



BSA Visual Sociology Study Group – Annual Report 2025

a) Numbers of members of the study group:

There is a JISC mail account which currently has 361 people subscribed

We have a @bsavissoc Twitter account and this now has 512 followers, and Instagram account has 55 followers. The twitter account is dormant at the moment. We are exploring using other social media channels.

b) Income, expenditure and balance – end of 2024: £209.45.

c) Aims and objectives of the group

- To provide an organizational context in which to bring together academics and researchers from a number of areas within sociology who have an interest in the visual;
- To provide a forum to allow for the critical development, building and elaboration of visual sociological theorizing and related discourses;
- To develop new and refine existing visual sociological methodologies;
- To develop professional practice protocols for the ethics of visual sociological research;
- To create a context in which professional networking and constructive interdisciplinary communication can take place;
- To seek a professional interaction with the International Visual Sociology Association (IVSA); its intellectual explorations and its established hub for visual sociologists.

d) Summary of activities undertaken in the past year (January 2025 to June 2026)

- **PUBLICATIONS / PROCEEDINGS**

Awad S. *Seeing Matters: A Psychology of the Image and Its Politics*. Cambridge University Press; 2026.

Bond-Taylor, S., Alfaro-Simmonds, M. J., & Lomax, H. (2026). "It's All About the Beach Town!" The Methodological Challenges and Creative Opportunities of Participatory Research with Young People in Coastal Environments. *Coastal Studies & Society*, 0(0).

<https://doi.org/10.1177/26349817261415583>

Bratchford, G. et al. 2026. *Sociological Approaches to Algorithmic Images*. London: Palgrave

Bratchford, G. & Zuev, D. 2025. *Aerial Visibilities: New Thoughts and Further Possibilities*. Routledge.

Bratchford, G. (2026). New Ways of Seeing? A Reflexive Case Study on the Possibilities of Teaching Verticality and Aerial Vision through Participatory Balloon Photography. *Photographies Journal*.

Brooks-Wilson, S 2025, [Doing car-based youth justice appointments during young people's mobility transitions](https://doi.org/10.4337/9781035300754.00015). in G Martin & E Pearce (eds), *Research Handbook on Youth Criminology*. Edward Elgar, pp. 111-126. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781035300754.00015>

Lin-Januszewski, L. W. (2026). Symbolic haunting: first-generation university students' limited sense of entitlement. *British Journal of Sociology of Education*, 47(5), 833–852. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01425692.2026.2615957>

Heng, T. and Oh, S.-H. (eds.) (2026) *Photographic Collections as Visual Method: Innovation and Creativity in Asia*. Abingdon: Routledge.

Lomax, H.; Smith, K., Alfaro-Simmonds, M. (accepted, in press) "We know how to navigate this place, and you won't": Centring young people as knowledge producers and rights bearers in visual research'. In Hansen, Susan; Korroch, Kate and Patarin-Jossec, Julie (editors) *Visual Studies Companion*. Routledge.

Lomax, H and Pearse, S. (2026) Rising insecurity and its impact on children and families, [Dream Big South Yorkshire, Year of the Child](#) (Keynote), 1st- 2nd July 2026.

Lomax, H (2026) How arts-based methods can help families to articulate the lived experience of multiple insecurities, [EECERA 2026 - EECERA](#), Funchal, Madeira, 25th-28th August.

Rizov, V. (2026) 'The ludic unconscious: Towards a symptomatic reading of play and narrative in *Watch Dogs 2*', *Game Studies*, 26(1). Available at: <https://gamestudies.org/2601/articles/rizov>

Smith, K; **Lomax, H**; Alfaro-Simmonds, M; Bond-Taylor, S; Turner, W.; Humphry, D. (2026 accepted, in press) 'Play Matters: Young people's experiences of outdoor play in economically disadvantaged neighbourhoods in England', In: McKendrick, John (editor) *Play-space: conceiving, creating and patterning environments for children's play*, Elgar.

OTHER ACTIVITIES / EXHIBITIONS / SCREENINGS

- Sarah Brooks-Wilson and Vladimir Rizov coordinated the Methodological Innovations abstracts for the BSA conference 2026.
- Between 26 Jun 2026 and 31 Aug 2026, John Goodwin exhibited '*Snapshots in the Garden*'. An 8x4 presentation of discarded vintage garden photography (mounted on wood) at the Open Eye Gallery in Liverpool.
- John Goodwin's photograph '*The Lingering Specter of Coal*' was the University of Leicester Images of the Research Winner 2026.
- Helen Lomax is currently editing a special issue for Sociological Research Online - Making Methodologies: Theoretical, Practical and Ethical Explorations in Creative and Co-Created Sociological Research

- Terence Heng staged a visual sociology exhibition at the Victoria Gallery and Museum in Liverpool from Oct 2025 to April 2026
- Terence Heng delivered a keynote for the 5th visual methods workshop run by the Research Committee 57 of the International Sociological Association in St Joseph's University, Macau in November 2025
- Tebessüm Yılmaz completed her doctorate in January 2026 with summa cum laude from the Department of Diversity and Social Conflict, Sociology, at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Her dissertation, "Feminist Perspectives on Kurdish Cinema: State Violence, Resistance, and Memory," employed visual sociology. She is currently developing the manuscript for publication based on this work.

e) Summary of activities planned for the coming year

- Introduction to Visual Sociology Workshops (online)
- Revamp website / BSA study group website

f) The names and contact emails of the convenors and other officers.

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