Book of Abstracts SSSI Conference 4-6 July, 2018 Lancaster University, UK (presenters in alphabetic order)

A.

-*"Masculinities, Sexualities, and Love",*

Aliraza, Javaid, Health and Social Sciences, University of West of England, Bristol, UK, Ali.Javaid@uwe.ac.uk

It can be said that societies today know little of how gender, sexuality and love interconnect in dissimilar contexts, and how they are collectively shaped by social structures. Underpinned by the theoretical writings of Michel Foucault, this talk examines the social constructions of, and the linkages between masculinities, sexualities and love. It explores the ways in which love is socially and culturally constructed. The talk draws on a range of empirical data, including interviews with gay and bisexual men, to understand the ways in which love is constructed and conceptualized. The presentation will be grounded in personal narratives and intimate stories of love, hurt, pain and heartbreak and analysed using theoretical frameworks such as hegemonic masculinity, heteronormativity, and post-structuralism. Furthermore, the audience will also find insightful discourse analysis of popular films, such as "Fifty Shades of Grey" and "The Girl on the Train", to examine the construction of love through film.

- *(Re)producing and Resisting "Sexualities" in Everyday Life.*

Altice, Jessica, Sociology, University of South Florida, USA, jaltice@mail.usf.edu

B.

-*Eisner as Symbolic Interactionist? A Grounded Theory Approach to Graphic Novels,*
Bakker, J. I. (Hans) University of Guelph, Canada, hbakker@uoguelph.ca

When we construct the history of great thinkers and researchers in Symbolic Interactionism we tend to include people like Georg Simmel, George Herbert Mead, Jane Addams, Hubert Blalock and others.But we do not mention Will Eisner. That would be because he is best known in the world of graphic novels and comic books, genres not always taken seriously in academia. But Eisner, like so many well known people, is just the tip of the iceberg. According to Randall Collins' "law of small numbers" we can only keep about seven heroes in mind at one time. Each generation can only remember about half a dozen prominent people, or maybe one or two more. My exploratory study began with personal experience in childhood and was provoked by David Hajdu's (2008) study of the panic about comic books shaping young minds. In learned many things about racism, nationalism, sexism and classism in comics. For example, Nelvana is not as well known as Wonder Woman because Nelvana is a Canadian comic book hero. The academic study of comic books and graphic novels is fascinating and Symbolic Interactionists might want to pay more attention to the authors and artists who capture fantasy but also many aspects of day to day reality. The grounded theory approach involved interviews with enthusiasts and a few artist-authors like Seth. On line sources were used extensively, as well as academic sources like Grace and Hoffman (2018): *The Canadian Alternative*. All of this is relevant to the question: What is art? and What is art

in the age of mechanical reproduction (of two dimensional and three dimensional visual images and objects), a question posed by Walter Benjamin and further explored by Thoreau Bakker (2018). Furthermore, is an illustrated book like *Treasure Island* a kind of graphic novel, too? Graphic novels and comic books are "technologies" and can be used for good (e.g. Eisner's critique in The Plot of an Anti-Semitic hoax) or for propaganda (e.g. World War II Captain America comics). Comics and graphic novels have also spawned many movies that take advantage of CG (e.g. Men in Black and MIB II, Wonder Woman, Laura Croft). One theory is that the graphic novel is halfway along a continuum from serious academic texts to pulp fiction and on line scams.

-*"Don't quit your day job": TV & film depictions of policing as a secondary character role*, **Bielejewski, Aaron,** University of Kassel, Germany, a.**bielejewski**@gmail.com

Direct encounters with police in most societies are relatively rare, yet the police need to be recognized and understood at a basic level in order to structure encounters between police and citizens. Media depictions of the police and police work greatly outweigh actual everyday policing in terms of visibility, and fictional depictions of police in particular must broadly conform to existing expectations, but often challenge them for the sake of narrative structure. TV shows and films focusing on the police generally show deeper character arcs or development which may overcome basic implicit stereotypes and avoid more obvious clichés, while police as background characters may be used more as narrative devices based on simple characterization.

This analysis focuses on the use of police officers as secondary characters in non-police centered film and television. The use of police characters (or characters who happen to be police officers) in situations not focused on actively portraying police work or crime and conflict brings up additional opportunities to both explore stereotypes and broad assumptions of *ideal type* police work. Following up on a previous exploration of police as tertiary characters in traffic stop encounters in television sitcoms and dramas, this analysis will explore the use of contrasts and framing techniques in portraying characters who are not primarily presented as police officers. The selective use of *master status* in the narrative presentation of characters can both reinforcement and challenge basic police stereotypes, e.g. with jokes based on the contrast between the expectations of a police officer to be brave or fearless and the police character failing to meet those expectations. Analyzing both the narrative use of police characters in a variety of roles and the use of imagery and juxtaposition allows for a deeper exploration of the symbolism and implicit assumptions of the broad role of police in society.

-*Taking the Role of the Other in Submission*,
Blasko, **Andrew** Institute for Population and Human Studies, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria, Andrew.Blasko@abvm.se

The general issue addressed in the present discussion concerns the ways in which interaction within systems can be determined by forces, processes, and media apparently beyond the voluntary control of individuals. The particular focus in this regard is the medium of power. We will ask whether and how the exercise of power, especially subjection to power, can potentiate interaction such that particular types of interaction tend to occur with a significantly higher degree of probability than others. We will argue that the addition of subjection to power as a potential to interaction can lead to specific types of meaning being constituted in interaction that may facilitate the functioning and propagation of power. In this respect, looking at

ourselves through the eyes of the other becomes the dominant mode of self-reflection such that we become, on the level of interaction, what the other wants us to be.

-Sociological perspectives on self-injury,

Baptiste Brossard (Australian National University), **Amy Chandler** (The University of Edinburgh), **Celia Roberts** (Lancaster University), **Monographs**: Amy Chandler's (2016) *Self-Injury, Medicine and Society: Authentic Bodies*. Basingstoke (UK): Palgrave McMillan; Baptiste Brossard's (2018). *Why do we Hurt Ourselves? Understanding Self-Harm in Social Life*, Bloomington (US): University of Indiana Press. **Contact**: **Baptiste Brossard,** Baptiste.Brossard@anu.edu.au

C.

The Process and Result of (Hyper)Categorization on Collective Action: The Case of LGBTQIA+

Carneiro, Nathalia & Maggie Cobb, Sociology, University of Tampa, USA, mcobb@ut.edu

Drawing upon in-depth interviews with individuals who identify as LGBTQI+ and/or participate as members, leaders, and/or followers of LGBTQI + organizations, this research examines how the historical and contemporary construction, maintenance, and relevance of typologies <u>within</u> marginalized populations shapes the political efficacy of social movements dedicated to them. While it is well documented that the vast majority of social movements have neglected intersectionality, or those marginalized identities that fall between the cracks of collective efforts, scant research has documented how shared meaning, symbolic boundaries, and social order rely on cognitive, emotional, and moral appraisals that are only feasible when categorized and named; thus, typologies and divisions within social movements have empirical consequences for the politics of identity, the possibilities of sustainable social change, and the political efficacy of organized social action.

-Experiencing Exclusion and Stigma: The Influence of Perspectives, Practices, and Policies on Living with Chronic Illness and Disability,

Charmaz, Kathy, Sociology, Sonoma State University, USA, charmaz@sonoma.edu

Chronically ill and disabled people commonly experience both subtle and dramatic exclusionary and stigmatizing incidents and practices that affect their moral status. What are these experiences like for people with physical limitations? How might their past and present perspectives about illness and disability influence how they define their current situations? In which ways does the extent of visible disability shape their experience? I will address such questions and delineate the effects of being excluded and stigmatized on the person's relationships, self and identity, and moral worth. Last, I consider how neo-liberal policies intensify exclusionary and stigmatizing practices affecting chronically ill and disabled people.

-The Good Gays, The Bad Gays, and The Ugly Gays: Divisions of Gay Identity Postgay Marriage in The United States,

Conner, Chris, Sociology, Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois, USA, ctconner@gmail.com

The United States Supreme Court's recent ruling, giving gays and lesbians the right to marry, marks an unprecedented level of acceptance towards a group once considered deviant and marginalized to the lower rungs of society. Yet, even before this historic victory, commentators on the LGBT+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, other sexual minorities, and allies) community were arguing that we had entered into a post-gay era (Warner 1999; Ghaziani 2014)[1]. Adherents to post-gay rhetoric believe that the LGBT+ movement should focus on assimilation into the dominant culture. They also wish to distance themselves from, and denounce, separatist approaches to political organizing activities. In short, post-gays seek to mirror the heteronormative life course. Some members of the movement have gone so far as to see their sexuality as something distinct from other cultural aspects (Hicklin 2012). This sentiment however, ignores the alternative social structure and history of the "gay life world" (Humphreys 1970, 1972; Warren 1974; Buckland 2002), and ignores the ongoing problems facing the LGBT+ population (Meyer 2015). Moreover, alternative mechanisms for connecting with other LGBT+ members via social media and phone apps have problematized community organizing initiatives. This paper, takes the side of and, explores the dynamics of resistance strategies that some members employ to maintain the boundaries of the group. Resistors and Separatists are often framed in discourses as "bad gays," while assimilationists are labeled as "good gays." Resistors have either been rejected from, or are unable to, achieve a "good gay" assimilationist image which is, as some argue, rooted in distinctions of class, race, age, and gender expression. As such, the modern LGBT+ movement in many ways reproduces structures which reinforce their marginalized status.

-Whose voices do we choose to hear? Insights from designing social work research in an industry-university collaboration,

Cooper, Kimberlea, Faculty of Education and Arts, Federation University, Victoria, Australia, kimberlea.cooper@federation.edu.au

Researchers decide whose voices to privilege in the process of research design. In university-industry collaborations, the views of multiple stakeholders influence both the design of research and its use in practice.

The current doctoral research is a part of a university-industry partnership in a regional area of Victoria, Australia. This research focuses upon foster and kinship care programs with the intention of developing knowledge to inform program design. Through privileging the voices of foster and kinship carers in the region, the researchers have positioned carers as being the 'experts' in caring for children and young people, as opposed to traditional notions of professional expertise.

In designing this research, the doctoral researcher decided to use symbolic interactionism and constructivist grounded theory in order to bridge the gap that can occur between research and practice. Through focusing upon meaning as well as action, symbolic interactionism provides a basis for understanding not only *how* carers go about supporting children, but *why*.

-Do you read me? Incorporating gender literacy into qualitative research practice,

Craig, Ailsa, Dept. of Sociology, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada, acraig@mun.ca

Often, the ways sociologists gather data and engage with research subjects has contributed to the exclusion and stigmatization of trans and gender diverse people. This exclusion is not intentional, but a by-product of the lack of gender literacy in our methods and practices. This paper provides a critical review of qualitative research that works to include trans and gender diverse experiences and explores how insights from work that focuses on LGBTQ populations can inform more inclusive research practice in ***all*** qualitative research. By combining insights from that review with autoethnographic reflection on teaching gender literacy through diversity awareness training sessions, this paper explores how qualitative research practice can be designed to undo silent power relations of gender so we are better able to see, hear, and read our research subjects and the diversity of their gendered lives.

D.

'Affective attunements in the context of personal recovery. Relationships between individuals diagnosed as chronically mentally ill and social work staff in the field of community mental healthcare',

Dangel, Vera, Faculty Applied Social Science, RheinMain University of Applied Science, Germany, vera.dangel@hs-rm.de

Background: The personal recovery movement has voiced the provocative hypothesis that the diagnosis of a chronic mental illness is mostly due to failing interactions between professionals and those diagnosed (Slade, 2011). This coincides with studies showing that people referred to as experiencing severe personality disorders (Streeck, 2000) find often no adequate response from professionals (Bock et al, 2014). Additionally, research findings (Kupper et al, 2015) point out that especially people with so-called schizophrenic illnesses exhibit severe disorders in non-verbal communication and emotional regulations.
Workshop Aim: To explore the significance of *Power* and *Stigma* in interactions between social work professionals and users in a community mental health day centre. The data to be discussed is currently being collected by observing *situations* (Goffman, 2009) - specifically relationship dynamics - in a qualitative study orientated on Grounded Theory (Strauss & Corbin, 1996) and Focused Ethnography (Dellwing & Prus, 2012), also using a participatory research method (May, 2017).

-Lifestyle self-management experiences of South Asians post myocardial infarction,

Davis, Dilla, School of Health and Society, University of Salford, UK, D.Davis4@salford.ac.uk

South Asians carry the burden of increased incidence and prevalence of heart diseases than the general population. Lifestyle self-management alters the course of heart disease. However, there are lacunae of knowledge as to what constitutes to guarantee lifestyle modification. One way to conceptualise the necessary knowledge was to explore self-management experience of South Asians. This study used Charmaz's grounded theory approach to elucidate how South Asians navigate these lifestyle changes. Two phase interviews at 2 weeks and 16 weeks of

discharge, were conducted with 14 participants who were newly diagnosed with heart attack-from 2015 to July 2016.   By providing a unique insight that choosing and prioritising lifestyle style changes is not an individual act, but a shared act, a case for 'shared efficacy' is made. The novel presentation of making and maintaining lifestyle choices as a conflict resolution calls for a 'harmony model' to deal with lifestyle changes.

-The Subversive Performances of Anonymity: Movements, Masks, and their Dynamic Meanings, **DeGloma, Thomas**, Department of Sociology, Hunter College and the Graduate Center, CUNY, USA, tdegloma@hunter.cuny.edu

In this paper, I explore the subversive character of anonymity. Analyzing the strategic use of anonymity by social movements on both the left-wing and the right-wing of the political spectrum, I detail the ways that actors use anonymity as a means to subvert dominant norms and affect social change. Both left-wing and right-wing anonymity have to do with **radicalism** in that they are centrally about escaping the civil constraints of society and hiding from the consequences of subversive (and often illegal) activity. Further, however, the subversive performances of anonymity involve two central characteristics: a *denigration of the individual ego* and an *accentuation of the mass*. Moreover, **subversive** actors perform anonymity in culturally meaningful ways and their masks and cloaks often carry deep, historically entrenched symbolic meanings. In order to grasp the subversive character of anonymity, we must attend to both the formal and symbolic dimensions of such performances.

- Breaking the Asylum: Online Third Places,

Dellwing, Michael, Robert Scherer & Alessandro Tietz, Sociology, University of Kassel, Germany, mdellwin@uni-kassel.de

The term „third places" has classically been used to describe places of socialization beyond family and school/work. Game Studies and social science studies of online interaction have long used the term to decribe sociality in online contexts, on social networks and mainly in multiplayer online games. In a mediatized society, those third places break down the walls of the school campus that used to tightly enclose young people. At the same time, schools have pathologized these forms of online communication, either as a precursor to violence, as a form of addiction, or as an obstacle to "real" socialization. The paper will use material from projects set within social work environments. It will show that not only is online third place socialization perfectly normalized among generations under 40; the definition of sociality and friendship that is used to invalidate these actions is also not congruent with those that arise among those who engage in online game socialization.

-Considering the research act: fixing meaning through agential cuts,

De Loo, Ivo, Aston Business School, Aston University, UK, i.de-loo@aston.ac.uk

When adopting a relational ontology, it is imperative that the role of the researcher in the research act is explicitly taken into account when a research project is conducted and written up. A researcher cannot be treated as an outsider when following such an ontology. He/she is an object in the research, perhaps even of the research, and gets to be actively reconstructed through the research. This is a continuous process through space and time that emphasizes the necessity to pay more attention to the often unpredictable and sometimes unintentional consequences of the process of discovery that is inherent to any research effort - but which is currently thoroughly neglected in most research output. I would like to offer some of my own

experiences of experimenting with an relational ontology, using a concrete research project (and my own feelings as it progressed) as an example. Whatever someone wants to discuss thereafter, can be discussed.

- Re-constructing the black box of peer review,

Derrick, Gemma, Educational research, Lancaster University, UK, g.derrick@lancaster.ac.uk

How people work together towards a common goal, or "group behaviour", lies behind much of what we currently understand about peer review panels. In research regarding peer review, the change of focus from the attributes of submissions, to one that that focuses on the way that academic groups arrive at a consensus, is revolutionary in this field, however there is a lack of empirical evidence of how criteria are operationalised in evaluative practice (Langfeldt 2001, Langfeldt 2004, Lamont 2009, Arensbergen 2014, Pier, Raclaw et al. 2017). As an object of evaluation, societal impact criteria are ambiguous in their operationalisation within peer review panels. As a concept, researchers are less habituated to the concept of research excellence beyond academia. Insights from the practice of other, similarly ambiguous criteria such as with "interdisciplinary research" have shown that panels tend to adopt a conservative approach during assessment (Langfeldt and Brofoss 2005, Luukkonen 2012). This begs the question of how panellists, when faced with an untested, ambiguous concept of societal impact as an evaluation criteria will approach its assessment in a way that will guarantee the robustness of peer review, with the necessary objectivity of assessing an object that exists beyond academic experience and value. This also begs the broader question of the suitability of peer review as a tool for the evaluation of societal Impact. Using a series of interviews conducted prior-to and after the peer review process of the 2014 UK Research Excellence Framework, this research investigated how the process of deliberation, and behaviours between panellists formed the evaluation outcomes around this ambiguous concept.

-"Seeds Beneath the Snow: Mundane Anarchism on an Apolitical Campus",

Dow, Tyler Alexander, Nathan Gaiotti, & Nick Zelasko, *Western New England University, USA,* nataliegaiotti@gmail.com

While anarchism is often disregarded as unrealistic or impossibly idealistic, our research aims to illustrate the viability of anarchism by revealing its operation in everyday situations. Colin Ward argues that anarchism is a latent mode of social organization that informs much of our daily lives, operating alongside bureaucracy and capitalism. Anarchist principles are prevalent in the routine activity of university students, although they are rarely recognized as such. Using participant observation, we consider the ways in which anarchist values and ideas influence formal student organizations such as clubs and sport teams, semi-formal units like academic cohorts, and informal friend groups at a small, private college in the northeastern US. We aim to demonstrate the ubiquity of "low-key" or "mundane anarchism" in the social life of an apolitical university campus.

-The triple outsider role as a basis for legitimation to do research at a German police academy,

Dürr, Lisa, Sociology, University of Kassel, Germany, lisa.duerr96@icloud.com

The ethnographer's role in the field is one of the most important aspects in conducting ethnographic research. However, before we can decide how deep we want to dive in, we have to reach a sufficient level of trust with participants in the field. For my research at a German police academy, a special kind of trust was needed: not only is it notoriously difficult to gain access to police circles; once inside, it is even more difficult to become a trusted member and establish intersubjectivity: Once I managed to get the police to trust me enough to let me in, I had to make the police officers inside also trust me enough to show "how they do things".

In this case, I paradoxically benefitted from what I would like to call the "triple outsider role," which first entails being a stranger (not a police officer), second, being a female (in a field that's still dominated by man) and third, being an academic. My paper will discuss how these seemingly estranging elements could be utilized to gain, rather than fail to establish, trust.

E.

-Depressive Love: A Social Pathology (Routledge 2018),

Emma Engdahl, Sociology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. Critics: **Robert Dingwall**, Nottingham Trent University, UK and **Andrea Salvini**, Sociology, University of Pisa, Italy.
Monograph: Emma Engdahl's *Depressive Love: A Social Pathology* (Routledge 2018).
Contact: Emma Engdahl, emma.engdahl@gu.se

F.

-In the Prison's Shadow: Mapping Digital Exclusion and Resistance in Carceral Space,

Follis, Luca, Criminology, Law School, Lancaster University, UK, l.follis@lancaster.ac.uk

Technology is revolutionizing policing. It is not just the influx of personal body cameras or the near ubiquity of mobile computing and digitized paperwork. License plate readers, predictive policing algorithms and drone units are increasingly routine aspects of police work in many jurisdictions. Police departments maintain a visible, active presence on social media as points of public contact, crisis response tools and as intelligence gathering sites. Yet on the carceral side of the justice continuum, the security challenges new technologies present overshadow their prosocial or even institutional applications. Within prisons, technology is often understood and framed in terms of its control functions or its security implications and not its potential positive social and resettlement elements. Indeed, a key problematic for administrators is stemming the clandestine flow of mobile phones and intercepting the flight patterns of courier drones delivering drugs.

And even on the administrative side, technology infrastructure is fragmented, decentralized and arcane. Offender managers, probation staff, and community rehabilitation company workers shuffle between a variety of software platforms with varying degrees of access and information about prisoner sentence plans, their risk levels and their resettlement needs. This paper draws on UK prison fieldwork and official documents to problematize the widening digital gulf between prisons, their charges and the rest of the criminal justice system. It argues that even as calls for prison reform and penal abolition become part of mainstream policy debates, new forms of digital exclusion and technological incapacity are increasingly unrecognized and undertheorized facets of the carceral experience.

G.

-Disabled body or ability-centric world?

Gardien, Eve, Department of Sociology, University of Rennes, France, eve.gardien@univ-rennes2.fr

The human body is now spontaneously conceived as an able body. Some seek to optimize it; others to exceed its limits; and still others to make it aesthetically perfect. But few consider the human body within social interactions outside the biomedical model of a functional and sound body. Yet, people with disabilities leading other disabled persons towards greater independency in their everyday lives, view the different body with the assumption that independency should never be confused with an able body. More precisely, these peer helpers develop a view of a different body, entirely centered on the assessment of the relationship body-environment. The sociological analysis of the data collected in a long-run ethnographic survey (2011-2013) proved that the problem they are faced with cannot be defined in terms of disability but of ability-centrism instead.

-Acquiring the Skills for Professional Academic Writing,
Grant, Maria J, Liverpool John Moores University, UK, m.j.grant@2016.ljmu.ac.uk

Using constructivist grounded theory (Charmaz, 2014), this presentation explores how academics acquire the skills to write and publish peer review papers. Initial data will be presented from open-ended interviews with academics who have successfully navigated the path to publication combined with social network analysis of participants' publication portfolios. The intended outcome of this study will be a model of writing experiences and practice from which evidence based structures will be developed to support academics throughout their academic writing careers.

-Perceptions of Humor as a Strategy of Stigma Resistance among University Students with Disabilities,

Green, Sara E. Shawn Chandler Bingham, Department of Sociology, University of South Florida, USA, sagreen@usf.edu

In this paper, we explore ways in which university students with disabilities talk about using humor as a tool of resistance in their everyday lives. The paper is part of a larger project on the interesting and contested relationship between humor and disability, and extends findings of our previous interviews with disabled comedians who perform professionally in Canada, the UK and the US. Data are drawn from in-depth interviews with a diverse group of twenty-three disabled students recruited by the office of disability services at a large urban public university in the United States. In order to reduce the power differential, interviews were conducted by students enrolled in an undergraduate research experience course. Like disability studies scholars and the professional comedians who participated in our project, our student research participants made a clear distinction between humor that is used to bully and demean people with disabilities and humor that has the potential to emancipate. Most reported instances in which they had been the target of the former, but most also reported using humor in subtle and sophisticated ways to improve the quality of interactions with non-disabled peers and others in the community. Our analysis of the interview transcripts identified six narrative themes related to the perceived value of disability humor as an emancipatory tool: *lightening things up a bit*; *managing the emotions of self and others; getting people to see past the disability*; *finding and demonstrating self-acceptance*; *managing disability disclosure*; and *the subversive potential of humor to educate, correct, and/or censure the stigmatizing behavior of*

others. While many of these strategies are consistent with stigma management, some are strategies of active stigma resistance and demonstrate the emancipatory potential of disability humor.

-Dominance Encounters in University Management,

Grills, Scott, Department of Sociology, Brandon University, Canada, grills@brandonu.ca

Athens (2015) challenges those working within the extended symbolic interactionist tradition to attend to dominance practices in everyday life. While dominance may be associated with various negative connotations such as control, oppression, and subjugation, dominance itself may be best understood in process terms. In this paper I examine dominance as accomplished action. Dominance (and conflict and subjugation) may be framed as generic social processes (GSPs) which are aspects of social life that play themselves out in both a trans-historical and trans-situational context. This paper examines some of the central themes that arise in attending to dominance processes in the context of university management including: doing dominance in management encounters, experiencing management as disruption, and experiencing domination as role obligation.

-Interactional Strategies and Academic Work of Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters Students on the EU's Flagship Programme,

Gulasaryan, Aleksandra University of Bristol, edxag@bristol.ac.uk

Internationalization of higher education is currently of key importance to the universities worldwide. It has also become a global topic of interest in the higher education scholarship. A major challenge, however, exists to move away from the input and output to more of a process-oriented research in order to address challenges of internationalization. This paper employs an interactional approach to examine how students on the EU's flagship programme - Erasmus Mundus - navigate multiple differences and inequalities in their multinational, multicultural groups. Based on 25 interviews in 5 different European Universities, my findings demonstrate that these high-achieving students develop different interactional strategies to negotiate (academic) cultural differences and related power imbalances. Paying specific attention to structural conditions that influence these strategies while highlighting their significant agency, I argue that these students construe and indeed constitute their Erasmus Mundus group as a (re)source of global learning during their studies and beyond.

H.

-Taking the Charmazian Turn: The Move Towards Critical Grounded Theory,

Hadley, Gregory, Applied Linguistics and Western Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Niigata University, Japan, ghadley@human.niigata-u.ac.jp, gregory.hadley@kellogg.ox.ac.uk,

Summary (97 words): A criticism that has been levelled against both Symbolic Interactionism and the Grounded Theory Methodology (GTM) is that they implicitly oppresse the powerless by maintaining the status quo (Fine 1993). Kathy Charmaz (2006, pp. 134-135) has responded

to this call by arguing this to be a shortcoming of the *theorists*, not of the *methodology*, and has urged theorists to begin a consideration of issues pertaining to power, inequality, and social justice (Charmaz 2005). This paper represents a response to Charmaz's call by introducing Critical Grounded Theory (CGT), with specific focus on its philosophical base and pragmatic approaches.

-The Games People Play: A Critical Study of 'Resource Leeching' in Neoliberal Universities,

Hadley, Gregory, Applied Linguistics and Western Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Niigata University, Japan, ghadley@human.niigata-u.ac.jp, gregory.hadley@kellogg.ox.ac.uk,

Around the globe, university English for Academic Purpose (EAP) programs are being increasingly steeped in the practices of the neoliberal business world. EAP programs, once part of university Language and Linguistics Departments and designed in order to improve the language proficiency of international students seeking to enter Anglophone universities (Hadley 2015, pp. 7-8; Charles & Pecorari 2016, pp. 19-21), have today been either subcontracted to third party corporations offering 'educational services', or relegated to 'third space' organizations (Whitchurch 2008 ; Whitchurch 2009) -- departments within the neoliberal university that manage corporate services, talent development, and global initiatives.

The regime of 'new managerialism' (Deem 2001) tasked with implementing these changes fosters precarious work environments where the vocational identities of EAP educators are steadily deconstructed and recast into the mold of service personnel. The impetus now is upon quickly 'processing' students, fixing their language, and in supporting new administrative initiatives aimed at providing educational 'experiences' that will increase student recruitment and retention. Out of the maelstrom of these changes, a new type of worker has emerged -- one who is responsible for managing processes and leading educators to accept their altered roles. Expected to produce results without positional power, these new workers in the neoliberal university are no longer completely educators, but neither are they fully administrators. Perilously placed between teachers and the new management, here we find the Blended EAP Professional, otherwise known as the BLEAP.

This presentation introduces one of the symbolic interactions that BLEAPs use to satisfy the demands of the neoliberal university. Known as Resource Leeching, this is one strategy by which BLEAPs profit from the free labor and talents of others while offering only token rewards in return. An overview of how Resource Leeching works within neoliberalized EAP programs is presented, with attention given to how top-tier universities providing educational experiences for international students avoid the leeching attempts of their 'feeder' universities. The question of whether Resource Leeching contributes to educational opportunities for students, or if it is a strategy aimed at cutting costs during an era where human labor has been drastically devalued, will also be considered.

-Risk Discourse, Structural Stigma, and the Exercise of Power,

Hannem, Stacey, Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada, shannem@wlu.ca

Goffman (1963) provided us with an explanation of the operation of stigma in micro-interactions. However, his definition and explication of the experiences and processes of stigmatization predate what many consider to be the most major shift in discourse and categorization to develop in the 20th century – the rise of the language of risk. In this presentation I discuss the intersections of risk discourse and stigma, and illustrate, drawing on some of my own empirical work, the shift toward structural stigma as an exercise of power and governance. I argue that contemporary "common-sense" understandings and usage of the term stigma emphasize negative individual interactions while ignoring the ways that risk categorizations, even in seemingly benign contexts, create structural disadvantage and serve to "other" stigmatized individuals. I argue that a focus on stigma at the micro-interactional level, particularly in destigmatization campaigns, obscures more pervasive and problematic structural stigmas, couched in the language of risk management, that permit systematic marginalization.

-Dramas of medicalization in everyday social network life,

Harbusch, Martin und Michael Dellwing, Sociology, University of Kassel, Germany, martin.harbusch@uni-kassel.de

The term 'mental health' has become in many ways a catch-all term, most notably in institutions such as criminal justice and education. Next to the continuing extension of psychiatric ascriptions in medicine, social work, schools and other state institutions, there is the individual self-ascription on social media platforms, where psychiatric categories have become popular tools for self-identification. This development has introduced psychiatric labels into a market of meaning that often bypasses powerful organizational structures.

The place of reproduction of psychiatric labeling has therefore expanded. While classical critical approaches often painted the diagnosed as the victims of powerful practices of others, the social market of self-diagnosis options makes users subject to a power structure of diagnostic ascriptions that is subtler: one that privileges continuous self-observation, self-labeling and, most importantly, constant efforts to socially control the interactions of the self and others in these interpretive ventures.

This presentation will discuss the expansion of the market for disease categories, using classical and contemporary critical work on psychiatry. We will use material from an empirical study in social networks to investigate individual dramatizations of the self through socially shared psychiatric discourse from "everyday social network life," extending the catch-all nature of the vocabulary even further.

-Exploring Healthcare Professionals' Decision Making when Managing the Care of Patients Diagnosed with End Stage Heart Failure -A Constructivist Grounded Theory,

Higginbotham, Karen, University of Salford, UK, k.higginbotham@salford.ac.uk

End of life care has been a topic which has been debated, discussed and strategized over the last ten years as part of the government initiative to improve care for those patients with long term conditions requiring palliation (DH 2008, DH 2010). Studies show that despite these government and local recommendation heart failure patients are still not being given the opportunity to access individualised end of life care and the services they require to support themselves and their families at the end of life.

The aim of this study was to explore the decision-making process between healthcare professionals and patients in an acute medical setting when it came to making end of life decisions. A constructivist grounded theory was conducted over a 12-month period in a District General Hospital in the North West of England. A purposeful sample of 15 nurses, 11 doctors and 16 patients was recruited from the acute medical setting. Data were collected using semi structured interviews and focus groups. The interviews were recorded and transcribed and data were analysed using the constant comparison and QSR NVivo.

Four theoretical categories emerged from the data to explain how healthcare professionals and patients negotiated the process of decision making when considering end of life care. These four categories; signposting symptoms, organising care, being informed and recognising dying were found to revolve around a core category 'vicious cycle of care' which was fast paced, turbulent and time limited. This cycle was found to disable the process of decision making between the healthcare professional and patient resulting in missed opportunity for the patient to transition to palliative care.

-*Singing Away War Trauma: Narrative and Catharsis,*

Holyfield, Lori, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Arkansas, USA, lholyfie@gmail.com

Music and song constitute "a way of identifying ourselves" (Rosenthal & Flacks 2012:94). It can be both a venue for solidarity and one of opposition. For veterans, songwriting can provide a reference to a collective past that facilitates framing of the present (:94). It can both celebrate and reinforce identity values, and can combat opposition by reinforcing "identities that are being redefined and reclaimed" (:94) from their once socially stigmatized positions. Findings from this study reveal it can be an especially powerful tool for communicating embodied emotions from combat. Veterans who participate in a program created for veterans, titled, *Soldiers Songs and Voices,* are finding that vulnerable emotions, those not allowed in service, can be harnessed and woven into cathartic narratives through the intersubjective lived experiences with other veterans.

J.

-*How email interviewing facilitates constant comparison within a constructivist grounded theory study,*

Jewitt-Beck, Rosie, Sport Coaching Research Group, Liverpool John Moores University, UK, **R.S.JewittBeck@2016.ljmu.ac.uk**

The aim of this research was to explore the previous education experiences and relationship with learning with the educator workforce at British Cycling. 119 educators were approached for an email interview, 29 engaged with the semi-structured asynchronous email interview, of that cohort nine withdrew. The process, per participant, lasted a minimum of 11 weeks to a maximum of 23 weeks with an average of 17 interactions between researcher and participant.

The constant comparison between the data is integral to grounded theory by re-evaluating the codes and themes throughout the collection process (Charmaz, 2014). The process of receiving the email with new responses, reading and evaluating the content permits time and space within

the interview (Bampton & Cowton, 2002). Consequently, the stories within the data are constantly side-by-side and available for comparison. The described process within the email interview facilitates constant comparison between of the data in a new way that perhaps has not been used before.

K.

-Trash. The symbolic-interactionist analysis of marginalized aspects of everyday life,

Kacperczyk, Anna, Sociology, University of Lodz, Poland, anna.kacperczyk@gmail.com

In this paper I would like to present an initial phase of my study on trash as a product of human social practices. The aim of my research is to describe and to understand what people do with trash in everyday life. How do they produce it and how trash is cognitively and symbolically processed? What meanings are entangled with rubbish and waste? What social practices are involved in the waste production, processing and management? This study is just my modest response to the growing problem of the pollution of the planet. Arising from the sense of my personal responsibility and concern alike, my project has also a pragmatic dimension in the sense that it appeals to the real and prevailing problems of our world. These problems are analyzed here in terms of human actions, undertaken practices and socially shared beliefs. In studying these very issues I see the potential to understand the complexity of the problematic situation in which the human species found itself while producing incredible amount of waste.

-Conceptualization of identity construction phenomena in empirical grounded theory articles,

Kasperiuniene, Judita, Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania, judita.kasperiuniene@vdu.lt

Qualitative research on identity construction processes, introduced with works by Cooley and Mead, is ongoing to this day. The aim of this review was to describe how the identity phenomena was conceptualized in scholar grounded theory articles. The search was conducted for original open access empirical publications on the WoS Core Collection, Scopus and Google Scholar (2010–2018) with keywords "grounded theory" and "identity". The literature review included 24 selected articles, graphically visualizing identity construction process in leadership, professional counseling, organizational, transitional and merging organization, cross-domains identity transitions, health care and nursing professions. Many researched articles used individual interviews for data collection and Strauss-Corbin grounded theory methodology. One third of the empirical studies presented findings in graphical way. Four different types of identity construction schematic visualization were observed: layered sandwich type process; cyclical process; directional process leading to a specific goal; and multidirectional process. Many articles focused attention from the individual dimension to the collective identity construction. Findings showed that identity construction in different contexts were described by common categories such as time; projected future identity; individual, collective, virtual identification; responsibility for personal and professional growth; leadership self-presentation. All these categories represented person's learning and professional transformations. From these findings, the insights could be made about identity dimensions that do not depend on the context.

Keywords: grounded theory literature review, identity construction, professional transformations, schematic visualization

-*Grounded theory and Phenomenology,*

Konecki, Krzysztof T. Sociology, University of Lodz, Poland,
krzysztof.konecki@gmail.com

The paper will concentrate on the Grounded Theory Methodology (GTM) from the point of view of the phenomenology. We will analyse some classical books from grounded theory to see some possibilities of adapting phenomenological thinking to GTM.

We would like to develop the phenomenological inspirations more and perhaps change the sense of grounded theory after using the phenomenological methods for explicating of phenomena and reflection on them. We want to show limitations of GTM in researching the phenomena through analysing experiences of them by individual persons.

We would like also to show finally the possibilities of using the phenomenological orientation in GT style of research and analysis of data.

-*"I will go out of my way, to be as myself as I can": autistic individuals conceptualising and forming a gender identity.*

Kourti, Marianthi, School of Education, University of Birmingham,
kourtimarianthi@gmail.com

For a long time, autism has been considered as a predominantly male condition, partly because of biased diagnostic criteria. Recent research has explored various aspect of autism in women, which may present differently. This has lead to a binary approach on autism from professionals and the reproduction of outdated gender stereotypes. Autistic voices are also missing from autism research and, interestingly, in many autistic communities there is a lot of gender diversity that is not reflected on academic/professional narratives.

In my research, I am investigating how autistic individuals assigned female at birth are forming a sense of gender identity. I am recruiting participants who are women, transgender men or non-binary individuals. I adopted a participatory approach, prioritising the voice of the. I am using Grounded Theory methodology with a Critical Realist framework and I am conducting five stages of data collection using life story interviews, Q methodology and group interviews.

L.

-*Rebellious Publishing in the Aspiring Sciences,*

Lavin, Melissa, Women and Gender Studies, State University of New York, Oneonta, USA,
lavinmelissa016@gmail.com

In this talk, I explore my experience writing autoethnography, an undervalued art and science. Despite autoethnography's stigmatized reputation in many fields, conditions in higher education encourage scholars to work in the method because it is time and cost-efficient. These conditions include the proliferation of online venues of publication; the growing obligations for

professors in the arenas of teaching, advising, and service; changes in scholars' relationship to job security, tenure, and prestige; and limited resources. Negative conditions produce positive latent effects, as autoethnography creates important theory.

-Parachuting Scientists into Policy Making: An Autoethnographic Account of the Role of Science in Government,

Leuenberger, Christine, Science and Technology Studies, Cornell University, USA, cal22@cornell.edu

Calls for academics to make themselves more relevant to policy-making reverberate across academia and the government. Underlying this call is the assumption that, more scientists in the government, would assure more evidence-based policy-making and improve diplomatic relations. This paper is based on an ethnographic emersion as a science fellow within federal policy-making agencies. It examines the cultural gaps between academics and policy-makers; how a better understanding of the institutional and organizational structures and constraints of the two professions would make calls for cross-professional engagements more effective; how political cycles dictate interest in science; and how, when, and where in the political cycles academic expertise may be impactful provided academics make their findings actionable, timely, policy-relevant, and frame them in terms of particular desired outcomes. Moreover, I examine the role and function of integrating scientists into the governmental process for the legitimacy of policy-making. While Science Studies scholars have long critiqued notions of the objectivity of science, it is exactly its seeming legitimacy that is becoming a crucial tool for policy-making. Notions of science as objective, value-free, transparent, and accountable underlie efforts to intervene in politically contested issues as it can bring people together in the name of universal science.

-Vapers like that make us look bad": Identity work and stigma management among young adults who vape,

Lewis, Ruth, Institute of Health & Wellbeing, University of Glasgow, UK, Ruth.Lewis@glasgow.ac.uk

Tobacco control policies have intensified the construction of smokers as a "spoiled" identity in recent years, yet little is known about how people who use e-cigarettes (commonly known as vaping) position themselves within this transforming nicotine/tobacco landscape. This paper explores identity work among young adults who vape, drawing on qualitative data generated through small group discussions with a socially diverse sample of 18-24 year olds in California.

Despite constructing vaping favorably compared to smoking, our participants' talk revealed the emergence of negative meanings attached to the "vaper" category, and resistance to claiming this identity label. Guided by Meisenbach's (2010) stigma management communication framework, I identify three categories of strategies that young adults use to discursively manage vaping-related stigma: 1) *avoiding stigma* (e.g. through favourable comparisons of one's own vaping practices compared to others); 2) *reducing offensiveness* (e.g. by minimizing the importance of nicotine to the practice of vaping); and 3) *denying stigma* (e.g. by discrediting those who discredit vaping). Finally, I argue that young adults' discursive management of vaping-related stigma is shaped by compounding stigma associated with other social identities, including gender, social class, and ethnicity.

M.

-Images of Dissent: Manifesting Discontent in the Modern World,

McLin, Elisabeth, Criminology, Vancouver Island Research, Canada,
Elizabeth.McLin@viu.ca

Today, we are inundated with images and messages at a dizzying pace. Technology enables the sharing of every grievance instantly and to a broad audience – not only one's own discontent – but the manifestation of discontent by others through the ubiquitous cameras and recording devices in our pockets. This project explores images of discontent from the post-Trump era as compared to images of past dissenters over the same issues. What, if anything, has changed?

-'Get Involved!' – A Micro Analysis of Betting Shop Announcements,

McNamara, Cormac, Sociology, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, mcnamac2@tcd.ie

This paper demonstrates how betting companies endeavour to create an atmosphere of inclusivity and belonging for their customers through betting shop announcements that are broadcast from the head offices of the betting companies. This is demonstrated via a contextualized micro analysis of the language used in those announcements and consideration is given to how the announcements might impact on the betting behaviour of customers. It is concluded that, while betting shops do likely provide some social connectedness for those who frequent them, the shop announcements are exploitative of the human need to belong and are likely to pose a danger to problem gamblers, and perhaps also to gamblers at risk of becoming problem gamblers, and perhaps even to gamblers not currently at risk of becoming problem gamblers as they could be a contributory factor in one's progression along the gambling continuum toward problem gambling.

Key words: Problem gambling; social exclusion; belonging; microsociology

-Every Minute Spent: Exploring the World of Professional Organizing Experts,

Milligan, Melinda, Sociology Department, Sonoma State University, USA,
melinda.milligan@sonoma.edu

Using an interactionist frame, the paper presents an examination of professional organizers to investigate the experience and enactment of "becoming organized."

By investigating the experiences of professional organizers, the project seeks to understand the American interest in managing time and space as a means to control destiny, morality, and emotion. In the early 20th century Frederick Winslow Taylor's Scientific Management argued for a rejection of craft in favor of routine. Now in the early 21st century, craft has been embraced as a rejection of the same standardization that Taylor championed, a rejection of what is seen as modernity's monotony and inauthenticity. How can the explosion of interest in professional organizing with its emphasis on efficiency and routine be understood, given the current cultural critique of standardization?

Data collection for the project includes (1) observation at events and conferences for professional organizers, (2) interviews with professional organizers, and (3) analysis of online and print training materials for professional organizers. Special attention is paid to comparing the organizing perspectives of Marie Kondo (KonMari Method / Japanese art of tidying) and those of traditional professional associations (ex: National Association of Productivity & Organizing Professionals).

-Applied Sociology or Microsociology?

Misheva, Vessela, Department of Sociology, Uppsala University, Sweden,
Vessela.Misheva@soc.uu.se

The paper examines the Chicago roots of microsociology at the turn of the twentieth century and retrieves microsociology's original meaning as both a science and a social enterprise. The discussion builds the argument for the hypothesis that Hull-House was the prototype of a not-for profit social enterprise, embodied in a particular conception of "applied sociology." The latter implied linking the production of true knowledge about social life to the production of social value. The relationships between microsociology and other types of sociology with a focus on macrosociology, symbolic interactionism, applied sociology and social work are discussed. The controversial status of microsociology in sociology and its difference from macrosociology are explained in reference to the radical difference between the gendered social experiences that brought the two sociologies to being.

-The Myth of the club of 27. Stigma, commodification and transgression,

Müller, Thaddeus, Criminology, Law School, Lancaster University, UK, t.muller@lancaster.ac.uk.

In my studies on stigma, I am interested how persons resist stigma and how we can relate this to their life history. Because of the vast amount of documents on pop/rock artists, they form excellent cases for my research. My ongoing study on pop/rock artists, such as Lou Reed, Janis Joplin, Whitney Houston and Amy Winehouse, shows their struggle against commodification and media-stigmatisation in relation to their vulnerable life-histories shaped by for instance mental problems and abusive relations. The Myth of the club of 27 is about folk heroes of individualism and transgression who seem to defy society's rules and norms, especially in the eye of the public. The everyday life of these artists is much more complicated and includes self-hatred, loss of agency and alienation because of their exploitation by the music industry, as I will show in this presentation

N.

-Iterating Grounded Theory Data Collection for Frame Analysis of Designers' in Cloud Experiences,

Naskova, **Julija**, Leuphana University, Luneburg, Germany,
naskova_productions@hotmail.com

Iterating Grounded Theory data collection in a meso-level study on designers' in Cloud experiences offers a solution for the methodology missing from Goffman's work. It guides the theoretical sampling through the complexity of digital tools and designers' understanding of the same by constant comparative analysis to a point of saturation. When applying Goffman's frame analysis as a theoretical framework, the gathered data is stratified according to primary framework, active agents, keying, fabrications and frames. Finally, Goffman's themes such as the anchoring of activity, frame-related vulnerabilities and out of frame activities are revisited in the researched context.

-Transgression, Intimacy and Community: Playing Back the Edge,

Newmahr, Staci, Sociology, State University of New York at Buffalo State, USA,
newmahsd@buffalostate.edu

I began an ethnographic study of a BDSM community in early 2002, in a New York City still reeling from the attacks of 9/11. Four years later, I left the field and began writing what would become *Playing on the Edge*. After over a decade, I interview key informants and core community members, with three aims. First, in keeping with anthropological tradition in revisiting the field, I interrogate my central argument: that experiences we consider "intimate" are the results of boundary transgressions. Secondly, I investigate the impact of the social climate at the time, and how cultural changes since then have affected the community. Finally, I explore connections among sadomasochism and other transgressive practices and identities. New lines of inquiry have also led to new theoretical approaches; situating my informants' current perspectives and more recent experiences against broader cultural changes over the past decade, I revisit themes of marginality, transgression and intimacy.

P.

-*Power, pride and shame in the everyday teacher's work by T. Kemper and T. Scheff theories*.

Pawlowska, Beata, Department of Sociology Organization and Management, Institute of Sociology, University of Lodz, Poland pawlowska.beata@gmail.com

The aim of the speech is to show how the pride and shame influence on the power level and actions of teachers in a school organization. Emphasis will be placed on the emotion of pride and shame as one that relates to the diagnosis of social status and allows for other emotions such as joy, happiness, satisfaction, and satisfaction and satisfaction, guilt, fear, etc.

Frequent feelings of pride lead to an increase in self-esteem. In turn, frequent feelings of shame lead to its reduction. During the presentation, I will try to show how the power level possessed influences the feeling of two basic social emotions, at the same time indicating the two-way nature of the interaction of the level of feeling power and emotions.

The modern teacher, acting in the conditions of constant change, in order to function effectively in school, and in particular in the school classroom, had to develop certain mechanisms allowing to feel satisfaction and job satisfaction. In today's Polish school, there is basically no effective motivating system for the teacher, which is why the emotions felt by the individual, including the emotion of pride and the power level play such an important role in the process of motivating.

Theoretical backgrounds are the T. Kemper and T. Scheff concepts. Pride is treated as a social emotion in terms of a sociological perspective and an interactive approach. The following reflections are the result of: 1) multiple participant observations conducted by the author in the years 2006-2015 in the primary school and high school; 2) unstructured interviews conducted with teachers, parents and other school staff.

-*Policing and Modern Media: The Social Media Practices of the Police and its Implications on their Representation*,

Pease, Emma, Criminology, Law School, Lancaster University, UK, e.pease@lancaster.ac.uk

Since the recent and prolific development of modern media, social media has become an intrinsic part of modern day policing. Using a mixed methods approach, this study will examine

the ways in which The Lancashire Police, The Greater Manchester Police and The Metropolitan Police Service are engaging with social media. This study considers the frequency of their social media activity as well as the types of posts they are publishing online. Then, as part of the discussion, this dissertation will begin to make inferences regarding the implications of their use of social media on their representation. The findings suggest that the police have an active online presence, particularly on Twitter. The police regularly use social media to *inform* the public about various stages of the criminal justice process (such as arrests, charges and sentences), to *extend investigations* through online witness appeals and wanted persons and to *educate and raise awareness* of public safety issues through campaigns. Furthermore, the police occasionally employ social media to *engage* in direct communication with the public, most commonly to advise them on how to report incidents. Through this use of social media then, this dissertation concludes that the police are able to present themselves as a successful institution who possess a legitimate and personable online persona.

-*Thinking about fucking: Intrapsychic sexual scripting research,*

Plante, R., USA

I'm interested in fucking. I'm not interested in the act of fucking or its mechanics (although I *am* interested in those things) – rather the thoughts and feelings around fucking, related to it, as well as the narratives and intrapsychic scripting of fucking.

What *about* fucking? Its pleasures cannot lie simply in the mechanics, of body parts connecting with other parts. That alone cannot account for its popularity, repetition, and many people's longstanding, long-term fascination with it.

The stories we tell about fucking – to ourselves, inside our heads, and to our partners, sometimes, maybe – may account for some of our fascination. But what do we really know about these stories?

Using empirical data and sexual scripting theorizing, I explore what happens in our heads and argue for more research on the intrapsychic dimensions of our sexualities.

-"Whose Side Are We On?" Revisited: On Narrative Power, Inequality and The Struggle for Human Value, Plummer, Ken, Sociology, University of Essex, plumkessex@gmail.com

'To have values or not to have values: the question is always with us'. And so Howard S. Becker opened his celebrated Presidential Address, *Whose Side are we on?* at the American Society for the Study of Social Problems in 1967. Today, a half-century later, this conference returns to this puzzle – and Becker, with his key idea of the 'hierarchy of credibility'.

My talk will fall into three parts. I start by briefly reviewing Becker and some key developments in our understanding of values and ideology since that time. The body of my talk will then turn to my new book *Narrative Power*, and introduce some key ideas about *narrative power, narrative inequalities and narrative exclusion,* sketching out a basic model of intersectional and locational power which highlights Domination, Exclusion, Negotiation and Resistance. I highlight the dynamics of the *subordinated standpoint* and *narrative*

othering, drawing out a wide range of examples where these processes are featured and suggest many of us tacitly work with this in our studies. I end with a discussion of the importance of trying to understand *the struggle for human value* throughout history, one that is grounded upon our embodied and emotional humanity. I suggest what some of these values might look like. Knowing our values helps us to understand better whose side we are on.

-Policing, defining death, strangers. Natural Deaths and Unknown Persons: The Process of Creating Identity,

Pogrebin, Mark R. School of Public Affairs, University of Colorado Denver, USA.
mark.pogrebin@ucdenver.edu

This study examines the process of identity creation by observing how detectives create social identities for unknown deceased persons who died of natural causes. Data for the project was derived from a participant observational study of 12 death scenes over a six month period in a southwestern city in the United States. The participant observations were part of a crime against persons unit within a police department of 250 sworn officers. The detectives who investigated the 12 death scenes that I was participant observer in, created social identities for unknown persons based on the symbolic meanings that these investigators attached to the material objects discovered at the deceased person's dwelling. This particular investigative, non-criminal task, was mandated by state law in those geographic locations in this southeastern state, where no medical examiners office existed. As a result, crime against persons investigators were mandated by law to determine if the death was caused by criminal or natural causes. This necessitated an investigation of the deceased person's body and their dwelling. It was found that the symbolic meanings of inanimate material objects in the home played an important role in the creation of the identity of the deceased. This investigation would be written into an investigative report to the police department's file on death cases. It is irrelevant whether the detective's impression of the deceased's status in the community was accurate or not, what was of interest was the method that the detectives utilized to define a person who was no longer alive.

Stigma and reflexivity: Coming out as a drug-using drug-researcher.

Potter, Gary, Criminology, Law School, Lancaster University, g.potter2@lancaster.ac.uk

This paper considers the potential pros and cons of admitting to being a drug user in the context of drug research. On the one hand, there is a clear risk of stigmatisation for admitting to an illegal and 'deviant' activity. Being known as a drug user could lead to employment difficulties, undermine the researchers credibility or even result in criminal justice sanctions. On the other hand, social scientists are encouraged to be reflexive about their own position and identity in the research process and good science may call for honest discussion of potential (positive and negative) impacts that drug use may have on the research process and resultant findings. At the same time, admitting to drug use may also have ethical benefits when seen as a form of activism, helping to destigmatise and normalise the drug using population more generally - or may further marginalise more 'problematic' drug users.

-Herbert Blumer addresses "Acting Units," "Generic Social Processes," and "the Study of

Macrosociological Life-Worlds:" Community Life as Realms of Collectively Accomplished Theatres of Operation,

Prus, Robert, University of Waterloo, Canada, prus@uwaterloo.ca

Although commonly depicted as a realm of "micro sociology" in textbook accounts of symbolic interactionism, most textbook theorists (TBTs) have distinctively limited familiarity with the theory, methodology, ethnographic research, comparative analyses, and conceptual emphasis of Blumerian symbolic interactionism. In invoking micro-macro divisions that distort the nature of ongoing community life, the TBTs not only neglect much of the highly enabling conceptual and methodological features of interactionist scholarship but they also obscure and/or disregard its relevance for *the fuller arrays* of human knowing, acting and interchange that constitute community life in the making.

The Blumerian conception of "acting units" that constitute the workings of ongoing community life very greatly in size, complexity, prominence, duration, and an substantive contexts as well as the meanings, intentions and interchanges within. These acting units range from the activities, involvements and experiences of *linguistically enabled individuals* and the participants in small group life-worlds to the most extensive and complex humanly engaged range of organizational life-worlds and associated interorganizational relations and interchanges. Herbert Blumer's conceptions of acting units not only provide a great many departure points for sociological inquiry and analysis but they also provide key sets of resources for theoretically, methodologically, analytically, and conceptually establishing a distinctively coherent agenda for more comprehensively transcending the artificial divisions of what has been termed micro and macro sociology.

While explicitly acknowledging the scope and *community-based interconnectedness* of Blumerian "acting units," this statement also draws attention to Herbert Blumer's analysis of several large-scale acting units. This includes social movements, social unrest and protest, large-scale organizational life-worlds, intergroup and interorganizational relations, social problems as collective behavior, and industrialization as constituted chelate through extended arrays of acting units (and social processes within). In addition to addressing the fuller potential of Blumerian symbolic interactionism for developing a more comprehensive and coherent interactionist sociology pertinent to the full range of humanly engaged life-worlds, some attention is also given to extensions of interactionist scholarship that display as well as foster a greater sociological conceptual and methodological unity in the study of ongoing community life.

 -Beyond the Power Mystique (**1999**) **Revisited:** *Re-engaging, Assessing and Extending "Power as Intersubjective Accomplishment",*

Prus, Robert, University of Waterloo, Canada, prus@uwaterloo.ca

Published nearly 20 years ago, the 2018 EUSSSI conference, with a focus on "power, stigma, transgression and exclusion in everyday life," represents an opportune context in which to reflect upon the sociological potency and limitations of *Beyond the Power Mystique* (Prus 1999) as well as comment on interim interactionist developments regarding the study of "power as intersubjective accomplishment" and the particular relevance of Blumerian symbolic interactionism for comprehending matters of influence work and resistance, as well as the related matters of alignments, divisions, and strategic adjustments pertaining to the broader study of community life – and, relatedly, *all* theaters, realms and contexts of human

interchange. As a related but more minor aspect of this presentation, I also briefly address the question, "As students of community life, on whose side are we?"

-The contested moral economies of local food hubs: De-stigmatising food poverty?
Psarikidou, Katerina and Harris Kaloudis**, Department of Sociology, Lancaster University, UK, a.psarikidou@lancaster.ac.uk

This paper argues for the contested 'moral economies' of' local food hubs' (see Sayer, 2000; Boltanksi and Thevenot, 2006), attached to their potential, as well as their limitations, to address issues of stigma associated with food poverty.

Currently, 4.7 million people live in food poverty (CEBR, 2016). Food banks is the main avenue for accessing food, with significant implications of social stigmatisation for their users (see Garthwaite, 2016; Lambie-Mumford, 2015). In collaboration with non-academic organisations, we developed a pilot study to explore the potential of 'local food hubs' to provide an alternative food access model for low-income households.

In this paper, we unpack the multiple ways that 'local food hubs' help overcome but also reproduce and enact discourses, practices and policies of (de)stigmatisation. We thus problematize 'food poverty', 'stigmatisation' as well as 'destigmatisation' and situate them in the wider political economic landscape of poverty, austerity and inequalities in Britain.

R.

Women in the criminal justice system: state crime and the systematic failings of the state perpetuated against vulnerable women,

Russel, Katrice, Criminology, Law School, Lancaster University, UK,
k.s.russell@lancaster.ac.uk

'Little research has been conducted surrounding the issue of state crime. This dissertation uses existing literature and qualitative in-depth interviews to explore the UK government's current approach to women in the Criminal Justice System (CJS). Additionally, the extent to which the state crime paradigm is evident in the UK governments approach to women who come into contact with the CJS is explored. In-depth qualitative interviews are conducted with staff from WomenMATTA in order to contextualise and empirically ground the literature used. In this project, the gendered pathways into offending, and the treatment of women throughout the CJS is explored. The concept of state-crime is explored in relation to the UK government's treatment of women throughout the CJS. This project maintains the position that state crime is evident amidst the UK governments approach to women in the CJS and that the CJSs approach to females is in desperate need of reform. Findings within this project encourage greater state accountability and uses an evidence-based approach to propose future recommendations for policy responses. '

S.

-The choir as a social salvation, a collective experience!,

Salvini, Andrea, Sociology. Department of Political Science, University of Pisa, Italy,
andrea.salvini@unipi.it

The aim of this presentation is twofold: on the one side, I will show the way in which sensitizing concepts can be useful in orienting and guiding the "take off" of a Constructivist Grounded Theory research process that deals with the "Gospel Choirs" phenomenon in Italy - ; on the other side, I will discuss the characters of this phenomenon in the italian context, focussing on the main traits of the experience of singing together in a (gospel) choir. One of the most interesting aspect in this story is that very few singers are believers in God and in Church(es) and that singing is configuring itself as a special form of "social" salvation, as an emerging effect of different processes on the individual and collective levels. I will try to show how the sensitizing concepts identified at the beginning of the research, are changing into more detailed conceptual tools, useful to build a (grounded) theory on singing in Gospel Choirs as an implicit and private form of (social) spirituality.

-Mass murderers: an integrated approach,

Serrapica, Joan, Criminology, Law School, Lancaster University, UK,
j.serrapica@lancaster.ac.uk

The dissertation focuses on mass murder and it aims to demonstrate that this type of crime is not only the result of a potential psychological disorder, but also of the intervention of other factors. In the first place, this dissertation analyses the upbringing of this type of criminal. To determine whether the causes should be searched for in the domestic and school environment, and/or in the phenomenon of industrialization, which has led to a competitive and frenetic life style, which does not give space to forms of maladjustment. Secondly, it will focus on the psychological and biological factors, with due regard to the fact that one can be a criminal without having any mental issues and vice versa. Finally, it will show the necessity of taking preventive measures, which would be different for each individual, without creating pass-par tout categories, which usually include all those behaviours that are difficult to understand.

-The 2016 "rape election": An analysis of news media coverage of the politicization of sexual misconduct,

Schneider, Christopher J. , Sociology, Brandon University, Canada,
SchneiderC@BrandonU.CA *&* Hannem, Stacey, Criminology, Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada, shannem@wlu.ca

Sixteen months after Donald J. Trump announced his candidacy for President of the United States a headline read: "2016 is the rape election." The questions that we address in this empirical paper are: (1) How were the sexual misconduct allegations against Trump framed in media coverage of the 2016 election, and; (2) What dominant themes emerged with respect to Trump's response(s) to the accusations and to his accusers? We examined coverage in the *Washington Post* and *New York Times* over a span of a decade, finding that the sexual misconduct allegations against Trump should be examined together with the 2016 campaign. Our analysis provides some insight into the manner in which the sexual misconduct allegations were framed in partisan terms. We refer to this as the *politicization of sexual assault,* noting the rhetorical processes that caused sexual misconduct to become foremost a political issue. The 2016 campaign inadvertently provided an unforeseen context for dozens of women to narrate their own stories of sexual misconduct — *to be heard* — the consequences of which, we suggest, set the conditions for the contemporary trend of women

coming forward with allegations of sexual misconduct against powerful men. Suggestions for future research are noted.

-*Policing and Social Media*,

Christopher J. Schneider (Brandon University), Critics: **Julie Wiest** (West Chester University of Pennsylvania, USA) and **Aaron Bielejewski** (University of Kassel, Germany) **Monograph:** Christopher J. Schneider *Policing and Social Media: Social Control in an Era of New Media* (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books | Rowman & Littlefield, 2016) **Contact: Christopher Schneider, SchneiderC@BrandonU.CA**

-*The unlived life is worth examining: nothings and nobodies behind the scenes*,

Scott, Susie, Sociology at the University of Sussex, UK, s.scott@sussex.ac.uk

Do we have a social and moral duty to ourselves to examine 'the other side' of our own lives? The roads we have not taken, the selves we did not become, reflect choices and constraints that hold significance and meaning, persisting throughout our lives. These negative phenomena are the underdogs of social selfhood: transgressive, ghostly forms that haunt us and yet remain unmarked, unexplored, under-studied. Through my project on 'the sociology of nothing', I turn over the mirror to consider the biographical importance of these negative symbolic forms: the 'no-things' people have not done, had or experienced, the 'no-bodies' that they have missed. Analysing narrative data from 24 personal stories, I identify themes of silence, invisibility and emptiness, and explore different emotional reflections upon lost opportunities. Through a symbolic interactionist lens, I consider the micro-social, relational contexts in which the 'non-events' of life occur and how they are negotiated. Finally, I suggest that we perform reverse narrative identity work upon our undone selves, imagining the alternate realities a 'non-Me' could have known and the social worlds it might inhabit. All of this suggests that negative phenomena are powerful, for nothing really matters.

-*Ethnographies of Therapeutic Governance and Agentic Resistance in Support Groups for Prisoner's Wives*,

Shoshana, Avihu, Faculty of Education, University of Haifa, Israel, avihush@gmail.com

This article suggests expanding our understanding about the mundane use of therapeutic governance among welfare populations by way of ethnographies of support groups for prisoners' wives in Israel, which are facilitated by social workers as representatives of the state. The findings reveal how even though prisoners' wives meet the neo-liberal ideal of financial independence, the social workers demand internalization of the therapeutic self as a condition for obtaining public assistance, and regulate them via the discourse of desire. The findings also disclose ethnographies of confrontations throughout all the meetings, and the agentic transmission between the opposition strategies of prisoners' wives until they obtain the objective for which they came (attaining benefits for their incarcerated husband and their children). The discussion section uncovers the ramifications of the therapeutic governance, which defines therapeutic self via a requirement for non-political awareness, on a welfare population that experiences daily oppression.

-Anomic Stigma: The Neutralization of Criticisms of Immigrant Detention Centers in the United States,

Silva, Eric O. , Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Georgia Southern University, USA eosilva@georgiasouthern.edu

Punitive immigration policies such as the practice of holding unauthorized immigrants and asylum seekers in detention centers have resulted from increases in migration, economic security, and nativism (Flynn 2017). A negative framing of this practice could, theoretically, disrupt it. Despite ostensibly stigmatizing criticism by academics, attorneys, activists, journalists, and federal inspectors, this practice has intensified in the United States. How, then, is it possible that such mainstream vituperation is so ineffectual? More generally, what does the effective failure of criticism tell us about the American public sphere? Kusow (2004) demonstrates how Goffman's (1963) assumption of a shared normative order is problematic. Drawing on Kusow's (2004) work, I will outline how stigma operates in the discursive space devoted to the issue of immigrant detention through an ethnographic content analysis of169 letters to the editor and editorials published in American newspapers, five news reports, one official government report, and 226 comments made online. Thus far, I have found an anomic discursive field that is characterized by a three features. First, there is a segregation of justifications into different parts of the discursive field. Official responses simply deny the accusations and thus reaffirm traditional values. Defenses of the practice that contest shared values (e.g., by embracing nativism) are relegated to the margins of the public sphere (e.g., comments posted on the Internet). Second, opponents acknowledge different issues. Third, to the extent that they acknowledge the same issues they do so in fundamentally different ways. There are relatively few compromising statements, for example.

-Participation statuses and storytelling in restorative justice conferences,

Smith, Greg and Chris Birkbeck, School of Health and Society, University of Salford, UK, G.W.H.Smith@salford.ac.uk

Drawing on a selection of Goffman's participation concepts, this paper examines shifts in identity occurring in a collection of recordings of restorative justice conferences (RJCs). It considers some interactional practices through which the work of 'restoration' occurs. It examines the scripted character of the meetings and the role of 'assisted storytelling' (Lerner 1992) as the key protagonists are encouraged to find footings that allow a restructuring of identities beyond the offender/victim couplet that frames their identities prior to the RJC. In particular, it demonstrates the relevance and distinctive contribution that can be drawn from Goffman's (1974, 1981) notions of dramaturgical replaying and footing in order to understand key social processes through which RJCs are enacted.

T.

-Shining light under the 'veil of silence': A constructivist grounded theory of lasting adverse effects of psychotherapy,

Thana, Lavanya, Imperial College London, UK, l.thana@imperial.ac.uk

There has been extensive research conducted on the positive outcomes of psychotherapy, however, until recently, far less attention has been paid to negative effects. The purpose of this inquiry was to understand negative outcomes by exploring service user and therapist

experiences. A constructivist grounded theory (CGT) (Charmaz, 1990, 2006, 2014) framework was employed to address the research aims.

The service user findings suggest several core issues, including therapeutic breaches, power imbalances, and conformance to the expectations of a conditional 'system'. From the therapists' perspective, the findings indicate challenges in gauging this enigmatic phenomena, internal dissonance, a 'distorted lens', and repudiation. An emergent conceptual model tentatively suggests a disconcerting culture of silencing harm.

CGT methodology (Charmaz, 1990, 2006, 2014) provided a unique lens through which to capture new insights into the phenomena, elucidating prior conceptual anomalies. It is hoped that this work will delineate understanding of these experiences, and facilitate awareness, identification, and prevention.

-Cat's and Bird's Eye Views of Urban Belonging: Understanding Ideological Divides among Animal Welfarists and Conservationists,

Thompson, Carol Y. & Robert L. Young , Department of Sociology & Anthropology, Texas Christian University, USA, c.thompson@tcu.ed

Important research has emerged over the past decade concerning conflicts over wildlife at the interface of natural spaces and human developments. However, little research examines conflicts over competing species within urban environments, especially regarding species that transgress the categorical boundaries of wild and domestic. To fill this void, this ethnographically based analysis focuses on the disagreement between bird and cat advocates concerning how to manage free-roaming cats in urban areas. Specifically, we examine the narratives of birders and feral cat caretakers to reveal symbolic constructions of nature and the role that proximity to and mode of knowing other species plays in support for and/or the othering them. We find naturework (Fine, 1998), nostalgia (Wilson 2015) and the nature/culture divide are central meaning-making features in the narratives of individuals and groups in our study. This research sheds light on the interactional roots of discourses that problematize free roaming cats and provides interactionist insight as to why animal welfarists and conservationists are often unable to reach rapprochement regarding species management policies in urban areas.

-Status and Deference: The Reproduction of Power Hierarchy on Chinese Social Media,

Tian, Xiaoli, Department of Sociology, The University of Hong Kong, China, xltian@hku.hk

This paper examines how status difference of users in offline worlds influence the way they interact on social media. Based on in-depth interviews and online observations of users of WeChat, the most popular social networking service in China, I find that the strategies of self-presentation, including how much to disclose and when to comment, are based on careful consideration of relative status of and relationship between the online user and other parties involved. Those who occupy higher position in the hierarchy enjoy deference from subordinates on WeChat. Users of lower status are aware that they need to constantly show their loyalty or appreciation to their seniors by "like" or comment on their WeChat posts. They are also aware that they need to maintain distance by avoiding direct contact if the status difference is too large. Those occupying higher status positions confess that they cannot act too amiable when interacting with subordinates on WeChat. When making decisions on what to post and who to share with, WeChat users constantly evaluate relationship strength and try

to avoid disconfirmation of face. In so doing, the social hierarchy and power inequality is reinforced online.

Stigma Machines,

Tyler, Imogen, Sociology, Lancaster University, UK, i.tyler@lancaster.ac.uk

The imposition of stigma is the commonest form of violence used in democratic societies (Pinker 1971, 175). In their 2017 annual report Amnesty International detailed 'a global trend towards angrier and more divisive politics', in which 'the idea of human dignity and equality' was 'under vigorous and relentless assault from powerful narratives of blame, fear and scapegoating, propagated by those who sought to take or cling on to power' (Amnesty 2017). It is the thesis of my current research that stigma is a productive intersectional lens through which to understand better these prevailing social conditions of 'division and dehumanization'. In this talk I will introduce my forthcoming monograph, *Stigma Machines*, which develops a new historically informed account of the social and political function of stigmatization as an instrument of social policy and constituent mechanism of the state's coercive apparatus. To reconceptualise stigma in ways that explicate its function as a form of political power *Stigma Machines* draws on the long penal history of stigma, including material practices of penal tattooing, branding and badging and contemporary forms of symbolic violence. *Stigma Machines* draws on an extensive body of archival research, social history, political speeches, policy documents and media representations to examine how stigma politics is exercised through dehumanizing classificatory practices. Stigma is crafted and activated to govern populations on multiple scales and in diverse sites. The governmental practices examined in *Stigma Machines* include: institutional and technological practices of stigma power exercised by governments, judiciary and police; forms of "stigmacraft" employed by "stigma industries" such as think tanks, public relations, news media and entertainment corporations; everyday stigma interactions such as racist, disablist and misogynistic hate speech.

V.

-*"Civil anarchising for the common good: an ethnography of politics of legitimacy in the climate justice movement"*,

Vandepitte, Ewoud (Department of Sociology, OASeS research group, UAntwerpen),
Frédéric Vandermoere (Department of Sociology, OASeS research group, UAntwerpen),
Lesley Hustinx (department of Sociology, CST, UGent).

"We present an ethnographic study on the case of *Ende Gelände* (EG), a German action of mass civil disobedience for climate justice, where participants occupied a lignite mine. We reveal how legitimacy struggles in civil society organizations like EG are shaped through styles of civic action. These styles are cultural patterns that emerge from, but also shape, expectations on 'what is going on' and 'what is appropriate' in a certain setting. At EG, we describe a dominant style *civil anarchizing* (CA) that shapes how legitimacy is continuously being negotiated. We compare the CA-style with a more individual-centered style *personalized politics,* and describe the tensions that arise from their co-occurrence. Additionally, we argue that the CA-style might be a more viable style for politicization due to

its emphasis on collective strategizing. Finally, we describe how the CA-style shapes legitimacy politics by functioning as a negotiated hybrid between civil and uncivil expectations."

-Bridges-over-the-Web: Media, Social Media, and Inuit Visions for Canada,

Van Den Scott, Jeffrey D, School of Music, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada, v14jvds@mun.ca

In this paper, I will discuss three musicians from the town of Arviat, Nunavut, who have built careers, to varying degrees, that have blossomed thanks to their use of social media. I seek not to make an argument about their music, per se, but rather on how their use of social media builds upon a half-century of outreach to the South by Inuit artists and leaders using broadcast media. In reaching out, Inuit sought ways to reverse the flow of colonialism and to model an alternate vision of Canadian society to the centre of power. I suggest that such outreach - while connected to issues of Indigenous modernities - also strongly reflects long-held beliefs and values of Inuit culture.

-Learning within Walls: Transmission of Knowledge in an Arctic Hamlet,

Van den Scott, Lisa-Jo K., Department of Sociology, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada, kvandenscott@mun.ca

Due to the close relationship of the land and traditional knowledge, the Inuit of Arviat, Nunavut, Canada, place a high degree of importance on going out on the land for the sake of learning. Their everyday lives, however, are lived within houses, imported from the South by colonizers and grouped into a hamlet. The land and the hamlet represent "two worlds." Being walled-in has a profound effect on the transmission of knowledge from generation to generation. For *Arviammiut*, the people of Arviat, the differences between learning on the land and learning within walls emphasizes the importance of learning on the land. The built environment of the house affects the transmission of family and Inuit knowledge in two ways. First, walls inhibit traditional ways of disciplining children. Second, walls change the transmission of skilled knowledge in gendered ways.

- Exploring Engagement: A Grounded Theory Study of Young. People's Interactions with Healthcare Professionals,

Vickers, **Jay,** Institute of Health & Society, University of Worcester, UK, j.vickers@worc.ac.uk

Background
Successful engagement of young people is often cited to ameliorate health-related behaviours, improve health outcomes and increase awareness of their health needs; yet, a there is a paucity of empirical evidence for healthcare professionals seeking to engage young people effectively in healthcare interactions.

Study Aim
Explore and define engagement as a psychological-social process for young people's within their healthcare interactions.

Study design

A constructivist grounded theory approach (Charmaz, 2014).

Results
The study identified that young people produce engagement-related behaviour by means of an interpretive process. Three interconnected categories emerged: (i) prejudgement, the beliefs with which young people enter into health interactions; (ii) learning to be a patient, the means by which young people learn from their interactions to develop in-context behaviours; and (iii) confirmation, the selective interpretation of information to justify their perception of the interaction. A core category was identified that suggested a reliance on an affect heuristic for information processing (Slovic et al., 2007).

Conclusion
Findings suggest a dual-process perspective of cognition may be useful to understand how young people engage in their healthcare.

-Producing 'joint action' in Lindy Hop Dance Lessons,

vom Lehn, Dirk & Saul Albert, King's Business School, King's College London, UK, dirk.vom_lehn@kcl.ac.uk

In sociology there is relatively little interest in the practice of dance. Whilst studies have been conducted on the social meaning of dance and on attitudes to dancing relatively few sociological investigations explore how people actually do the dancing. This paper explores 'dance' as "joint action" (Blumer) by examining video-recordings of Lindy Hop dance lessons. The analysis is concerned with revealing how novice dancers learn to do some basic steps in time with their partner and with the music. Thus, it investigates how "joint action" emerges from a minute alignment of visual and bodily action. The analysis is based on ethnomethodology and conversation analysis and recent development of the analysis of interaction using video-recordings as principal data.

W.

-Naming Sexual Desires: The Communicative Outlet in Sexual Self Emergence,

Wahl, David W., Department of Sociology, Iowa State University, USA, dwwahl@iastate.edu

In an effort to attain a greater understanding of how we construct sexual selves,the current study pairs symbolic interactionism with an updated take on dialogical self theory to illuminate how sexual self construction is accentuated by inner speech. Originating with Kenneth Plummer's (1975) claim "Nothing is sexual, but naming it makes it so," this study endeavors to explain how sexual desires, expressed both internally and externally, either advance the emergence of sexual selves or create barriers that suppress the construction. Drawing upon years of case studies, the dimensions of sexual self formation are explored highlighting the contribution of inner dialogue. My analysis offers the dynamic contribution that inner speech has, as is demonstrated in the narratives and accounts where patterns in sexual self construction emerge from the naming of one's sexual desires.

-Meaning Making on Twitter Amid #Fancon Fallout,

Wiest, Julie B, Sociology, West Chester University of Pennsylvania, USA,
jbwiest@gmail.com

The Black Geeks and Black Girl Nerds, two groups that support underrepresented members of "the geek community," announced in December 2016 ambitious plans to launch "the first multi-fandom convention dedicated to inclusion" in April 2018. Excitement for Universal FanCon grew as organizers announced additional details and fans made travel arrangements. Just one week before the convention was scheduled to begin, however, several fans tweeted that they had received notice from the convention hotel indicating that the event had been cancelled. Having not yet received corroboration from the organizers, convention stakeholders connected on Twitter in an attempt to make sense of the news. This paper draws on symbolic interactionist and social constructivist theorizing to examine how meanings about the failed convention were collectively created, shared, and challenged via interactions on Twitter. Data include more than 50,000 tweets that used the hashtag #UniversalFanCon or #FanCon from April 10, 2018, to May 1, 2018. This timeframe encompasses the 10 days before news of the convention's cancellation (later called a postponement) was revealed and the 10 days afterward (including the original convention dates). Although initial Twitter conversations about the convention suggest widely agreed-upon meanings (mostly related to joyous anticipation), the revelation of cancelled hotel reservations marked an immediate shift toward a search for new meanings. From that point forward, multiple claims-makers—including convention organizers, crowd-funding backers, exhibitors, and ticketholders—competed to establish meanings about the convention and what led to its failure. Findings reveal much about the claims-making process, as well as the ways in which temporal, spatial, and cultural factors influence claims-making and the ultimate acceptance or rejection of particular claims.

-Hitler as a symbol in speech acts, **Willis, Eva-Maria,** University of Edinburgh, UK, Eva.maria.willis@gmail.com

How is a symbol used as a form of act? The symbol of former dictator Adolf Hitler will explore this. A symbol is not what the meaning of the symbol is to the actor. Hence, the focus of this research is about what a symbol *does* (not is), what is *done* with a symbol, and what a person wants to get out of a speech act. How is Hitler used as an icon of personified evil or in a narrative context, framed as tragedy, comedy or morality play? To add the layer of time, the processual character of a symbol and its continuous communication of imagining past, present and anticipation of the future is helpful. Pragmatic epistemology and Peirce's triadic relationship of signs enriches the study of symbols. Through this, the focus from a semiotic theory traditionally founded in linguistics is shifted to a pragmatic semiotics by Peirce.

-Am I a Good Mother? How Lesbian Mothers Negotiate Meaning

Wojciechowska, Magdalena, Sociology, University of Lodz, Poland, wojciechowska.ms@gmail.com

The aim of this paper is to shed light on how lesbian mothers whose child was conceived via artificial insemination decode, experience, and make meaning of diverse (symbolic) dimensions of their social *visibility* (i.e., conceptual, implicit, and language-mediated visibility), as well as how their understandings of the category at hand impact on projecting and negotiating their role as a mother. Drawing on specific examples from the field, I analyze

why—while opting between their need of identity realization and their child's ontological security—lesbian mothers (often) *choose* self-marginalization over satisfying their *selfish* needs, and what happens when they *discover* that the way they *practice* their family in the private context can be easily *deciphered* due to language (e.g., naming practices) that they, as well as their children, use. The above insights are based on data collected during my five-year ethnographic study of planned lesbian parenting in Poland where same-sex relationships are not legally recognized.

Z.

-The Secondary Stigma of Disability: The Case of Blindness,

Zhao, Shanyang & Ishmael A. Robinson, Sociology Department, Temple University, USA, bzhao001@temple.edu

There has been a conflation of two different notions of stigma in the literature on disability: stigma in regards to the disability per se, and stigma in regards to the person with disability. These are different types of stigma with different causes, consequences, and reactions from the stigmatized. Building on Goffman's analysis of disability as stigma and focusing on the case of blindness, this article divides the stigma of blindness into two categories: the primary stigma of blindness and the secondary stigma of blindness. While the former stigmatizes the absence of sight, the latter stigmatizes the person without sight. In addition to social prejudice that affects both types of stigmatization, negative stereotyping plays a pivotal role in the formation of the secondary stigma which involves the imputation of an additional set of discrediting attributes to the blind person in areas other than vision. Disavowal of such imputed negative attributes is the objective of the management of the secondary stigma. These concepts and arguments are illustrated using empirical data from interviews with congenitally blind individuals. Implications of this new conceptualization are also discussed.

Keywords: Blindness, Disability, Goffman, Stereotype, Stigma

.