there are no guarantees that appropriate accommodations will be made for them, or that they will be protected from mistreatment.

Work, Employment and Economic Life 2

SUSTAINABILITY

Welfarepreneurship: the Art and Science of the Husbandry of Humans

Dennis Chapman

(Coventry University)

'Husbandry' is a term used to denote the 'care, cultivation, and breeding of crops and animals'; its second definition is: 'management and conservation of resources'. In practice, the husbandry of crops and animals consists of supplying optimum care for their survival and growth under domestic conditions. This paper conceives of 'welfarepreneurship' as the art and science of the husbandry of humans which seeks the enhancement of human welfare—removed (as much as possible) from capitalism—as the primary impetus of one's working life. This paper argues critically that the striving for unsustainable capital must end to manage and conserve the Earth's diminishing resources. Drawing on early theories of sustainability and equality represented emblematically in Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Men* and the critical economic theory of Marx's *Das Kapital*, this paper posits a form of radical agrarianism—driven by welfarepreneurship—as a solution to inequality, poverty and climate change.

Transitioning to a Low Carbon Economy: Skill Gaps, Disincentives and Dismay in the Work of Domestic Heat Pump Installation

Thomas Roberts, Jill Timms

(University of Surrey)

It is regularly claimed that new green jobs will result from a low carbon economy, but here we consider the challenges for workers and the potential to deepen inequalities. In recent years we have seen climate change make a slow but steady climb up political and CSR agendas and finally the rhetoric is beginning to turn into policies and action. Prior to COP26, the UK government outlined a series of policies designed to phase out fossil fuel-based technologies in favour of more sustainable alternatives. For example, gas boilers will be banned from new build properties by 2025 and new gas boilers will no longer be for sale by 2035, and sales of new petrol and diesel cars will be banned by 2035. To make these changes, an enormous reconfiguration of national and domestic infrastructure is required and to do this a new highly skilled workforce needs to be trained. This paper explores these urgent challenges through a case study of the installation of domestic heat pumps, the UK government's favoured technology for replacing gas boilers. Industry reports suggest there are currently only 1,200 qualified UK installers, but to meet government targets at least 20,000 will be needed by 2025 and 40,000 by 2030. We draw on interviews with industry leaders, training providers, current heat pump installers and gas plumbers yet to make the switch, to explore the challenges associated with training the workforce needed and the wider implications of this 'skills gap' for the transition to a low carbon economy.

Climate Change and Architectural Production - Competing Visions and Practices

Melahat Sahin-Dikmen

(University of Westminster)

This paper will discuss the implications of climate change for architectural production and examine the extent to which visions and practices of sustainability address the social dimension of the green transition in the built environment. Buildings are responsible for 40% of emissions and are targeted by climate policies globally. Zero-carbon is fundamentally different from traditional construction with changes in materials, design, and construction methods, which has far-reaching consequences for architectural practice.

Based on an ongoing investigation, the paper illustrates the emergence of disparate narratives of 'business sense and corporate social responsibility', 'professional ethics' and 'social responsibility'. Competing visions of sustainability range from technical interpretations to holistic appraisals of the construction industry calling for a radical transformation of

building production. Sustainability practices too vary and are shaped by technical and commercial considerations as well as environmental and political ideologies. The paper shows that the 'environmental turn' in architecture is intertwined with the social divisions within which architecture and building production are embedded.

References

Guy, S., Moore, S. (2004) *Sustainable Architectures - Critical Explorations of Green Practice in Europe and North America*, Routledge, London.

Levy, D.L. and Spicer, A. (2013) Contested imaginaries and the cultural political economy of climate change, *Organisation*, 20:5.

Nyberg, D., Wright, C. (2013) Corporate corruption of the environment: sustainability as a process of compromise, *British Journal of Sociology*, 64:3.

Suddaby, R., Viale, T. (2011) Professionals and field-level change: Institutional work and the professional project, *Current Sociology*, 59:4.

Building a 'Wellbeing Economy': Developing a Capability-based Approach to Capturing the Complexity of Social Justice on a Healthy Planet.

Anna Spiesova

(Glasgow Caledonian University)

The idea of a 'wellbeing economy' – an economy designed to work for people and the planet, rather than the other way around (Costanza et al., 2018; Coscieme et al., 2019) - has captured the imagination of politicians and policymakers across the globe, including in Scotland.

However, attempts to deliver economic, social and environmental justice raise questions such as: What do people residing in local communities want from such an approach? And, perhaps more importantly: How should progress and success - or indeed failure - be measured? This thesis will work in collaboration with Glasgow City Council's Economic and Social Initiatives team to pose a new set of questions on a wellbeing economy, for how it creates opportunities for individuals to lead a life worth living, a good or flourishing life. This paper will set out the arguments for, and the uncertainties of, a 'wellbeing economy', before moving on to consider ways to evaluate a wellbeing economy. Amartya Sen's capability approach could prove a useful framework to offer a common language for the framing of the questions we should be asking. The paper will discuss why a capability framework is vital in this process in order to tackle the epistemic injustice present in today's society, and build a wellbeing economy that is tailored to the local needs.



New Event!

How can I steer my academic career
in my preferred direction?

Date: 31st May 2022

Time: 11.00-15.00

This event is aimed at BSA members who are early to mid-career and are considering where their academic career is taking them. Having completed your PhD and possibly gained some post-doctoral experience, what comes next?

Keep an eye on the BSA website over the next couple of weeks for a detailed programme, speakers and information on how to register!

**free event for early to mid-career members of the
British Sociological Association**

Stream Plenaries and Race Report

Race Report Special Event

Race in British Sociology: A Repository of Best Practice in Teaching and Recruitment

Triona Fitton, Barbara Adewumi, Alexander Hensby, Emma Mires-Richards

(University of Kent)

This presentation will launch the BSA Race in Sociology Teaching & Recruitment Best Practice Repository. The repository is a BSA-funded project that collects, analyses and promotes examples of best practice in relation to the teaching of race in Sociology, as well as best practice in recruitment and retention of BAME students and scholars. Following the recommendations of the Race and Ethnicity in British Sociology report (Joseph-Salisbury et al, 2020), this project qualitatively surveyed and collated widening participation initiatives and interventions in Sociology departments around the United Kingdom with a particular focus on race. Heads of Sociology, Equality, Diversity & Inclusivity leads, widening participation teams and lecturers were interviewed on their implementation of initiatives to address issues such as cultural sensitivity, unconscious bias and institutional whiteness. This work was then collated into a number of thematic strands, such as decolonising the curriculum and encouraging a sense of belonging, informed by current research and pedagogy in critical race theory and evidenced by showcasing the work of Sociology departments that are demonstrating tangible progress in this area. The repository also offers a series of useful guides for academics and professional services staff with downloadable materials to allow them to engage with the initiatives in their own practice. It provides a systematic evidence base of what works well when embedding racial equity and justice within the discipline of Sociology.

The researchers will be joined for a panel discussion by Tom Hall (from the BSA Heads & Professors of Sociology [HaPs] group).

MEDICINE, HEALTH AND ILLNESS STREAM PLENARY

Celebrating 10 years of the Cost of Living Blog, and looking to the future of Medical Sociology

The speakers are representing the much larger Cost of Living Collective, click here to find out more <https://www.cost-of-living.net/>

Abstract:

The Cost of Living blog has provided a sociological perspective on global happenings relating to health for the last 10 years. Established to address issues relating to austerity measures in the UK it has developed to include international guest bloggers with an international view and as a result has an increasingly global reach. The collectively organised blog has weathered and commented on world-changing issues such as COVID-19, the health implications of geopolitical events including Brexit, whilst also providing commentary on local food and sport access, matrimony, the provision of welfare and regional activism alongside reviews of contemporary media depictions of health and wellness.

In this panel discussion, members of the Cost of Living collective will distil an overarching narrative from the blog, reflecting on both blog content and audience engagement. We will discuss and debate the last decade of change and turmoil, contextualising this within the history of medical sociology as a discipline. The plenary will offer a forecast for what might come next for the blog as well as the world events it provides commentary on.

Corresponding speaker: Ewen Speed - University of Essex

Ewen is Professor of Medical Sociology in the School of Health and Social Care. He has research interests in health policy, particularly in the context of the NHS. He is also interested in critical approaches to understanding engagement

and involvement in healthcare, and in critical approaches to psychology and psychiatry. He is currently an Associate Editor for the journal *Critical Public Health*.

He is also a member of the National Institute of Health Research East of England Applied Research Collaboration, contributing directly to the Inclusive Involvement in Research for Practice Led Health and Social Care theme and is Implementation Lead for this theme.

Dr Simon Carter – The Open University

I originally was a research chemist working in the automotive industry and then in environmental protection. After studying at the Open University, I returned to full time higher education to complete a PhD at Lancaster University. After this, I worked at the MRC Medical Sociology Unit, Glasgow University, where I spent a period on secondment to the MRC Public Communications Group in London. This was followed by a period working as a medical sociologist at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. In 2005 I took up a post in the Department of Sociology at the Open University.

Dr Chris Yuill – Robert Gordon University

Chris has a background in medical sociology and an interest in urban sociology. His textbook publications have sold globally and his main textbook *Understanding the Sociology of Health: An Introduction* now in its fourth edition is required reading on courses throughout the United Kingdom as well as universities in Ireland, Singapore, Netherlands and South Africa.

He has served on the Executive Management Team member and Publications Director of the *British Sociological Association* (BSA) (2005-2012) and a committee member of the British Sociological Association Medical Sociology Study Group (2004-2006). He has recently re-joined the BSA as a trustee in 2017 and holds the position of Treasurer. As part of the BSA he set up the BSA Annual Equality Lecture in 2011 and chaired the inaugural event.

Dr Christopher Till – Leeds Beckett University

Chris is a sociologist who has a focus on health, digital technologies and social theory. Chris conducts theoretical and empirical investigations into digital technologies and health. His recent work has critiqued the ways in which health and work have been merged through the "datafication" and quantification of everyday life. Other projects are looking at how this "datafication" can help to better inform public health interventions and understanding of health inequalities. He is a co-editor of "[Health: An Interdisciplinary Journal for the Social Study of Health, Illness and Medicine](#)", on the associate editorial board of the journal "[Sociological Research Online](#)"

Dr Lesley Henderson – Brunel University London

Lesley Henderson is a social scientist with specific expertise in Communications and Social Change. She is founder and Group Leader of the interdisciplinary [Sustainable Plastics Research Group](#) (SPlasH) at Brunel.

Lesley completed her PhD in the Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology, University of Glasgow where she was a researcher with the Glasgow Media Group. She held posts as Visiting Lecturer and Senior Researcher/ Grant Holder in Public Health & Policy at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and came to Brunel on a study exploring media and the role of scientific correspondents in reporting human genetics (Wellcome Trust). She was grant holder on a study of media advocacy and health inequalities (Health Development Agency) appointed Lecturer in Sociology & Communications (2003) and promoted to Senior Lecturer (Research Excellence, 2008)

Veronica Heney – University of Exeter

Following an English and History BA at the University of Oxford, I worked from 2015-2017 in the Social Sciences Applied to Healthcare Improvement Research group (SAPPHIRE) at the University of Leicester as a Communications and Academic Writing Assistant, and also took on a role helping the Department of Health Sciences complete an Athena SWAN application. While in Leicester I also held a volunteer role as a communications assistant for Pride Without Borders, a group which provides support for local LGBT refugees and asylum seekers. I completed my Gender Studies MA at the University of Sussex in September 2018, which included dissertation research taking an interdisciplinary approach to gendered medical professionalism. During my time at Sussex I was also fortunate to work with Dr Catherine Will on an engagement project around statins and decision-making and to work with the university's I Heart Consent Campaign, delivering consent workshops to students.

SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION STREAM PLENARY

The role and responsibility of scholars of religion in building equality and justice

Session Chair - Professor Mathew Guest (Durham University) – Chair of SocRel

Abstract

The Sociology of Religion study group stream plenary session explores how we as scholars of religion can and should contribute towards the development of equality and justice in the contexts that lie at the centre of our study. Religious individuals and institutions are deeply intertwined with issues of equality and justice. For many, fighting for a perceived "better world" through social justice work is anticipated as a key tenet of their faith, yet accounts of systemic injustice experienced and enacted by religious groups around the UK and the world continue to bring pain to those involved. As sociologists of religion, tasked with understanding the nature, experience, and role of religion in the modern world, what is our responsibility when faced with these situations in building equality and justice for and within these communities? Is reporting through our academic output enough, or do we have a duty to pro-actively respond through other forms? How can sociologists and sociological research support and develop work by and within religious institutions that is building equality and justice?

In this panel discussion we will hear from scholars of religion who have already been involved in these conversations within the academic, legal, and wider public spheres, around issues including abuse of children and vulnerable adults within religious institutions, religion and racial justice, and the role of religion in battling for social justice within contemporary society.

Gordon Lynch (University of Kent)

Gordon Lynch is Michael Ramsey Professor of Modern Theology at the University of Kent. His research has focused both on contemporary forms of meaning and values in Western societies, and historic abuse in institutional settings. He has written extensively on UK child migration programmes and undertaken substantial expert witness work on this for both the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse and the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry. He also served as the chair of the Theology and Religious Studies sub-panel for REF2021.

Professor Gerardo Marti (Davidson College)

Gerardo Martí, Ph.D. is William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Sociology at Davidson College and publishes broadly on race, religion, and social change. His book, *The Deconstructed Church: Understanding Emerging Christianity* (Oxford University Press), was awarded the 2015 Distinguished Book Award from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. His academic leadership includes elected positions as Chair of the Sociology of Religion Section of the American Sociological Association, Editor-in-Chief of *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review*, and Executive Board Member of the Washington, D.C. based Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) and the Lilly-funded Louisville Institute. He is now President-Elect of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, and his most recent books include *The Glass Church: Robert H. Schuller, the Crystal Cathedral, and the Strain of Megachurch Ministry* (Rutgers University Press) and *American Blindspot: Race, Class, Religion, and the Trump Presidency* (Rowman & Littlefield).

Dr CL Nash (University of Edinburgh)

Dr. Nash obtained her PhD in Historical Theology from the University of Edinburgh and the University of Gloucestershire. She is currently a new recipient of the IASH Duncan Forrester Fellowship at Edinburgh University. In addition to her post in Edinburgh, she is a Visiting Scholar at the University of Leeds where she initiated and still manages a research project, *Misogynoir to Mishpat* (or from Hatred of Black Women to Restorative Justice). She launched the website (<https://misogynoir2mishpat.com/>) and hosted the inaugural, international seminar on May 13th (featuring Prof. Esther Mombo) with the second seminar hosted on Sept. 20th (featuring Prof. Rosetta Ross). Look for their new blog, "Conversations in Race, Gender and Religion" which will be launched later this year. A new member of the editorial board for *Black Women and Religious Cultures*, she is also published in various theological blogs including with the Centre for Religion and Public Life, Leeds University. Her work is also featured in journals including *The Journal of Theology for Southern Africa*. In addition to several articles and chapters being released throughout 2021, her first book is scheduled for release in 2022 with SCM Press.

WORK, EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC LIFE STREAM PLENARY

CSR and corporate control of regulatory processes: the impact on labour and the workplace

Convenors: Jonathan Preminger, Jill Timms, Rachel Cohen

ABSTRACT

In 2020, Joel Bakan released a follow-up film to his 2004 book *The Corporation: the Pathological Pursuit of Profit and Power*. The film, subtitled *An Unfortunately Necessary Sequel*, explores the use of corporate social responsibility (CSR) as a tool that enables corporations to capture the process of regulation and shape it to their interests – at the same time shrinking the areas of social life that remain under effective democratic oversight. A parallel process was the withdrawal of direct state intervention in the social-economic sphere, and the increasing use of market mechanisms to reach “desired outcomes”, placing increasing power in the hands of market actors.

The Covid pandemic forced us to reimagine state capacities, demonstrating the state’s willingness to directly intervene on a massive scale but also its ability to bypass democratic processes and evade democratic accountability – to the benefit of government’s corporate buddies.

Focusing on the classic sociological question of the relationship between democracy, voice and participation on one hand, and economic systems and market actors on the other, this stream plenary will explore the impact of this de-democratisation and de-politicisation on labour and the workplace, linking to key sociopolitical challenges such as inequality and climate change.

Chair: Jill Timms, Department of Sociology, University of Surrey and WEEL Co-Convenor

Speakers:

Dr Rami Kaplan

Rami is an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Sociology and Anthropology and Labour Studies at the Tel Aviv University. He works at the intersection of political sociology, organizational sociology, and political economy, and often applies historical and comparative approaches. His research spans various aspects of global corporate capitalism, including its historical emergence and expansion, business and society politics, corporate power and social responsibility, global diffusion of ideas and practices, global governance, neoliberalism, transnational business elite networks, and global environmental politics. See: <https://english.tau.ac.il/profile/ramikaplan>

Prof Stephen Vertigans

Steven is currently Head of School of Applied Social Studies at Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen. His research interests include different forms of violence, resilience in informal settlements and corporate social responsibility, particularly within the energy sector. See: <https://www3.rgu.ac.uk/dmstaff/vertigans-stephen>

Dr Luc Fransen

Luc is Associate Professor of International Relations and member of the Political Economy and Transnational Governance Research Group, as well as the Transnational Configurations, Conflict and Governance Research Group at the University of Amsterdam. Luc’s research interests include the politics of Corporate Social Responsibility, sustainable development in global supply chains, private standard-setting, transnational civil society activism and international organizations. See: <https://www.uva.nl/en/profile/f/r/l.w.fransen/l.w.fransen.html>

ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY STREAM PLENARY

Towards an ethic and practice of reparation: Learning from and through informal work

Abstract

This talk relies on critical and community-engaged research on informality to illuminate how dominant economic imaginaries misread the core drivers of both poverty and environmental degradation. Worldwide, about 2 billion people work informally, generating social, economic and environmental value for cities. Too often, policy elites, including those promoting sustainable development, overlook this value, instead proposing interventions that rely on deficit-based framings of informal work. Instead, thinking historically, relationally, and spatially clarifies the essential role of informal work for urban economies and ecologies. It also reveals how growth-oriented economies reproduce environmental destruction, income inequality, and poverty, the very conditions impelling many to informal work. Learning from grassroots movements and activist scholars, I articulate an alternative ethic and practice to guide efforts at sustainable development and climate justice- one that is anchored in an acknowledgement of histories and lived legacies of oppression, understands over- and under-consumption relationally, and enacts reparative politics and policies across space and diverse positionalities. I illustrate applications of an ethic of reparation with existing practices and transformational proposals.

Biography

Manisha Anantharaman is an Associate Professor of Justice Community and Leadership at Saint Mary's College of California and Associate Fellow at Chatham House's Environment and Society Program. She is a multi-disciplinary scholar whose research and teaching interests connect sustainability and social justice, applying participatory and ethnographic methodologies to explore the potential for, pathways to, and politics of *just* sustainability transformations. Her publications include an edited book on "The Circular Economy and the Global South" (Routledge, UK). In 2019, she was the Alba Viotto Invited Professor in Sociology at the Institute for Sociological Research, University of Geneva. She received her PhD from the Department of Environmental Science Policy and Management at the University of California Berkeley (2015). You can read more about her research and teaching at manishaanantharaman.com

Presidential Panel

WEDNESDAY, 20 APRIL 2022
16:45 -17:45

Kindly Sponsored by



ADDRESSING DEEP INEQUALITIES: NEW AGENDAS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Torsten Bell, Resolution Foundation; **Daniel Edmiston**, University of Leeds;
Sarah Kerr, University College London

Chaired by Gurminder K. Bhambra, University of Sussex

The postwar period in the UK saw the consolidation of the welfare state, increasing democratization, a fast-growing economy, and declining income inequality. This lasted till the late seventies, since when we have witnessed a reversal. The last decade, in particular, has seen the starkest decline in living standards. This panel brings together three speakers who have made significant and potentially transformative contributions to current debates on inequality and public policy.

This conference will take place just as people are experiencing increases to National Insurance contributions and a steep rise in energy bills. As [Daniel Edmiston](#) argues, there has been an increased likelihood over the last decade for women, children, larger families, and some ethnic minorities, of falling into a 'deep poverty' unmitigated by full time work. The Resolution Foundation has been at the forefront of arguments against the new forms of inequality. Recent analysis by its Chief Executive, [Torsten Bell](#), suggests that the 10% of family budgets that the poorest third of households spend on energy bills is comparable to what richer households spend on eating out and holidays. This suggests that 'deep wealth' needs to be addressed alongside 'deep poverty'. As [Sarah Kerr](#) has argued, sociology and public policy needs to confront issues of unearned wealth and the undeserving rich.

Torsten Bell, Resolution Foundation

Torsten is the Chief Executive of the Resolution Foundation, a think tank that combines analytical rigour with policy prescriptions to improve the living standards of those in Britain on low to middle incomes. He has a background in economic policy, and his research focuses on economic change, inequality, the labour market, tax and benefits, and wealth. Prior to leading the Resolution Foundation, Torsten was Director of Policy for the Labour Party. He has also worked in HM Treasury, as a member of the Council of Economic Advisers during the financial crisis and as a civil servant. Torsten is a trustee of the Child Poverty Action Group and a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences.

Daniel Edmiston, University of Leeds

Daniel Edmiston is a Lecturer in Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Leeds. Prior to this, he worked for the Economic and Social Research Council, the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit, and the University of Oxford. His research is academic and applied in nature, focusing on poverty and inequality, welfare politics and social citizenship.

Sarah Kerr, University College London

Sarah Kerr is an Economic and Social Research Council-funded doctoral student at UCL Institute of Education, writing about wealth and poverty in social policy. She also works as a consultant in the field of policy and evidence for public policy making.

With Thanks and Gratitude

A conference of this magnitude and breadth depends on the efforts of many committed individuals. Great thanks are due to all those who have helped with the organisation of the conference, particularly the coordinators of the conference streams. A special thanks goes to the events team who have worked incredibly hard to bring the conference together in this very different format.

Stream name	Stream coordinator(s)
Cities, Mobilities, Place and Space	Sarah Leaney Maria Silvia D'Avolio
Culture, Media, Sport and Food	Thomas Thurnell-Read (to return in 2023) Emma H Casey
Environment and Society	Catherine Butler
Families and Relationships	Katherine Twamley Julie Walsh Julia Carter
Frontiers	Janice McLaughlin
Lifecourse	Karenza Moore
Medicine, Health and Illness	Flis Henwood Jen Remnant
Methodological Innovations	Helen Lomax Paola Tubaro Stefanie Doeblner
Race, Ethnicity and Migration	Narzarin Massoumi Polina Manolova
Rights, Violence and Crime	Louise Livesey
Science, Technology and Digital Studies	Emily Ross Julia Swallow Harry Dyer Tara Mahfoud
Social Divisions/Social Identities	Sarah Woodin
Sociology of Education	Derron Wallace Nicola Ingram
Sociology of Religion	Rob Barward-Symmons
Theory	Lisa McCormick Barry Gibson Christian Morgner
Work, Employment and Economic Life	Jonathan Preminger Jill Timms Rachel Cohen

We would also like to express our appreciation for the support of all our sponsors and exhibitors.

Main Conference Sponsor



SAGE

www.sagepub.co.uk

The BSA would like to thank SAGE Publishing for funding the conference registration of 35 BSA Members at this year's annual virtual conference.

Sponsors and Exhibitors

- British Sociological Association
- Bristol University Press/Policy Press
- Bloomsbury Press
- European Social Survey
- Manchester University Press
- MAXQDA
- Polity
- John Wiley & Sons (Wiley)
- ResponDi
- MDPI - Academic Open Access Publishing since 1996

© 2022 BSA Publications Ltd.

BSA Publications Ltd is a subsidiary of the British Sociological Association (BSA), registered in England and in Wales. Company Number: 01245771. Registered Offices: Chancery Court, Belmont Business Park, Belmont, Durham, DH1 1TW. VAT Registration Number: 416961243.

Please note that the views expressed and any advertisements are not necessarily those of the BSA or BSA Publications Ltd. While every care is taken to provide accurate information, neither the BSA, the Trustees nor the contributors undertake any liability for any error or omission.

The abstracts in this volume are not for reproduction without the prior permission of the author. All rights reserved. This publication may not be reproduced in whole or in part without the express permission of the British Sociological Association.