PAPER ABSTRACTS

listed in alphabetical order of first author

Abbott, K.   **Loughborough University**

The single and multiple "Truth" of Westernised spiritual enlightenment

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Religion   Syndicate H

Relying on textual, ethnographic, and recorded materials from publications and courses by internationally prominent non-orthodox authors, facilitators and "gurus", I argue that a single but flexible notion of "the Truth" is an organising feature of contemporary forms of life, practices, and knowledge claims associated with spiritual enlightenment.

The term "enlightenment" is generally associated with "ah ha! moments" involving recognition of the divine unity of self, other and cosmos. Spiritual Truth is described as perennial, ineffable, and experientially available. This Truth contrasts with Enlightenment truths, including scientists' "Eureka moments", which add to or alter prior knowledge.

A contemporary sociological claim is that there is a growing cultural emphasis on (spiritual) Truth in the West. This claim relies on similarities between participants' statements. When participants assert such similarities they often do so as rhetorical confirmation of the voracity of their Truth. But equally they highlight differences to suggest certain teachings are unique.

I examine some practices, props, and institutional forms associated with localised Truth displaying such variability. I show their centrality in the contemporary form of life in which enlightenment figures. A flexible rather than fixed notion of Truth carries important implications as it accommodates individuals with different views on its nuances (so enabling entry-level migrations of audiences between gurus) and allows assertions of exclusivity (thus accommodating loyalties and "followings").

I also argue that in researching knowledge claims, reflexivity (as attention to ones own knowledge producing practices) is a fruitful methodological alternative to agnosticism towards or endorsement / denial of participants' Truth.

Acton, T.

The Marginalisation of Romani Studies within the Academic Community

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Sub-plenary - Social Divisions and Social Identities   Assembly Hall

Romani Studies academics often complain they are marginalised within the academic community in the same way that Roma/Gypsy/Traveller minorities are marginalised within nation-state polities. This paper will argue that the cognitive exclusion of the history of these communities from most hegemonic national discourses is rooted in the historical circumstances of the emergence of the institution of the nation state in the 16th century, and is difficult to challenge without challenging the legitimacy of the nation state itself.

Adam, A.

Certainty and Authority: The Case of Forensic Science

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

The development of forensic science presents a fascinating example of 'public engagement' for science and technology studies. Interesting tensions emerge in the ways that the authority of scientists and science is portrayed, maintained and challenged. These include legal cases where scientific authority is apparently unassailable contrasted with cases of scientific misconduct or even 'quackery', where the authority of the scientific expert witness is challenged and discredited. It is not just a question of a challenge to the moral authority of scientists but is also a challenge to the moral authority of the science itself, reflected in the term 'junk science'. This resonates with Shapin's arguments on the moral authority of scientists and how this is historically achieved, MacKenzie's research on the socially negotiated nature of scientific proof and Jasanoff's and others' work on the co-construction of scientific and legal authority. The portrayal of forensic science in the media reflects our needs to find certainty and rigour in forensic investigation, to find science reliable and exact. In the wake of the hugely popular crime/forensic science series, CSI, where killers are conclusively nailed through 'high tech' forensic investigations the term 'CSI effect' has been coined to express the ways in which juries increasingly come to expect conclusive forensic evidence. The jury is still out on whether there is a detectable 'CSI effect', nevertheless the rhetoric of the 'CSI effect' is important in expressing our desire to look to science and scientists for certainty.

Adkins, L.   **Goldsmiths**

The Future and Futurity of Time: Gender and/at the End of Hegemonic Clock Time

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Sub-Plenary - Theory   Assembly Hall

The hegemony of clock time has tended to produce two responses on the part of sociologists: either to attempt to develop strategies to enable subjects to 'own' or have access to time or to produce phenomenological accounts of time. With reference to the case of feminist social theory in particular, this presentation will simply ask, are such strategies relevant or appropriate in the context of a restructuring of time which challenges the hegemony of the clock?

Alexander, P, Wale, K

'Too Poor to be Unemployed': Underemployment in South Africa.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

The paper aims to disturb the employed/unemployed binary. It does by conceptualizing a group that exists both between and beneath these two. We have termed this the 'underemployed' (redefining this notion to some degree). Our thesis draws on data collected from a survey undertaken in Soweto, Johannesburg, which was aimed at shedding light on, and theorising, class structure and class identity in contemporary South Africa. We begin by tracing the history of the employment binary as it was exported from the north and came to influence South African discourse. Through this genealogy, we seek to question why the binary remained dominant despite various forms of resistance and critique against it. From our survey, two underemployed groups emerged; with members of both sharing a tendency to classify themselves as 'not working', despite engaging in activity that, in terms of official statistics, would qualify as employment. While the 'partial workers', the first of these groups, were classified by us as underemployed because of the few days they worked in a month or hours they worked in a week; the 'fill-ins', the second group, were similarly classified on the basis of their work e.g. selling cigarettes on the side of the street. Preliminary quantitative and qualitative analysis of the underemployed indicated that, at the household level, the underemployed are often worse off than the unemployed. These findings show support in South Africa for a widely held Indian assessment that 'the poor are too poor to allow themselves to be unemployed' (Breman, 2003).

Alo,O.A

Knowledge of major Childhood Diseases and Hygienic awareness among parents in Ondo State-Nigeria.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Sub Saharan African has been noted to have the highest level of infant mortality in the whole world and this is attributable to infectious diseases, malnutrition and hygienic practices. This study uses quantitative and qualitative methods to explore the knowledge of major childhood diseases and hygienic practices among child bearing women of Ondo State- Nigeria. The diseases are diarrhea, dysentery and tetanus. A sample size of 400 women of childbearing age was selected using multistage sampling technique. Logistic regression analysis was used to estimate the odds of the independent variables. The result indicated that age, age at marriage, women's educational status and that of their spouse, and current live births are all significant determinants of women's knowledge of the examined diseases and hygienic practices, with women's educational status being the most significant. The study concluded by calling on the government of African countries to place education on top of their agendas and work towards promoting educational opportunities for women. Compulsory and massive education of the girl child was also recommended.

Amoah, M.

Higher Education and Regional Transformation: Studentification in Manchester

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Education   Syndicate C

Being part of ESRC's Programme on the Impact of Higher Education Institutions on Regional Economies, this research on Higher Education and Regional Transformation attempts to address the central question: "to what extent and in what ways do universities in practice operate to benefit or further disadvantage members of socially disadvantaged groups within their regional contexts?". This paper would highlight two case studies: (a) University of Manchester versus the Manchester City Region; and (b) University of Teesside versus the Tees Valley Region. The chief commonalities are that each university's local or regional context has been identified as an area of relative social disadvantage; equally, each institution has such an enormous impact on its regional context that their absence would leave a big hole in all aspects of human endeavour. The stark but interesting differences however, include: (a) that the University of Teesside is a local university for the Tees Valley, based mainly in the university town of Middlesbrough, with a large proportion of part-time students in employment, and with local accommodation assured; (b) and the University of Manchester is a world class, international university of over 30,000 students, most of whom are full time, but with university accommodation guaranteed for only first year students. Studentification of local residential areas has now become a huge problem for Manchester City Council, with serious implications including the displacement of local residents. The policy gap between who (University, Local Authority, Residents' Association) is responsible for ensuring student housing in conformity with legislation is under negotiation.

André, M.   **Instituto Superior das Ciências Sociais e Políticas - Centro de Administração e Políticas Públicas**

New Trails of Public Health Promotion: The Case of "Immigrants Health Itineraries

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Around 200.000 immigrants reside in the District of Lisbon. In spite of the access of the immigrants to the services of the National Health Service to be guaranteed in the Law, problems still happen with: the ignorance for part of the immigrants of how to use the health services; and the difficulty of health professionals of how to promote the immigrant health.

Aware of this reality and on basis of "social ecology of health promotion" and "partnerships for health promotion", we design a health promotion program for the immigrant population that we call it: "immigrants health itineraries".

This program was design to be applied in the context of the intervention of Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa (an institution with responsibility on health and social intervention in the city of Lisbon), with the support of the Portugal High Office for the immigration (ACIME).

Each health itinerary is developed around a specific subject of health promotion. In a first approach we privilege subjects as the health accessibility and equity; other important subjects related to immigrants health are boarded.

The methodology follows several stages, such as: Identification of the territory for developing the health itinerary; Approach and involvement of stakeholders (they come from different settings and different levels of the social organization); Diagnosis of health necessities and Planning of the health itinerary (with the stakeholders); Evaluation of the results; The methodology of intervention, the already fulfilled two experiences and the outcomes, they will be presented and discussed.

Andrews, K.N.   **University of Birmingham**

Blackness: Fluid, Hybrid and Essential

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

The 'end of race' has been declared in the academy, however post-racial explanations have neglected the concept of Blackness, which is essential for understanding and mobilising people of African descent. The relegation of race in the literature, is predicated around three main points, which will be challenged. Firstly, the prevailing explanation of race is that it was created by Western society in order to justify the exploitation of 'peoples of colour'. However, Blackness is not a product of rationalisation by Europeans but an identity with historical, cultural and experiential basis. Blackness is rooted in African ancestry, and popularised as an identity by the progressive Black movement. Secondly, the misstep of 'political blackness' undermined an already political Black identity and reified the Black/White dualism, leading to the backlash against race and Blackness. Finally, post-modern readings of identity criticise Blackness as too rigid and essentialist to explain the hybridity of the so-called 'new' ethnicities. However, whilst Black encompasses a diverse group of people, it is not argued that all under the umbrella are identical, simply connected by African ancestry, which plays a central role in framing the cultures and experiences of Black peoples across the globe. Blackness is the basis of a real collective with the potential for political mobilisation. Understanding our African descent requires us to evaluate our position in the global society, uncovering oppression and forcing us to act. Yes, Blackness is hybrid and fluid, but it also rooted and essential to understanding our past, present and creating our future.

Ariztia, T.   **Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile**

Moving home: the material culture of social mobility in Santiago de Chile.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Consumption   Syndicate G

This paper explores the material culture of social mobility in Chile. It focuses on the experience of a group of lower middle class families who move to real estate project located in the Santiago´s suburbs. The paper is based on seven months of fieldwork (2005-2006) that took place in that real estate development. As one of the first middle class oriented projects in a popular working class area- it epitomizes the recent debates about spatial mobility, urban segregation and middle class formation in contemporary Chile. The paper focus on two complementary home making practices deployed by families after moving home: improvements and decoration. By improvement, all the changes that families make to the new house are understood. Home decoration is understood as the way in which families arrange their home possessions in the domestic space. The paper argues that improvement and decoration are key cultural practices through which families perform middle class culture. I explore how both practices relate to the production of trajectories of "upward mobility" connected with a sense of individual social achievement. It further analyzes how by improving and decorating the house an emergent sense of "us" is produced. Based on these findings, I argue that research focusing on the nexuses of practices, narratives and materialities that shape people´s experience of class and social mobility may help to enrich the analysis of class and social change in contemporary Chile.

Armstrong, P.   **University of Leicester**

Small Expectations: the Impossibility of the Idea of Emancipation in the Mind of a Not-Quite-Moribund Critical Management Studies

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

This paper discusses Alvesson and Willmott's influential 1992 proposal that emancipation on a suitably reduced scale can usefully influence management practice and that space should be therefore be made for the topic within orthodox management and organizational studies. The proposal is shown to depend on a series of misrecognitions.

The first is an evasion of the very obvious fact that most of the organizational unfreedoms against which emancipation must struggle originate with management itself. The second is that emancipation is an inherently one-sided concept and is therefore 'essentially contested': what is emancipation to organizational subordinates will look like an irresponsible challenge to managerial prerogatives (or some such) to their superordinates. The third is an inadequate recognition of the processual and emotional elements of emancipation: that in addition to a struggle for autonomy it consists of a celebration of that struggle. Its triumphs, in other words, are triumphs over management. The fourth is that the miniaturization of emancipation excises its secondary meaning as social equality. Since social inequality in organizations depends on a complex of oppressions, most of which are held in place by management, an emancipation which lacks the ambition to challenge these is reduced not just in scale but in meaning.

Arribas-Ayllon,M. Bartlett, A.   **Cardiff University**

Complexity and accountability in psychiatric genetics

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

In spite of the many controversies that have dogged the field, psychiatric genetics has gained much support and strength from the genomic revolution. With the hope of finding susceptibility genes for a whole range of common psychiatric disorders comes the promise of accurate diagnosis, presymptomatic testing, and personalised medicine. The visionary goal of psychiatrists and geneticists is to develop prescient therapeutic technologies that can prevent mental illness before it occurs. However, the collapse of the 'gene for' paradigm in the 80s and 90s, and the disappointment of linkage and association studies has engendered more cautious and responsible forms of accounting. In this paper we argue that the increasing recognition of genomic complexity offers new ways of managing and averting scientific controversies. Using rhetorical discourse analysis of review articles (n=35) we show how scientists construct a narrative of complexity that combines non-genetic factors without according them any real explanatory role. Constructions of complexity are strategic descriptions that display moderation, flexibility and ethical responsibility. In addition to balancing optimism and caution, a distinct characteristic of these articles is the way potential criticisms are incorporated and neutralised. Our research shows how psychiatric genetics is shaped by a history of controversies and employs a range of rhetorical/discursive strategies that appear to exonerate and defend the science from potential criticism.

Arthur-Kirby, J.L.   **Edge Hill University**

The 'corporeal turn' in sociology and the work of G.H. Mead: Misrepresented or Overlooked

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Theory   Syndicate B

The recent corporeal turn in sociology bringing the body 'back in' has led to the emergence of literature seeking to re-configure existing theory that would enable the body to be understood in a non-reductionist way. Published over seventy years ago, the work of North American Pragmatist G.H. Mead offers a conceptualisation of the body that avoids the reductionist limitations of both essentialism and constructionism. Mead developed a theoretical position that rejected the mind/body dualism and conceptualised humans as simultaneously biological and social becomings. Yet his work remains largely overlooked. It has even been suggested that Mead's work has been misrepresented by later theorists resulting in the depth and richness of his original intent being lost.   There are signs, however, that Mead's ideas are beginning to enter contemporary literature exploring embodiment and sociality.   I suggest that Mead's work offers much overlooked potential across the human and social sciences from the biological to the existential. This paper discusses some findings from a PhD study that drew upon Mead's theoretical insights to explore the phenomenon of voice-hearing, or in medical terms 'auditory hallucination', from the perspective of those who experience it.   Mead's interactionist framework illuminates the impact of lived, situated reflexive embodiment on individual experiences of voice-hearing.

Atkinson, W.   **University of Bristol**

In Search of the Individualized Worker

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

Toward the end of the millennium it became increasingly common to claim that class had been wiped from the social landscape. Within this deluge of post-class sentiment, however, one perspective has been particularly influential yet unsatisfactorily tackled by faithful defenders of the much-maligned concept hitherto: individualization. Holding that identities, lifestyles and life paths have been opened up to a new process of reflexive decision-making by contemporary social conditions, writers such as Beck and Bauman, as well as intellectual bedfellows such as Giddens, have been rebuffed or qualified with greater and lesser degrees of sympathy by class theorists but, surprisingly, only cursorily or inadequately examined in empirical research.

This paper, then, reports the key findings of a research project designed to fill this void by subjecting individualization to direct empirical scrutiny in the same spirit as the Affluent Worker team confronting embourgeoisement forty years earlier. Starting out from a Bourdieusian theoretical position, it examined the life histories of 55 individuals from Bristol through qualitative interviews, tracing biographies through education and subsequent work trajectories to see if reflexive decision-making had supplanted the classed habitus. The overall conclusion is that, contrary to what the individualization theorists hold, class clearly continues to exert its influence over life courses in the way a Bourdieusian might expect, but that this is specified by a new social context not dissimilar to that described by Beck and the others.

Austin, M.   **Oxford Brookes University**

Maintaining the active body: An interplay between space, physical capital and social

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

This article is set against a backdrop of continued initiatives by the Government for promoting the 'active-body' as a central tenet of its current and future health policy. There is an assumption that through the process of providing access to appropriate facilities, increased participation rates in physical activities amongst the general population will naturally follow. However, empirical evidence shows that there is a significant drop out rate of new participants within the first three months. The purpose of this study therefore was to identify the processes and mechanisms involved in successfully participating in sports and physical activities over the medium and long term.

The research was centred on exploring the participation experiences of runners, with the data for this study derived through variety of qualitative based research methodologies. My findings indicate that a key determinant to successful engagement with physical activity is the development and maintenance of an acceptable social identity amongst participating others. Furthermore, I show that as sports and physical activities are embodied activities, the possession of an active-body identity, constructed through the accumulation of appropriate physical capital, serves as an important 'identifier' by which this social identity is conferred. For the prospective participant, it is the possession of an appropriate social identity that engenders ontological security about the physical self, which in turn helps to stabilize participation patterns over the medium and long term.

Ba', S.   **University of Manchester**

Work experience and the boundaries between family and work life

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

This paper is part of my research on boundaries between family and work. Here I explore the connections between dual earner couples' work experience and their family narratives to arrive to a better understanding of the ways they "manage" home and work life. Work is often considered by research participants as an external constraint on their private domain; however, for some work is also a rewarding source of self esteem and for that reason it becomes a key factor of the work-family articulation. So, the purpose of this paper is to explore what the interrelations are between participants' employment status and their personal 'focus' on work and how their family life fits in this picture.

This paper argues that employment status is often linked to the material and symbolic resources through which some professional couples combine and 'integrate' their engagement with these two domains of everyday life. Other participants with less favourable employment conditions, like part-time teachers (usually women), lack some of these resources and favour a configuration of home and work which implies a clear and symbolic 'separation' between these two areas. Reasons for these approaches to work and family are analysed and linked to different patterns emerging in the middle-class portion of my sample along the structure of seniority.

Back, L.   **Glodsmiths**

The Scale of Sociological Imagination

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Sub-Plenary - Theory   Assembly Hall

Gayatri Spivak once asked provocatively 'can the subaltern' speak'? We might address the limits of the sociological imagination a different way and ask 'can sociology hear beyond the boundaries Europe and America?' This presentations explores the promise and limits of sociological attentiveness conceived on a global scale.

Bailey, J.   **Trinity College Dublin**

The Quiet Man? – Voices of fatherhood in contemporary Ireland

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

Previous literature points to the widely held perception that contemporary fathers are now more 'involved' with their children than in previous generations. However, compared with research elsewhere, very little is known about the experience of fathers in contemporary Ireland and "there has been virtually no empirical research done on fathers in Ireland which explores their actual views" (Ferguson and Hogan 2004).

Meanwhile, some recent scholarship has begun to challenge how much the culture of fatherhood has really changed (Singley and Hynes 2005; Wall and Arnold 2007) and suggests that fathers' involvement with their children is limited by social expectations and cultural assumptions which continue to perceive fathers as secondary parents to mothers.

Based on current doctoral research this paper outlines the experiences of 20 Irish first time fathers during their transition to fatherhood. The paper presents preliminary findings from a longitudinal, qualitative study which explores the contemporary culture of fatherhood in Ireland and describes the way in which first time fathers construct their identity as parents. The study examines what factors influence the involvement fathers have with their infants, by looking at their parenting ideology, work/family balance, sources of support and information, and how their day-to-day life changes with the arrival of a new baby.

The specific focus of this paper will be on the interviews that took place before the baby's birth, and it sets out to provide insights how this group of men view their fathering role and their experience of pregnancy.

Bailey, S., Lloyd, J., Scales, K   **University of Nottingham**

Inpatient care for people with dementia: Staff wellbeing and implications for person-centred practice

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Within older people's mental health services, the threshold for admission to inpatient care is rising relentlessly, staff are working with increasingly dependent and frail populations, and the physical demands of the job as well as its emotional impact continue to mount. Yet people continue to do this work which appears unrewarding and of low status. This research investigates how some staff keep going and why.

We are focussing on the experience of working in inpatient settings for older people with dementia from the perspective of the professional carers who work most directly with them. We are interested in staff's motivation for undertaking this challenging work, what sustains them day to day, the coping strategies they employ, the rewards they derive from the work, and the problems they encounter.

This study is ethnographic, with data gathered primarily through participant observation, supplemented by assessments of the care environments through dementia care mapping, carers' questionnaires, and qualitative data derived from focus groups and individual interviews. The research is being undertaken in three different inpatient wards for older people with dementia within the Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust; this diversity will contribute to the generalisibility of our findings to other settings. Through interpretation of these findings, we aim to identify ways to improve staff wellbeing and to promote the implementation of person-centred practice.

This paper will present preliminary findings from our analysis, derived through a collaborative process involving the academic researchers, NHS stakeholders, carers, and representatives of the local Alzheimer's Society and Inpatient forum.

Baillie-Smith, M., Laurie, N.   **Northumbria University**

Corporate International Volunteering Partnerships and Global Citizneship

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Economy and Society 2   Syndicate D

This paper explores how emerging NGO, state and corporate sector relationships around international volunteering in the UK are shaping and being shaped by contemporary understandings and practices of global citizenship and professional development. Reinvigorated by phenomena such as the gap year, career breaks and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), international volunteering occupies a popular place in contemporary public imaginations. Our analysis explores the ways in which international volunteering seems to both exemplify neo-liberal ideas of individual autonomy, improvement and responsibility and at the same time ally itself to notions of collective global citizenship, solidarity, development and activism. We investigate how international volunteering opportunities are produced by and between, companies running employee based schemes, the state and UK based international and southern Non Government Organisations (NGOs).

In particular we examine the role of the Department for International Development, and emblematic NGOs like Voluntary service Overseas (VSO) and key corporate actors such as Accenture in shaping the emergence of partnership models which become widely accepted as best practice. We are especially interested in how and where UK international volunteering (re) produces and creates distinct forms of global citizenship and professional development.

Barbour, A. R.   **University of Huddersfield**

Ducking and weaving in the negotiated classroom: priorities, identities and cultures of resistance in post-compulsory education.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Education   Syndicate C

Drawing from a classroom focused ethnography this paper explores the environment of post-compulsory education and the socio-cultural and academic behaviours and priorities of further education students as they progress over an academic year and aim for university. It identifies the subject positioning of both tutors and students within the discourse of education and youthful cultural activities where the student ducks and weaves between existing and emerging identities drawing their own culture into being in the classroom through the materials of socially entrapping digital and commodity cultures. The practices and priorities of the classroom, and the responses, sustain confused, mobilised identities where both the formative learning subject and the tutor are at times disorientated and frustrated. In this environment cultures meet risking an impasse of reluctant acceptance. Dispersed within education this forms a confused site where identities, priorities and perceptions emerge and fragment.

The aim is to discuss this socially complex environment which is an operational reality of the layers of discursive power, the expectations, the cultures and counter-cultures, of the frustration and strained development and practices that reflect the conditions within education and the classroom which is no longer bounded by four walls.

Barnard, S.   **Loughborough University**

Virtual Universities and the commodification of higher education

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

The discourse surrounding the development of online education expresses a radical move away from traditional forms of education to one that is now clearly promoted as a consumer product developed to cater for individual needs. Indeed, the pursuit of education online aligns itself with lifestyle and consumer choice in a way that makes the link between education and commercialism explicit. The expansion in attendance of higher education in developed countries and the rise of lifelong learning means that existing HEIs struggle to meet these demands. Positive accounts of global virtual universities suggest that they meet this gap more efficiently and with a greater ability to address a varying student population. However, it is argued that in reality the flexibility in delivery merely hides the manufactured process of producing homogenized education in bite size pieces for larger numbers of students. The organization of virtual education does not serve to widen access, but to incur as much profit as possible from the education process. The evaluation of commercial online higher education sector is linked to debates of 'what is a university?' in order to explore current developments and future implications for the commodification of higher education.

Barnes, R. **University of Derby**

Hopes and fears, losses and gains: women's accounts of life after an abusive relationship

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

This paper unpicks the complexity and contradictions of women's accounts of life after partner abuse. Drawing upon my qualitative study of forty women who self-identify as having been abused by a female partner, I outline some of the long-term consequences of partner abuse which participants identified. The material and emotional losses which are suffered through partner abuse are outlined, along with the less often acknowledged potential for recovery from partner abuse to be a positive and transformative process. Through mapping Arthur Frank's (1995) illness narratives onto the varied and often ambivalent accounts of recovery which participants offered, I examine the challenges which women face both as a direct consequence of the abuse, but also from wider social and cultural pressures to be a particular 'type' of survivor. Finally, I challenge the notion of 'recovery' being a state which victims/survivors of abuse ultimately arrive at, instead conceptualizing it as an active, ongoing and potentially lifelong process.

Bartlett, A. **Cardiff University**

Sentiment and Sequencing: The Accomplishment of the Human Genome Project

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

Modern biotechnology has been transformed from a largely academic pursuit to a multi billion-dollar commercial bio-industry that is seen as one of the foundations of the knowledge economy. The sequencing of the human genome is seen as one of the great achievements of contemporary science. Though narratives of the sequencing of the human genome concentrate on the leading figures, the Human Genome Project was the achievement of big science. Big science represents the transformation of scientific work from a craft-based adhocracy into a form of work conducted within bureaucratic organisations that employ huge teams of scientists and technicians with a proliferation of specialised roles. This 'industrialisation' of science led many to describe the Human Genome Project as involving 'production line' efforts, 'sequencing mills' and an 'Industrial Revolution' for biology.

This paper uses qualitative interview evidence to investigate the experience of work at the Institute, a large-scale sequencing centre. Entering the 'hidden abode' of production, the study examines the sequence of the human genome as an achievement of labour, rather than the product of 'great men'. This paper reports that work at the Institute was quite unlike the dehumanising, alienating work that might be expected as a result of the 'industrialisation' of science. Rather, the work of sequencing genomes recruited the sentiments of those working at the Institute, producing committed workers. The work of sequencing the human genome involved the recruitment not just of 'hands', as in industrial work, or 'minds', as in of technical work, but also 'hearts'.

Bartram, D. **University of Leicester**

Immigrants, Integration, and Happiness

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Open 2   Council Chamber

Debates about the integration of new immigrants lack a clear understanding of the normative basis for taking a position on whether it is legitimate for governments to "expect" integration, as against a more laissez-faire approach. This statement is all the more true when one considers how to treat the interests of the immigrants themselves (not just the interests of the receiving country): it is not clear what types of interests count, and some observers probably assume economic interests are paramount, perhaps failing to recognize that economic factors are best considered a means to more fundamental ends e.g. happiness. To help clarify that normative basis, this paper asks (drawing on recent work in happiness studies): is integration associated with greater happiness among immigrants? More specifically, are immigrants who become naturalized citizens happier than immigrants who refrain from naturalization? Data from the World Values Survey will be used to address that question with respect to immigrants in Canada (the only WVS data where it is possible to determine whether immigrants have naturalized); naturalization is taken as a proxy of integration more generally. If integration is not associated with greater happiness, this finding would vitiate claims that it is legitimate for receiving country governments to impose measures designed to accelerate integration, particularly where these measures are resisted by the immigrants themselves.

Bednarek, A.   **University of Aberdeen**

Young Scottish Conservatives - Narratives from the margins of society

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

Collecting narratives from members of Conservative student associations across Scotland, this research examines how members of marginalised groups create normality for themselves. It assumes that living with a heightened awareness of one's status as marginalised poses too much stress in everyday life and that therefore narratives that reinterpret marginalisation in a meaningful way or that redefine it as non-existent will be constructed. Young Scots' accounts of how they became c/Conservative show that affective bonds to significant persons in 'critical moments' during their adolescence influence their socio-political outlook; that awareness of the status quo will lead to either compliance to it or rebellion against it, both of which can result in joining the Conservatives; and that ardent religious faith can equate with Conservative sympathies. Thus, a plausible account of one's development as a young Conservative that connects 'first reasons' with current biography is constructed and a state of 'narrative normality' achieved. Narrative analysis reveals the 'poetics' of creating 'narrative normality' and with it a sense of well-being of self. The present research, being a contribution to the study of the events, persons, and institutions as well as the ontological conditions involved in the development of personal identity, aims to complement research in the fields of the sociology of knowledge, social psychology, and cultural as well as literary sociology.

Beecham, D.   **University of Warwick**

What's Your Agenda Mate? Reflecting on Men Researching Women

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

There has been a persistent scepticism within certain branches of feminism regarding men conducting and producing feminist research. Some feminists have stated that men should not and cannot conduct feminist research, on the grounds that women have struggled hard to acquire a space within the academy and this encroachment of men into this area is simply another form of male colonisation. Not only has this been an issue specifically relegated to the bounds of the academy, but has been problematic for feminist praxis, which is especially true within the area of intimate partner abuse, sexual assault, rape, prostitution, among others. Within this paper I will discuss this scepticism relating to the 'social legitimacy' of men conducting academic research on sensitive issues, which affect women. Drawing on my experiences of conducting qualitative research within the area of intimate partner abuse (IPA), I discuss the 'practical problems' of conducting research on a sensitive area and the issue of 'epistemological affinity' between the masculine condition (cognitive boundaries and experiences) and women's specific problems. Whilst recognising the difficulties associated with men conducting research within traditionally female dominated arenas, I will argue that men can and should conduct research, which challenges the gender order by highlighting the imbalance of power between the genders.

Bennett, M.

What Causes Islamic Separatism in Britain?

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Open 2   Syndicate B

Within Britain, research suggests that Muslims are integrating at slower rates relative to other religious minority groups. (Bisin et al. 2007) Is Islam the fundamental obstacle to integration, or does separatism occur through other mechanisms? The Fourth National Survey of Ethnic Minorities (FNSEM) provides unique data at the individual level, allowing insight into this question. Controlling for religiosity, ethnic identity, and socioeconomic status, I cannot account for the positive effect of being Muslim on levels of separatism.

Considering post-imperial socio-political tensions and shifts in attitudes toward Muslim minorities following the Rushdie affair of 1989, a robust preference for separatism among British Muslims might be predicted. The application of Rational Choice Theory (RCT) and theories of group solidarity to this unique and original research question highlights this preference among British Muslims.

My analysis suggests British Muslims prefer to socially isolate themselves - maintaining a strong in-group identity. Research does not account for high levels of separatism among British Muslims, or religious discontent relative to their European counterparts and to other British Minorities. This is particularly paradoxical given the strategies implemented by the British Parliament to accommodate the Muslim population - strategies that exist to a lesser degree in other European states, which have reasonable levels of integration. British Muslims, compared to their European contemporaries, are highly educated and British citizenship status is easily attainable. As such, it might be expected that this result in low political tension and low separatism levels, leading to high integration rates.

Bennion, A., Lebeau, Y.   **University of East Anglia**

Discourses of engagement and embeddedness: Universities in their local communities.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Education   Syndicate C

Recent studies suggest that social inequalities in educational attainment in the UK show no signs of steady narrowing (Iannelli, 2007) and that the knowledge-driven regeneration of declining industrial regions is stumbling over an overwhelming dependency on public funding. In this context, policies on higher education in regional environments have turned to debates on engagement, citizenship and the concept of public good to rejuvenate discussions of the mediating mission of universities between local and global forces (Bjarnason & Coldstream, 2003, Calhoun, 2006).

A new vision of universities emerges from these debates, with democracy, diversity, social inclusion and civic engagement as key themes (Watson, 2007), challenging the more narrowly economic concerns of the past two decades. Initially encapsulated in widening access and participation in higher education, this agenda has since broadened its scope to incorporate local initiatives and partnerships aiming at combating social exclusion.

The paper will draw on data from an ESRC-funded project exploring the role of higher education institutions in regional processes of social and cultural transformation. More specifically, the paper will draw on two case study institutions in areas of concentrated deprivation in the North East of England and in Scotland to illustrate the discourses of engagement and embeddedness which dominates university rhetoric. Views from groups external to the university will be used to interrogate and challenge these discourses, to gain a better understanding of the multiple ways in which universities relate to their local environment and contribute to both ideologies and processes of local socio-cultural transformation.

Bernasconi, O.   **Institute Of Social Sciences Research**

Reassertion of past visions: narrative elasticity and social change as a 'we-relationship'

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

Based on the philosopher Charles Taylor's work, and supplemented with Foucauldian analytical tools, in this article I reconnect moral and sociological thoughts through the question of the changing relationship between ideas of the good and technologies of the self. This association is developed through a narrative research about the ways the self is assembled in the interpretative practice of the biographical account by three successive generations within ten Chilean families.

Specifically, I elaborate on this association through an inquiry into the "ageing of generations" and its relation to the intergenerational transformations of the moral outlook of the self. In the light of the passing of times we might ask, what happens to older people's regimes of justification when the environment of assumptions and languages that propelled and nested those regimes recedes into the past? How do older people react when the equipment they had imprinted in their bodies, minds and souls to make themselves subjects of a certain sort begins to clash with present ways of living? For want of a better label, I call this a study on "narrative elasticity". This kind of exploration shows how stories of social change mobilise time, articulate interpersonal relationships and bring to the surface different forms of negotiation over the nature of the self, leading into an appraisal of the literature on generations, time and historical change for the study of selfhood and opening up the way to the study of social change as a "we-relationship".

Berryman, L.

'That's the Melting Pot. Please. So... There's Your Racist': Reflections of 21st-Century Britain in 'The Office'

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

The manifestation of racial tension in Britain today is perhaps one of the most unusual in modern history. While this seems to have gone almost unnoticed in academia it was extensively critiqued, I will argue, in the television series 'The Office'. Written by Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant, 'The Office' was a 14-episode television show that aired on BBC Two between 2001-03. I hope to demonstrate that there lurks under the surface of this comedy an acerbic commentary on the bizarre nature of racial tension in modern Britain. A racist would perhaps have been defined, in 20th-century Britain, as someone who openly expressed belief in the superiority of their own race over others. But today British racism seems to be generally characterized by railing against so-called 'political correctness' while simultaneously condemning outright discrimination. There are countless examples of this odd duality in the popular press. On the one hand, for example, 'The Daily Express' recently described the far-right British National Party as 'authoritarian', 'monocultural' and 'racist' (3rd May, 2006); but, on the other hand, they have no reservations about running headlines such as 'Muslims Tell Us How to Run Our Schools' (21st February, 2007). David Brent, the lead character in 'The Office', who delights in telling racist jokes but also describes himself as an 'equal-opportunist', appears to exemplify this discordant mindset. I will suggest, in aligning analyses of 'The Office' and of racism in 21st-century Britain, that the programme's worth as a sociological study has yet to be calculated.

Best, N., Jackson, C., Richardson, S.

Studying place effects on health using a new method to combine individual and area-level outcomes

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

It is well established that there exist substantial area-level socio-demographic variations in population health. However, area-level associations between deprivation and health cannot necessarily be interpreted as place effects on individual health. We demonstrate how recently developed statistical models for combining individual and aggregate data can help to separate the effects of place of residence and personal circumstances on two health outcomes: risk of hospitalisation for cardiovascular disease and risk of self-reported limiting long-term illness (LLTI). A combination of small-area data from UK hospital episode statistics and the UK census and individual data from the Health Survey for England were analysed, using a new class of multilevel models - termed hierarchical related regressions (HRR). The standard multilevel model for place and health explains outcomes from individual data in terms of individual and area-level characteristics. Our HRR model increases precision by jointly modeling both individual and population aggregate outcomes, in terms of the same predictors. Aggregate outcomes are modelled by averaging the individual-level exposure-outcome relationship over the area, which can alleviate the ecological bias associated with interpreting the relationship between aggregate quantities as an individual-level relationship. We found that multilevel models fitted to the individual level survey data alone lacked power to distinguish individual and contextual risks. However, using our HRR model to also include the aggregate data, we found that for heart disease, the area-level differences are mostly explained by individual-level effects, whereas there remained a significant contextual effect of area deprivation on LLTI even after adjusting for individual-level risk factors.

Bhambra, G.K.   **University of Warwick**

'Towards a World Social Science? Postcolonialism, Cosmopolitanism and the Sociological Tradition'

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Theory   Syndicate B

The period of sociology's disciplinary formation was also the heyday of European colonialism, yet the colonial relationship has not figured in the development of sociological understandings. Further, recent attempts to address global issues from an other-than-Western perspective have largely rested upon a universalistic cosmopolitanism grounded in the Western intellectual tradition. In each of these responses the voice of non-Western others appears to be displaced. In this paper, I shall argue for a form of cosmopolitanism – 'provincialised cosmopolitanism' – that is sensitive to the voice of non-Western others and flattens the hierarchies of knowledge implicit in 'global cosmopolitanism'.

Bhatt, C.   **Goldsmiths College, University of London**

The Virtues of Jihad: political violence and the deflections of sovereignty

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Theory   Syndicate B

Through examining the detail of real or alleged plots in the UK associated with those who aspire to an allegiance with aterritorial religious absolutist paramilitias, this paper presents alternative routes of analysis. The universal focus on 'global terror networks', the 'global jihadi movement', 'Al Qaeda' and the like elides key geosociological features of the majority of UK plots and events. These include a systematic association with militias and peripatetic armed groups operating in Kashmir. The latter have regularly demonstrated a largely overlooked transnational sphere of operation since their inception in the 1980s. These militias predate 'the genuine' Al Qaeda and have independent 'global' and translocal aims, ideologies and organizational ambitions. Their organizational topology can blur the distinction between themselves, and between them and what is called 'Al Qaeda'. The disorganized patterns of militia dynamics includes a state dimension that has been integral to militia management and containment processes. This presents a compelling and unprecedented phenomenon that raises penetrating questions about deflected sovereignties and modern politics. The transnational forms of the UK plots can also subvert 'network' based approaches or assumptions about transnational organizational consonance. These events exhibit a dense politics of virtue and approbation as well as a 'mixing up' of the worlds of the living with the worlds of the dead. It is argued that these elements comprise a dimension to normative ethical imperatives and sovereign political forms that are otherwise supposed to characterise the modern world, forms in which the democratic and the violent are also alleged to always be in opposition.

Bhatti, M

The Poetics of Pottering: the ageing body in the garden.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Open   Syndicate J

This paper examines how the domestic garden is experienced in the everyday life of older people, and suggests that daily gardening practices reveal enchanted encounters, sensual activities, emotional attachments, and daydreaming. I propose a 'poetics' of gardening to describe these prosaic pleasures, and borrow the term from Gaston Bachelard to focus on a range of activities from cultivating, pottering about, and simply 'being' in the garden as a way of getting closer to the intimacy of the inhabited space that is the garden. I use narratives drawn from the Mass Observation Archive (MO) based at the University of Sussex in the UK to illustrate the ways in which these everyday enchantments occur though a combination of sensual bodily encounters relating to peripatetic dwelling, 'haptic perception', and reverie.

Bhopal, K., Henry-Waring, M.   **University of Southampton**

Being White and Being Black: Cross-cultural understandings of identity for degree students in the UK and Australia

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Education   Syndicate C

The focus on whiteness as a subject of inquiry and analysis in its own right has recently become a popular theme within academic understandings of identity and Otherness. However, such research has primarily focused on the US, this study aims to examine specifically, the social construction and maintenance of Whiteness within tertiary educational settings within Australia and the UK. Little research has explored students' understanding of these issues within the educational context.

Although different in terms of historical and other contexts, Australia, like the UK has a complex relationship and understanding of 'race'. There is little research which takes a comparative perspective in focusing on understandings of Whiteness and its meanings in different cultural environments. The paper will examine such understandings by focusing on degree student's understandings of whiteness and blackness. Leonardo (2002:31) argues that Whiteness is a racial discourse, whereas the category white people represent is a socially constructed identity. To understand whiteness, however there is also a need to understand blackness or otherness. Bonnett has indicated, Whiteness has developed into a taken-for-granted experience structured upon a varying set of supremacist assumptions (sometimes cultural, sometimes biological, sometimes moral, sometimes all three). Non-White identities, by contrast, have been denied the privileges of normativity, and are marked within the West as marginal and inferior (1997: 188).

This paper will examine the experiences of students' understandings of identity and otherness in relation to Whiteness and Blackness.

Black, T.   **The University of Western Ontario**

The Inter-continental Sociology of Harold Innis

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

By the 1940s, Harold A. Innis (1894-1952) was a leading Canadian scholar-if not the most prominent, influential, and respected academic in Canada. Accordingly, commentators-in their summaries of the supposed topics of Innis' studies, for example-generally have related his works back to Canada (and, to a lesser extent, to the United States as well). In various ways, Innis and his texts also usually are linked to media issues (or to broader communications) (and to a crude, reductionist perspective on these matters that I challenge here). The usual story about Innis thus ultimately suggests that he is essentially a Canadian (and American) media (or communications) analyst-a view that I outline and critique, with support from more obscure Innisian scholarship, which shows that there is far more breadth to his works. While communications issues are an important part of his later texts, Innis' studies actually are more broadly sociological in that his analysis encompasses various institutions, organizations, and technologies. Moreover, given how he draws from the work of European intellectuals while addressing inter-continental conditions and dynamics, Innis offers a critical perspective that is not strictly North American-let alone completely Canadian. Nevertheless, oversimplified caricatures frequently have been imposed back over his perspective, obscuring much of this scope and relevance of Innis' inter-continental sociology.

Blackburn, R. M., Jarman, J. Racko, G.   **Social Science Research Group**

Gender Inequality at Work in Industrialised Countries

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

It is well-known that men and women tend to work in different occupations; that there is occupational gender segregation. The consequences of these gender differences for the experiences, rewards and dangers of work have fascinated sociologists for the last few decades and there has been extensive discussion as to how to explain them, and what factors explain change and differences. The paper will present the comparative analysis of gender segregation and its component dimensions (vertical and horizontal) across a range of industrially developed countries. This will include and update previous work on Britain and the USA, as well as completely new material. The vertical dimension will be measured by pay (generally recognised to advantage men) and general attractiveness (sometimes favouring women). The horizontal dimension does not entail inequality but measures the extent to which segregation restricts the occupational choices of both women and men. Having established the extents and forms of gender segregation, the paper will then consider the possible reasons for the national variations. It will also reflect upon how these findings contribute to the general state of knowledge of this topic.

Blakely, H.   **Cardiff University**

New Labour and citizenship: perceptions from the margins

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Education   Syndicate C

This paper addresses themes of welfare, citizenship and work within the New Labour version of neo-liberalism. The paper explores the aim of New Labour's welfare discourse to transform individuals from recipients of state assistance into active, working citizens. If, as New Labour maintain, participation in the labour market is the sole means to 'achieve' citizenship, the question this paper asks is how do people dependent on the welfare state understand the paradoxes and contradictions of their status as citizens?

The paper addresses the implications of New Labour's reconstruction of the welfare state around the work ethic, specifically for lone mothers living in a deprived community. It specifically draws attention to the subjective experience of marginalised women and their capacity to both resist and conform to New Labour's neo-liberal model of citizenship.

The paper draws on data gathered from life history interviews during an ongoing ethnographic study of lone mothers in a Welsh Valleys community. In particular the study investigates women's experiences of the legacy of rapid deindustrialisation and a regeneration process premised on a community development model. One element of this regeneration process is a community adult education project which I will show reframes these women's understanding of their status as citizens. In this context I will review some of the outcomes of the study reflecting on alternative constructions of citizenship.

Bloor, M., Sampson, H.

Deregulating the labour supply and its discontents: shipping industry concerns about out-sourced seafarer labour

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

The shipping industry, more than any other traditional industry, has been transformed by globalising economic processes. There is now effectively a single global labour market for the world's one million seafarers and most ship operators have out-sourced labour supply to specialist international crewing companies recruiting in the new labour supply countries of the developing world, while the cost of labour training is no longer born by employers but by seafarers' families. But out-sourcing has led to: (a) inattention to seafarer living and working conditions where ship operators are no longer employers; and (b) concerns about the quality of seafarer recruits and attempts to re-regulate seafarer training (leading to further concerns about the effectiveness of such re-regulation). This overview paper draws on materials from two ESRC-funded studies, one British Academy-funded study and one European Maritime Safety Agency-funded study to illustrate concerns expressed by different industry sectors (ship operators, seafarers, regulators, trainers and unions) about the quality of seafarer living and working conditions and of seafarer training and links these concerns to the out-sourcing of labour supply.

Bonney., N

The Premature Death of Social Class: Towards a More Global Perspective

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

Western sociologists have given considerable attention to the hypothesised decline of social class at the very time when there are very good reasons to expect, that with the increasing global spread of capitalism, social class may well be of increasing significance in many major developing societies as well of enduring significance in the west.

The debates over the relative significance of social class in western societies reflect changes in prevailing ideologies as much as substantive changes in social class divisions. There are also important differences in the significance accorded to social class between different western states according to national ideologies and research traditions.

This paper examines some of these national differences in the analysis of social class in the USA and UK, where there is a substantive tradition of work, and China and India where it is hypothesised that social class differences are of increasing significance but where there is a limited infrastructure of sociological investigation. It investigates how national ideologies influence the analysis of social class and the relative significance accorded to it in each society and explores evidence for its increasing significance as a phenomenon in India and China. It suggests that self-imposed ideological and methodological dispositions, politically imposed ideological controls and material limitations on methodological resources may limit the vision and capacity for sociologists to investigate the phenomenon of social class, especially in these latter cases.

Bookman, S., Martens, C.   **University of Manitoba**

Globally branded social responsibility: possibilities and limitations

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

At Starbucks café, one can purchase a bottle of Ethos(tm) water and play a role in the provision of safe drinking water to communities worldwide. Interacting with MTV's website, one can become an ambassador of AIDS/HIV awareness, sharing information through blogs and with friends, or donating to MTV's Staying Alive campaign. Brands such as Starbucks and MTV are increasingly integrating corporate social responsibility into their interface of communication, as a framework that enables the introduction of moral and ethical qualities, configuring the brands as global cosmopolitan citizens. This not only contributes to processes of brand differentiation and market structuration, but invokes a certain socially responsible brand experience that is more accessible to some consumers than others.

Based on extensive empirical research on the brands Viacom, MTV, and Starbucks, this paper will be concerned with the ways in which corporate social responsibility is formatted by the brands (conceptualized as virtual and material market cultural forms) as something consumers interact with and experience rather than reflect on, framing specific ways of doing, being, and feeling socially responsible. The paper will explore the particular modes of social responsibility constituted by the brands, and the implication of consumers (as segments rather than citizens) in the production, framing, and performance of such modes. Particular attention will be paid to the possibilities and limitations of the generation of socially responsible lifestyles on the platform of the brands, considering how these are bound up with cultural distinctions and hierarchies of class, race, and gender in consumer culture.

Bornat, J., Bytheway, B.

Detailing life transitions in later life

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

In late life, life transitions, both at young and older ages. include crossing certain boundaries that may be perceived to entail greater or lesser risks, both as the transition unfolds and later in the life course. In late life these boundaries are significant for identity, location and relationships with family and friends. In this paper, which draws on data from 'The Oldest Generation' a project in the Timescapes programme, we will be exploring how such transitions are described, subjectively and in response to others. We contrast how transitions earlier in life were negotiated and how current changes are being realised. From this we will be arguing that transitions are more of a process than an event and that negotiations involved in a transition in later life involve significant role and identity adjustment. We will draw on evidence from life history interviews with people over 75 and from diaries logging events and activities of their daily lives. Such material enables us to compare retrospective and unfolding perspectives on life transitions and to compare and contrast the contributions of these two methods of data collection to discussions of transitions.

Bowes-Catton, H.   **London South Bank University**

'I didn't know that I could feel this relaxed in my body': Using visual and creative methods to research embodied experiences of bisexual identity.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

Recent research into bisexuality has tended to use discourse analysis to explore bisexual people's articulations of identity. This research shows that, although many bi people argue that they experience their identities as coherent and unified, and vehemently reject binary categories of sex, gender, and sexuality as bogus and constructed (Bowes-Catton 2007), 'their own discourse on sexual subjectivity is inescapably marked by these discourses', resulting in articulations of identity that appear 'structurally fractured' (Ault 1996) and inchoate. Following the turn to the body in sociological research, I argue that an approach to identity research which privileges discourse in this way makes it difficult for participants to articulate identities outside of prevailing binary categories, and seems to result in the reiteration of these dominant discourses, obscuring experiential and material aspects of sexual identity such as embodied experience and performativity.

My research aims to move towards an understanding of how bisexual identity is grounded in the bodily practices and performances of lived experience. In this paper, I present some preliminary results from my application of visual and creative methods such as modelling and photography to the study of bisexual people's embodied experience of space, with the aim of moving towards an understanding of the experience and production of bisexual identity, both in everyday life, and in bisexual spaces such as BiCon, the annual gathering of the UK bisexual community.

Boxall, K., Hodgson, S.   **University of Sheffield**

Learning disability, user involvement and inclusive epistemologies

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

Historically, the dominant epistemology of the academy has been predicated on an understanding of people with learning disabilities (previously referred to as having a 'mental handicap') as 'non-knowers.' However, shifts in social research from positivist/post-positivist to more interpretive/constructivist approaches have resulted in changing expectations of people with learning disabilities who are increasingly viewed as having their own understandings of the world.   Requirements for service user involvement in research may raise ethical concerns about research with 'vulnerable adults' whose capacity to consent may be questioned; they also push to its limits the dominant epistemology of the academy as people with learning disabilities are engaged in research as producers and knowers of their own knowledges.

Exploration of knowledge production in the area of learning disability raises a range of issues and questions about 'what counts?' as knowledge or expertise, what it means 'to know' and who can be a 'knower.'   Rather than being peculiar to this field of research, we will argue that these issues have interesting parallels with debates in science research as well as in sociological research more generally. We will conclude by arguing for new relationships between 'the academy' and knowledge production processes that traverse traditional disciplinary boundaries and raise possibilities of inclusive epistemologies which are shared and negotiated with knowledge constituencies outwith the academy.

Breen, J.   **Trinity College Dublin**

Prison, Place and Community: A Case Study of Mountjoy Prison and the North Inner City of Dublin

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

This paper deals with the highly emotive subjects of community and punishment. Recent research in the Republic of Ireland has confirmed that, similar to many other western nations, the spatial distribution of prisoners is highly concentrated. One such area is the North Inner City of Dublin, a place which is home to many ex-prisoners as well as current prisoners serving sentences in Mountjoy, the main committal prison in the State for males aged 18 years and older.

Based upon ongoing doctoral research this paper will present an overview of the historical and social context of the North Inner City of Dublin and Mountjoy Prison in order to situate the perspectives of prisoners and their family members on issues such as community, place and punishment. Porous boundaries between "the prison community" and those "on the outside" reveal that in the North Inner City the prison is not merely a feature of the physical landscape but a central feature in the social and psychological landscapes of its inhabitants.

Brewer.J., Teeney, F., Higgins, G.   **University of Aberdeen**

Religion, civil society and peace processes

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Sub-plenary - Religion   Assembly Hall

Religion enters the public sphere largely in negative ways and is represented in both popular culture and social science literature as either an irrelevance or as a site of conflict. Policy initiatives to promote research on religion – normally an under-resourced area – tend to associate religion with extremism and public senses of risk. However, religion can also a site of reconciliation. This paper reports on a three-year ESRC-funded project on the role of the churches in Northern Ireland's peace process, using the churches as a case study of the strengths and weaknesses of civil society in situations of conflict. The case study was explored by qualitative interviews with members and leaders from a wide cross section of denominations, as well as with leading members of paramilitary organizations, members of the main political parties and community leaders and key civil society groups. The paper identifies four spaces that churches and para-church organizations occupy within civil society and by means of which they can play a role in peace processes. These are socially strategic spaces that give religion weight well beyond that carried by declining numbers. These spaces are described as 'intellectual', 'institutional', 'sociological' and 'political' and are illustrated with examples from Northern Ireland and elsewhere. However, the peacemaking roles that are shaped by these spaces are mediated by the majority versus minority status of the denomination or religious groupings. Minority status in particular limits the spaces that can be occupied within civil society, constraining the potential for engagement with peace.

Britton, J.

'Mixed Race' Studies: Re-Assessing the Research Agenda

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

The development of 'mixed race' studies in recent years has ensured that the issue of mixed race is now firmly on the research agenda for social scientists investigating race and racism. Research has mainly focused on how white parents of mixed race children, and white mothers in particular, manage what is sometimes referred to as their family's 'mixed race condition'. The study of mixed race has tended to prioritise mixed race children and adults with one white parent and one parent of African origin (partly due to their relatively large number in the mixed race population). As a result, a key focus has been on exploring the extent to which mixed race families are 'black orientated', how they deal with racism and how a black or multi-racial identity is cultivated in the children. The aim of this paper is to explore critically empirical studies that have contributed to sociological understanding of mixed race families. In doing so, it will demonstrate how the white parent's racialised identity has consistently been marginalised in both empirical studies and the theorisation of mixed race families. Likewise, it will highlight how and why the understanding and role of the parent categorised normatively as black has also been overlooked in these studies. The paper will argue that a greater focus on both is required in order to provide a more comprehensive account of how issues of race, kinship and identity are managed in mixed race families.

Bröer, C., Stuiver, M   **University of Amsterdam**

Mobilizing health risks - The development of protest against mobile phone masts

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Why do people in some neighborhoods start rallying against mobile phone mast because of health threats and not in others? The answer, we argue, lies in the political process, especially in mast siting policy. First, health risks of mobile phone technology have to framed as relevant by policy (makers), which then creates an entry point for mobilization. Second, this entry point has to be perceived as such, which happens in localized political conflicts. Health risks are constructed as such in specific interactions between citizens and authorities.

Theoretically, this article builds on Discursive Opportunity Theory (Bröer & Duyvendak, revised and resubmitted) and the growing literature on health social movements (Brown et al., 2004). This article is based on comparative research in three cases of conflicts about mobile phone antennas. In the first case, local politicians actively put forward the issue of possible health effects. In the second case, local politicians reacted to citizens concerns. In the third case, local authorities hardly reacted at all. These differences are crucial for the emergence of electromagnetic fields as an health issue and growth and decline of local health movements.

Bröer, C. and Duyvendak, J.W. (revised and resubmitted), 'Discursive opportunities, feeling rules and the rise of protests against aircraft noise', Mobilization.

Brown, P., Zavestoski, S., McCormick, S., Mayer, B., Morello-Frosch, R. and Altman, R.G. (2004), 'Embodied health movements: new approaches to social movements in health', Sociology of Health & Illness,

Brown, A.R., Griffin, C.　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Bath Spa University**

Inscribing the abhorred space: The significance of class in critics' representations of heavy metal music and its fans

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30　　　　　Culture, Media and Society　　　　　Ferrier Hall

In this paper we engage with new cultural theories of class that have identified media representations of 'excessive' white heterosexual working class femininity as a 'constitutive limit' of incorporation into dominant (middle class) modes of neo-liberal subjectivity (Skeggs, 2007), and Bourdieu's thesis that classification is a form of symbolic violence that constitutes both the classifier and the classified (Bourdieu, 1986). We explore the implications of such arguments for those modes of white working class masculinity that are critically disparaged but continue to reproduce themselves in forms of overtly-masculinist popular culture. Our focus is on the constitution of white working class heterosexual masculinity as a reviled Other in contemporary music criticism that focuses on the genre of Heavy Metal music. We present a systematic discourse analysis of over 1000 items of commentary and review, featured in the pages of the New Musical Express (1999 -2007), a paper historically identified with the ideals of the counter culture which now offers leadership of musical tastes in an increasingly segmented, niche oriented marketplace. We examine representations of Heavy Metal music, fans and bands, exploring how attributes and forms of personhood are attached to working class male bodies, tastes and practices that allow a distinction to be drawn between a middle class liberal group who possess taste and an animalistic mass who appear to lack it.

Brown, P., Lauder, H., Ashton, D.　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Cardiff University**

Globalisation and the Rise of a High-Skilled, Low-Waged Workforce

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30　　　　　Sub-plenary - Education　　　　　Assembly Hall

The economic downturn has reinforced the idea that Britain's future prosperity depends on winning a competitive advantage in the global 'knowledge' economy. This view is reflected in the central role of education and skills in national economic and social policy. Not only are they seen to hold the key to a competitive economy but to the foundation of social justice and social cohesion. This presentation will challenge these policy assumptions drawing on key findings from a major ESRC funded study of global corporate strategies and the future of skills, involving leading transnational companies and policy-makers from seven countries: China, Germany, India, Korea, Singapore, United States and the United Kingdom. It will examine some of the latest trends that are shaping the global supply of university graduates and the demand for 'knowledge' workers. It will also examine the rise of the high-skilled, low-waged workforce and its implications for education and labour market policies in the developed economies. We will argue that leading transnational companies are de-nationalising their skill formation strategies and that the theoretical assumptions that inform the 'varieties of capitalism' thesis do not adequately account for our findings. It will also be argued that the human capital assumptions on which the current policy consensus rests are historically contingent and increasingly redundant in the early decades of the twenty first century.

Brownlie, J., Anderson, S.　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**University of Stirling**

Triumph of the therapeutic? Emotional Lives in the UK

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30　　　　　Social Relationships　　　　　Syndicate A

Recent years have seen a growing interest within the social sciences, in the emergence of a 'therapeutic culture' (Nolan, 1998) .Societies shaped by these cultural changes, and for some this includes the UK, have arguably not only seen an expansion of counselling services but an 'institutionalisation' of a therapeutic ethos. While not always in agreement about how to define this therapeutic turn or its implications, few have questioned that it has taken place. But despite academic theorising about the 'formidable impact' of 'therapy culture' (Furedi, 2004) and the apparent emphasis on emotions and a counselling ethos within the policy domain (including, most recently, the Brown government's funding of 'Improving Access to Psychological Therapies' programme) there has been, to date, no systematic research focused on the population's beliefs or practices about seeking emotional support, nor any investigation of the respective roles of formal or informal sources of emotional support in people's lives. Has Britain actually witnessed the 'triumph of the therapeutic', as some would have us believe? As part of an ESRC-funded research project examining public views and experiences of emotional support, The Someone to Talk To Study, a module of questions was included in the 2007 BSA to help to answer this question. While the qualitative part of this study engages with the often nuanced ways in which people do 'use' therapeutic culture, this paper draws primarily on findings from the BSA module to begin to examine the evidence for a turn to the therapeutic.

Brunger, M. **Queens University Belfast**

Building Bridges/Healing Divisions: Policing Through Partnership in Northern Ireland

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Open 2   Syndicate B

On 10th April 1998 the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement was signed, effectively bringing to an end thirty years of conflict in Northern Ireland. A core component of the Agreement, and one of its most contentious, was the reform of policing. In fact, not only have the threads of the political agreement revolved around policing, policing issues remain central to continued community confidence in the peace process. An important aspect of police reform was the introduction of District Policing Partnerships, which place a statutory obligation on the reformed Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) to report on operational matters and create local policing plans alongside local politicians and independent members. Their aim being to provide both local accountability and bolster notions of legitimacy and consent for the PSNI, issues which were profoundly questioned in the pre-Agreement days of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. However, issues remain. First, policing crime is difficult when the legacy of policing conflict is still fresh. Second, many urban and rural areas still find themselves troubled by sectarian unrest, in-turn providing fertile ground for the use of informal crime control methods. Therefore the expectation placed upon the partnership ideal and the role of the police within the partnership process is great. The level of expectation has made the importance of policing through partnership in Northern Ireland a decisive issue in healing fractured community relationships. Using data from on-going fieldwork this paper contemplates the extent that policing through partnership is a constructive tool in healing such relationships and building bridges to diffuse communal polarisation.

Burdsey, D. **University of Brighton**

Obscured by the sight screen? English cricket, British Asian identities and colour-blind

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Open   Syndicate J

This paper challenges the dominant contention that racism "is just not cricket" and instead argues that it remains an intrinsic part of the English first-class game. The elevation of Mudhsuden 'Monty' Singh Panesar – the first Sikh to play cricket for England – to national sporting hero and a marked increase in the number of British Asians playing county and international cricket are frequently cited as evidence that discrimination is no longer a central factor in shaping the opportunities and careers of minority ethnic players. However, an examination of the testimonies of British Asian professional players demonstrates that this is not an accurate portrayal. Theoretically the paper employs two main concepts: Claire Jean Kim's (2004) 'racial positionality' and Eduardo Bonilla-Silva's (2006) 'colour-blind racism'. The former is used to disrupt the assumption that representation equates with inclusion, whilst the latter is used to explain how the rhetoric of race and racism is marginalised in the game. Based on in-depth interviews with British Asian professional players, this paper highlights the existence of racist and Islamophobic discourses, yet also demonstrates how the pervasiveness of colour-blind racism – namely the four principal frames of abstract liberalism, naturalisation, cultural racism and minimisation of racism (ibid.) – as a dominant ideology impacts upon minority ethnic, as well as white, players. The analysis explores the subsequent pressures placed upon minority ethnic players to exonerate or trivialise racist acts, rather than speak out against them.

Burgess, S., Elliott, E., Williams, G. **Cardiff Institute of Society, Health and Ethics**

Qualitative GIS: an innovative framework for mixed method approaches to studying

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

Across the social sciences, there is interest in understanding places in order to investigate the spatial patterning of human behaviour. However, places are complex social phenomena and unpicking this complexity is a challenge. In this paper, we argue for the adoption of new and innovative Qualitative GIS methods to help researchers meet this challenge.

GIS (Geographical Information Systems) is concerned with the collection, storage, analysis and representation of various spatial data (i.e. data that can be linked to points on the earth's surface). While 'traditional' GIS has been critiqued for being too objective, those interested in Qualitative GIS have sought to incorporate into GIS alternative, more qualitative characteristics of place, than have traditionally been included. As such, Qualitative GIS has the potential to help researchers explore the social processes that help create places and the history of these processes as well as people's perceptions of these processes and, consequently, of the places they inhabit. By combining this with more 'traditional' quantitative GIS approaches, Qualitative GIS provides a framework for mixed-method research to studying locality. We outline some of the techniques that may be adopted in order to capture, store, analyse and disseminate these qualitative characteristics of place. These include digital methods and their combination with traditional techniques of qualitative research. In particular, we describe our own use of participatory mapping groups in order to investigate neighbourhood social cohesion. This paper will be of interest to those working across the social sciences seeking to understand the relationships between people and places.

Butler, C., Pidgeon, N.   **Cardiff University**

Participation, Public(s) and Politics in Scientific Governance: A UK Comparative Case Study

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

In recent years, state sponsored participatory practices have become increasingly prevalent in the governance of scientific issues. These kinds of practices have arisen in response to public controversies and legitimacy problems associated with techno-scientific decision-making in political spheres. In the academic literature, there are multiple 'philosophies of participation' which entail very different conceptions of both the form and ends of participatory processes (Renn et al, 2008). In this paper we conduct a comparative examination of two UK cases of large scale participatory processes in political governance of scientific issues, namely the government run public deliberation exercise on nuclear new build held in 2007 and the GM Nation debate of 2003. By contrasting the differing philosophies of participation associated with social actors and groups involved in these processes, we provide insight into the interplay between politics, participatory practices and scientific governance. We suggest that particular models of the public and of participatory practice come into play in the processes through which such practices are mobilised. These differing models which actors bring are inextricable from their positions in relation to the wider issues at stake e.g. pro/anti nuclear or GM. In such highly politicised contexts, publics through their involvement in participatory practices become entwined in deeper socio-political contests over highly contentious issues.

Calvo, N.   **Lancaster University**

Metaphors of Hope? The Baque City, the Atlantic Arc and the emerging strategies for the Basque Country.

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

The broad 'Basque space' has been differently imagined and institutionalised in relation to notions such as country, Autonomous community (BAC), region, Euro-region, city, Basque City, and the Atlantic Arc. These metaphors are to a different extent used by key stakeholders on the national, supra-national and sub-national levels, and are to a different extent present in the communications, political, economic and administrative exchanges, bargaining, cooperation and conflict that concern the 'Basque space'. In this paper I will specifically focus on the strategies of Basque government to stabilise different institutional arragements and will argue that these arrangements are best understood as a series of tactics that operate simultaneously on different scales and have different temporal horizons. More specifically I will look at projects (e.g. Bilbao, the port, the HST, the Donostia-Pasaia Bay, the port of Pasaia, the logistics centres in Vitoria) where different interests are temporarily reconciled within narratives such the Basque City, Regional City, Euroregion etc. Further, I will argue that these tactics are almost exclusively spatial, this is also in relation to economic restructuring where the possibilities for direct intervention, on the part of Basque government, into specific sectors are limited. These limitations are due to the competencies that the BAC has within Spain, as well as the overal neo-liberal policy direction taken by the central Spanish government, the EU, as well as the Basque government itself. It could even be further argued that territorial (rather than sectoral) strategies are structurally privileged within the post-fordist acumulation regime.

Canning, V   **Liverpool John Moores University**

Rape and Sexual Violence in Global War and Conflict Situations

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Open   Syndicate J

It is evident from previous studies that sexual violence is an intrinsic element of warfare (Jones, 2006; Mestrovic, 1994). Incongruity does, however, exist in relation to why this may be the case. Some historians have argued that the violent setting within which soldiers are propelled inevitably breeds hatred against 'the other' (Staub, 1989), whilst psychoanalysis often concentrates on the sexual desires and needs of the war-time rapist (Scully, 1990). Ethnic, tribal or religious differences that can spur conflict, such as in the Rwandan Civil War, The Bosnian War and the Second Sudanese Civil War, can be seen as vehicles for driving or breeding out the minority, or perceptively inferior, group (Meštrovi?, 1994; Shaw, 2003).

Whilst these aspects may be elemental in localised conflict situations, the fact that rape is an act committed primarily by men against women (Brownmiller, 1975; Soothill and Walby, 1991), the global oppression and subordination of women as inferior is, as my studies demonstrate, the prominent underlying symptom of rape and sexual violence in areas of conflict.

This paper examines the correlations and contrasts between varying theoretical perspectives, and draws together cultural and sociological analyses to broaden pre-existing feminist contributions to knowledge of sexual violence in conflict situations. The results presented are the preliminary findings of a major study which aims to move the debate from the ethnocentric ideology of traditional Western feminism to a global and contemporary feminist perspective and form the basis for a qualitative investigation into issues of sexual violence in contemporary Zimbabwe.

Cannon, B.

Multiple Modernities: A Normative Critique

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Theory   Syndicate B

Theories of 'multiple' or 'alternative modernities' arise from both (1) postcolonial attempts to de-centre the privilege attached to Western modernity, and (2) recognition that countries such as Brazil, Russia, India and China are modernizing in non-Western ways. But rather than providing a comprehensive and progressive account of social change, the result is often confused and conservative. We see this in the tendency to grant Stalin's USSR and Hitler's Germany a 'modern' status - despite their brutal opposition to modern norms. To this extent, multiple modernity approaches retain postmodernism's discrediting stance towards modernity, of which Zygmunt Bauman's account of the Holocaust is perhaps the most extreme example. While it is assumed that these social formations share some 'modern' features; democracy, human rights and free speech are not amongst them. In contrast, I argue that we should not grant a modern status to social formations which preclude these norms. Instead we should identify modernity with a trans-cultural set of norms - by which all societies (including Western ones) can be judged - while resisting attempts to assign them an objective status. Overcoming Western privilege is best achieved, not by collapsing modern norms into the particular culture of the contemporary West, but by insisting the West conforms to a modern set of universal norms.

Carter, E. K.   **University of Essex**

"For the Benefit of the Tape: The effect of the silent participant on the interaction in the police interview"

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Open   Syndicate J

Using extracts from taped UK police interviews, this conversation analytic research empirically investigates the effect of the silent participant on the interaction in the police interview. The silent participant, that is, the later listeners of the tape such as the court, jury and other members of the criminal justice system, are represented by the physical presense of the tape recorder in the interview. Although research has explored this phenomenon in other contexts, such as in news interviews and in courtroom interaction, its effect on the interaction in police interviews remains underexplored. The findings show that officers produce semantically and legally redundant utterances and perform additional turns in the interaction in order to recognise and accommodate the potential later playing of the taped interview to future audiences. This research provides distinctive and detailed insights into the design and management of interaction in this highly restricted context. It reveals that the officers' interactional orientation to the silent participant overrides their orientation to the needs of the suspect, and the overarching requirements of the silent participant is tied to the officers' maximisation of the admissibility of the interview. The research demonstrates that this overriding orientation to the silent participant is, conflictingly, at once both required by, and at odds with, the PACE Act (1984), the premise of which is to protect the suspects' rights.

Carter, T.   **University of Brighton**

On labor and mobilities: the visibility, concealment, liberty, & constraint of transnational labor migration in the global sport industry

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Open   Syndicate J

The glorification and movement of transnational sports stars are small facets of the broader global movements of transnational sporting capital. The apparent ease and visibility with which these individuals move across the globe obscure the hierarchical strata that shape labor and its abilities to be mobile in the global sports industry. This paper looks at the various labor strata within the global sport industry and considers the degrees to which each group can be mobile and how visible they are in their movements. Equally, the constraints and concealment of such movements are also considered across the labor stratum. From the factories to the academies to the stadiums to the studios transnational labor is shaped by who moves and who does not, how those movements are or are not undertaken, and the degree to which these movements and constraints are publicly visible.

Case, S.P.

The Multiple Reflexive Identities Paradigm: A dynamic explanation of young people's behaviour

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

The 'risk society' is characterised by rapid, widespread social changes and economic uncertainty (Beck 1992). The public's view of risk is most intense in relation to young people and the risk of harm they apparently pose to themselves and others. Popular views of 'risk' and 'young people' have demonstrated striking similarities throughout the twentieth century and beyond, with both viewed as uncertain, unpredictable, uncontrollable and unwelcome.

Risk research has encompassed two distinct paradigms: quantitative, deterministic, medicalised approaches conceptualising risk as a statistical artefact and qualitative, constructivist understandings of how young people negotiate risk. Both paradigms have prioritised explanations of negative youth behaviours (e.g. crime/antisocial behaviour, drug use). The purported influence of risk has largely amounted to educated guesswork by researchers privileging certain theoretical and methodological predilections (e.g. developmental determinism, statistical control) over more complex and holistic understandings of youth behaviour as a multiplicity of dynamic, reflexive processes.

It is hypothesised that young people's behaviour can be better understood as constituted by 'multiple reflexive identities'. These identities flow from complex, dynamic interactions between the past, present and future - between young people's understandings, experiences, perceptions and abilities to resist and negotiate 'behavioural dynamics' (processes, actions, interactions, roles, relationships) within different situations and contexts at different times. The deeper investigation of reflexive identities and behavioural dynamics would progress hegemonic reductionist, deterministic understandings of young people's behaviour as framed by risk and deficit towards an ultimately more realistic, valid understanding of fluid identities continually reconstituted through dynamic processes of reflexivity, reconstruction, re-experience and interactions.

Casey, E.   **Kingston University**

Women, Consumption and 'Risk'

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Consumption   Syndicate G

This paper explores some of the complex relationships between gender, consumption and 'risk'. In particular, it considers how everyday life is complicated by the dilemma of utilising consumption as a means of seeking pleasure whilst at the same time ensuring that in the process of consuming, fragile identities - such as class and gender - are not put at risk. The paper considers the important role that emotions such as anxiousness and guilt play in everyday consumption patterns, especially for women living on low incomes, and discusses some of the detailed, micro consequences of consumption. In particular, it opposes the assumption that mass consumption is irrational, wasteful and a non-productive use of time, instead, demonstrating some of the ways in which, for working class women, especially, consumption patterns are very often highly rational and productive forms of spending, often going to great lengths to avoid wastefulness. The paper looks at those forms of consumption which may be seen to put valued characteristics of, for example, thriftiness and 'respectability' at risk. Examples of 'risky' types of consumption discussed in the paper include shopping using credit such as store cards or catalogue repayment schemes, gambling, and shopping 'excessively', such as at night time or going to any great length to get a bargain. In the first instance, the paper utilises Bourdieuian notions of cultural capital in order to examine the impact of consumption on identity formations, however it also examines some of the limitations of such approaches. In particular, it starts to explore in greater detail the emotional struggle for recognition and 'value'.

Caswell, G.   **University of Aberdeen**

Contested Meanings, Diverse Practices: A Consideration of Personalisation in Funerals.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

Consumers are increasingly offered personalised goods and services, ranging from web sites offering visitors items targeted at their presumed requirements, to packages of personal care tailored to the needs of the individual. In everyday language there appears to be an assumption that the meaning of the term personalised is self evident. However, this trend towards personalisation is also apparent in funerals, and here the meanings of the term are complex and contested.

Professionals working in the funeral industry use the term in diverse ways. It can refer to a funeral organised without the help of a funeral director, but it can also mean a funeral that is perceived to be different to the expected religious event. Academic research exploring western funeral practices applies the concept of personalisation in differing ways, some focusing on the character of the deceased, but others prioritising the beliefs and needs of the bereaved. This highlights one of the difficulties with using the term personalisation in this context; is it the deceased or the bereaved to whom a funeral should be personalised?

Drawing on the published literature and qualitative empirical data from a study of contemporary Scottish funerals, this paper explores the concept of personalisation in the context of funerals. The various strands to be found in the academic use of personalisation are examined, and the question is asked whether it is either possible or desirable to establish a precise definition of the term.

Catto, R. **LSE**

Religion in Global Society? Theoretical developments in the relationship between globalization and religion

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Religion   Syndicate H

Peter Beyer offers us in his 2006 book Religions in Global Society what has been described as the 'first coherent theory of globalization and religion'. There has been a tendency in previous globalization literature to neglect religion, or, if religion is discussed, to only focus on extreme manifestations i.e. fundamentalism. Consequently, Beyer's contribution is significant. In this paper I analyse the applicability of his theoretical approach drawing upon doctoral research conducted with non-Western Christian missionaries working in Britain.

Beyer makes some highly salient points including the inheritance of globalization from colonialism and religion, the related continued Western domination in the construction of 'religion' and its boundaries, and the plausibility of retaining secularization as part of pluralisation within globalization. I use examples from fieldwork to illustrate these points, and also how Beyer is right to emphasize the relationship between the local and the global. Yet, I argue that his Luhmannian frame of religion as a communication system may be inadequate for the interpretation of data. The individual can be seen as almost incidental to the frame, evidence seems to indicate that we are not living in a singular global society, and the connection between the local and the global requires elaboration. I show how some of these shortcomings may be found in globalization theory in general, and suggest how they might be addressed through the incorporation of postcolonial ideas into the study of religion and globalization.

Cederberg, M. **Oxford Brookes University**

Presences and absences in stories about racism and disadvantage: the multi-layered nature of migrant narratives

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

This paper engages with debates surrounding the biographical narrative method in the social sciences, drawing on narrative interviews with different groups of migrants in Sweden. The paper focuses particularly on how the migrants narrate experiences of racism, discrimination and disadvantage, and it argues for the importance of paying close attention to the context/s in which narratives are embedded, but also of accounting for narrative omissions or absences as well as presences. By considering the migrants' narratives alongside an analysis of popular debates concerning migrant integration, social exclusion, and discrimination, we see that aside from providing access to a multitude of (subjective) experiences that help challenge dominant narratives (and particularly denials of structural forms of disadvantage), those dominant narratives are at the same time reflected in, and to some extent frame, migrant narratives. Hence, by contrast to the suggestion that an open narrative approach gives the researcher access to a 'pure experience', these findings highlight the multi-layered nature of individual narratives, which on some levels appear to be embedded in dominant narratives, and on other levels entail critical insights through which such dominant narratives can be challenged. The paper argues for the importance of accounting for the immediate as well as broader social context in which narratives are situated, and for acknowledging the complexities in/of individual narratives, entailing as they may both elements which reproduce dominant narratives, and critical elements with potential to challenge them.

Chambers, P., Dunkerley, D., Thompson, A., Doleczek, L.

Poles Apart: Economic Migrant Careers in Wales.

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

Recent EU expansion has led both to a significant increase in economic migration to the UK by new EU citizens and a growing public discourse (negative and positive) surrounding notions of assimilation, integration and related resources issues. Drawing on recent original empirical research into the Polish migrant population of Llanelli we argue that integration is conditional on networks and knowledge acquisition and are best understood through the concept of 'migrant careers'. These careers pass through stages and progression is typically accidental and dependent on others. While, migrants can be characterised as 'escapees' 'sojourners', and 'strangers', entry into the workforce for all is through low status employment associated with transience and characterised by the desire to improve employment status. This, in turn, is mediated through others and the formation of localised hubs wherby migrants can acquire the knowledge necessary to move out of their initial employment situation and progress through membership of informal networks within the Polish community to accessing friendship networks outside of the Polish community. In Llanelli, one institution, the Polish-Welsh Mutual Association, constitutes both a bridge between these two network types and the source of the type of knowledge base necessary for employment mobility. Its presence has also led to the emergence of informal entrepreneurs within the Polish community who likewise have an educational and bridging function. Without institutions that can become local hubs there is little or no likelihood of successful integration.

Chan, C. K. C.   **Hong Kong Polytechnic University**

Class or Citizenship? An Analysis of Industrial Conflicts in China

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Economy and Society 2   Syndicate G

After an open door reform was launched in 1978, China has risen to a global manufacturing centre with its 'unlimited' supply of low cost and unorganised pesant workers. The potential of Chinese migrant workers to challenge the gobal capital, therefore, has significant meaning for global political economy and labour politics. While a new working class is in the process of remaking in China, the new labour study current in the West rejected the Marxist tradition which saw social relation of production as a point of departure in class analysis. By this approach, 'class' is one of the identities workers articulated which can only be understood with a reference to their languages or discourse. By referencing to a new book of Ching Kwan Lee (2007): Against the Law: Labor Protests in China's Rustbelt and Sunbelt (Berkeley: University of California Press), this article suggests that this approach is unsatisfactory to explain the changing pattern of labour protests in China. I argue that the workplace conflict is interacted with both a material social relation and a historical context which cannot be separated from each other. The post-materialist approach that ignores the former undermines the potential critical insights which class analysis offers. By connecting the analysis of social relations of production with patterns of workers' struggle, I argue that the migrant workers protests which is rooted in a production regime of capitalism is a significant part of emerging class conflict in the country.

Chan, T. W, Koo, A   **University of Oxford**

Parenting Style and Youth Outcome in the UK

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

We apply latent class analysis to data on parent--teenager interaction that was collected in the Youth Panel of the British Household Panel Survey. A threefold typology of parenting styles thus identified (`authoritative', `authoritarian' and `permissive') corresponds quite closely to those proposed by child development psychologists (e.g. Baumrind, 1978, 1991). We then explore the empirical correlates of parenting styles, focusing in particular on variation by family structure and parent's social class and education. Finally, we show that parenting styles do have statistically significant effects on a wide range of youth outcomes,

Chang, Y.H., Li, Y.J., Dale, A.   **Institute for Social Change**

Household Composition and Female Labour Force Participatoin in Taiwan

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

Due to modernization and industrialization, women's employment in Taiwan has been transforming rapidly since the mid 1960s. Previous studies raised various issues on women's labour market participation, mostly with regard to the impact of marriage, pregnancy, and childbirth on women's employment status. There was also qualitative research in this area which paid special attention to the power relation between married women and their husbands. However, in terms of socioeconomic changes, the previous studies have largely failed to structure women's employment status within a dynamic social context. There is also a lack of good analysis on trends of family structure changes and their impacts on women's participation in the labour market. This study aims to fill in the gap in this area. Drawing on large-scale datasets from the Taiwan Social Change Survey (1990-2006), we investigate the transformation of women's employment status and the rationale behind the change. Personal attributes, family structure, class, division of domestic labour, and gender role attitudes are all shown to have significant, albeit differing, effects.

Charles, N.   **University of Warwick**

Women in local and regional government: making a difference?

Thursday 16th April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open   Syndicate J

This paper explores the experiences of women in local and regional government in Wales, drawing on research undertaken as part of an ESRC-funded project into gender and political processes in the context of devolution[1]. The gender composition of local government and the National Assembly are very different with women constituting, on average, 20% of councillors across Wales and 47% of Assembly Members. In this paper we draw on interviews with women and men AMs and councillors to investigate the extent to which the different gendering of local and regional government affects the working environment and style of these two political arenas and whether women are able to be more effective when their numbers reach a critical mass. Several of the AMs we interviewed have experienced both local and regional government and this enables us to compare the organisational cultures of local government and the National Assembly. We also explore AMs' and councillors' views on the positive measures taken by the Labour Party and Plaid Cymru (the Party of Wales) to ensure a gender balance in political representatives. Our evidence shows that there is a widespread perception that having a gender balance in the National Assembly means that 'women's issues' and equalities issues more generally are given greater priority. This contrasts with local government where women representatives are in a minority.

[1] E.S.R.C. grant number RES-000-23-1185 awarded to Nickie Charles (Principal Investigator), Charlotte Davies & Stephanie Jones.

Chatterjee, S.

Changing urban space and its effect on India's Elderly: Multidisciplinary Dimension

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

The Indian joint family culture of supporting, caring and being responsible for the entire family and elderly in specific has led to a very strong social bonding. Due to this age old tradition, the elderly in Indian family system was very secure until the ill effects of industrialization and urbanization became apparent with decaying values and life styles gradually affecting the status of the aged. The question is how should one synthesize technological development with human values in Indian society.

Urban space, which determines the quality of life of people, is constantly degenerating. Unfortunately, researchers on ageing have so far confined themselves only with the physiological factors, neglecting the highly intrinsic spatial setting, which is now perceived as the problems of the aged.

Pune, the technological hub of India has undergone a metamorphosis from a city of cultural epicentre of Western India to a city of Information Technology parks and stellar business achievements. The city now boasts of high standard of living that had earlier earned itself the repute of 'Pensioner's Paradise' for its sedate and simple pace of lifestyle suitable for the elderly.

Cities do have excellent potential for meeting the needs of elderly and supporting lifestyle appropriate to the later years of life. The potential of cities as favourable milieu of aging needs to be explored and action taken to realize this potential. Solutions might lie in Corporate Social Responsibility and public private and community partnerships (PPCP).

Chen, M.   **University of Manchester**

A rising meritocracy?: Social origins, social destinations, and education in China

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Education   Syndicate C

The existing literature on social mobility in advanced industrialised societies highlights an enthusiasm in the role education plays when individuals seek opportunities of upward mobility. Similarly, the relationships between education, social origins, and social destinations in China are leading to an increasing interest. Some scholars indicate that the country is witnessing a rising meritocracy and demonstrating greater openness for those embarking from the lower part of the social hierarchy. An extension of the argument over the classic 'O(rigin) - E(ducation) - D(estination)' triangle in the Western literature on social mobility, this paper probes into the patterns of the relationships between the three ends of the triangle in a society that has been undergoing major social transformations. Using the data from the China General Social Survey conducted (2003 and 2005), the paper examines the effects of a range of social and political factors on individuals' opportunities of upward mobility during different periods of time divided by significant state policy changes. Although the association between social origins and education is likely to strengthen with the expansion of the latter, this paper will point out that education alone is not sufficient to assist individuals to ascend on the social ladder. This paper will thus conclude by contending that to what extent could the Chinese society be seen as a meritocracy remains undecided.

Cherry, S.   **Loughborough University**

Why are we here? The absence of a common problem in self-help group meetings.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Self-help group scholars have argued that a definitional feature of self-help groups is the distribution of experiential knowledge of a common problem (e.g., Borkman 1976; 1999; Katz, 1990; Riessman & Carroll, 1995). On these accounts, self-help group meetings are composed of shared knowledge of personal experience from living with specific problems. Drawing on in-depth ethnographic research across a fifteen-month period with five self-help groups, this paper reports a systematic absence of a common problem in self-help group meetings. Through a rich ethnographic narrative of the in situ organization of self-help group meetings, the paper charts how repeated patterns of interaction contribute to an active concealment of the primary criterion of membership of these self-help groups: the common problem. In so doing, it shows the routine appearance of activities typically enacted by those who do not have a common problem; thus there is an orientation to the normal and the ordinary. This is discussed in terms of classic and current debates around stigma (e.g., Anderson & Bury, 1988; Goffman, 1963). For instance, how the stigma attached to specific problems disappears when individuals are in the company of others who share the stigma. The topic of this paper - the erasure of a phenomenon from the very site that is founded on its existence - engages, and contributes to, other research in the sociology of health and illness to enrich contemporary understandings of the category "self-help group".

Chimienti, M.   **City University**

Weak agency.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

In 1998 Emirbayer and Mishe were asking, in the AJS, 'What is agency?' Building on the analysis of the key dimensions of agency, this communication will examine whether the concept of agency is still relevant for people living in a situation of vulnerability. Asking how people, facing social discrimination, legal uncertainty and economic distress, do (or do not) act, pull out and cope, it will discuss the specific dimensions of what can be called 'weak agency'.

This analysis is based on a broad field study of female, migrant sex workers in different settings (strip-clubs, bars and massage parlours), representatives of ngos and of authorities dealing with female, migrant sex workers.

This study shows that while agency is built towards a threefold time relationship (present, past and future), weak agency can only count on the present to draw its resources. The motivation to pull out in situations of vulnerability comes first from the pain related to current situation. If suffering places people on stand-by, preventing them from any action, it leads to the reflexivity of the agents on their situation. This reflexivity transformed suffering into drivers.

Because resources are rare, the experiences play a crucial role for people in situations of vulnerability, however these experiences, and the potential resources they create, are highly ambivalent. Finally, weak agency is also characterised by a lonely process, firstly because of concurrence, mistrust or lack of human capital but also due to structural barriers preventing social support; and secondly, because reflexivity requires self-questioning.

Chinnappan, A.   **Pondicherry University, India**

Pattern of Reciprocity Across Consanguines and Affines by Rural Widows of South India

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

Interpersonal relationships inevitably involves a 'give and take' that provides the all purpose moral cement underpinning the stability of the social system. It is a universal norm that defines, regulates and harmonizes social relationships (Gouldner, 1960). Reciprocity essentially governs the interpersonal relationships and is important in understanding support provisions to widows. Studies on reciprocity generally focus on specific dyadic relationships, despite the fact that patterns of social exchange with other relationships may complement or compensate for exchange pattern within the focal relationship. This paper attempts to a) examine the pattern of reciprocity (generalized, balanced or negative) across consanguines and affines, b) to trace the factors associated with reciprocity.

Data for the paper is drawn from a larger study on "Rural Widows, Social Structure and Social Support". In all, 307 widows in communities prohibiting remarriage and those involved in active farming were interviewed. Correlation and regression techniques are used to determine the important factors associated with reciprocity.

Network stability and interpersonal relationships are governed by principle of reciprocity, which vary by role types and cultural dictum. The principle of 'generalized reciprocity' operates between parents and widows while balanced reciprocity exists between widows and female siblings and all affines. Widows even while receiving support from consanguines reciprocate to affines, if cordial, owing to the close proximity whereas the converse is not noted when considerable support is received from affines. In addition to a few socioeconomic characteristics, Network properties play a major role in reciprocity.

Chowne, J. A.   **University of Bath**

Time and shiftwork

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

Once we accept time as a social construct then substantial disparity between clock time i.e. as measured by technology; organisational time synchronising, sequencing and allocating temporal resources; compared to employee time perception which may be several (biological, home, social etc) concomitant versions, can exist. This study seeks to show which aspects of individual temporal management affects shiftwork tolerance.

Shiftworkers are the archetype of workers at temporal odds with the world: working when their society; community; and family are socialising and sleeping. An extensive research tradition of the effect of shiftwork on the individual experience in terms of health, psychology, and social activities exists. Using shiftworkers and non-shiftworkers to investigate the effect of time on employees and organisations makes sense given the comparable organisational context i.e. environment, job design, employment contract etc.

Part of the discussion of shiftworkers work tolerance is their capacity to adapt to living a different social and organisational time. Additionally, personality effects are considered important in shiftwork tolerance. These relate to some empirical studies in sociology of time. The concept of polychronicity suggests different temporal personalities. Entrainment suggests capacity to learn to manage any of the social temporalities with which individual's engage. The commonality between entrainment and shiftwork adaptation has been linked previously, albeit a limited and experimental context. The personality theories could link together too. Therefore, theories from two burgeoning research areas appear to have some commonality that could be utilised in seeking extend the study of the relationship between time and shiftworker experience.

Chung, H.   **REFLECT, Tilburg University**

Working time flexibility components of European companies

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

Working time flexibility has been gaining much attention for its ability to facilitate the needs of both employers and employees. However, most studies on working time arrangements have been restricted to one or only few arrangements as separate entities. This is due to the lack of a commonly recognized method in which the arrangements can be examined in combination. This paper explores the possibility of examining working time arrangements not as separate entities but as bundles by proposing a new method. The first question asked is whether working time arrangements can be grouped as bundles. Next, if there are bundles what types of bundles can be found, and what can they be identified as? Lastly, what are the relationships between these bundles of arrangements? This paper uses the ESWT (Establishment Survey on Working Time), which surveys the company level practices of working time flexibility for the years 2004/2005. Factor analysis is done to bundle working time arrangements that share latent characteristics based on the practices of firms in providing these arrangements. The outcomes of the analysis show that working time arrangements can be bundled as those that are more worker-oriented, those that are more firm or company-oriented and those that can be seen as facilitating the needs of both sides. In addition, it is found that the working time flexibility components are not at odds with each other but more so can be seen as constituting different dimensions of working time flexibility.

Churchill, H.   **Liverpool John Moores University**

European Capital of Culture - Whose Culture? The expereinces of 'culture' amongst Liverpool's Lesbian & Gay Community.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

This paper examines the notion of 'gay culture' in Liverpool and the effect, if any, of The European Capital of Culture celebrations on the experiences of Lesbians and Gay men in Liverpool. Based on the results of a series of in-depth interviews with local people prominent in the L&G community in Liverpool, the paper critically explores the question of whether there is a Lesbian and Gay culture in Liverpool, looking both at popular and creative culture, broader sociological conceptualisations of 'culture', and the perception that gay and lesbian culture remains at best peripheral and at worst entirely absent from Liverpool. Preliminary analyses of the results have suggested diverse understandings of 'culture' and a perception that place of gay and lesbian 'culture' appears to be largely absent from the central profile of the European Capital of Culture events.

Cieslik, M.

Sociology and the Study of Happiness

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Open 2   Council Chamber

This paper explores the concept of happiness and how a sociology of happiness might be developed. Sociology should be centrally concerned with issues and debates around happiness and quality of life. Most people have some conception of what happiness means to them and organise their lives with this as some form of guiding principle. These normative processes by which individuals learn about happiness and develop ways of living in accordance to these norms and values makes up much of the fabric of everyday life. Yet it seems that this topic has mostly been left to psychologists, philosophers and economists to explore in recent years. Sociologists have been more concerned to document the failings of modernity - the growth of poverty, inequality, illness, suffering, anxiety and stress.

This paper documents some of the reasons why sociology has neglected the issue of happiness and illustrates how sociological thinking might help us to make sense of happiness. It shows how such a project can make links with key theoretical and substantive concerns in sociology such as those around social identity, the life course, inequality and structure, culture and agency. It also argues that a greater engagement with issues such as happiness offers a way of enhancing the relevance of sociology as well as raising its profile at a time when the discipline has been seen to be in decline.

Collins, H.   **Cardiff University**

The "Third Wave" and Elective Modernism

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Sub-Plenary – Science and Technology Studies   Assembly Hall

I explain the idea of a `Third Wave' of science studies as first put forward in a widely discussed but somewhat controversial paper by Collins and Evans, published in 2002.  I discuss some developments of this approach, including the `Periodic Table of Expertises.' I describe some recent experiments on the blind that demonstrate the idea of `Interactional Expertise.'  In the second half of the paper I will suggest that we need an `Elective Modernism.' Elective Modernism `elects' to take the core values of science seriously while not rejecting the social constructivist findings of the `Second Wave' of science studies. It is suggested that the problem of demarcating science from other cultural activities can be solved and an initial indication of the contents of Elective Modernism is essayed.

Cooper, B., Glaesser, J.

Using case-based approaches to analyse large datasets - a comparison of Ragin's fs/QCA and cluster analysis

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

Sociologists, including some sympathetic to quantitative work, have developed critiques of "variable analysis", drawing attention to the unrealistic assumptions inherent in linear modelling. Several have explored methods that allow the case rather than the variable to become the focus of causal analysis. There is increasing interest in how we might maintain the integrity of the case, understood as a configuration of features, in the context of analysing large quantitative datasets where, previously, conventional variable analysis has ruled. We have been exploring one method, Ragin's fs/QCA (both its crisp and fuzzy set versions) in analysing large scale longitudinal datasets. In doing so, we have constructed sets of similar cases (using data on social class, gender, measured 'ability', etc.) in order, e.g., to understand better the distribution of educational achievement. Others favour alternative methods for creating such typologies, including cluster analysis. Being aware that the typologies of cases constructed by cluster analysis and fs/QCA, while overlapping, are not identical, we have been exploring the nature of these differences and their implications.

The paper compares cluster analysis with the current version of fs/QCA, which makes particular operational choices from within the fuzzy set literature to construct its typologies of cases-as-configurations. We introduce relevant aspects of the methods, use illustrative 2-dimensional examples to bring out differences in the methods of typology construction and then discuss more complex examples (using NCDS data). Finally, we discuss the implications of this work, commenting on other ways the fs/QCA operations might be undertaken and on fuzzy cluster analysis.

Coulton, J   **University of Salford**

Supermodernity: nihilistic myth or dystopian reality? A critical examination of the works of Mark Auge and Mark Gottdiener.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Consumption   Syndicate G

This paper aims to examine whether supermodernity is a nihilistic myth, dystopian reality, or indeed one step too far in the quest to further comprehend mans' inhumanity towards man. This exploration will offer a critique of the work of French anthropologist Marc Auge, analysing the concept of transitionality, as expounded by American sociologist Mark Gottdiener.

Marc Auge argues that "if place can be defined as rational, historical and concerned with identity, then a space which can- not be defined as rational, or historical, or concerned with identity will be a non-place" (1995: 77). Such non-places, according to Auge, unlike certain 'places' of modernity where the ancient and the modern coexist, exhibit a state of excesses, solitude and self-containment, all of which are products of 'supermodernity'. Auge argues that as the world gets smaller through cheaper and more available means of transport, and through technological advances in communication equipment, alongside an extension of life expectancy and an aging global population, there is an excess of space, time and ego, and that these three excesses result in supermodernity, characterised by the temporary spaces it produces. The impact of supermodernity and non-places therefore, according to Auge, is the decline of the public 'man', and instead, the rise of the self-obsessed individual, who spends "more and more effort wondering where they are going [only] because they are less and less sure where they are" (1995: 115).

Coupland, J

Age identity and bodily display: the older dancer

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Open   Syndicate J

All bodies age, both in functional and aesthetic terms, but how bodily ageing is experienced and culturally interpreted deserves sustained attention across a range of social contexts and activities. This paper uses data from a participant-observation ethnography of contemporary dance classes for women over 40, which used poetry and music to elicit discussion and dance improvisation focussed around a range of time-related themes (e.g. the past, the future, the journey through life.) Contemporary dance is a form of self-expression culturally associated with younger bodies: with the assumption that it is younger bodies who will have the physical abilities to dance, and that it is younger bodies who are worth looking at when they dance.

 I elicited participants' representations of a range of issues around the body, ageing and display, using interviews, questionnaires, ethnographic notes on classes, focus groups, and participants' 'dance diaries'. Critical pragmatic analysis is used to explore a range of themes from the data, including functional, aesthetic and control aspects of bodily awareness, particularly in relation to the lifespan and identity; the use of the mirror in class and elsewhere, and self-presentation and self-esteem. The dancers' representations of their motivations to dance included the following: returning to being able to see the body in a positive light, enhancing self-awareness and self-development, reconnecting with a (previously lost) 'real' self, enabling a new social role, empowerment, and taking advantage of the opportunity to 'play'. The analysis shows participants reclaiming the body as a legitimate expressive space, with obvious identity implications.

Courtney, R   **University of Leicester**

Racist nonsense? English Identity, social theory, and the end of sociology

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Theory   Syndicate B

This paper argues that questions of English identity should be paramount in studies of class and ethnicity; and further that English identity is problematic to the values underpinning sociology itself. Through examples drawn from my own research I argue that recent theorisations of class have serious consequences on sociology's role in public and political discourse. Culturalist explanations of class fail to conceptualise class culture in relation to whiteness and English identity and are an academic advocacy of lay voices reflecting the supposed "silenced white majority". By explaining white voice as a class narrative many authors fail to theorise and denounce racism. Thusly, the sociological outcome of class narratives legitimates white resentment. The ramifications of this on sociological values are completely neglected in recent works.I argue that when class culture is politically advocated through sociological theory the results over-shadow accepted values regarding the advocacy of excluded voices within public discourse. Such advocacy prompts a larger discussion in sociology between the values of social science and national identity, citizenship, and multi-culturalism. Ultimately, the paper asks whether recent attempts to frame a cosmopolitan and public sociology allow for a representation of class narrative that rejects racism and the shortcomings of the class culture paradigm. These will be used to conclude that recent works on class culture present little credible addition to sociological theory and that sociology should be increasingly mindful over the identities that it advocates and gives voice.

Cowan, O.   **Cardiff University**

Navigating experience and perception of crime in Atlantic Wharf

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

Atlantic Wharf is in Cardiff Bay, a result of the regeneration of the docks that has unfolded over the last twenty years. There has been a growing interest in the relationship between regeneration and crime, but less research on how crime impacts on everyday life in a regenerated area. This paper will introduce my PhD research into the relationship between the experience and perception of crime and disorder, and the way people use and perceive the everyday spaces of their neighbourhood. It will also offer insight into a particularly useful approach to conducting research focused on the relationship between crime and place; the mobile interview.

The core research data has been gathered through walk-and-talk interviews with residents and key informants around Atlantic Wharf. This has proved an extremely useful and productive tool as it has allowed me to access and contextualise how the intricacies and significance of place, route and everyday practice relate to notions and knowledge of crime and disorder. It has also presented a number of challenges that need to be considered before using this approach.

Particular components of Atlantic Wharf's physical and social environment facilitate an exploration of the way that feelings of safety or insecurity are filtered through direct experience, mediated knowledge, conditioned responses, and individual perception. Furthermore there is much to discuss regarding notions of community and how people perceive the role they and their neighbours hold in producing and maintaining a safe, attractive and pleasant living environment.

Coy, M.

Paying for sex as a form of consumerism: the context and challenge of globalisation

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Consumption   Syndicate G

The demand side of the commercial sex industry is an increasingly popular focus of both research and policy. Recent international studies on paying for sex indicate that buying sex is 'a contextual practice', and globalisation - in terms of extension of free markets and opening up of national borders - affects both availability and visibility of commercial sex Marttila, 2006). This paper draws on one of the largest UK samples of men who pay for sex and presents a conceptual framework of 'consuming', 'boasting' and 'confessing' to capture behaviours. Where buying sex is framed as consumerism, sexual transactions become consumer products, and discourses of market value, quality of service, and ease and convenience feature in men's accounts. Thus women's bodies and sexual services are regarded as commodities in a context of free market mutual exchange that mitigates notions of objectification and harm. The paper explores this framing using Radin's (1996) work on contested commodities and considers how globalisation and the promotion of consumerism present challenges to identify gendered harm in prostitution.

Curato, N   **University of Birmingham**

The Heart of the Matter: Pragma-dialectics as Methodology for Researching Deliberative Practice

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

After the noted 'deliberative turn' in democratic theory, various methodological innovations have surfaced to empirically capture the concept of deliberation. Generally, these approaches gauge deliberative quality using a set of indicators based on Habermas's model. Although these indicators are theoretically-informed and empirically-verifiable, this paper argues that existing approaches still fail to capture the heart of deliberation. Deliberation involves discussion aimed at producing reasonable, well-informed opinion in which participants are willing to revise their preferences in light of discussion. Hence, an adequate approach must capture the dynamic and intersubjective process of exchanging reasons rather than merely keeping tabs on static indicators of 'good' deliberation.

This paper suggests that pragma-dialectics can fill in this gap. It is a strand of discourse analysis that specifically looks at argumentative exchanges which are part of a 'systematic attempt to resolve a difference of opinion'. It remains faithful to Habermas by foregrounding deliberation's linguistic foundations while developing Habermas's model by looking at the dynamic stages of deliberation and the language appropriate to each stage. It picks up where Habermas left off by providing specific standards on issues where Habermas was ambiguous such as 'What is a reasonable argument?' and 'What moves distort deliberative exchanges?' While pragma-dialectics has been used in fields such as literary criticism and judicial argumentation, it has not yet been fully applied in analysing deliberation. The last part of this paper provides an empirical example on how this approach is used in analysing a deliberative encounter.

Daneski,K., Higgs, P. Morgan,M   **Swansea University**

Moral Discourses, Health and Old Age: Some continuities and disjunctures from the History of Stroke

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Open   Syndicate J

It could be argued that while History is mainly concerned about social change it also throws up continuities and circularities from the past. This is particularly true in relation to the understanding of Stroke where connections between increased risk factors and individual responsibility have taken on a moral component which has parallels with older 'moral' discourses about apoplexy where maintenance of the body is a key concern. At the same time the discussion of stroke connects with epidemiological concerns regarding the impact of the obesity crisis on the health of ageing populations. As with other chronic conditions, the main principle of medical management of stroke is prevention through individually focused strategies that focus on dietary measures and increasing activity levels. These recommendations resonate with a public debate on what has been termed the 'obesity epidemic' where the availability of cheap food and the decline in individual fitness are seen to be problems for the health of society as well as individuals within it.   Both discourses have strong moral components relating to individual responsibility and personal agency. This paper draws from original socio-historical research on the management of stroke and shows how historically similar judgements were made in the 18th and 19th centuries where the lifestyles of individuals came under scrutiny and similar recommendations for individual action were also made. However times change as do moral starting points and this paper argues that while there are lessons to be learnt from history for policy makers there are also crucial differences.

Dart, J., Naidoo, D.   **Leeds Trinity & All Saints**

Athletes and Social Networking

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open   Syndicate J

There have been a number of recent incidents involving athletes and social networking sites. In the UK, the LTA withdrew funding from two young tennis players after 'inappropriate' photos were reported on the Bebo social networking site. Shortly after, a young football player announced to his friends on Facebook that he was having a 'secret trial' with another club – unaware that thousands of other people were able to read his entries. In the USA, a growing number of colleges are banning their student-athletes from using social networking sites, whilst internationally the IOC vacillated over athletes' blogging during the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. However, it is not all negative, with social networking sites offering a number of PR and marketing possibilities for athletes, as well as acting as a platform to by-pass the traditional mainstream media. The cultural impact of Web 2.0 is proving significant, especially amongst young people, with their on-line activities presenting a number of challenges to sporting organisations. This paper explores the role of sporting bodies in advising young people on their use of such sites for personal correspondence. The different positions adopted by sporting bodies inform debates about what is 'acceptable' behaviour by young athletes and wider issues of privacy, censorship and surveillance.

Davey, G M   **University of Southampton**

'They'd rather lose their right arm than send their children to state school'.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Education   Syndicate C

This paper draws on the narratives of three middle-class mothers whose children have spent some of their education within the independent sector. I argue that the mothers' stories of educational decision-making articulate not only classed practices, but explicit class identities too. I aim to explore what Mike Savage has described as the '....innocence, the kind of unacknowledged normality of the middle-class' (Savage 2003: 357). Working with Bourdieu's formulation of 'habitus + capital x field = practice', I propose that this framework offers a more nuanced understanding of class, and one that is otherwise obscured by traditional class labels (Bourdieu: 1984).

The paper is written from data collected as part of my PhD thesis, where I argue against the widely-held binary model of educational decision-making. To divide students (and their parents) into a privileged middle-class versus a disadvantaged working class overlooks important nuances. I have proposed a model of middle-class decision-making which offers three quite distinctive approaches, and disrupts the widely-held working-class/middle-class binary model. The focus in this paper is the mothers whose children I have characterised as 'strategic and ambitious' choosers. How do their mothers make, and make sense of their own educational decisions, and how do the middle classes, in the words of one mother, 'move their children on'?

My decision to carry out research which focuses on the independent sector is an attempt to offer a more complex and finely-drawn analysis of an environment which has been neglected from research or used as a demonised 'other'.

Davis, H., Baker, S., Day, G., Kowalska, M.   **Bangor University**

Exploring European identities through biographical narratives

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

This paper reports on an investigation into the meanings of 'Europeanness' in the experiences of ordinary citizens. Using data from an international project (EU FP7 'Euroidentities') it explores the significance of study or training in another country in the perspectives of people who have had such experiences earlier in their lives. The autobiographical narrative method provides insights into how individuals actively construct their current identity and how their identities have evolved over time. The paper examines the extent to which educational mobility is realising its greater goals of promoting a positive transnational culture and lasting integration across European national borders. Biographical data is a rich resource for assessing the impact of these experiences on changing (or non-changing) identifications and the elusive category of 'European identity'. The project is generating a database from the seven research partners which allows comparisons to be made between cases from the UK and a range of other countries . The paper will include discussion of the methodological issues involved in biographical narrative analysis as well as substantive questions of European identity formation.

Dawson, M.   **University of Sussex**

The Death of Utopian Realism? Our Understanding of Politics in Late Modernity

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Theory   Syndicate B

This paper will discuss the understandings of the role of politics offered by three key sociological writers, Zygmunt Bauman, Ulrich Beck and Anthony Giddens. Despite some differences the paper argues these three share key sociological components in their understanding of modernity, which combined can be treated as an elaboration of 'late modernity'. Among this common understanding are factors such as; the 'reflexive biography'/life story, the prevalence of 'expert systems', uncertainty and unintended consequences of modernity, as well as the importance of risk, ecology and the effects of globalisation. Along with these theoretical similarities, it will be argued that the political observations of these writers' work have been detached from their more critical and comprehensive sociological work. Whilst Giddens' political viewpoint found its manifestation in 'The Third Way' and Beck's in writings on 'sub-politics' and 'cosmopolitanism'. By examining their previous and concurrent sociological writings this paper will argue that instead the form of politics suggested is a more pluralistic, decentralised form of democracy focused towards new goals, these can not be realised in the formations they offer. The writings of Bauman will be used to develop this point, since he has used this common understanding of 'late modernity' to form different political arguments. However whilst showing more theoretical consistency, he still doesn't develop a complete political framework. This paper concludes by using the sociological and political observations drawn therein as the beginning for a different understanding of the role of politics in late modernity.

DeHanas, D. N.   **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

Return of Certainties?: Global Religious Revivalism and the Local Grievances of London's Young Second-Generation

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Religion   Syndicate H

This paper investigates the forms of religion prevalent among second-generation Muslim and Christian young people in Inner London. The work of French Sociologist Olivier Roy has been highly influential in the study of Muslims' transitions from first to second-generation throughout Europe. Roy argues that "neofundamentalist" forms of religion are in the ascendancy, due to global factors that include the "deterritorialisation" of Islam and a process of "deculturalisation" that is intended to distil Islam into a pure, all-encompassing world faith. Although Roy's work focuses on the conditions of Muslims in France, he generalises to other European contexts and to the generational transitions of Christian ethnic minorities, especially Evangelicals and Pentecostals. This paper will bring Roy's insights forward for empirical verification in the context of Inner London. The interplay of global movements of religious revival and the local concerns and grievances of second-generation youth -- and the bearing of these on Roy's thesis -- will be considered. The paper is based on a larger study that includes ethnographic fieldwork in urban neighbourhoods and religious institutions, interviews with religious and community leaders, and 80 in-depth interviews with Bangladeshi (predominantly Muslim) and Jamaican (largely Christian) second-generation youth. Though the paper will dialogue primarily with Roy's work, it will situate its argument within key recent developments in the study of secularisation and global religion from Charles Taylor, David Martin, and Daniele Hervieu-Leger.

**den Besten, O., Adey, P., Horton, J., Kinross, M.,
Kraftl, P., Newman M., Woodcock, A.**

Re-positioning schools: A critical look at school re-design

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Education   Syndicate C

In the context of the UK Government's plans to rebuild or refurbish every secondary school in the country within the next 10-15 years, the paper looks closely at the social relationships involved in designing a new school. Through in-depth ethnographic research in 10 diverse schools we attempt to analyze the complex decision-making process of creating an individual school building. The paper discusses where major changes in school architecture come from and how they are connected to the envisaged changes in education. Research shows that on the level of a single school, the school identity plays a central role in this process. In the context of tough competition on the educational market, a school takes considerable efforts to position itself as a specific type of school (for example, a caring, cosy and reliable primary in a well-off area, or a prestigious arts college). Schools also strive to come up to the expectations of them becoming a community hub or a flagship of renewable energy use. Aspirations for such (re-)positioning are very much put into the design of the new building. The paper considers how the stakeholders' hopes and visions can be conflictual with other participants' ideas and to what extent they can be constrained by a certain procurement route, budgets, and building regulations. In particular, we look at how the fact that schoolchildren get to contribute mostly or only to the design of social areas - such as corridors, canteens, and toilet facilities - is constructed around the notion of expertise.

Deriu, F., Staffieri, S.   **"Sapienza" University of Rome**

Job instability, risk aversion and family choices in four EU-27 major cities

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

The connection between job ibstability and family choices is highly complex. The question is whether it is the instability in a job to affect family choices made by individuals and couples or whether it is their risk aversion level to influence decision making when it comes to choosing a job, setting up a family and having children.In other words, how does the condition - recently more and more familiar to the young generation - of working under unstable contracts affect the transition to aduthood? This paper's concern is to investigate these issues on the assumption that it is in fact people's job instability that heavily conditions decisions in family planning rather than their propensity to taking risks. Facts and figures used as data sources for this paper were collected in 2006 by means of a C.a.t.i. survey (computer assisted telephone interview) carried out in four major cities in the European Union, then counting 25 members, within the transnational J.i.f.t. Project (Job Instability and Family Trends) funded by the European Commission DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. The survey aimed at ascertaining how the becoming more and more popular of various form of rather unstable types of work contract impacted on young people's aged 25-44 family choices.The study was carried out with an interdisciplinary approach looking at economic, sociological and demographical factors.

Dewan, I.

The perspectives of mixed heritage students in a London school

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Education   Syndicate C

This paper examines initial findings from a study with mixed heritage secondary school students (aged11-16) attending a mixed, ethnically diverse comprehensive in inner London. The topics discussed in interviews with the students included perceptions of being mixed race, experiences of living in London, and perspectives on education and future lives. Some differences between these findings and the research findings from recent studies on the experiences and perceptions of young mixed heritage people (DfES, 2004; Dewan, 2008) can be identified. Whilst feelings of difference, and race discrimination and miscategorisation (from both black and white people) were rife amongst young students attending FE colleges in London in 2001-02 (see Dewan, 2008), the young people in this study (research conducted in 2008) tended to reproduce a multiculturalist discourse of personhood in which race was not an issue and everyone was seen as equal to everyone else. Rather than focus on matters around mixed heritage identity, as is evident in earlier studies, the students' talk tended to reflect some of the wider social issues and problems facing many young people in London today, such as youth crime, gendered peer pressure, anxieties about safety, etc. This paper asks what implications these findings have for contemporary theories of society and personhood, and for education policy and practices which have mixed heritage people in mind.

Dewan, Indra (2008) Recasting Race: Women of Mixed Heritage in Further Education. Trentham Books: Stoke-on-Trent

DfES (2004) Understanding the Educational needs of Mixed Heritage Pupils. London: Research Report 549

Dicks, B.

Community 'capacity building' in local regeneration : culture, politics and rhetoric

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

Regeneration policy agendas, previously criticised for failing to engage local communities, now routinely incorporate strategies for developing community 'capacity building', participation and 'active citizenship'. A number of features characterise such strategies: a focus on suporting community members' personal skills (such as self-confidence); putting in place effective communicational and organisational support; encouraging community members to link up with, participate in and access resources, focusing in on the need for image-change in the environment, and so forth. It operates with a guiding assumption: agencies' role is to facilitate and support the existing resources that already lie - though probably dormant and unrecognised - within residents' own selves, community groups, partnerships, environments. Through an empirical case-study of two ex-coal-mining communities in the welsh Valleys, the paper explores how this policy approach is playing out in terms of an unfolding agenda of regeneration in the area. The focus is on unpacking the rhetoric of policy documents and interviews with planners and policy-makers to uncover the kinds of assumption being made about communities' capacity to act, be resourceful, develop their own existing qualities and skills and link up with appropriate resources. The paper argues that this approach reflects a more demanding stance towards community members, based on neo-liberal principles of the competitive, self-reliant citizen, than was necessary with previous ones. It questions how appropriate it is in the context of long-term disadvantaged communities, under conditions of scarce resources, endemic problems of unemployment and poverty, and in neighbourhoods of dense and often fraught interpersonal relationships.

Dinnie, E.   **University of Aberdeen**

From Commune to Global Eco-village: Managing Individuality in the New Age

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Religion   Syndicate H

New Age spirituality differs from traditional religions in making the human self, rather than an external deity, divine. Having the essence of holiness within means New Agers locate authority with the self; truth, for those who see themselves as spiritual beings, must come from personal experience rather than from others exercising authority or from authoritative traditions or belief systems. The idea that we are each our own authority is profoundly modern and sociologically precarious because lack of obedience to external authority creates variously related problems of social organization, elicits only slight commitment and little agreement about details. It thus makes a shared life unlikely.

This paper argues that the Findhorn community, one of the few survivors of the 1960s communes, has managed the problems of social organization stemming from the location of authority with the self by changing its purpose from creating a shared way of life to education and demonstration to others. Each year around 2,000 people from over 70 countries attend residential programmes at the community's two campuses in Moray, Scotland. Instead of converting people to a way of life visitors can pass through the community before moving on elsewhere. Local projects in sustainability, housing, economics, energy production and waste water treatment can be transferred to a global level of interaction through the community's inclusion in international associations such as the Global Eco-Village Network and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

Domínguez Rubio, F.   **University of Cambridge**

A morphogenetic approach to cultural production: the case of Robert Smithson's Spiral

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

This paper will deal with the production of cultural forms. The specific objective is to offer an alternative to those sociological accounts which have studied the production of cultural forms by focusing on different 'external' factors like the structure of the artistic market (DiMaggio, 1977; Moulin, 1967; Peterson, 1997), the structure and number of galleries and museums (Crane, 1987), the composition of the public (DiMaggio and Stenberg, 1985; White and White, 1965) or the gatekeeping system and the networks of cooperation and competition amongst artists (Becker, 1982, Bourdieu, 1993, 1996).The paper will contend that these approaches have tended to reduce cultural forms to mere outcomes of social processes leaving moot the analysis of cultural products as specific material entities. As I will contend, the process of production is not merely expressive or revelatory. It is a truly morphogenetic process, that is, it generates form. I will illustrate this point by focusing on a specific cultural form, the Spiral Jetty, a monumental sculpture created by the American artist Robert Smithson. As I will show, the Spiral Jetty's grew into form through the specific solutions given to developing problems within the process of production itself. The case of the Spiral Jetty will serve to illustrate the need to understand cultural production from within, that is, from a detailed study of how cultural forms are materially accomplished.

Donovan, C., Groves, N., Griffiths, S.   **University of Sunderland**

Perpetrators of domestic violence: engaging them in voluntary perpetrator programmes

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

Drawing on the findings from a Northern Rock Foundation Evaluation of two domestic violence projects in the North East and Cumbria we focus on work with perpetrators. Both Projects originally aimed to provide voluntary perpetrator programmes but both struggled to recruit. In this paper we explore some of the reasons why this was the case, focussing on the ways in which different agencies understand their responsibilities in relation to addressing domestic violence. Whilst many agencies can identify a role in relation to the health and social care required for victim/survivors and their children and many can identify a role for the criminal justice system in relation to holding perpetrators accountable we found that very few agencies see a role for themselves to engage with perpetrators directly to refer them to the voluntary perpetrator programmes.   We explore three key reasons for this: perpetrators do not fall within their remit; anxiety attached to working with potentially violent men; and gendered assumptions about work with families: perpetrators are rarely the clients who these professionals encounter when they work with families. That fathers, husbands/partners (especially potentially violent men) are not expected to be clients opens up a set of questions about the ways in which families are worked with that goes much broader than domestic violence. This paper concentrates on the implications of our findings for work with perpetrators.

Donovan, C., Hester, M.   **University of Sunderland**

'[It] took a long time to see.' Emotional violence as the basis of domestic violence: Implications for definitions and responses

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

The Home Office definition of domestic violence now includes emotional and psychological abuse and acknowledges that domestic violence can occur in same sex and heterosexual relationships (see Donovan et al, 2006). Simultaneously, the state has highlighted the importance of these behaviours in a perpetrator's arsenal of abusive behaviours and recognised that these abuses may be perpetrated regardless of gender or sexuality. The evidence from heterosexual female survivors suggests that the impact of these kinds of abuses is more long-term and profound than physical abuse. Yet it is still the case that most criminal justice system responses to domestic violence has been to physically violent incidences. Whilst this can be understood in the context of securing evidence for an incidence-based approach to domestic violence, we argue that there are consequences for not exploring ways of responding to emotional and psychological abuses. For example, in our study, those respondents who had experienced only emotionally abusive behaviours were far less likely to have identified their relationship as domestically violent at the time. These were also more typically lesbians. In this paper we present the accounts given by respondents to an ESRC study comparing love and violence in same sex and heterosexual relationships to explore their experiences of emotional abuse. We do this to promote discussion in three areas: defining domestic violence, understanding the impact of emotional violence; and the consequences for support to victim/survivors of domestically violent relationships.

Dowling, S.

'Dear Sally...' Reflections on using email correspondence as a method of generating qualitative data.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

Correspondence as a method of data collection has been used by few social researchers although email has been employed to generate data in a variety of ways. As a tool for academic research the Internet is used increasingly but email correspondence presents additional, exciting and challenging opportunities with the potential for social enquiry on a global scale.

In this presentation I will talk about my experience of using email correspondence in my PhD research. Correspondence, participant observation and in-depth interviews have been used to understand more about the experience of women who breastfeed for longer than six months. In particular I have drawn on Kralik's work on the use of correspondence, valuing the development of a 'critical reflective conversation' with my participants . A number of issues arising from the work will be discussed. Is there a difference between 'corresponding' and 'interviewing' by email'? What are the issues raised when researcher and participants view this differently? What are the advantages of generating data using this method - and are there disadvantages? How do these different methods complement each other? Ethical issues in research of this nature will also be discussed. The use of correspondence as a research tool for those drawing on feminist principles in qualitative research will be considered, alongside feminist critiques of using the internet for social research.   This discussion will be illustrated with examples from my research and reflections on my practice.

Edwards, A., Hughes, G.   **Cardiff University**

The "Third Wave" and Criminology

Thursday 16th April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Sub-Plenary – Science and Technology Studies   Assembly Hall

Abstract Developments in the sociology of science suggest there are ways of demarcating social scientific knowledge from other kinds of knowledge that frame controversies in public policy. The 'Third Wave' of social studies of science defines concepts of expertise and experience as the means by which scientific knowledge can be demarcated from other kinds of knowledge associated with, for example, party political competition, pressure group campaigning, journalism and experiments in direct democracy or 'community engagement' in the public policy process. This paper considers the relevance of arguments over the possibility and desirability of a Third Wave of science studies for analogous arguments in criminological research over the appropriate relationship between science and politics in defining problems of crime, formulating policy responses and evaluating their outcomes. The paper discusses four basic conceptions of the science-politics relationship in criminology: bifurcation 1: scientism (where it is acknowledged that science and politics are entirely separate kinds of knowledge and that politics ought to be subordinated to a science of crime); bifurcation 2: politicism (where it is acknowledged that science and politics are entirely separate kinds of knowledge and that science ought to be subordinated to the political arbitration of crime problems); conflation (where it is argued that science is just another political construction of the crime problem) and tension (where it is acknowledged that science and politics overlap but are distinguishable in terms of the kinds of expertise, experience and formative intentions they entail). The paper considers the potential of this latter concept, of the tension between science and politics, for transcending long-running arguments within the academy between positivist and constructionist thinking about crime and amongst academics and public policy-makers over the appropriate relationship between the rational-bureaucratic and popular-democratic basis for policy-making.

Ehrhardt, D.W.L.

Struggling to Belong - Explaining social conflict in Kano and Amsterdam

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

'Belonging', both in social and spatial terms, is important because it provides a subjective sense of place and security and because it has significant social and material implications - granting rights and privileges to those who belong over those who do not. Belonging can therefore be an intensely contested issue and lead to virulent social conflicts, poising those considered 'native' against 'settlers', 'migrants', or other 'newly-arrived strangers'. This paper takes the ethno-religious conflict in Kano (Nigeria) and the tensions around 'integration' in Amsterdam (Netherlands) and argues that they are both cases of social conflict over belonging because of the exclusionary social identities and corresponding grievances that underlie them. Moreover, it then discusses to what extent the causes and dynamics of these conflicts depend on these particular identities and grievances. The paper is designed as a least-similar comparison in order to show the explanatory power of this model across highly divergent contexts. Methodologically, the research is based on field work both in Kano and Amsterdam that has provided survey and interview data on the local social identities, grievances, and the mechanisms of their production.

Elder-Vass, D.

The causal power of discourse?

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Theory   Syndicate B

Foucault's early work, in which he developed the claim that discourse shapes history, has been highly influential. Yet it is widely acknowledged (not least by Foucault himself) that the role of the subject was seriously undertheorised in this work. Furthermore, it is far from clear how the rather abstract structures Foucault identifies as discourse can have a real causal effect, and as a result there are suspicions amongst realists that this is an irredeemably idealist view of society.

This paper seeks to develop a realist explanation of how discourse could be causally viable and to show how this can be reconciled with a plausible account of the nature and causal role of subjects themselves. It will argue that discursive structures can be causally significant when they are normatively endorsed and enforced by specific groups of people; that it is not discourse as such but these groups – what I will call discursive circles – that are causally effective; that this way of conceiving of discourse preserves the possibility that it may be historically significant; and that such an account allows us to reconcile the role of discourse with that of the subject in a way that parallels recent realist accounts of structure and agency.

The implication is that Foucault's theory can be re-grounded in a viable realist social ontology. In this form it may be possible to integrate discourse theory into a more powerful synthesis that combines elements of realism and social constructionism.

Elley, S. Irwin, S.

Concerted cultivation? Parenting, class and children's organised activities

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Education   Syndicate C

Recent research into parenting and family life has enriched our understanding of class related inequalities in education and beyond. Qualitative research in particular reveals a good deal about parents' practical and emotional commitments to their children, and how they yield very different rewards depending on families' social class position. As part of this, children's organised (sometimes, 'enrichment') activities are seen to enhance the advantage of the middle class, promoting the development of skills which are culturally valued and rewarded, particularly in the education system. A number of writers have pointed to ways in which class 'interests' are embedded in these undertakings. Children's involvement in organised activities, and parental motivations, have rarely been a focus of research, yet offer both intrinsic interest and a very productive avenue for research. This paper reports on new research which takes such a focus. The Family Contexts project, funded by the ESRC National Centre for Research Methods, comprised a survey of parents of children involved in organised activities, and a follow-up series of in-depth interviews. The research was designed to ensure participation of parents from diverse social class backgrounds. The paper develops an analysis of parental views of their children's involvement in organised activities, what they see as benefits, their motivations, and their perceptions of parenting more generally. It offers insights into commonalities and differences both within and across social classes. The evidence contributes to better understanding contemporary parenting, and links to wider evidence on inequality and social change.

Elmoudden, S.   **St John's University**

Global Spaces, Local Places-A Discursive Exploration of Offshore Work.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

The article argues for the importance of conceptualizing spatiality as an integral process of organizing, given our current moment of globalization. It suggests that a focus on place and space as a tool in global organizations can help us better understand power relations and the (re)production of identity within global organizations. The commitment of this article is not to debate if place matters anymore in globalization, but rather to expose how place still matters. In doing so, I conduct a genealogical discussion on space and place that lead us to metaphorical space as a framework. Metaphorical spaces are theorized as responses to situations where meaning is multiple and may be infused with contradictions. They are created when configurations of context, dynamic in space, time, and place relate or are made to relate, fix the meaning of space. I use offshoring and particularly a call center in Fez, Morocco to empirically make the case for such spatial communicative framework. A metaphorical space is a particularly helpful tool to interrogate situations in which meaning is ambiguous; that is, where there is not one clear determined meaning, or where certain potential meanings are privileged. In offshore call center where unclear meanings are the fact of life. Metaphorical spaces become a spatial communicative framework that helps us understand how individuals create and negotiate space and, in so doing, negotiate their identity and power relationships.

Elsenbroich, C., Gilbert, N.   **University of Surrey**

The Good, the Bad and the Reasoned

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Open 2   Council Chamber

How do norms and morals influence people's actions and choices? By looking at moral argumentation, different types of reasoning are identified and related to different theories of norms in sociology.

By examining a small corpus of moral debates and discussions, we identified three types of moral reasoning that we labeled factual, utility-based and deontic. Factual reasoning is based on consistency; utility-based reasoning evaluates the consequences of actions, and deontic reasoning rests on a predetermined set of universal values. A BBC discussion board on Capital Punishment is used to illustrate the different kinds of reasoning employed and the undermining and corroborating relations between the arguments are shown. The three types of reasoning relate to theories of norms. For example the argument that capital punishment relieves society of the burdens of lifelong prisoners is utility-based and fits well with a rational choice approach to norms. Even though it is not `nice' to kill others, the utility of not having to pay public money for lifelong prisoners is higher.

Our conclusion is that any theory of norms that does not take into account all types of reasoning involved in moral judgments will fall short of explaining or understanding normative behaviour.

Emmel, N., Clark, A..

Networks seen differently: the possible contribution of qualitative and participatory methodologies

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

This paper reports on a three year methodological investigation of social networks, neighbourhoods, and communities using three qualitative and participatory methods, participatory social network mapping, walking interviews, and diary methods, in a qualitatively-driven mixed-method approach. We describe these three methods in the research and consider the strengths and weaknesses of each method. Further, we identify how these methods fit in an overarching strategy of a qualitatively-driven mixed-methods research design to inform insights and theorisation of doing networks. A case study will be presented that considers the importance of face-to-face encounters in maintaining different kinds of networks in neighbourhood and community. Using this case we address two particular methodological challenges we have identified in this methodological research; first the sample, its purposefulness, how we understand who is represented, and the implications of these reflections in the research process to claims made for transferability; and second, spatial and epistemological boundary setting and casing to avoid agglomeration and facilitate mid-level theory generation. Accounts of what happens on a network are of considerable interest in network analysis, yet have proved illusive to long-standing traditions of quantitative network analysis. We argue that, with consideration of the potential methodological challenges identified in this paper, qualitative and participatory approaches have the potential to provide rich and valid description of relationships employed to build, maintain, and dissemble networks and allow for the abstraction of transferable social theory.

Engelbert, J.   **Eramus University Rotterdam**

Talking of New Labour

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open 2   Syndicate H

Sociologists often consider institutional membership against the backdrop of a widespread decline in ideological alliances and partisanship in all spheres of late modernity. This paper focuses on membership to the 'new' UK Labour Party. Under Tony Blair's leadership, New Labour pursued a new kind of political support, one in which supporters and members were to be unbound by the kind of ideological conviction or socio-economic profiles so typically associated with Old Labour. Yet, the premise of this paper is that membership to New Labour actually requires a relatively high degree of conviction, because it suggests an endorsement of the party's new political vision and course. By considering this conviction as something that members 'do' rather than something that they 'have', this paper explores how a local community of party members – varying from students in their early twenties to volunteers who have been involved with the party for decades – talk about a range of complex issues: the social democratic nature of New Labour, Labour values, New Labour's political 'spin' and Old Labour. The paper shows how the members discursively manage the tension between being bound by their affiliation with the party on the one hand and being explicitly invited to present their personal stances on issues that are subject to fervent and particularly leftist criticism on the other hand.

Erickson, M

Explaining expectations of nanotechnology

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

Expectations of the transformative power of nanotechnology are very high. Popular science texts, science fiction narratives, the news and broadcast media and scientific communities construct speculative discourses describing how nanotechnology 'might', 'can', 'should' or 'will' transform, variously, science, technology and even society itself. This high level of expectations persists in society despite the presence of significant 'counter' discourses describing the potential dangers of nanotechnology and our past negative experiences of new technologies. How can we explain this?

The sociology of expectations (Brown and Michael 2003; Brown 2003) provides a useful analytical starting point as it identifies a dynamics of expectations, a relationship between new hopes and emerging disappointments. These emerging networks of possible technological advancement inevitably collapse, hype gives way to disillusionment and these communities of promise fall apart. In the case of nanotechnology, however, it is more difficult to discern any such a network: all voices proclaim similar expectations. The value of the concept of network for sociological analysis is called into question. In contrast the sociology of science of Ludwik Fleck provides a framework for explaining the convergence of expectations for nanotechnology, through identifying the connections between esoteric and exoteric thought communities. This paper will map the emergence of the story of the promise of nanotechnology, and will look at the connections between the esoteric and exoteric discourses of nanotechnology. It will also use the work of Wilhelm Baldamus to begin a critique of the concept of network for sociological analysis.

Esau, S., de Waal, L **Centre for Research on Science and Technology, South Africa**

The Medical Carousel: Migration of health professionals between South Africa and the United Kingdom

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30 Science and Technology Studies Syndicate I

The migration of health professionals from developing countries to the developed world is a growing trend and concern for many countries and South Africa is no different. A study was undertaken in 2008 to assess the determining factors which led to South African health professionals, choosing to migrate between countries.

Semi structured interviews were conducted with a group of South Africans currently residing within the UK, as well as a group of South African's who had returned home. The factors which influenced their migration decisions, its effects as well as comparative experiences were questioned and analyzed with a qualitative data analysis program Atlas ti.

The health professionals reasons for migration between the UK & South Africa are complex and varied. The study aims to shed some light on these complexities and suggestion possible ways in which government's can address these effects of mobility.

Evans, A., Higgin, M., Miele, M.

Exploring societal views about animal welfare science

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00 Science and Technology Studies Syndicate I

In this paper we present the initial results of a series of citizen juries, which were designed to examine societal opinion in the UK, Italy and Norway about a new outcome-based farm animal welfare assessment scheme that is being developed by the Welfare Quality(r) project. In particular, we highlight interesting similarities and differences between scientific and societal understandings of farm animal welfare and we explore how jurors' lay opinions about farm animal welfare changed over time after they were exposed to a variety of different expert inputs. In addition to our empirical findings, we also focus attention on the novel methodologies that we developed to facilitate a radical citizen-led form of society-science dialogue within the jury sessions. One of the most innovative features of our approach relates to the extent to which we attempted to open up scientific 'black-boxes' to broader societal scrutiny and reaction. Indeed, we worked from the premise that even the most seemingly 'technical' facets of scientific enquiry into farm animal welfare (such as scientific methods for measuring animal health/behaviour and mathematical methods for combining and calibrating welfare scores) are shot through with practical and ethical imperatives (see Pickering 1984, Latour 1987) and that, as such, members of the jury might have potentially useful insights to offer even at these levels of specificity. This approach has strong affinities with Strathern (2004) and Mol (2005), who contend that scientific forms of enquiry are best understood at the level of practice.

Evans, A., Riley, S. **University of Bath**

'Safe' or 'Seedy'? Ann Summers and the Negotiation of the Sexually Explicit Consumption Space

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00 Consumption Syndicate G

A sexually liberated (heterosexual) identity is one that is increasingly marketed to women through contemporary consumer culture. This suggests a move to a recreational, self-expressive, communicative feminine subjectivity wherein desires, enjoyment and pleasures are at the forefront of a socially constructed self. In Britain in particular, the high street sex shop Ann Summers represents a space for such an identity construction, constituting a gender boundary crossing where a previously male consumer culture has been reappropriated and resignified into a female consumer culture. Previously having been associated with a the figure of the 'raincoater', and a dark, dangerous, male sexuality, the sex shop is now related to a new hedonistic femininity, where a postfeminist aesthetic and style are intended to make the sale space of sexually explicit products safe and woman friendly. Drawing on focus group discussions on the consumption space of Ann Summers, this paper argues that these safe or seedy distinctions often serve to reinforce gendered expectations. However, there is also a degree of troubling within these binaries, producing particularly contradictory discourses which open up more nuanced interpretations. This paper thus provides a contribution to the literature through exploring women's negotiations of these contradictions in a context in which women's sexuality has the capacity to signify multiple, complex and conflicting sexual and embodied identities.

Finger, A.   **University of Erfurt**

'The prerequisite of all criticism': Reclaiming the critique of religion for the sociology of religion

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Religion   Syndicate H

This theoretical paper presents some reflections on a conspicuous absence characteristic for a lot of research in the sociology of religion: the critique of religion. While historically protagonists of the sociological sub-discipline dealing with religion felt they were overcoming and surpassing the limitations of the critical project, in this paper it is argued that it is high time to rediscover and reclaim the legacy of critique. The sociology of religion stands only to gain from such efforts: Religious phenomena themselves have had a critical potential, from the prophet Amos' god who hated rituals seemingly performed in his honour to certain modern-day liberation theologies. It is these dimensions of religion in both theory and practice that are emancipatory through negation. They have too often been overlooked, if not systematically neglected, by a sociology and sub-discipline directly affirmative or with professed neutrality abstaining from judgment in matters religious; e.g. by taking respondents' statements at face-value in ways hardly acceptable in other fields of sociological inquiry. A self-reflexive critique inspiring sociological research on religion might serve to reconnect this specialism to others as well as to social theory. Recent debates on atheism, for instance, would win in substance if the voice of a sociology of religion committed to its critique could be heard. For Marx this critique was the prerequisite of all criticism: He believed it had been essentially completed for Germany, yet nowadays it is far from complete, whether in Germany or in other places where sociologists of religion go to work.

Finn, K.   **University of Manchester**

Close to Home? Young women's negotiations of class, ethnicity and regional identity in the move to university

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

This paper explores the interplay between class, ethnicity and regional identity for 24 young women who, since starting undergraduate degree courses around the UK, find themselves oscillating between their home town in North West England and the spaces they now occupy at university. This discussion is based on the data produced during my PhD fieldwork - a qualitative longitudinal project which has allowed the respondents to engage in reflective discussions about their experiences at three separate stages of their first year of study. This paper specifically deals with the data generated during the stage one and stage two fieldwork interviews; conversations which took place prior to the respondents starting university and then again 3 months later during their first Christmas vacation as undergraduates. The aim of this paper is to take these two stands of data and examine the ways in which the respondents' narratives move and shift over time. As the young women engage in new social spaces and new personal relationships, their accounts reveal tensions and transformations which highlight the complex workings of social class, ethnicity, and local identity.

Fish, J. S.

Reprising Moral Individualism in Twenty-First Century Western Social Life: A Prolegomena

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Theory   Syndicate B

This paper takes a fresh look at Durkheim's sociological engagement with the concept of moral individualism and why it remains important in debates about contemporary Western social malaise. Before the concept of moral individualism can gain a proper foothold in these current debates we must move beyond Durkheim's purely structuralist approach to theorizing and his problematic use of dualisms when articulating the need for a renewed sense of moral individualism today. George Herbert Mead's writings on the self and ethics will be drawn upon when suggesting ways in which these limitations can be overcome. A Meadian approach will be shown to offer a more fertile ground for re-working the idea of moral individualism than that originally proposed by Durkheim.

Foley, A.   **Cardiff University**

'They Steal Babies Don't They?' Crime and deviance in a Gypsy and Traveller Community.

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Ferrier Hall

This paper will focus on crime and deviance amongst Gypsies and Travellers. Throughout history the Gypsy and Traveller community have been viewed with both curiosity and suspicion. This stigma, together with public policy initiatives has served to exclude this community from society, forcing them to live on the fringes of our towns and cities. Yet this ethnic minority group have been overlooked by social scientist to date, hence very little in known about this community. What is known tends to be based on conjecture and stereotypes, often fed by moral panics depicting the 'nuisance Gypsy'. However, this paper will show that Gypsies and Travellers adhere to a strict moral code which shapes their behaviour, particularly that of crime and deviance.

For this research I drew upon ethnographic methods, including semi-structured interviews, participant observations, notes written by members of the Gypsy and Traveller community on specific and relevant life events, as well as the use of visual images of crime used to at as a discussion aid. Using the data collected, I will show how the values held by the Gypsy and Traveller community can conflict with those of the wider British society. Yet, Gypsies and Travellers have a very strict moral code which underpins the rites and rituals preformed by this community. This not only reinforces the social identity of Gypsies and Travellers but often contradicts with the laws and norms of the wider society.

Forchtner, B.   **Lancaster University**

Confessions of guilt as moral-practical learning or claims to power - the case of the judge-penitent

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

During the last decade researchers have increasingly studied "politics of apology" (Cunningham) as in-groups construct their collective identity evermore through "public confessions of [their] guilt" (Giesen) instead of positive self-representation and the negative representation of an external other. However, scholars have so far not systematically considered misuses of such confessions in commemorative practices. This paper intends to fill this gap by elaborating the 'judge-penitent discourse'.

Following Albert Camus' insight in 'The Fall' that "the more I accuse myself, the more I have the right to judge" others, the paper explores the judge-penitent discourse as a way in which confessing guilt is instrumentalised in order to construct others as morally inferior. That is, those publicly confessing guilt claim that they faced their 'dark past' and, therefore, learnt 'the lessons of the past' while 'the other' has not learnt but continues to act uncivilised. Thus, the in-group does not confess guilt in order to demarcate itself from its own past as the evil other. Instead, identity is constructed against an external, 'morally inferior' other.

By adopting Critical Discourse Analysis, the presentation analyses misuses of confessions of guilt regarding the Holocaust in Germany and Denmark during the debate over the Iraq war (2002/03). In particular, this paper explores the judge-penitent discourse in terms of a blocked learning process by pointing to the argument's distorted structure (Habermas). Thereby, it also discusses the possibility of successful learning processes through sincere confessions of guilt and critically addresses Foucault's understanding of confessions in 'The History of Sexuality'.

Forrester-Jones, R.

Caring for the Spirit: experiences of people with mental health problems using a spirituality support group

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Religion   Syndicate H

Until recently, people with mental health problems tended to be treated in line with the medical model with psychiatric discourse and as a discipline tending to ignore religious and spiritual needs of patients. Increasingly,
spirituality is now being seen as a vital dimension of person-centred care and physicians have begun to realize the value of faith in the healing process. What is not clear is whether it is the spiritual element of communal religion which helps avoid or aids recovery of mental ill health or the social environment religious community provides.The aim of this small-scale study (n=9) was to explore how and in what ways a spirituality support group named was deemed to mediate mental well-being from the subjective view of those attending. To this end, the reasons why people with mental health issues joined the spiritual support group, their hopes and expectations of it and what they gained were explored and their social networks mapped. The objective was to identify key areas of good practice in relation to such a group with a view to transferring knowledge gained to other mental health services. Relevant themes in relation to support received and recovery experienced by the group included: discussion and settlement of religious confusions, the group being a substitute to formal religious services, support aiding self-esteem and general social support.

Franchi, M.

Lesbian and gay issues in the Italian News Media: a discourse analysis

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

My research seeks to analyse how Italian news media frame and discursively construct notions of sexual orientation and sexuality in particular relation to political issues and civil rights. Since the beginning, the debate on rights for unmarried couples elicited a fierce reaction from conservative politicians as well as from Catholic religious hierarchies, who were especially provoked by the inclusion of homosexual couples among those who would have been the supposed beneficiaries of the laws. I analyse the newspaper media coverage of the debate on civil partnership from 2006 to 2008, as well as interviews with parents of LG youth, for whom the media coverage of the debate represents part of the context in which they negotiate their child's sexual orientation.

By analysing how the debate is framed I seek to uncover the frequent patterns in this particular media discourse. I want to understand how the frame for understanding produced by the news media impact, if so, on parents of LG youth. The aim of my work is to delineate along which lines the notion of sexual orientation is constructed within the news media and which is the role of such a discourse in the "frame for understanding" of a peculiar group of informants. In a broader social perspective I aim at highlights how the feature of the debate might be involved in the perpetuation of homophobic notions and be challenged.

Frers, L.   **Darmstadt University of Technology**

Landscape, the body, and the route. The socio-materiality of road stops between erosion and fatigue.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

In this presentation, I want to use digital video recordings and photographs to analyze the corporeal dimension of what is happening in one of mobility's borderlands. Based on research that has been done at rest stops of the Norwegian Tourist Route, I will discuss the multiple social and material layers that permeate each other at these sites. Symmetrically analysing material aspects on the one hand and social aspects on the other hand (i.e. material: built structures, erosion, and "natural events" like snowfall; i.e. social: social class, fatigue, and "social events" like experiencing a place as a picturesque landscape)-, I want to demonstrate two things: (1) How the corporeal embeddedness of actors in their material surroundings is an inextricable, temporally constituted part of what is labeled as The Social. Thus the challenge to a restricted understanding of the social - as it has been put forward in Science and Technology Studies or in Non-Representational Theory - is taken up in empirical field work. (2) How disruptions in flows are an essential and productive part of everyday practices, even if they arise as irritations. Thus it will be displayed that mobility, speed, and the non-places of flows have another side, a dark side that is, actually, quite multicolored.

Fuentes, A.S.Y.   **Oxford University**

Exploitation and Resistance: Experiences of Abuse among Children in Prostitution in the Philippines

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

This study looked into the various experiences of abuse among girl-children in prostitution. It aimed to document the different forms of abuse that children in prostitution experience as well as identify the perpetrators. Moreover, manifestations of resistance among these children were also captured in the study.

Data consisted of narratives of 17 prostituted girl-children (ages range from 14-17 years old), obtained through in-depth interviews. These children are from Davao City, Cagayan de Oro City and General Santos City, Philippines.

The study revealed that there is a web of perpetrators/abusers within girl-child prostitution. These perpetrators of abuse include family members (specifically but not limited to fathers/stepfathers), intimate partners (husbands, boyfriends or live-in partners), pimps, bar owners/floor managers, customers/clients, police officers and others. Other perpetrators of abuse may even include their peers, room boys in a hotel/motel and motel owners.

Prostituted girl-children experience abuse in various forms: sexual, physical, psychological/emotional and economic. Among the respondents interviewed, most of them were physically abused by their families, specifically by their fathers or stepfathers.

With these, prostituted children showed various forms of resistance such as fighting back and employing trickery on their clients. However, study revealed that such forms of resistance could only do so much. They still could not transform the asymmetrical relationship among actors within prostitution.

Furukawa, C.   **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

Paradoxical identities in transnational moves: Japanese young adults' resistance to neoliberal subjectivities and attachment to homeland.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Education   Syndicate C

This paper describes how young adults in globalized societies negotiate their identities and struggle to establish a sense of attachment in the course of exercising their mobility beyond national boundaries. Analysis is based on a case study, where I conducted semi-structured in-depth interviews of 16 Japanese young adult students (aged 18 -35) in English language schools in the U.S. Previous research (Rizvi, F., 2005, Heath, S., 2007) has pointed out neoliberalistic orientations of global elite youth, attempting to gain foreign language proficiency and "experiences" abroad in order to improve their employability. As P. Brown (1995) articulates, neoliberal subjectivities call for such commodification of cultural, emotional experiences. This case study, however, unveils more complex processes of negotiating their identities and subtle ways of resistance against both neoliberalistic formation of identities and educational/employment systems of Japan, which is also under the great influence of neoliberalism. I claim that those Japanese young adult students are constantly struggling to seek for a sense of secured identities based on a sense of attachment, confidence, and comfortability, by escaping from Japan and re-defining their positions in and relationships with both U.S. and Japanese society, while refusing to prioritize economic achievement. Whereas they maintain certain orientation toward neolibelalistic or cosmopolitan identities, their negotiated attachment to Japanese culture and society is more revealing: this implies both 1) resistance against current Japanese social systems and specific cultures that are influenced by neoliberalism, and, paradoxically; 2) desire to sustain the current Japan and "Japaneseness" as place for emotional attachment.

Gauntlett, D.   **University of Westminster**

Do visual methods have a broader purpose?

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

Visual methods are by now becoming well embedded within academic practice, especially amongst qualitatively-minded sociological researchers. Researchers using visual methods often speak of the value of their methodological procedures to the participants themselves. This is, of course, somewhat unusual.

Visual methods are often described as offering personal insights and discoveries, a new way of seeing or reflecting on experiences, not just for the researcher but for the participant who is making or exploring visual material, and generating these accounts. In my own work, I have been tempted to describe certain creative processes as 'tools for thinking' (such as in the Lego identity study (Gauntlett, 2007)). I have also argued that the creative activity that takes place as people engage with Web 2.0 tools, rather than sitting back watching television, may help to foster some of the creative community engagement that will be needed as we face the challenges of climate change and peak oil (Gauntlett, 2008). This may indicate a shift from a 'sit-back-and-be-told culture' to a 'making-and-doing culture', which does not rely on any particular technology, but connects visual methods with Web 2.0 and the growth of other community-based creative initiatives, such as the Transition Towns movement which invites communities to positively imagine a future with radically reduced carbon emissions.

In this panel I wish to discuss the question of whether visual and creative methods are 'only' for the benefit of sociological researchers, or whether they can be used in a broader way to benefit society.

Gilleard C.

Frailty, disability and the older body

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Open   Syndicate J

The connections between ageing and frailty are not only evident in the representation of old age as frailty but also in the recognition by all societies that those designated 'old' or 'aged' have special needs. While the implications of frailty in old age have been much studied, the nature of frailty itself has been much less discussed in Sociology. This absence is thrown into sharp relief in comparison with the literature that exists on disability and disablement. The difficulties in translating the discourses of disability to those of frailty is the starting point for this paper which seeks to examine the need for a more grounded understanding of frailty in our understanding of ageing and its embodiment[s].

Gilleard, C., Higgs, P.   **UCL**

The third age, the baby boomers and the nature of a generational boundary

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

Much is made of the way that the baby boomers are re-writing the rules of ageing -living the third age. This paper explores the extent to which a demographic [in this case the baby boomer birth cohort] becomes a distinctive social identity. Using data from the third wave of English Longitudinal Study of Ageing we examine the extent of social economic and cultural differentiation between men and women born between 1925-1929;1930-1934; 1935-1939; 1940-1944 and those born between 1945-1949 [the first wave of the baby boom]. We argue that these data not only provide empirical evidence of cohort differences but that they also point towards the existence of a 'generational habitus' among the baby boomer cohorts now entering retirement. This generational habitus we suggest creates the basis for a generational boundary that circumscribes the both the third age and the expectations surrounding later life.

Gislason, M.K.   **University of Sussex**

Earth my body, water my blood: Health in an ecosystem

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Sub-plenary - Medicine, Health and Illness   Assembly Hall

This paper looks sociologically at the constructions and contestations of the notion that human, animal and ecological health is interdependent. First by reviewing the notion of ecosystem servicing as developed within the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and second by offering concrete examples from the UK, this paper illustrates ways to think about human health in the context of ecological communities. The paper concludes with a discussion of how thinking concretely about humans in time and place specific milieu highlights the ways in which health links the local with the global and the personal with the political, particularly in the face of global environmental change.

Graham, T., Grace, A.   **Waterford Institute of Technology**

Power and resistance in the health services in Ireland. Can new social movements help reduce the incidence of hospital acquired infections?

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

In this paper, it is argued that the structure of the health service in Ireland is the outcome of decades of hegemonic medical power (Gramsci, 1917/1977). It also reflects the capitalist system where medicine is becoming a commodity serving the interests of the pharmaceutical industry, health insurers, and privately provided health care. The advances in medical science, while sometimes highly beneficial, have produced harmful side-effects or risks which are described by Beck, as: "unforeseen consequences of our expanding knowledge applied by experts to the processes of modernization which were initially designed to reduce the risk from nature" (1992, in Best, 2003).

In Ireland, these consequences have been apparent in a series of scandals (Wren, 2003, O'Connor, 2006) where severe damage has been caused to patients in the delivery of health services. In response, organizations, categorized as new social movements (after Jenkins and Klandermans, 1995), and representing patient rights, have come into being. Drawing from the experience in two such organizations - MRSA and Families Network, and Stop Infections Now Campaign - and interviews with affected patients and family members, the resistance to the traditional medical power mentioned above is analysed. The attempts of these organizations to reduce the incidence of HCAIs is discussed, and the shortcomings identified.

**Greenfield,S. Ives,J. Damery,S. Wilson,S.
Sorrel,T. Petts,J. Parry,J. Gratus,C.**

You don't just work when the sun's shining" The influence of behavioural norms on Healthcare workers attitudes to working during pandemic influenza emergency

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Pandemic influenza is regarded as a significant threat to UK national security. Healthcare workers (HCWs) would have a key role in responding. Using focus group and interview data from a study exploring HCWs attitudes, this paper will examine how HCWs draw on 'accepted' behavioural norms when reflecting on professional behaviour during an influenza pandemic, and how the application of these norms may prove problematic.   We focus on how professional, social and familial norms of obligation (e.g." that is part of what you do isn't it? You don't just work when the sun's shining"; "family comes before anything"), trust in scientific expertise, and traditional cultural narratives (e.g. "We're British, Dunkirk spirit") were used to predict potential future behaviour.

HCWs sought to present themselves as 'good moral persons', which, viewed through the lens of Goffman's work on the 'presentation of self', we suggest is indicative of individuals putting on a 'front of stage face'. We also see how availability of information impacts on risk perception, where decisions about potential future actions are closely linked to perceived credibility of information received, trust in the information source, and how this information is framed for interpretation.

We conclude that risk perception, where clear information is lacking, and the desire to present a 'front of stage face', may combine to create dependence on familiar and established behavioural norms to predict future actions. In a national emergency such as an influenza pandemic, these may not prove to be a reliable means of resolving the resulting ethical tensions.

Griffin, B.L.   **University of Sunderland**

Regarding the overlooked: An analysis of contemporary videotapes for health.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

As a source of visual media videotapes for health have received little critical attention from the academic research community. Videotapes from the Health Education Council and Health Education Authority offer a unique opportunity to observe contemporary health messages. Using Foucauldian discourse analysis throws light on the micro-processes of the videotape's contents as performed by experts and lay people. From this perspective, it is possible to problematise the power relationships in public health at both micro and macro level. The conclusion is that the videotapes are a performance of medical power that increase our understanding of the power relationships in public health.

Griffiths, M., McLean, R.

Mediating the hype regarding young people's online activities: are they exposed to unknown dangers or just socializing with friends?

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

A reported 80% of 5-15 year olds now have Internet access in their homes. Other research suggests that young people spend between up to three and four hours a day online. Many adults are not as familiar, with social networking sites, on-line gaming and virtual playspaces as young people, and this makes them overly cautious regarding their child's participation in these virtual environments. On the flipside young people are often encouraged to increase their technological competencies for educational reasons. Furthermore parents and guardians continually face the dilemma of protecting the young by keeping them 'safe' indoors and off the streets while potentially exposing them to groomers, paedophiles and cyber-bullies lurking in their 'bedrooms'. Society's concerns are being even further heightened regarding the ongoing debate about a possible link between aggressive online gaming with violence offline, and media's portrayal of the new generation as vulnerable, potentially at risk and existing in isolation. However, despite the pessimistic column inches that are apportioned to the topic of young people and technologies some hail them as 'tomorrow's shapers of society' and 'future online pioneers' and questions remain regarding whether young people are exposed when online, or more technologically 'savvy' that society assumes? The aim of this study is to mediate the ongoing debates surrounding this phenomenon, whilst providing an insight into both young people's and adults' perceptions of danger in online interaction. This paper presents findings from a preliminary qualitative study with ten, 10-16 year olds and their parents, highlighting issues for further research.

Griggs, G.   **University of Wolverhampton**

'You've gotta love the plastic':The emergence of aesthetic appreciation within Ultimate Frisbee

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Open   Syndicate J

This focus of this study examines the repeated references and celebration of more aesthetic elements in Ultimate Frisbee by both performers and spectators. This aspect was an emergent theme from a broader study and first became apparent when first considering how the landscape provided an aesthetic backdrop manifest in aspects such as location as well as music. An ethnographic approach was used and data was gathered through participant observation, the conducting of interviews and the examination of documentary evidence. An analytical outline proposed by Carlisle (1974) provided a clear structure within which expressive and evocative elements, intellectual beauty and dramatic aspects were identified and examined. It is posited that the raising of this 'aesthetic attention' within Ultimate allows people to reconnect with aesthetic aspects during a purposive sporting activity.

Gunaratnam, Y.

Intimate citizenship and ethno-religious identities amongst first-time British Bangladeshi mothers in Tower Hamlets

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

Claims about the growth and popularity of a revivalist Islam amongst younger British-born Asians have been seen as serious problem for internal social cohesion and national security. Such claims have been dominated by attention to young men. This paper suggests an alternative perspective. It draws upon focus group data with British Bangladeshi mothers in Tower Hamlets generated from the ESRC 'Becoming a Mother' project that followed a multi-ethnic sample of mothers from pregnancy, until their babies were a year old. The paper will focus upon the intersections between maternal and gendered-ethno-religious identities using the concept of 'intimate citizenship' (Plummer, 2001). Scholarship on intimate citizenship suggests that our most private experiences, decisions and dilemmas have become bound up with public institutions and an increasingly pluralized and contested public sphere. The paper will use the concept of intimate citizenship to examine how international, national and local events are narrated as having an impact upon some of the mothers' mundane and extraordinary decision-making about dress, mothering and the danger and safety of Tower Hamlets as a place in which they are often the ethnic majority. The paper will show the complexity and ambivalence of the women's positioning and agency as mothers within Islam and in a multicultural context, whilst also recognising wider political investments in motherhood as a site for acculturation and the reproduction and maintenance of gender and sexual inequalities.

Halcli, A.

Making Sense of Global Gender Relations

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

Recently, attention has been drawn to the ways in which the processes of global social change are affecting gender relations at the local, national, international, and transnational levels. Transformations in economic relations and labour markets, the growth of global cultural industries and the migration of people across borders are just some of the processes which are having an impact on gender relations and gender inequalities across the globe. At the same time, I argue that these changes have the potential to unsettle and challenge some of the well-established ways of studying both gender and globalisation. In this paper I explore the interconnections between gender relations/inequalities and globalisation in order to highlight the deeply gendered nature of these global processes and to draw attention to some of the limits of existing frameworks which seek to explain them. I show how further theoretical development in these areas of research can be advanced by adopting an approach which moves between disciplinary boundaries and draws together key conceptual developments and empirical findings in Sociology, Politics and International Relations. By drawing on the range of cross-disciplinary thinking on gender relations in a global context, this paper will address two key questions: 1) Are concepts such as the world gender order (Connell 2002) and the transnational gender arena useful in theorising the differential effects of global social change on women and men?, and 2) How can theoretical developments in this area contribute to a transformative gender politics?

Halls, A., Uprichard, E.   **Durham University**

Changing Girlhood - Changing Girl Guiding

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

This article contributes to the debates about the changing construction(s) of childhood, although our focus is more specifically on the changing constructions of 'girls' and 'girlhood'. Drawing on empirical data from a small scale study on the Girl Guiding Movement in the UK, we argue that three inter-related changes have taken place: a) 'girls' are constructed more as 'being and becomings' than as 'human becomings', b) 'girls' are constructed as being less competent than they used to be, and c) the feminization of girlhood has changed, with some interesting conflicts in the way that the feminization of girlhood manifests itself. We conclude with a brief discussion about what the implications might be to being a girl becoming a woman in contemporary Britain.

Hardy, N.   **Queen's University**

Foucault's Quiet Reliance on a Concept of Extra-Discursive Emergence

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Theory   Syndicate B

Michel Foucault's use of the 'extra-discursive' is a factor he employs in his various analyses of madness, illness, punishment, sexuality, and government. This paper argues that a wider view of the complex use(s) he makes of the 'extra-discursive' is necessary if Foucault's substantial theoretical contribution to sociology is to be fully appreciated. Building on a growing number of works that have critically engaged with Foucault on his use of extra-discursive factors (Lecourt, 1975; Dupont & Pearce, 2001; Pearce & Woodiwiss, 2001; Datta, 2007), and building on other accounts that develop the critical realist concept of 'emergence' - where conjunctive entities create effects different from their constituent parts - (Bhaskar, 1978; Elder-Vass, 2005), this paper elaborates two main points: the first is a theoretical distillation and assessment of Foucault's use(s) of the extra-discursive in his work; the second argues that in key areas Foucault has unintentionally relied on something very similar to the concept of emergence in order to answer the puzzle of social transformation and change. The paper concludes by highlighting the importance that these previously under-theorized elements can provide when analyzing complex social structures and understanding their potential(s) for change.

Harman, V.

Experiences of racism and the changing nature of white privilege amongst lone white mothers of mixed-parentage children in the UK.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

The growing number of mixed relationships and mixed-parentage children in the UK has been held up as an indicator of increasing racial harmony. However, research has found that racism is a relatively common experience for mixed-parentage children. This paper draws upon empirical research involving in-depth qualitative interviews with thirty lone white mothers of mixed-parentage children. It argues that as well as negotiating racism directed at their children in a range of contexts, lone white mothers of mixed-parentage children are frequently experiencing social disapproval themselves. Drawing on the notion of whiteness as a seemingly unmarked and invisible category, this paper explores how the experience of racism can lead to an increased awareness of racial inequality.

Harper, C.   **Open University**

Relaxing the Rules: Tate and new performances of distinction among its membership.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

This paper examines how art gallery members are absorbing and enacting the contemporary rhetoric of accessibility and permissiveness at the Tate in London, and focuses on the audience's role in changing the practice of art museum membership. The paper is based on data collected in semi structured qualitative interviews with Tate members [2008-9]. Using the theoretical structure of Bourdieu, the paper refers to the debate on the decline of traditional forms of cultural capital, and the rise of omnivoreness and cosmopolitanism. Drawing on this, the paper discusses how comportment in the gallery is another source of cultural capital and how new forms of ease and competence in negotiating the rules and rituals of the institution by members differ from those in the past. However, new dispositions associated with the detraditionalisation of arts membership are not universal. This paper examines the new tensions and oppositions these changes in the performance of distinction have created within membership, and investigates if differentiated dispositions among members can be related to the social and educational background of members, and their broader cultural tastes.

Harris, D.   **University College Plymouth**

Work and Leisure in HIgher Education

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Education   Syndicate C

The opportunities for leisure seem to be a major factor in attracting students into higher education: indeed, for Roberts, 'student' is probably best understood as a leisure identity. Other work suggests that leisure pursuits while at university are important in demonstrating employable skills of various kinds. More general relations between leisure activity and the practice of higher education also need to be discussed.

Older debates about leisure and work suggest that leisure might be a compensation for the hard work required of a modern student, that leisure offers freedom from compulsion and instrumental action. This might lead to a discussion of how modern education came to be so much dominated by work, and whether even commercialised leisure might serve as some kind of implicit social utopian critique. One practical implication turns on what pleasures might be offered to the student consumer by the modern university.

Another debate suggests that the concept of 'serious leisure' might help rethink the neglected topic of the pleasures of higher education. These pleasures might range from the pleasures of intellectual adventure, risk and mastery, through experiences of 'flow', to the transgressive pleasures of 'jouissance'. The historical association between these pleasures and the social closure strategies of elite groups will be discussed, and some empirical issues identified for future research.

Harrison, J   **University of Teesside**

Surveillance and Resistance: 21st Century A.ttitudes to the Increase of Surveillance

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

The key focus of this paper is to explore what is described by some as the increasing prevalence of surveillance within contemporary society in the United Kingdom. While the technological advances that lead to surveillance are available throughout Western industrialised societies, it is in the UK and possibly the USA that they are utilised most extensively. A significant feature of this increase in surveillance is the gradual acceptance that this is simply a rational development of technological advances that have become a part of everyday life, predicated on a belief that the security of society is best served by this type of activity. While critics of surveillance point to Human Rights and civil liberties arguing that this is a breach of individual privacy, proponents claim this response to rising crime and increases in terrorist activity is justified and, in any event, 'if you have nothing to hide why worry'. The paper also explores the ways in which resistance to these levels of control has manifested itself or indeed whether such a groundswell of resistance actually exists.

Hart, S.   **University of Warwick**

Education for citizenship: lived experience and pedagogical practice.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Education   Syndicate C

Concerns about the fragmentation and demise of 'society', and particularly about the role and behaviour of young people in this context, informed the New Labour government's decision to implement the policy of Citizenship Education, statutory in English secondary schools since 2002. The aims of the policy are to teach young people the knowledge, values and practices of citizenship, and to foster a common British identity across 'difference'. However, in the context of a wider educational culture that is geared towards the achievement of exam results and the production of competent and flexible workers for the global economy, it has been argued that there is little room for 'the social'.

Based on research on young people's own citizenship mediations, this paper will highlight how citizenship is fundamentally a 'lived experience' for young people, fostered by relationships of mutual respect amongst students, and between students and teachers. It was through discursive and democratic pedagogical practice that these relationships were developed, particularly across 'difference'. Conversely, the infrequent occurrence of this form of pedagogy, coupled with a negative culture towards youth experienced in their communities, engendered in young people feelings of isolation and exclusion. In this context, this paper will argue that if Government is serious about creating an inclusive citizenship and engaging young people as part of that project, it must take its own (citizenship) responsibilities seriously in providing an education that is geared as much towards the renewal of society as that of the economy.

Harvey, A.   **King's College London**

Translating genomics 'from lab to lifestyle': towards a sociology of socio-technical

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

In techno-science, claims of revolutionary advances with transformative potential are commonplace. As work in the sociology of socio-technical expectations has described, such promissory rhetorics help to bring new science into being. However, the translation of new science into practice is likely to depend rather more on continuities than revolution, modification, rather than transformation, of existing ways of doing things. Sociological studies of the development of technological products have paid attention to the role of end-users in shaping the technology, but in studies of biotechnologies rather less attention has been paid to the part played by those on whose area of expertise the technology impacts in shaping its realisation as part of healthcare practice. In this paper I draw on semi-structured interviews with UK health professionals to show how different groups - tertiary care genetics specialists, endocrinologists working in secondary care, and primary care practitioners - configure their roles and responsibilities in relation to the potential use of genetic susceptibility testing for type 2 diabetes, as the science is translated from the lab to become of practical use in provision of personalised lifestyle advice for prevention of disease. I show that the technology can be incorporated as part of professional practice where it supports the skills identified by the group as their core areas of expertise, but where it fails to align with such key skills it is regarded unfavourably. Through this analysis, I suggest the trajectory that genetic susceptibility testing might take as it is incorporated into healthcare practice.

Henry, L., Bornat, J. Raghuuram, P.

Elite migration and experiences in the workplace: the intersection of race and class for south Asian trained doctors in the UK

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Economy and Society 2   Council Chamber

Discussion of migrant workers' experiences in the workplace has tended to focus on marginalised groups and has largely neglected elites. Thus analysis of the intersection of race and class has usually addressed resistance to interlocking class and racial oppression whilst overlooking forms of accommodation with these structural forces. In this paper we build on recent theoretical developments in intersectionality and post-colonial theory in order to analyse issues around elite migration and career progression in the NHS. The paper highlights the relationship between race and class for a relatively privileged group. It explores the relationship between structural boundaries and positioning in everyday and informal practices in the workplace emphasising how the interplay between race and class structures career opportunities, interactions and accommodations.

The paper uses empirical evidence from oral history interviews with South Asian trained geriatricians who worked in the NHS between the 1950s and the present day to highlight how career opportunities in the NHS were structured by histories of empire and their subjective experience of race as marginalisation from high

status areas of the medical profession. However, through positioning themselves in a series of accommodations in patronage relationships within the workplace and taking advantage of inequalities and marginalities within the NHS our interviewees have maintained an elite status and become consultant physicians albeit within a less desirable and lower status area of the medical profession.

Henwood, F.   **University of Brighton**

Weight-e concerns: Exploring the relevance of ICTs for obesity self- management

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

This paper will report on the Net.Weight project which examines the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the self-management of obesity. The research is part of a wider Department of Health-funded programme which has identified ICT as 'a key technology in enabling the engagement and involvement of the public and patients in their own care' (from Programme brief).

Combining STS research on the 'e-society' and sociology of health research into 'the new public health', this paper offers a critique of this 'e-health discourse' which links ICT use and self-care to notions of patient empowerment. Drawing on an action-oriented research project exploring and intervening in the lived experiences of those seeking to manage their weight, this paper employs Foucault's notion of discourse and of knowledge/power to reflect upon the sociotechnical configurations which constuite self-care in the context of obesity manegement.

The paper argues that whilst current configurations and practices can be seen to reflect and reinforce dominant understandings of the relationship between technology and empowerment in a health context, participatory learning can offer opportunities for a questioning of this dominant discourse which, if explored and exploited, could result in the emergence of a more progressive model for e-health development -one that can support the emergence of an active, critical and engaged citizen-user (the 'health-e citizen) rather than the less ambitious but much more ubiquitous neo-liberal consumer-user (or 'informed patient').

Henwood, K., Finn, M., Shirani, F.

Intergenerational transmissions, psychosocial temporalities & the study of identificatory dynamics: Conceptual & methodological developments

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

The study of family and life course dynamics involves a greater receptiveness to the micro-temporal study of people's relationships, identities and lives, as they are worked out biographically, and in relation to generational and historical time. Associated developments utilising the concept of relationalities highlight the meshing and connectedness involved as people live out their 'linked lives' (within broader social configurations extending 'the familial'), argue for the analysis of intangible associations, family memories and affective ties, and put intergenerational (dis)engagements at centre stage. Starting from these developments, and drawing upon cognate ideas about 'the psychosocial', we showcase a conceptual approach and set of methodological practices for researching temporalities and relationalities in a qualitative longitudinal study of men as they become fathers for the first time. The research base is 4 waves of interviews with heterosexual and variously skilled men, aged between 18 and 40 years, from Norfolk and South Wales: interviews were conducted once before the child's birth, twice in the first year after the birth, and 7-8 years later. Prompted by questions about the production of identities and masculinities, our analysis concerns the intergenerational connections and disconnections articulated by the men with their own father, and his way of fathering, as a key set of energised transmissions enabling the formation of their fluctuating and coexisting identificatory imaginings as 'new', involved, modern fathers and as living relics of more traditional paternal ideals. We argue that the research offers innovative ways of inquiring into the personal transformations implicated in socio cultural change.

Higgins, M., Miele, M., Evans, A.

The qualification of halal: the contested terrain of halal certification in the UK

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Consumption   Syndicate G

The market for halal food in the UK is growing at a remarkable rate, estimates vary from 10 to 30% in the last year alone. According to Mintel, halal meat currently has an 11% share of all meat sales in the UK despite UK Muslims numbering around 3% of the population. Despite its size, the market is still characterised by a fragmented supply chain and wide network of independent retailers. Most importantly, there exists no consensus in the UK on how to define halal in practice.

Using findings from the DIALREL project, this paper explores the emerging market for halal meat through the competitive and contested arena of halal certification . Callon's work on the economy of qualities provides the socio-theoretical framework in which to open these competing networks of qualification, which bring together religious authorities, businessmen, abattoirs, scientists, retailers, consumers, to produce meat that can be labelled as halal: fit for Muslims to eat.

Higgins, V., Wathan, J., Rafferty, A., Dale, A.

Using large-scale surveys in research and teaching: resources from the Economic and Social Data Service

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

Data from the UK's large-scale, cross-sectional, government social surveys such as the British Crime Survey, Health Survey for England and Labour Force Survey are invaluable secondary sources for sociologists with a wealth of under-utilised data available for analysis. This paper has two objectives. Firstly, the data are introduced and the benefits of the data are reviewed. Secondly the paper focuses on the topic of crime and highlights the resources available from the Economic and Social Data Service for users/potential users of crime surveys in research and teaching - such as a workbook for undergraduate sociology students to introduce the skills they need in order to work with the British Crime Survey.

Hilario, A.P.

The corporeal realities of dying patients: core reflections

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

This paper aims to discuss the process by which patients negotiate and understand themselves in the period of deterioration and decline towards death. The non-negotiable deteriorating bodies of dying patients may be understood as the central point of our discussion. Indeed, dying patients may loose some aspects of their selfhood and identity during the course of their bodily deterioration. Undestanding embodiment as the experience of being a body and living through a body may provide an important conceptual perspective to undertanding why the self is affected when various bodily capacities are lost. Most of current literature on embodiment does not explore the process by which people understand themselves in the period of decline and deterioration towards death. Despite the fact that contemporary writers recognize the centrality of the body, the majority of them take a pure constructionist position by focusing primary on ideas about the body. Emotions and embodiment thus provide a framework which is able to transcend the divide between mind and body. So in order to transcend the biomedical approach of death and dying we must brought back the body as emotions.

Hill, R.   **University of York**

'How Immature Can You Get?': Tussle and Tenacity amongst Women's Letters to Kerrang! Music Magazine

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

This paper asks the question: what role is played by the dialogue of Kerrang!'s female letter writers in the negotiation of community and boundaries amongst heavy metal fans? I address questions about the representation of community, the work done by inter-fan conflict, and what can be deduced about women's role in a traditionally masculine community.

The current UK metal scene has so far received little academic attention, yet the recent increase of women reading Kerrang! magazine begs questions of how this influx of women will change the metal community. Evidence from the letters suggests that any adjustments will not go uncontested, and My Chemical Romance's headline slot at 2007's Download music festival, the highlight of many metal fans' year, proved to be a flashpoint that came under scrutiny from letter writers.

This paper employs close readings of the letters from June 2007 to draw out the dialogues that fans engage in. It interacts with recent research on the role of women within the metal community, and it uses work on post-subcultural studies, and Goth and straightedge youth cultures to understand the part played by conflict within communities of music fans. I argue that conflict in its various guises amongst the female letter writers is an essential tool for forging and negotiating community and opens up further questions about whether, by engaging in conflicts, women are consciously attempting to infiltrate, or create a sense of ownership of, a community that has been (and continues to be) largely seen as male-dominated.

Hillman, A., Latimer, J.   **Cardiff University**

Categories of care: the 'problem' of older people in acute medicine

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Open   Syndicate J

This paper critically explores the place of older people in health care systems. Drawing from ethnographic work undertaken in acute medical wards and an emergency unit in the UK, the paper provides examples to illustrate the problematic status of older people who are caught up in the (re)production of the socio-cultural categories that make up hospital work. By critically engaging with these categories of care we are able to show how the ageing body can become constituted as a body out of place. In many cases, the acute medical symptoms suffered by older people are constituted not in relation to disease or trauma (both legitimate and desirable aspects of acute and emergency medical work), but rather on the basis of age itself. Furthermore, the increasing significance placed upon individuals and families to be responsible for managing their own care, as a means of avoiding crises and admission to hospital, strengthens the difficulties that many older patients face in gaining entry into positive staff constituted categories of care.

Hillyard, S.

Sociology within the academy: changing roles and careers of UK sociologists working in universities in 'new managerialist' times.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Open 2   Syndicate I

The paper discusses the impact of changes in the management of UK universities upon the working practices and sense of self of six senior sociologists working in UK universities in the late ninteen nineties. The paper uses 'new managerialism' as a model to explore change in the public sector, specifically the extent to which it can be said to have permeated the working lives of the academics discussed.

The six case studies are presented via first, their career pathways into HE and sociology originally (including institutional background, qualifications and training) and, secondly, their views on the legitimacy of management within HE and then, finally, their own positionng currently within recent change within UK universities and its implications for sociology. Their takes on the current state of play in their respective universities are contrasted with the model of new managerialism or new public management.

The conclusion attempts to comment upon where sociology stands within the academy and to see how various osciologists have contructed their own roles within their universities; in managerialist or otherwise directions. The case study examples discussed suggest that there is some evidence that new public management has penetrated academic-manager's everyday lives and every sense of self, but there is also evidence of resistance at the micro, everyday level.

Hiscock, J   **University of Manchester**

'Pay back' amongst friends.

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

This paper will discuss the notion of 'pay back' amongst friends.

The paper uses data from a qualitative study about interactions in health. The study explores the way people interact over matters of health and illness, both serious and trivial, within their informal social networks. The study aims to explore interactions amongst friends, colleagues and other informal social connections. In doing so, it seeks to inform theory both on health (how health is managed) and relationships (what are the bonds that link people).

This paper will explore ways people interviewed seemed strongly averse to an explicit sense of reciprocity within friendships. Although this was complicated by other dimensions of the relationship, people expressed very strong opinions against holding an attitude of 'pay back' among friends.

This will be illustrated by descriptions from data on health related support, advice and information giving, and conversations about health among friends. These examples will be reflected upon in the light of attitudinal data on the meaning of, and aversion to, a concept of a 'pay back' amongst friends and its significance for friendship.

Holdsworth C., Quinn, J.   **University of Liverpool**

Connections, Community and Social Capital: Social meanings of engagement for English HE student volunteers

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Education   Syndicate C

Student volunteering has a high profile within HE policy in England as students are exhorted to 'live life to the full' including making a 'contribution to society' (DfES, 2003). It is positioned as an educational good and a precursor to a successful and socially responsible life. Yet, despite the claims that are made for student volunteering there is both a theoretical and empirical gap in understanding how student volunteering contributes to student experiences, and in particular how it may stimulate students' sense of community, belonging and contribute to building and bridging social capital. A key issue here is whether volunteering masks inequalities between students and the communities with whom they volunteer, or if stimulates students' awareness of social inequalities, and the role of education in perpetuating these.

This paper will use the volunteering biographies of 18 student volunteers from the North West of England to explore how students articulate ideas about community and how volunteering contributes to their sense of belonging to communities at different scales and locations (e.g student communities, local residential communities, global communities). The ways in which student volunteers generate social capital through their activities, and with whom they establish connections, will be explored. Finally students' understandings of social inequalities and how they position their volunteering experiences with respect to differential power relations between different groups will be considered.

Holgate, J   **Working Lives Research Institute, London Metropolitan**

To whom do I turn when I am invisible? The experiences of Kurdish workers who have problems at work.

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Economy and Society 2   Syndicate G

The aim of this paper is to explore how identity(ies) 'community' and social networks influence people's ability to build communities and social networks to assist in finding solutions to problems experienced at work. This 3-year ESRC research project focuses on three locally-based minority ethnic communities in London in an attempt to understand social networks in some detail, but in this paper we intend to just focus on the Kurdish community.

The Kurdish identity is subsumed under ethnic categorisations, often of the nation-states from which they come. Yet, because Kurds have experienced discrimination from those nation-states, such categorisation imposes an unacceptable national identity that renders them 'invisible' in government statistics. As such there is little research into the Kurdish communities in the UK.

While there are a growing number of Kurdish community organisations providing a wide range of advice and services to members of the community, behind the façade of this seemingly self-sufficient and business-like community, lies considerably poverty. Integration into the wider London communities can be problematic for many as a result of lack of English language skills, resulting in high unemployment. Further, most workers are employed within the 'ethnic enclave' and experience high degrees of exploitation. To whom do these workers turn when they face problems at work? We will here life stories from the experiences of people living and working in this 'invisible' community.

Holland, S., Renold, E., Ross, N.J., Hillman, A.

'You're still my daughter': looked after young people and their relationship with 'care'

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

'You're still my daughter': looked after young people and their relationship with 'care'

This paper draws on the (Extra)ordinary Lives research project, which was a demonstrator project in the Qualiti node of the ESRC National Centre for Research Methods. This was a participatory, longitudinal project that enabled a small group of young people in public care (aged 10-20) to explore their everyday relationships and identities using multi-media methods of their choice. This paper presents data from the project on how these young people understand their experiences of caring relationships. The research participants shared experiences of care and lack of care from a wide range of sources including birth family, substitute carers, friends and pets and it became clear that they themselves give, as well as receive, care. The paper will critically explore the relevance of the 'ethics of care' to understanding the experiences of young people in a formal care system.

Holohan, S   **Keele University**

"We're a Very Normal Family": Focussing on the Mundane in Channel Four's, 'The Family'

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

Since John Grierson established documentary film-making in the early part of the twentieth century, film and television audiences have been able to gaze into the lives of others. Originally conceived as a means to observe everyday practices in order to better understand the world we live in, factual film-making has been reinvented enormously from social observation to its most recent transformation into reality TV. In 1974 Paul Watson's The Family pioneered the 'fly-on-the-wall' technique to build a picture of family life that also exposed inequalities contained in British society. Today, film-maker Jonathan Smith, has updated this format using technologies usually found in reality programming such as Big Brother, to once again focus on the mundane everyday practices of family life, in the new Channel 4 show also called The Family. However, instead of the meta-narratives of class, race, etc, displayed in the 1970s documentary, the naughties version appears to have been stripped of politics. While it is true to say that today's family loves the same, argues the same and slams doors the same as it did thirty years ago, it is perhaps problematic that its documentary presentation is solely concerned with the minutiae of everyday family life. At its most straightforward The Family becomes another form of display for the participants. However in this paper I also want to consider whether we have seen the end of the sociological imagination in factual film-making and argue that programmes epitomised by The Family see society confessing its own lack of direction.

Hooper, M.   **Stanford University and University of Oxford**

The Dynamics of Social Movement Participation: Lessons from Slum Dweller Mobilization in Kurasini, Dar Es Salaam

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Economy and Society 2   Syndicate G

This paper addresses the question of what motivates slum dwellers to participate in grassroots social movements. While research has been conducted on social movements in the developed world, those in Africa and particularly those emerging from the grassroots have been little studied. This paper presents results from two seasons of interviews with slum dwellers in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania and documents the complex interplay of factors - including belief in efficacy of action, connection/responsibility to place, the nature of payoffs, and the relative costs and benefits of participation - motivating participation in social movement activities.   These findings are interpreted in the context of Hirschman's exit-voice-loyalty model, with which they show striking concurrence. The results reveal that property ownership plays a central role in shaping participation and that the owner/renter cleavage is related to each of the motivational factors found to be important to participation. The results also shed light on the role played by connection and responsibility to place in participatory decision calculus. Longer duration of residence is significantly related to the way individuals conceive of community challenges, with more established residents seeing challenges over the longer term. The paper suggests that the difference between owners and renters in the poorest communities may be more important than thought.   From an applied perspective, the results indicate that local organizers, development agencies, and governments working with urban communities must take into account a number of community-specific characteristics - particularly the extent and nature of property ownership - that are likely to influence participation and impact the success of mobilization.

Horlick-Jones, T.   **Cardiff University**

Does having cancer make you irrational?

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Advances in clinical treatments are resulting in cancer patients living longer, but with the threat of the disease returning at some later date. Anxiety associated with this fear of recurrence seems widespread among patients. Relatively little work has been done to systematically document, understand, and find ways of addressing, such anxiety, and its impact on the quality of patients' lives. The fear of recurrence appears to be related, to a greater or lesser degree, to the hypochondria-like condition comprising an enhanced bodily awareness and a pronounced tendency to interpret mundane sensations as symptoms of pathology; a syndrome which has been termed 'somatosensory amplification'. It is proposed that this syndrome is best understood not in cognitive terms, as a sort of 'false consciousness' or 'irrationality', but rather as the loss of certain aspects of social competence. In making this argument, the paper draws on the author's personal experience of cancer diagnosis, surgery and adjuvant therapy; and on a broadly phenomenological approach to examining the relationship between bodily sensation and practical reasoning about experience. The implications for counselling and other forms of patient support are discussed.

Horlick-Jones, T.   **Cardiff University**

Risk, Praxis and Everyday Life

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Theory   Syndicate B

In this paper, I will explore the tensions between the situational logics of everyday risk praxis, as they arise from the moment-by-moment emergence of social interaction, and structural logics generated by features of contemporary societies. Such latter features include both the 'vertigo of possibility' of everyday life, and the influence of technical and administrative discourses of risk. Drawing on a number of empirical cases, I will illustrate the diversity of everyday risk praxis, and the scope it provides for slippage between formal and informal risk-related practices. The resulting model provides a critique of the totalising tendencies of some contemporary grand theories of risk, by suggesting that these theories fail to fully capture the specificity and just-thisness of the real world of risk. This analysis also suggests that the formal bureaucracy of risk may provide an outward appearance of control and efficiency, whilst masking a diverse underlying tapestry of emergent practices.

Horne, J., Benjamin, S., Forbes, J., Lingard, R., Stelfox, K.

'Capitalising on Sport': Sport, Physical Education and Social Capitals in Three Scottish Independent Schools

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Education   Syndicate C

"Capitalizing on Sport": Sport, Physical Education and Social Capitals in Three Scottish Independent Schools

This paper develops from a larger research project investigating Social Capital in Scottish Independent Schools SISP). The paper begins by outlining the research questions of the SISP. The main research question was: 'how do social and other capitals work in and though independent schooling in Scotland?'. The paper will draw on the data collected in three case study independent schools in Scotland. The analysis will be framed by a multiple capitals approach drawing together and developing the work of Bourdieu and Putnam. The paper will draw out the major emergent themes and 'findings' across the three case study schools. In particular in this paper, emphasis will be given to the role of sport and physical education as playing a role in bonding, bridging and branding the distinctive features of independent schooling. Consistent with the multiple capitals approach discussion will consider the interrelationships and potential contradictions between social capital, cosmopolitan capital (which structures aspirations towards mobility and global labour markets), emotional capital (as part of contemporary cultural capital and necessary for success in new and emergent labour markets constituted globally), and physical capital. In conclusion the paper will reflect upon what the study tells us about the efficacy of the concept of social capital and how it might need to be augmented and developed to take account of class and gender relations, and also to acknowledge other capitals.

Housley, W.   **Cardiff University**

Brand, Identity or Citizenship? The Case of Post-Devolution Wales

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open   Syndicate J

Within this article I explore three dimensions of subjectivity in relation to post-devolution Wales. That is to say I discuss ways in which the various imagined concepts of Wales relate to three frames of being and practice. This space of subjectivity is something that is experienced by individuals but also shaped by wider sociological, historical and economic forces. The article does not aim to provide a technical analysis of this process per se but rather outline three ways in which 'Welsh subjectivity' and 'ways of being Welsh' can be currently understood in terms of the post-devolution landscape.   This is of importance due to the fact that the political landscape of Wales is undergoing radical transformation within a context of globalisation and increasingly complex flows of capital and labour. The ways in which general frames of Welsh subjectivity are being mobilised and shaped by the new regime of devolved governance and other sub-state actors requires consideration as it impacts upon patterns of participation, cohesion and representation within the territory. It also has a significant impact on the shape and character of new devolved political and cultural institutions in terms of values and normative orientation that relate to the distribution of public material resources. The case explored resonates with the constituent parts of the devolved UK and other regions within Europe and beyond.

Hughes, G.   **Cardiff University**

Demonising Youth and the (attempted) criminalisation of Social Policy: Research findings from Wales

Thursday 16th April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open   Syndicate J

Hughes, K., Emmel N.D., Hemmerman, L.C.   **University of Leeds**

Intergenerational exchange in socially excluded households

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

This paper reports on qualitative longitudinal accounts of grand parenting in deprived and socially excluded neighbourhoods with a focus on grandparent-participants' relationships with grandchildren. We explore explanations for decisions to parent and grandparent in particular ways based on the kinds of relationships our participants have or had with older kin and non-kin relatives. In the family histories of our sample, there is a preponderance of teenage pregnancy; grandparents are often parenting and grand parenting similar aged children. This leads to a redefining of generational roles in mentorship and care of children across generations in the family. Continuing judgements are made by grandparent-participants about which of their grandchildren require grand-parenting. The age of the child-parent, most often daughter, is an important dimension, alongside the relationship the grandparent sees as (in)appropriate between parent and child. Judgements are also made about the relationship between daughter and partner based in the participants' own relationship experiences. Grandparenting may be supplemental; deployed through continuing guidance of the child-parent; or replace the child-parent entirely by bringing the grandchild/ren into their home. These choices are located in broader social processes and demonstrate that understandings of grandparents' explanations of how they choose to grandparent cannot entirely focus on the family. Other dimensions that frame relationships include place, the ocio-legal system, disability, and possibilities for employment. These accounts demonstrate how inter-generational time is shaped through and interweaves with other times: of modernity, of the legal system, and even of disease.

Hui, A.

Mobilizing Practices: tracing the space and mobility footprints of enthusiasms

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

Global mobilities are increasingly salient and yet understudied parts of social life. Studies of tourism have considered the movement of people, and work on consumption has traced mobile goods, but a focus on spatially-bounded study sites and a lack of mobile methods have limited our knowledge of the convergences of mobile people, objects, ideas, and spaces. This paper, and the project from which it is drawn, thus pursues new insights by considering how enthusiasts' practices, which incorporate meetings of these diverse elements, have particular relationships to spaces and mobilities. By shifting the focus from what enthusiasts do to where they do it, space is opened up to consider the relationship of enthusiasms, understood as alternately individuals' situated performances and the collection of performances that make enthusiasms entities in themselves, to particular spaces and mobilities. This paper suggests that the enthusiasms of yoga, hiking, quilting, and birding have particular spatial footprints because certain types of spaces can be necessary requirements for the successful performance of the practice. Not only must the mobilities of people, objects and ideas come together, but so too must the correct type of space be available. Looking in particular at the careers of patchwork quilters, this paper suggests how individual enthusiasts' travel is connected to and dependent upon the previous distributions of communities of practice around the world. Such mobility footprints of enthusiasms as entities are always undergoing change and can, along with spatial footprints, suggest where individuals may go to practice their enthusiasms.

Hurdley, R.

disquiet: pressure, volume, and mass in higher education

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

This presentation is based on an ethnographic study of corridors in a university building. It focuses specifically on the mode of sound, and how the aural dimension of institutional space can open up unfamiliar pathways into understanding organisation.

Within the corridors where the research was undertaken, there is quiet, particularly in the weeks that students are absent. During lecture times, a slightly louder 'quiet' resides, punctuated by odd conversations in passing or brief greetings. After hours, farewells and longer conversations sometimes take place in chance meetings. Academic staff discuss meetings, teaching arrangements and after-work socials, in an aural atmosphere of calm, ordered university routine.

And then...BOOMPH! This orderly quiet is punctured by masses of students filling space and time like a high-volume pulse pressing through the channels of the institution. Although ordered by the tempo of university time, and occupying the lower reaches and smaller corners in hierarchies of institutional space and power, the student body makes its presence felt in this counterpunctual dissonance. These 'moments and their men [sic]' (Goffman, Interaction Ritual) are loud reminders that, in the study of organisations, a multimodal approach to patterns of interaction can nuance interpretation. Whilst the organisation of power is a frequent focus in such studies, the disruptions - students pushing through a professorial conversation; the caterer's tea trolley taking precedence at a doorway; the echoing tap-tap of footsteps in an uncarpeted corridor outside an office - can point to less obvious processes at work.

Hyde, M., Higgs, P.

Ageing in a global era. New maps for later life.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Sub-plenary - Generations and the lifecourse   Assembly Hall

Perhaps the two most important developments of the last 50 years have been (global) population ageing and the increase in the volume and velocity of global flows of finance, people, ideas and images. As yet there is little research that has explicitly brought these two phenomena together. Research that has addressed these issues often suffers from problematic conceptions of 'globalization', older age or both. However these economic, social and cultural global flows present important challenges for older people as well as to our understanding of later life. In turn sociological research on later life can, through exploring the interactions between these flows and older people, play an important role in developing our understanding of globalization. In this paper we argue that the sociology of later life needs to develop new research agendas to address these issues. We suggest that there are, at least, five main components of this new (global) research agenda: i) a critical engagement with the globalization debates; ii) mapping of the global condition of older people, in the past and present; ii) exploring how global flows affect(ed) older people, if at all, in the past and present; iii) exploring how older people affect(ed) global flows, if at all, in the past and present; iv) critically evaluating the models and metaphors deployed by sociological and gerontological research on older people. These points will be explored in the paper and a range of qualitative and quantitative data will be used as illustrations.

Hynes, P.

Global Points of Vulnerability: Trafficking of Children and Young People into the UK

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

Trafficking of children and young people into the UK has become an increasingly important and debated issue. The UK government ratified the Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings in December 2008 and has also announced a review of the Government's reservation on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. This paper draws upon research into agency responses to the trafficking of children and young people conducted by the University of Bedfordshire and the NSPCC. It highlights key definitional issues in identifying children and young people as having been trafficked. It is suggested that there are several points of vulnerability during the trafficking process and that understanding the environmental background and human rights context within countries of origin are both under-emphasized risk indicators in UK based protocols in identifying trafficked children.

Imdorf, C.

Discrimination in hiring revisited: How firms use ethnicity to avoid organisational troubles

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

Going beyond economic and social psychological arguments to explain discrimination in hiring, this paper refers to compatible work of organisational studies (behavioural theory of the firm, neo-institutionalism, Luhmann's organisational theory) and to a theory of justice (Boltanski & Thévenot's Economies of Worth) to understand personnel selection. Hence the firm can be conceptualised as a social body of interweaved (industrial, domestic, market, civic etc.) worlds. To allow for the firm's further existence, each world tends to reproduce itself by claiming its own hiring principles of justice and of personnel valuation. Thus any promising candidate has to prove in the selection process his/her industrial, domestic and market suitability from the firm's point of view.

Based on these theoretical assumptions, the paper argues that the main selection logic in hiring is not to choose the most skilled candidate, but the one who suits best to avoid organisational troubles in multiple worlds. Ethnicity serves as an organisational symbolic resource for trouble expectations, especially in the domestic world of the firm.

Empirically, the paper refers to a special case of hiring: The case of apprentice selection in Switzerland where some immigrant students face substantial problems to access apprenticeship places. Using content and argumentation analysis, an interview-based investigation in 65 small and medium sized firms shows that firms take for granted to get into organisational troubles in various worlds by hiring students who are regarded as 'foreigners'. Options and limits for policy making to avoid their professional exclusion will be reconsidered.

Inglis. D.   **University of Aberdeen**

Global Social Inquiry of the Classical Age: The "Unknown" Global Sociologies of Tonnies and Durkheim

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Theory   Syndicate B

In contemporary sociology, it seems increasingly impossible to ignore global-level forces, movements and phenomena. In the last decade, many books and articles have been published that exhort social scientists to take the 'global turn' in their thinking, so that they may grasp the characteristics of a highly globalizing world-condition. Given this, "classical" figures in sociology will likely increasingly be subjected to posthumous interrogation involving questions like: What did they say about globalization? How adequate were their ideas about it? How might such ideas be drawn upon and extended in the present day? While the ideas of Marx as to a world-wide capitalist order have clear relevance today, it is much less apparent how other classical thinkers might fair in these regards. While the sociologies of both Ferdinand Tonnies and Emile Durkheim may seem unlikely bases for global social inquiry, this paper will demonstrate that, far from being wedded to outmoded conceptions of "society" as necessarily synonymous with the boundaries of a nation-state, both Tonnies and Durkheim developed their own distinctive "global sociologies", a fact that has been very much ignored in subsequent exegeses of their work. By recovering the "hidden" visions for global social inquiry in their work, the paper both demonstrates the continuing vitality and relevance of their oeuvres, and also considers what might be the appropriate means of reading classical thinkers in an age of self-conscious globality such as our own.

Inglis, T.

The Global is Local and Personal: Cosmopolitan and Local Cultural Capital

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Consumption   Syndicate G

Although in Firing Back (2003) and Acts of Resistance (1998), Bourdieu regaled against globalisation, he never used his own concepts of fields, habitus, practices and forms of capital systematically to describe the global field. In this paper, I argue that Bourdieu's analysis of globalisation is weak because it (a) tends to conflate globalisation with Americanisation (b) provides no empirical study of the interaction of the global and the local, particularly in terms of the competition between cosmopolitan and local cultural capital and (c) relies overly on a structural analysis and fails to make a link between neo-liberalism and the colonisation of desire with consumer capitalism. In the paper, I make reference to research I conducted in a small village in Co. Meath, particularly to the essays written by local schoolchildren. I argue that while there is a complex web of cosmopolitan and local tastes, what is common to all of theme is a heavy emphasis on self-realisation through consumption.

Irwin, S. Elley, S.

Bridges across generations: parenting, values and perceptions of generational distance

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

The relationships which connect generations provide a lens on the kind of society we live in. Perceptions of continuities and changes in inter-generational relationships offer valuable insights into social diversity and inequalities, and they give important clues about the nature of social change, particularly how it is experienced differently across the population. Recent debates on the internal life of families have provided valuable insights into the emotional commitments of parents, especially mothers, to their children. However, in stressing the importance of class related inequalities here, less attention has been paid to internal class diversity. Exploring generational relationships in a context of (differentiated) social change, this paper reports on research oriented to analysing intra- and well as inter- class diversity. The paper draws on data from the Family Contexts project, funded by the NCRM and affiliated to Young Lives and Times / Timescapes. The research comprised a survey and in-depth interviews with parents of primary school aged children. Amongst other things the survey provided data on respondents' perceptions of change, and a diverse qualitative sample was identified. The paper develops an analysis of parents' perceptions of parenting today, their values around childrearing, and their expectations for their children's futures. It explores how they compare their values with those of their own parents, and how this links to social position. The data provides insights into (diverse) perceptions of generational continuity and change and links, and adds, to evidence of change in broader social structures.

Jackson, S.

Mead, Self, Time - and Feminism

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

A feminist approach to gender and sexuality should take account not only of structural inequalities, but also everyday meanings, practices and constructions of the self. In this paper I focus on the self, developing the argument that the pragmatist thought of G. H. Mead might provide a way forward. This tradition has had little influence among feminists, despite the historical association between pragmatism and first wave feminism in the USA. Here I argue that Mead's conception of the self as process and his emphasis on its sociality, temporality and reflexivity might be fruitful for feminist analysis. Reflexive self-hood is associated in recent theory with late-modern, individualised projects of the self. This over-emphasis on individualisation has been contested by a number of feminists, particularly in relation to its alleged impact on intimate relationships. A return to Mead's insistence on the sociality of the self, I argue, offers us critical purchase on these debates and potential insights into constructions of gendered and sexual self-hood in late modernity. Moreover, Mead's conceptualisation of reflexivity as relational not only serves as a corrective of overly individualised interpretations of reflexive processes, but might suggest new ways of understanding subjective aspects of inequality.

Jacob, N.   **Cardiff University**

The Geneticization of Suicide: Families' management of guilt and responsibility

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

This paper will examine the geneticisation of suicide. Suicide is a particularly devastating death, with families frequently suffering intense feelings of shame and guilt. While guilt may seem inevitable, this paper demonstrates that there is in fact a familial element to such feelings. Drawing upon research conducted with 12 families bereaved by suicide, this paper shows how the role of genetics played a central role in their management of guilt and responsibility. In particular, the paper will illustrate how parents would often appeal to the understanding that suicide has a genetic basis in order to appease feelings of bad parenting. In contrast, siblings would resist such a route since ideas of genetics would connect them with suicidal tendencies. Thus, this paper shows the complex nature of suicide which is often embedded in narratives and counter-narratives.

Jayaweera,A.T   **University of Bristol**

Nonstandard work Schedules and the relationship with partners :The perceptions and feelings of fulltime hotel workers

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

This paper sets out to investigate the views and feelings of fulltime hotel workers regrading how non-standard work schedules affect their relationship with oppositesex partners drawing evidence derived from an unexpected findings which has been gathered during an ethnographic study in a luxury hotel establishment through the process of in-person observation and interviews. It suggests that long hours of working shifts and night shifts had a significant negative impact upon the relationship with the partners. A considerable proportion of hotel workers were in the view that long working hours,night shifts and poor working conditions cause sleep,health and stress related problems limiting their time and energy to contribute in housework responsibilities while damaging their relationship with partners. For some men,physical tiredness experienced after long working hours seem to negatively affect sex life with partners while damaging the relationships. In view of these findings and the relative paucity of research in this area, future research is encouraged to investigate the impact of unusual work hours upon relationship with partners.

Jenkins, K., Baillie Smith, M.   **Northumbria University**

Global civil society and the disempowerment of the grassroots development activist

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

Academics and policymakers involved in researching international development organisations are increasingly concerned to conceptualise and engage with transnational spaces, networks and ideas. These connections often form the centre of celebrations of global civil society's capacity to address the democratic deficits of a neo-liberal globalisation, providing perceived opportunities for the marginalised to generate alternatives, and providing a setting in which values and forms of global citizenship can be realised. However, this paper identifies a global trend towards the de-globalisation and disempowerment of grassroots activists. This has important implications for what is meant by civil society. This paper focuses attention on emerging hierarchies within as well as between civil society organisations, particularly as they engage with donors, networks and others beyond the national level. In contrast to rhetorics in which the 'grassroots' offer a critical and political intervention to debates around change, we see activists 'on the ground', re-cast as 'workers', becoming less cosmopolitan, more parochial and less politicised, in contrast with the coterie of ever-slicker development professionals who appear increasingly disconnected from the 'hands-dirty' work of development. We suggest that, despite deploying narratives of connections, networks and grassroots democracy, processes of neo-liberalisation and professionalisation are increasingly implicated in reifying the grassroots as a distinct category which is then located in an increasingly instrumental understanding of civic engagement. The paper draws on research and experiences of working in civil society settings across the North and South.

Johnstone, M., Lucke, J., & Lee, C.   **The University of Queensland**

The impact of first birth and other life events on young Australian women's motherhood and employment aspirations

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

Understanding the work and family aspirations held by younger generations of women, and what affects their plans, can help to understand how women negotiate work and family over the life course. Such research is important for the development of sustainable policy that supports the health and wellbeing of women and their families, and for policy-makers who, in Australia as in other developed countries, are concerned about long-term downtrends in fertility and the prospect of an ageing population. The aim of this paper is to explore the motherhood aspirations and employment aspirations of young Australian women moving through their peak childbearing years, as well as to assess what might impact upon women's employment and motherhood aspirations over time. Responses from 7,500 women of the Younger cohort of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health (ALSWH) - surveyed in 2000 (aged 22-27); 2003 (aged 25-30); and 2006 (aged 28-33) - about the number of children they would like to have by age 35, and what type of employment they would prefer at that age, were analysed. First birth impacted upon both motherhood and employment aspirations. Relationship changes, employment aspirations, and the experience of fertility-related problems were also strong predictors of motherhood aspirations. The findings suggest that young women are actively tailoring their work and motherhood plans within the personal and social constraints on their lives. Women may benefit from policy changes that empower them and allow them to more easily tailor their plans.

Jones, G.   **Staffordshire University**

'Through a glass, darkly': reflections on the changing concept of youth.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

This paper considers the value of the concept of 'youth' in late modernity, reviewing ways in which the concept has been constructed and deconstructed over time, within a more general story of the rise and fall of grand theory in social science and political agendas. Recent debates in UK youth studies have focused on the apparently competing values of subcultural and post-structural analyses in understanding current 'youth' styles and tribes, thus echoing the earlier debates in the 1970s between functionalists and subcultural theorists over the relative significance of age and social class. This paper takes further the question about the validity of youth as a social concept, in the changed circumstances of late modernity, when youth has been extended and scope for autonomy has been restricted. In an attempt to demythologize and re-theorize the concept of youth, it examines currently relevant ways of constructing youth by identifying what is specific to young people without resorting to seeing them either as a homogeneous age group or disconnected individuals. In so doing, it questions the degree of agency often erroneously attributed to young people, sometimes with the best political intentions, and also provides an argument for de-commodifying the concept of youth and reclaiming it in ways which are relevant to the everyday reality of young people's lives. The paper draws on "Youth", a new book by the author, published in January 2009 by Polity Press.

Jones, I.R., Higgs, P.

The Natural and the Normal: Conflicting Discourses of Ageing

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open   Syndicate J

The improvement in population health and increased longevity in countries like the UK and USA has radically destabilised notions of what ageing and old age are. From the 19th century onwards the idea of a natural lifecourse following normatively understood stages ending in infirmity and death has been challenged by both social and bio-medical developments. In the latter part of the 20th century breakthroughs in bio-gerontology as well as in mainstream bio-medicine have created the possibility of an increasingly differentiated idea of normal ageing. The potential to overcome or severely reduce the age-associated effects of bodies growing older has led to many social gerontologists to argue for a return to a more normatively based conception of ageing and old age. This paper examines and outlines the tensions between these two discourses and points out that not only is normal ageing replacing the idea of natural ageing but that it is also fast evolving as it intersects with the somatic aspects of a consumer society. The paper concludes by arguing that it is in the expanding territory of normal ageing that a sociology of the body at older ages should be located.

Jones, S. H.   **Goldsmiths College, University of London**

Multicultural accommodation and the international roots of religious reform: the case of Islamic contractual marriage

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Religion   Syndicate H

One of the most prominent ways in which recent legal and political theory has responded to calls for greater recognition of cultural and moral pluralism has been to consider the possibility of national governments delegating authority in matters of personal law to the sub-state level. Writers such as Will Kymlicka, Charles Taylor, Ayelet Shachar and Maleiha Malik have, despite differences, all put forward arguments justifying the legal accommodation of minority traditions in response to global changes. However, these various theoretical justifications have been hampered by the concern that in practice such a process of legal delegation might result in limitations to the personal autonomy of vulnerable parties. In the case of religious groups specifically this concern has been particularly prominent, with discussions often being focused upon the gender inequities that can be identified in the procedures for marriage and divorce in various religious traditions. Taking this issue as its starting point, this paper investigates the ways in which the members of religious groups engage with the perceived inequities in their tradition. It focuses on the case of the Islamic marriage contract, drawing upon first-hand empirical sources in order to look at the ways in which international precedents and the traditional sources of Islamic law are employed to justify reforming Islamic procedural norms in the UK. Through this examination the paper considers the role empirical sociological investigation has to play in these debates, and reflects on possible legislative changes that might be made to achieve harmony between civil and religious processes.

Kayacan, G.

How is changing the experience of old age in Turkey, during Turkish Modernization

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

This study examines the modern experience of spending the old age in institutions for the elderly based on oral history interviews with men and women from the first generation of the Republic, who are between the ages of 70-90 and are residents in such an institution in Istanbul. Within the scape of this research, the approaches and and institutional practises towards the elderly in Turkey and in certain countries of the world are related in the first place. "Izzet Baysal Huzurevi", a residential house for the elderly, in Istanbul, is a "total institution" in Goffman's terms. The everyday experience of the elderly living in this institution is described within this context.The main chapter of this study is based on the first-person narratives of five male and five female residents. They are the first generation examples of modern institutional experience of old age. They are both the objects and the actors of 78 years of the Turkish modernization project. Hence, with the possibilities of relating personal histories to social history, provided by oral history method, writing a social history from a critical perspective is attempted. Oral history method, when used in such social institutions, can have some practical benefits for the residents, too. This shows that not only the personal histories are useful for the writing of history but also history-writing can have therapeutic effects for the residents of such institutions who use the oral history techniques of forming personal ife histories.

Kazimierczak, K.A.   **Sociology Department, Lancaster**

'Linguistic fandom': performing identity in a space of transgression

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Lecture Theatre

This paper explores the ways in which users of invented languages, Elvish languages created by J.R.R. Tolkien for his mythology of Middle-earth and Klingon language constructed by Mark Okrand for the 'Star Trek' franchise, perform their identities through their engagements with these idioms and their textual sources.My analysis will centre on the notion of 'linguistic fandom' - originating in the discourse of these communities and pointing at their links with fan culture, but also with the values and practices of academia - and will picture Klingon and Elvish users as engaged in activities transgressing the boundaries of fandom and scholarship.

I will engage here with fan culture studies' accounts of relationship between fan and scholar identities. I will refer particularly to Matt Hills' (2002) notion of liminal identities of 'fan-scholar' (a fan who uses academic procedures to analyse his/her favourite text) and 'scholar-fan' (an academic who considers him/herself as a fan, openly eclaring affect for a media text), and to Vivien Burr's (2005) concept of a space of transgression, as a site where otherwise marginal identities are expressed and legitimised through face-to-face interaction.

Tracing the marks of fan and scholarly values in linguistic fans' gatherings and in their textual production, I will draw attention to the problematic character of the notions of liminality and transgression - at once subverting an order and reinstating it - and argue for linguistic fandom as a space of transgression for the conceptual categories linked with fan culture and academia.

Kelly, M.   **NICE**

Rationalism and empiricism in evidence based medicine: some sociological observations on constructing the evidence base on health inequalities.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

This paper describes the principles of evidence based medicine, from the concerns about effectiveness first raised by Cochrane in 1972, to the development of the technologies of sytematic review, biblographic searching and health economics. Particular attention will be paid to the so called hierarchy of evidence, which downgrades sociological and other forms of social scientific evidence. Using medical sociological and epidemiological evidence about health inequalities the paper will argue that the evidence based approach frequently confuses rationalism and empiricism and consequently underutilises important sociological and other non clinical data. The implications for devloping gudance for the NHS and others on reducing health inequlities will be described.

Kemp, S., Bancroft, A., Holmwood, J., Bell, V.   **The University of Edinburgh**

The purpose and practice of teaching social theory: Addressing common problems

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Theory   Syndicate B

Social theory courses are a compulsory part of most sociology degrees, and the teaching of key theoretical approaches is an expected feature of sociology honours degrees according to the QAA framework. Some students, however, treat social theory as obligatory rather than necessary, and seem to be unclear about the purpose of such courses. In their more reflective moments, those teaching social theory may feel the same. In this panel-based discussion we hope to address a range of issues related to the teaching of social theory. Firstly, why do we teach social theory, and what should we teach? Secondly, what are the common problems faced in teaching social theory, and do these arise from a clash between the teaching cultures of staff and the learning cultures of students? Thirdly, what helps to engage students with theoretical debates? Panel members will give short opening statements, however the intention is for all of those who come along to contribute to the discussion of these issues, and share their views and experiences.

Kemp,S.   **University of Edinburgh**

Objective Interests, Subjective Confusions? Critical Realism, Interests and Social Structure

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Theory   Syndicate B

The question of whether social structures exist over and above the understandings of agents is undergoing renewed debate, over a century on from Durkheim's famous remarks about the external and constraining character of social facts. One recent exchange on this subject pitted Margaret Archer's critical realist defence of the (relatively) independent reality of social structure against Anthony King's interpretive focus on the intersubjective understandings of social actors. In this debate, Archer counter-attacked interpretive approaches by arguing that social structure gives actors in particular positions objective interests which exist regardless of whether they are subjectively recognized or taken up. In this paper, I want to critically reflect on Archer's account of social structure in the light of claims about the 'objective interests' of actors, noting the resonances of Archer's approach with certain neo-Marxist ideas of the 1970s. I will be arguing that Archer's account of objective interests cannot be defended, and I will explore the consequences of this for Archer's account of social structure.

Khattab, N.

Ethnic Diversity and Economic Disadvantage among Muslims in Britain

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Economy and Society 2   Syndicate G

The literature on minorities and the labour market in Britain has suggested that Muslims were the most disadvantaged of all religious groups (Lindley 2002; Model and Lin 2002; Peach 2006). For example, Peach (2006) has also concluded that "Muslim population is young and rapidly growing; its socio-economic profile is depressed, marked by the exceptionally low participation rate of women in the formal labour market, and by high concentration in areas of multiple deprivation." (629).

Most of these studies tend very often to portrait Muslims as a homogenous group overlooking internal ethnic divisions and differences. For example, do all Muslim groups in Britain face the same level of economic disadvantages? The existing literature does not provide an answer for this question, hence the importance of this paper.

In this paper I utilise the 2001 Samples of Anonymised Records (SAR's) to examine the ethnic differences within the Muslim population in terms of labour market prospects focussing on unemployment and economic inactivity. I include data on eight Muslim groups: British-White Muslims, Other-White Muslims, Pakistani-Muslims, Indian-Muslims, Bangladeshi-Muslims, Other-Asian Muslims, Black-African Muslims and Other-Muslims. Separate models for men and women are used.

The analysis reveals significant differences between the different ethnic Muslim groups in terms of experiencing unemployment and/or being economically inactive. These differences are greater among men than among women. These results and their implication will be presented in the conference.

Kilkey, M., Perrons, D., Plomien, A.   **University of Hull**

Migrant handymen in the UK: A case-study of migrant-niche formation

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

Through an analysis, utilising quantitative and qualitative methods, of what we term the 'migrant handyman phenomenon', this paper explores the processes by which commoditised stereotypically masculine areas of domestic labour are prone to migrant niching. We draw on McDowell and colleagues' (2008) notion of dual interpellation - simultaneously a recognition and endorsement of shared stereotypical assumptions about the quality and capabilities of particular racialised and gendered migrant bodies - to explain the rise of the 'Polish Handyman' and similar. In doing so, our aim is to address three gaps in research. The first relates to research on the domestic sector as a workplace, of which there is a growing volume, fuelled by evidence of expansion in domestic-sector employment in recent decades. This research for the most part, however, treats domestic-sector work as synonymous with women's work, ignoring evidence of a re-masculinisation of domestic work in recent years, a trend associated with the commoditisation of traditionally masculine areas of household labour. The second gap we address relates to research exploring the relationship between migration and domestic work, which now routinely describes domestic-sector employment as an 'immigration niche'. In the UK at least, it does so in the absence of rigorous empirical evidence to support the claim. The third and final gap to be addressed, relates to research seeking to explain why certain occupations are prone to becoming migrant niches, research which in the main has focused on structural explanations, leaving little scope for the recognition of the agency of migrants themselves.

King, A

Classifying one's place: Higher Education, Class Distinctions and Age - a complex interrelationship

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Education   Syndicate C

This paper adds to debates concerning the relationship between Higher Education (HE) and social class in contemporary British society. The suggestion that HE is only accessible to young people from certain social class backgrounds has been extensively examined in recent years, particularly in light of institutional re-organisation and the UK government's widening participation agenda. Whilst some studies have focused on social class and access to Higher Education, an analogous debate has arisen about the relationship between class and educational credentials. One contention is that changes in the graduate employment market means that middle-class privilege is no longer guaranteed through gaining a degree and therefore other means of ensuring class position must be located. In the UK, commentators have identified the pre-university Gap Year as one method of gaining 'an edge' over others in the competition for jobs. However, the mechanism by which this is achieved remains largely unexplored. This paper draws on qualitative research data with a sample of young people who had taken a pre-university Gap Year. Using a social action approach it demonstrates that these young people used talk about their experiences as a means of creating distinctions, but that these were primarily associated with psychosocial factors associated with age. The paper considers the implications of this finding, arguing that it enables the expression, achievement and maintenance of class distinctions, without risking the possibility of seeming overtly classed. The paper concludes by positioning this research in theoretical debates about class and culture in contemporary, late modern societies.

Kirton, A.   **University of Liverpool**

New Technologies, New Techniques, New Freedoms? Recent Technlogical Developments and the Field of Popular Music Production

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

Since the emergence of music 'online' during the final years of the 20th Century, the field of popular music production has seemingly become subject to an unprecedented level of instability, flux and uncertainty. In particular, recording companies have come under increasing pressure to legitimise their role in processes of music production as new technological capacities appear to have inspired a new wave of enthusiasm for 'do-it-yourself' ethics and practice among artists. In the past few years a number of well publicised cases of acts turning down recording deals and refusing to renew expired contracts have given weight to claims of an impending evolution in established relations of production. This paper will discuss the nature of these apparent changes. It will draw upon empirical data to show how practice might be changing at an individual level, but that changes might be equally influenced and constrained by wider structural forces and established logics. In doing so, the paper draws upon Pierre Bourdieu's concept of 'field' and related concepts to discuss how technological development might lead to a restructuring of the field and reconfiguration of established relations of production, but how existing distributions of power and various resources may always come to bear in the realisation of fully revolutionary potentials.

Klein, K.   **London School of Economics**

"Illiberal Biopolitics? Embryonic Life, In-Vitro Populations and the Governance of Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research in China"

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

For Foucault, the birth of biopolitics - as regulatory control of the population and the other pillar of biopower next to disciplinary power - is immediately intertwined with the event of European Modernity. As a period, the latter is characterized by the formation of the nation state, Industrial Revolution, Capitalism and Liberalism.

Yet, Foucault's writings on power and biopolitics leave us with little account of biopolitical practices outside the liberal Western state. If it is clear for instance that these are biopolitical if concerned with the 'quality' of the 'population', the paper asks whether the governance of hESCR in China is an illustration of biopolitics, and how in spite of Foucault's thesis this is possible in the illiberal One-Party state in China.

As the 'threshold of biological modernity' is situated at the point, where the species has become the stakes, this threshold is now also far behind in China, where nationalization of the biological has been achieved as well. In its need for 'embryonic' bodies, the paper also asks whether the biopolitics of 'embryonic life' is the governance of 'in-vitro populations' in order to improve the population and safeguard its national survival.

Kobayashi, N.   **The Open University**

Design as a device in branding: a study of Muji in different cultural settings

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Consumption   Syndicate G

As a device for promoting consumption, brands can be seen as complex systems of different actors, which include various devices such as names, logos and designs. Together, they not only mediate between the producer and consumer, but also help 'equip' the consumer with 'the capacity' to conduct themselves as the sort of persons who consume particular brands. In theory, these devices can teach consumers to behave in such a way as to be drawn to certain brands.

In this paper, I will focus on design in branding by examining Muji, a Japanese retailing brand. Since its expansion into Europe and North America, Muji, which claims to offer 'no brand (logo) quality goods', has acquired a 'cult status' with its well-designed products, winning the hearts and minds of many 'design-conscious' consumers across the continents. As suggested, its products bear no logo and therefore, its 'sleek' designs play a significant role in distinguishing its products from others. It is even claimed that its design is so distinct that it is recognisable by 'those in the know'.

While on its home soil, Muji is understood to offer 'simple' design, outside Japan, its design concept seems to have taken on a whole new notion. How does this happen? This paper explores how different devices are involved in making Muji design work in Japan and the UK helping to turn this humble 'no-brand' brand a 'cool brand' in these disparate cultural settings.

Kramer, A-MC.   **University of Warwick**

'Who you are is where you've come from': Kinship, affinity and identity in genealogical Research

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

Contemporary British society is in the middle of an unprecedented boom in the family heritage industry but despite the popularity and visibility of genealogical research, the subject is both under-researched and under-theorised. Investigating genealogical research as an 'imaginative and empirical practice' (Nash 2002: 29), this paper emerges out of a larger Leverhulme-funded research project which explores what cultural meanings become attached to genealogical research both as a distinct epistemological and methodological project and a process through which we can explore the production of kinship, auto/biographical selves and self-making.

Using material from the Mass Observation Project directive on 'Doing Family Research' commissioned in Summer 2008, the paper will first map the cultural meanings attributed to genealogical research by correspondents. Second, it will problematise genealogical practice as a reflexive process which engenders 'critical self-awareness' and through which kinship ties and auto/biographical selves are produced. Third, and in relation to wider sociological debates, it will reflect upon the importance of personal and family biographies and personal reflexivity in an era in which it is claimed individuals are increasingly 'disembedded' and individualized.

This paper will thus analyse how kinship, affinity and connectedness are expressed through genealogical research. It will assess how the meaning and purpose of genealogical research is understood in relation to individual, family and national identity. It will conclude by discussing how genealogical research is understood to function both as a tool for contemporary understanding of the past and as a vehicle for telling narratives of self-becoming.

Krpic, T.   **Faculty of Social Sciences, Ljubljana University**

Suburbs in our Minds

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

The purpose of this paper is to use Eviatar Zerubavel's typology of minds as an analytical tool to critically interpret modern cultures of fear. Zerubavel's typology of minds consists of three elements: rigid mind, fuzzy mind, and flexible mind. The author states that the rigid mind, as an essential element of the culture of fear, contributes to the construction of many social phenomena, such as homophobia, xenophobia, and general intolerance towards others, by the raising cognitive boundaries and the establishment of a rigid social order. With the application of the fuzzy mind, which is contained in the form of artistic cognitive promiscuity, transgression of cognitive boundaries is possible. Moral standards allow the constitution of the third type of mind, the flexible mind, which mediates between art and the social context. In the film Predmestje (Suburbs), influential Slovenian director Vinko Möderndorfer presents an excellent example of the interwoveness of the above-mentioned typology of minds by indicating the shift in Slovenian society towards a modern culture of fear along with longing for a more humane moral order.

Kudlacek, L.   **Masaryk University , Faculty of Social Studies**

The religious cleavage and its impact on parties behaviour in India

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Religion   Syndicate H

The work has evaluated hypothesis that government without minority electorates' requirement do not protect these minorities against violence, riots and aggression form majority. Wilkinson supports Lijphart and Horowitz assumption of office holding and proportional representation. Without that the riots and violence against minorities have bigger intensity. The work has compared selected cases of governments' and parties' behaviour in particular Indian states used the present Wilkinson's and Varshney's datas and enlarged them by new data collection based on Times of India records. There is a link between minority support (as well as proportional representation) for government increase fair behaviour and minority protection from government. However, there are also some deviations from this hypothesis which need explanation. The numbers of riots and deaths as a one measurement of their intensities compare the party and government behaviour in particular cases. The number of parties in government and their core electoral support indicated the intensity as well as quantity of communal violence in India. Work has enlarged the hypothesis and the cases of moderate multipartism with bipolar spectrum have been included to Wilkinson's assumption.

Lafferty, Y.   **The University of Cumbria**

Other sports you get knocked around but this, it kills ya!

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Open   Syndicate J

This research examines the emotion work of the mothers of male professional boxers. Unlike most other sports, professional boxing can kill. As a consequence mothers experience extreme emotional distress when supporting sons who box. Hochschild's (2003) concepts of 'emotion work', 'feeling rules', 'sentient self', and the 'doctrine of feeling' are employed to analyse the gendered division of emotional labour in professional boxing. It is argued that mothers use the 'feeling rules' of 'good' motherhood to make sense of their anxieties about their sons' safety in the ring and to manage the emotional inequalities that arise between themselves and their sons.

Lakeman, R., Matthews, A., Munck, R., Redmond, M.,   **Dublin City University**
Sanders, T., Walsh, J.

New communities and mental health: conversations, conceptions and concerns

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Migration has been a ubiquitous feature of the Irish social and cultural experience for over 150 years. However, in recent years Ireland has become a destination of choice for migrants from the rest of the world. This has posed a challenge for Irish institutions and Irish society, but rarely has service development been informed by the perceptions, opinions and expertise of migrants themselves. This presentation reports on the findings from a community development project undertaken in partnership between Cairde (a non government resource and advocacy organisation for ethnic minority groups) and Dublin City University. In this project members of new community groups in Dublin who were affiliated with Cairde undertook focus groups exploring their perceptions regarding mental health, mental ill-health and their experiences of mental health care provision. The findings strongly suggest that the way migrants are presently treated within health and social services is often detrimental to mental health. The findings highlight structural inequalities that some migrants face in relation to legal status, accessing educational, occupational opportunities, and social service eligibility.

Lamb, M J   **University of Essex**

Giving Meaning to Human Rights: Human Rights Advocacy in a Crowded Market

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Open   Syndicate J

Human rights are increasingly regarded as one of the most ubiquitous and pervasive concepts to emerge from the late 20th century. They have come to dominate claims for social justice, and are used by social movements around the world. However the sheer number of groups and movements using the language of rights, whilst not necessarily referring to themselves as human rights groups, makes analysis ever more complex. Thus, this paper addresses an issue that has persistently troubled research into human rights from a sociological perspective: how to analyse human rights advocacy groups, and their relationship to the broader theoretical literature of social movements and trans-national organisations and advocacy. Based on empirical research into developments in human rights in Northern Ireland since 1998, this paper makes two arguments. Firstly that the concept of 'communities of practice' developed by Etienne Wenger (1998), provides an alternative concept for understanding the dynamics of human rights advocacy groups, and the relationships between them. The concept takes into account their heterogeneity and permeability, and the particular context, objectives, limitations and frameworks within which they are situated. Secondly, through comparing two 'communities of practice' in Northern Ireland, both of which were established following the Good Friday (Belfast) Agreement, the paper demonstrates the challenges human rights advocacy groups face, the ways in which they create meanings for human rights through symbol, ritual and practice, and the implications their activities have for the creation of solidarity in divided societies.

Landy, D   **Trinity College Dublin**

The use of universalistic discourses in social movement fields: How Israel-critical Jewish activists deploy and are constrained by human rights talk

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Open   Syndicate J

This paper examines the deployment of human rights by Israel-critical Jewish activists, viewing this universalistic discourse as a series of localised moments of cognition and contention, rather than as a totalising metanarrative. Nevertheless, following Bourdieu, I ask to what extent activists reproduce governing hegemonies in the field of contention by adopting such dominant discourses.

Firstly I draw on general critiques of human rights by theorists such as Agamben, Douzinas and Arendt, relating their theoretical arguments to the case of Palestine. These arguments see human rights as a means of deracinating Palestinians, denying them subjectivity and legitimising Israeli control over the occupied Palestinian territories.

Next I examine why, despite these caveats, human rights talk is still used by pro-Palestinian political activists in the west. I apply Bourdieu's theory of practice to social movements, viewing movement activists in terms of their discursive and dialogic contention with others in the political field. I focus on Israel-critical Jews as a prime case of activists engaged in such dialogue. Viewed from their perspective, human rights discourse is a means to achieve 'cognitive liberation', and to frame their activities so as to attract recruits and silence enemies among fellow Jews.

Thus in the case of this distant issue movement, human rights discourse is more concerned with successfully conducting activism among fellow westerners than relating to the far-away object of activism. In conclusion, I examine the potential consequences of social movements' use of universalistic discourse in their particular moments of contention.

Laurie, N.   **Newcastle University**

Quechua activism and the construction of evangelical indigenous identities in Peru?

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Religion   Syndicate H

A persistent absence in narratives about the Andean transnational indigenous community is the case of Peru. It is generally held that indigenous identities are not politicised to the same extent as in neighbouring Andean countries. While some account for this by pointing to the long civil war and the anti-indigenous stance of the Shining Path, few question the historical accuracy of this absence. By investigating the role played by 'Quechua activism' in the construction of indigenous identities within the Peruvian evangelical church this paper aims to highlight a previously invisible aspect of indigenous identity making. It also challenges the common view of evangelical churches as a threat to indigenous cultures, because of their rejection of the fiesta system and reliance on western guidelines for family life. This paper seeks to identify and examine the institutionalisation processes associated with the emergence of a Quechua identity in the Peruvian evangelical church, explore the role played by different local, national and transnational performance and training spaces in the emergence of a Peruvian evangelical Quechua movement and finally investigate how personal life histories shape the ways in which the 1980s/1990s generation of young evangelicals who lived through civil war understand evangelical indigenous identities.

Lee, R. P.   **Newcastle University**

Knowledge claims and standard setting: defining dietary fibre in the Codex Alimentarius Commission

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

This paper examines the role of knowledge claims in the setting of international food standards. It does so through a case-study of the on-going attempt to agree an international definition of dietary fibre in the Codex Alimentarius Commission (the Codex). The Codex is an intergovernmental organisation in which member states negotiate and agree international food standards. The case-study of dietary fibre demonstrates that in order to negotiate standards in the Codex, scientific and technical advice is marshalled by governments, international organisations, and business and consumer groups. As a result of this activity, the construction, articulation and presentation of knowledge claims is a crucial element of standard setting. As such, knowledge claims, while having detailed technical content, are also political interventions. Moreover, knowledge claims have origins outside of the international standard setting process and have particular histories. The history of competing knowledge claims in defining dietary fibre are detailed, with a particular focus upon the contention over appropriate methods for analysing dietary fibre. Through this historical perspective the paper considers how knowledge claims have been mobilised within Codex standard setting through groups of expertise. Expert advice in the Codex has been structured by the institutional separation of science from politics and the paper concludes by analysing how particular groups of expertise have sought to transcend such a division.

Levi, M.   **Cardiff University**

Fraud Networks: Opportunities, Place and the Variable Impact of Globalisation

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

The analytical and research literature on fraud is much sparser than that on organised crime generally or drugs trafficking in particular. This partly reflects its relatively low political valuation as a non-core part of 'the crime problem', which in turn affects research funding. But the relative (in)accessibility of fraud networks to outsiders is also a factor, since frauds (and other crimes) differ in the way that they are open for marketing, and in the interaction between the parties. In this paper, I examine the settings for frauds, which both frames and reflects networks, in the context of fraud opportunities offered both by national and global factors including diasporas, the sorts of frauds they are, and public-private 'control partnerships'. This demonstrates the variety of actors, settings and (less clearly) need for collaboration in frauds of different types. In the process, I explore what is known about those involved in the organisation of frauds, based around interviews and data on insurance claims analysed by social network software.

Lewis, J.T.

From Big Science to Big Brother Science

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

This paper will scrutinise ideas of 'traceability' and 'transparency' in stem cell science. The work will draw upon a recent ethnography conducted at a Brain Repair laboratory researching into treatment and transplantation of Huntington and Parkinson disease. This paper will demonstrate the ways in which the pioneering group negotiate standards such as Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and Home Office guidelines in order to make documentable procedures 'doable'. Building on work by Thrift (2006) and Stephens, Atkinson and Glasner (2008), I will also illustrate how the performative architecture within the laboratory is not just restricted to the exterior of scientific buildings and that interior apparatus, spaces and places are sources of surveillance in a politically and ethically contested scientific field. In turn, this performativity vindicates and validates the scientific actions performed within it, and exonerates past ways of 'doing' science.

Li, Y.

Socio-economic status of immigrants in the US and the UK (1990-2000)

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

The United States of America and the United Kingdom are generally regarded as the genotype of liberal capitalism. From popular myths to sociological representation, the US tends to be portrayed as a land of opportunity with relatively little socio-economic constraint whereas Britain is often seen as hopelessly hampered by entrenched class disparity and social sclerosis. This contrast is not only limited to the realm of class reproduction but has important implications on ethnic socio-economic integration. The US is a typical immigrant society with three to four hundred years of immigration history whereas successive waves of immigration in the UK only occurred in the wake of post-war reconstruction. Existing cross-national sociological research has focused on the class structure and social fluidity between the two countries but there has been rather little comparative research on ethnic fortunes in the two countries. Within each country, though, social scientists have in the past few decades paid considerable attention to the socio-economic fortunes of minority ethnic groups within their national boundary, more so in the US than in the UK. In this paper, I will use the most recent and the most authoritative data available and make a comparative study on the socio-economic situation of minority ethnic groups in the two countries. The data used are the SARs from the British Census of Population 1991 and 2001, and IPUMs from the 1990 and 2000 US Censuses. All key variables are standardised for direct comparison.

Light, B., Fletcher, G.

Playing to Sing? Ethnographies of Music as Gaming

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

In the context of continued sociotechnical convergence, we need to recognise the place of music in relation to other contemporary media. Digital games are one such medium but, to date, music and gaming have are usually discussed in relation to the improvement of the 'in game' experience for the player - the does the music you're listening to get your blood pumping as your race around the track idea. Mnimal effort has been expended upon understanding the creation and consumption of music 'as the game'. In this paper we examine music, as game, via two intersecting ethnographies of SingStar, a karaoke style game. Attending to SingStar's polystratic form (comprised of interacting layers of texts) we elucidate the role that music takes in making the game work for players, on and beyond the screen and liminally within their everyday lives. In particular we discuss SingStar as: a glue, facilitating sociality; a mechanism for identity work; a vehicle for performance, celebrity and social grooming, and a gateway to, and influencer of, musical tastes. We emphasise the necessity of understanding the experience of game play beyond the elements directly viewed on a screen. Indeed, our work highlights the dynamics of convergence which are transporting the gaming experience beyond the screen. However, our work also suggests that these experiences are unstable and variable. They are being transported back to screens within and outwith the game, extending and reshaping the game play experience, other aspects of player's lives and those they interact with.

Lumsden, K.   **University of Aberdeen**

Pink Cars and Fluffy Dice: 'Girl Racers' and the Quest for Masculinity

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

This paper discusses female participation in the 'boy racer' subculture. Although the 'boy racer' culture is largely male-dominated, an increasing number of girls actively participate. The 'boy racer' subculture functions as a site of masculine construction (see Gilmore, 1990), and embraces a doctrine of confrontation and achievement through modification of the car and car-related practices such as speeding and illegal street racing. The culture is aligned with traditional working-class values and attitudes, and thus is traditional in its attitudes towards gender and gender roles within the subculture. This paper focuses on the ways in which female members of the culture attempted to resist or conform to the gender roles of the subculture. It presents a typology of male and female participation in the subculture, which includes classifications such as: 'boy racer', 'mummy's boy', 'girl racer' 'car modifier', 'bikini girl' or 'babe', and 'passenger' or 'girlfriend'. The discussion is informed by Connell's (1987; 1995) notions of 'hegemonic masculinity' and 'emphasized femininity'. The paper concludes that although some participants attempted to resist gender stereotypes, in order to be viewed as legitimate members of the subculture, females were required to act like 'one of the boys' through their style of dress, driving skills, language and attitudes, or adopt a form of 'emphasized femininity', in which they were portrayed as sexual objects. Findings are presented from participant observation with the subculture in Aberdeen and semi-structured interviews with members of the subculture and various 'outside groups' (including police, residents, journalists and state representatives).

Lusted, J.   **University of Lincoln**

'Serving two masters: Research and critical policy analysis in local football'

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open   Syndicate J

Research councils appear to be increasingly keen to develop collaborative research with the private, public and voluntary sector. One such scheme is the CASE studentship offered by the Economic and Social Research Council. In 2004 I began undertaking research through the CASE scheme, with The Football Association as the collaborative body. The project, entitled 'sports equity strategies and local football', was established to trace the implementation of The FA's own 'Ethics and Sports Equity Strategy' into local, grass roots football. The studentship contained two key requirements; the production of a final report to The FA, and the submission of a thesis for consideration of the award of PhD. Having now completed both tasks, I am in a position to reflect upon the possible conflicts – and compliments – of these dual requirements.This paper aims to offer some preliminary thoughts on the value and difficulty of collaborative research. To this end, it engages with some of the wider discussions around the possible role of the sport academic in shaping sport policy. I discuss some of the tensions that have emerged from my research that derive directly from the dual objectives of the project. This includes how to handle 'bad news' findings, and dealing with the use of concepts such as 'race' that, while adopted uncritically in policy circles, remain problematic notions in academic analyses.

Lyon, D

Time, space and labour on a building site

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

This paper analyses the social organisation of work on a building site and the different forms of labour that go into the refurbishment of a building. It identifies what these forms of labour are and draws out the interconnections between them: across occupations, time, and space. Further, it explores the ways in which the building space is conceptualised and lived by those who work on the project - builders, architects and engineers - and the ways in which their work is imagined, visualised and embodied. The paper is based on ethnographic research, undertaken in collaboration with Peter Hatton (University of Kent) in 2007. The research involved weekly visits to the building site over seven months to photograph the refurbishment work in progress; informal observation on-site and discussion with the builders and site manager; participation in site meetings; and interviews with the builders, architects and engineers, as well as with former occupants of the building. The methodology sought to document in parallel ways the building work and the building as it was worked upon. Given the centrality of the photography in this research, the paper also reflects on the gain of the visual - as a technique of data collection and as a form of dissemination - in exploring the social complexity of building work, and suggests the greater contribution it could make in the sociology of work.

MacBride-Stewart, S.

The relationship between affect, subjectivity and care in the context of medicine.

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

This paper addresses transformations in doctor's subjectivities in the context of debates about the increasingly complicated multidirectional, multisided processes of modernisation, technical innovation and other political and social changes in modern medicine (Clarke at al, 2003; Rose 2006). Data was drawn from interviews with 26 general practitioners (GPs) across Wales. Notably, diverse discourses of 'care' (ie those that drew on feminisation, medico-legal contexts, medical tradition, and governance) were used to produce an account of doctoring that was ambivalent, embodied yet which resonated with, and reframed traditional medical sociological ideas about the relationship between doctors and their patients. I further interrogate the question of 'what kind of modern medical health care professionals doctors expected to be' by suggesting that as general practice becomes separated from familiar sociological representations of 'caring', we need to consider the effect of multiple notions of 'care' on affective subjectivities of doctors in modern medicine.

MacDonald, R.

Precarious Work & Youth Transitions: stepping stones or poverty traps?

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

 Well-known are the facts that youth transitions in Western, industrialised societies have been radically restructured over the latter third of the twentieth century, that a series of economic, social, cultural and policy changes have driven this restructuring and that wide reaching consequences for young people have followed. Less well understood is the significance of precarious work for young people and young adults in their experience of the labour market and transitions to adult-life.

The paper considers the prevailing wisdom that standard forms of regular employment in lasting, stable jobs (taken to be typical of post-war, Fordist society) are being replaced by flexible forms of precarious employment that are now, in turn, seen as emblematic of late modern capitalism. The alleged rise of precarious work, particularly as done by young people and young adults, is considered against the available evidence. Influential writers speak of the general social proliferation of risk and insecurity, overriding older social divisions and certainties; the rise of precarious employment affects all sorts of work and worker. Secondly, therefore, the paper examines evidence about the social distribution of precarious employment. Thirdly, the consequences of precarious work for young people's lives are discussed: should we conceive of insecure jobs as stepping stones to more secure, adult employment or traps which curtail biographical and social mobility? Finally, the paper asks about the experience of doing this sort of work, with reference to qualitative youth and community studies, before providing some summary and concluding discussion.

MacLean, A., Backett-Milburn, K., Cunningham-Burley, S., Harden, J., Jamieson, L.

Doing family? Exploring presentations of self and family across research contexts and time

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

The practice of generating multiple perspectives by conducting qualitative interviews with a number of 'related' participants is becoming more common amongst family sociologists. The complexities involved in this, for both data generation and analysis, are beginning to be brought to light. This paper will contribute to these discussions by drawing on our experiences of conducting 'family group interviews' as the second wave of a qualitative longitudinal study designed to explore the ways families negotiate their work and family lives over time. As little research has been conducted using this method, we will outline the limitations and strengths involved, paying particular attention to the challenges and benefits of generating and analysing group accounts with related participants who have each already provided individual accounts. Central to this paper is an awareness of all research settings as potential sites for performance and a critical engagement with the assumption that participants are increasingly likely to rehearse dominant discourses in group settings but that these might also be contested within that setting. We will demonstrate any similarities and differences in participants' presentations of themselves across the first two waves of the research and will explore if, how, and why they can be seen as 'doing family' in either or both research contexts.

Madden, L.   **Cardiff School of Social Sciences**

Reading Gender in the Space of the Home: An exploration of women's internet use

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

Traditional approaches to the internet present several problems for an investigation into its everyday use, and the identities that are made possible through it. Typically it is treated as an information space, that is disembodied and without material. Studies have focussed on content, communities and software within it that are often seen as detached from one another and existing rather apart from the rest of the social world. This conceptualisation supports notions of the technology as homogenous and smoothly functioning, acted upon by rational, expert subjects, while making irrelevant their gender, and operations of power. This paper seeks to address these problems, using new work in phenomenology (Hansen, 2006; Csordas, 2002) and relationality (Walkerdine, 2007) to develop ways of theorising women's internet use that acknowledges the embodied quality of these technologies, and the web of interconnections between internet use and other areas of women's lives. This approach has informed research methods to investigate women's experience of the internet both online and offline, placing digital technologies such as web and email alongside the material, like computers and home geographies. I present some preliminary data here, using photographs, diary and interview accounts to ask questions around what kind of relations a woman can enter into with the internet, and what implications these relations have for the production of   femininity.

Mah, A.   **University of Warwick**

Municipal ideals and achievements: an historical sociology of labour market-oriented public services in Birmingham (1870-1914)

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Economy and Society 2   Syndicate D

Late nineteenth-century Birmingham was famously described as 'the best-governed city in the world'. The development of a range of public services in Birmingham between 1870 and 1914 – including gas, water, housing, transport, sanitation, education, and work relief – is widely attributed to the 'public-spirited capitalism' of Joseph Chamberlain, Mayor of Birmingham between 1873 and 1876 and MP for Birmingham between 1876 and 1914. In many ways, the development of public services in Birmingham during this period represents a success story of situated public action in areas of work, economy and society: of collaboration between municipal government, private enterprise, workers' groups, and national government, towards a common goal of ensuring the public good. However, the phrase 'best-governed city in the world' warrants some critical reflection: the development and coordination of public services occurred differently and unevenly over time and space; some public services were neglected or poorly managed; and there was often a discrepancy between municipal ideals and actual achievements. This paper analyses the development of two sets of public services in Birmingham between 1870 and 1914 which have particular implications for labour market activation: 1) education and technical training, and 2) poor relief, distress and unemployment insurance. By evaluating these public services and their design and implementation,one can better assess the extent to which Birmingham represents a 'success story', and what lessons can drawn today from this historic example of municipal transformation.

Mair, M., Watson, P., Elsey, C., Smith, P.V.   **University of Manchester**

Some Technical Reflections on an Instance of 'Friendly Fire'

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

On the 28th of March, 2003, a column of British armoured vehicles came under attack from U.S. war planes; the first 'friendly fire' incident in the second Gulf War and one that resulted in the death of serviceman Lt. Cp. Matthew Hull. The cockpit tape of the attack was released during a coroner's inquest almost four years after the incident, and showed a series of events culminating in the mistaken identification of the British forces as 'hostiles'. The conversation between the two attacking pilots centred on orange markings on the vehicles. On the basis of assumptions that were later treated as evidence of a profound 'reality disjuncture' (Pollner 1975), the pilots and their assigned forward air controller found themselves having to work out what these markings could 'actually' be. In the course of their exchanges we see them working up, sequentially, temporally and categorially, a course of action that had profound ramifications, in that the difference between what they saw ('friendlies') and what they thought they saw ('hostiles') led to them to undertake actions which had immediate and tragic consequences. We will examine the interaction and discuss the methods by which the parties arrived at an understanding of what they were looking at, before turning attention to how cockpit videos are used as accountability devices that enable third-parties, after the fact, to recover, and so read into the actions of the pilots, the workings of the military-political 'machinery' the crew's actions were enmeshed within.

Malesevic, S.   **National University of Ireland**

How Pacifist were the Founding Fathers?: War and Violence in Classical Social Thought

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Open 2   Syndicate I

Most commentators agree that the study of war and collective violence remains an Achilles' heel of sociology. However this apparent neglect is often wrongly attributed to the classics of social thought. This paper contests such a view by arguing a) that many classics were preoccupied with the study of war and violence and have devised complex concepts and models to study war and violence; and b) most of the classical social thought was in fact sympathetic to the 'militarist' understanding of social life. Many classical sociologists shared analytical, epistemological and even moral universe that understood war and violence as the key mechanisms of social change. The structural neglect of this rich and versatile theoretical tradition is linked to the hegemony of normative 'pacifist' re-interpretation of the classics in the aftermath of two total wars. Rather than consisting solely of the 'holy trinity' - Marx, Durkheim and Weber - which, in the wake of the post-WWII, were established as the principal if not the only representatives of the sociological cannon, classical social thought was much wider and significantly less 'pacifist'. In many respects the late 19th century and early 20th century, the time of sociology's institutional birth, was dominated by a 'militarist' social thought. Much of this intellectual tradition is worth revisiting, as once the trappings of normative bellicosity are removed there is a wealth of sociologically potent concepts and ideas that can help us make sense of the profoundly sociological phenomena which are war and violence.

Manchi, M.   **Christ University, Hosur Road**

The Construction of Gender in Self-Help Texts'

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

My study titled 'The Construction of Gender in Self-Help Texts' looks at how gender stereotypes are constructed in self-help texts. Using the grounded theory method and content analysis, this study contends that masculinity and feminity are stereotyped by being attributed specific kinds of attributes, in these texts. For instance, these books state that a man's spatial ability is more superior to a woman's. All these stereotypes are supported using either bio-medical or evolutionary theories. The study closely and critically examines these stereotypes and theories to understand the implications it could have for the understanding of gender both in various social sciences and especially in society at large.

Mansnerus, E.

Predicting the future by modelling the past: How do public health decision-makers use model-based evidence?

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

Evidence for developing the required preventive and protective measures for public health decision-making processes is produced and utilised by computer-based modelling techniques. Yet, we have only limited understanding how these techniques provide reliable predictions. The core question: How do public health decision-makers disseminate model-based evidence?

Two cases analysed in this study compare different types of model-based predictions. First, a case of population-level transmission models of Haemophilus influenzae type b bacteria (Hib) is an example of short-term predictions. This case introduces explanation-based predictions that produce "what would happen if"-scenarios. Preventive public health measures can be developed on the basis of these explanatory scenarios. Secondly, a set of recently published models on Pandemic influenza preparedness planning produce long-term predictions. Typical for these predictions is that the data utilised in them are derived from past pandemics. Hence, these predictions produce reliable scenarios of the potential course of the outbreak, and thus facilitate the distribution of protective measures. Through this analysis, the nature of model-based evidence and its benefits and limitations in the public health context is discussed.

The study builds upon a long-term ethnographic research on mathematical modelling of infectious diseases with a research group from the National Public Health Institute, Helsinki (the Hib case). The data on the pandemic influenza preparedness planning are gathered from scientific publications and from policy documents on national and international level. The study applies micro-sociological research methods.

Marshall, L

Musical knowledge and the creation of musical meaning

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

This paper considers how musical meaning is created, how sociology can help advance the study of musical meaning, and the methodological and theoretical issues raised by sociologically studying musical meaning. While sociology has done much to advance the academic study of music, the specifically musical element of musical experience has been overlooked. What does it feel like to listen to music? Is it possible for sociology to offer some insight into this kind of experience? My argument is that rather than viewing musical meaning as created by musical structures, we need instead to consider the role of the listener in constructing musical meaning. So far, so familiar: this is the stock argument of post-Barthes Cultural Studies. What I am interested in, however, and what has not been developed in much depth thus far, is an emphasis upon musical knowledge - specifically, everyday musical knowledge. It is the application of our latent musical knowledge that enables us to feel things musically, even those not musically trained. Looking at the question of musical meaning from this direction opens up new ways for sociology to get to the heart of musical meaning and musical experience.

Martin, G.   **University of Western Sydney**

Policing, Place, Space and Protest at APEC, Sydney 2007

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

This paper analyses some of the events surrounding the APEC forum held in Sydney in 2007 using literatures on policing protest, urban sociology and environmental criminology. The paper begins by examining the policing protest literature, including the policing of global events such as the WTO convention in Seattle in 1999. Protest policing is then discussed in the context of 'governable space', the privatisation of and exclusion from public space via 'fortification' and new forms of security, surveillance and control under neoliberalism and post-9/11. It is argued resilience in 'fortified cities' is increasingly held up by the relevant nation-states as a mark of global distinction and that major events provide world cities such as Sydney with the opportunity to market themselves as 'safe places' in order to attract international investment capital. The policing of anti-globalisation protests at the APEC event in Sydney is examined with reference to these arguments, and the impact upon civil liberties and implications for future collective action in Australia is also considered.

Martin, P.   **City University**

"I hope I'm not a racist." Racism, antiracism and ethnic absolutism in everyday ideology

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

What happens to racist ideology in times of official antiracism? Blatant expression of biological racism, racial insults, and open discrimination based on skin colour or ethnicity occur in Britain today, but are ostracized in public discourse and mainstream social life. Nonetheless, racializing distinctions based on allegedly insurmountable cultural differences are widespread, as is the vague or eloquent desire for a culturally homogenous nation. Such cultural racism and ethnic absolutism are contested in public discourse, but not universally condemned. The complex controversies over what constitutes racism presents methodological problems to the social scientist, as few people would like to see themselves as racially prejudiced, and many are wary of the accusation of racism. This paper reports on a mixed methods study of everyday racism in North East London. Data from a postal survey and semi-structured interviews are combined to investigate the relationship between official antiracism, racism, and prejudice in everyday thinking. On the substantial level, the results indicate that racist and antiracist convictions can coexist in people's minds. The denial of racism is not necessarily made in bad faith, but draws on simplistic notions of racism as something that is at all times irrational, hate-driven or violent. On the methodological level, I argue that the contributions of surveys to the study of everyday ideology are underrated by much current sociology. The methodological and theoretical chasm between survey investigations into "attitudes" and textual analysis of "discourse" has no scientific justification and is harmful to the project of understanding contemporary racism.

Martin, W.   **University of Reading**

Embodying Vulnerability: Ageing, the Body and Everyday Life

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open   Syndicate J

The aim of this paper is to explore the interplay between ageing, vulnerability and the body in everyday life. In particular, the complexities of an increasing sense of embodied vulnerability as people grow older will be explored. Whilst embodied vulnerabilities, 'ontological security' (Giddens,1991), can be predominantly dealt with by developing and sustaining daily routines (Turner, 2004), the ability to manage daily norms and practices can become increasingly problematic as people grow older as everyday routines are more frequently and, at times, unpredictably disrupted. Disruptions to daily routines and biographical identities may include increasing awareness of bodily changes associated with ageing; experiences of ill-health, bereavement and divorce; and heightened concerns about everyday risks, such as, falls, safety and security and mobility difficulties. The integrity and logic of the ageing body and everyday practices are therefore questioned, the taken for granted nature of embodiment challenged, and people in mid to later life are increasingly required to make sense of biographical and bodily changes in order to maintain and/or re-negotiate a sense of 'ontological security'. Perceptions of bodily vulnerabilities in everyday life are moreover related to chronological age, gender, social networks, living arrangements and spatio-temporal dimensions of everyday life. An increasing sense of vulnerability as people grow older therefore highlight an awareness of the constraints as well as the possibilities of the lived body.

Martindale, A., Ettorre, E.

Gratitude, guilt, and the age of the third face: cultural implications of face transplatation.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

The imminent prospect of the world's first full facial transplant has whetted media and public interest, particularly since the successful partial face transplant of Isabelle Dinoire in Amiens on 27th November 2005. Internal organ transplants such as heart, lungs, kidneys, etc. tend to be a medical expectation in the UK. However, there appears to be a heightened sense of social anxiety surrounding the possibility of a first full facial transplant. Is this anxiety justified in biomedical terms? Is it justified on a societal level?

We know there is a 'limited' amount' of social research in this area (Cariou:2007, Summerton & Agha:2004). Nevertheless, pressing questions from a social scientific perspective include: is the public aware that the procedures involved in face transplantation have cultural and social implications beyond the operating theatre? Is face transplantation a medical procedure which is tampering with the integrity of the human body and/or what it means to be human, given that the face is viewed as central to human identity (Sacks:2007, Brown:2007, Preminger:2006). Do those with facial disfigurements have unrealistic expectations of what facial transplants involve? What are the opinions of those in groups such as (Let's face it, Changing faces) who represent those with facial disfigurements?

The possibilities of using these sorts of questions to inform this relatively new field of biomedicine with sociological research are vast and under-explored (Toure:2006, Huxtable:2005). During the presentation we will be exploring the key issues at this early stage of the research.

Matyska, A.   **University of Tampere**

Negotiating transnational kinship: work of emotional and economic support across

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

In a transnational family life creation and maintenance of positive family relations despite distance and separation by national borders demands continuous and conscious family labour. For the Polish migrants in Finland and their non-migrants kin in Poland the exchanges of economic and emotional support were, although with different intensity in different historical moments, the leading means to stay together and to compensate for culturally denounced embodied absence. Drawing on my multi-sited ethnography I indicate that both constituted the forms of expression of love, affinity and (negotiated) sense of responsibility in a family which had to be enacted with the particular attentiveness to the specificity of transnational circumstances. Their effectiveness, in a sense of preservation of family welfare, demanded also the consideration of changing political, economic, cultural and technological context of Polish and Finnish nation-states. About what, when and with whom to talk, and what, when and in what economical form to remit was subjected to conscious work, both on the parts of those who left and those who 'stayed behind.' As such a transnational family life was an everyday effort of negotiation and maneuvering, and as I argue, it was in a constant, explicit or implicit, articulation with the larger structures of the societies of 'departure' and 'destination.' Furthermore my studied showed that the transnational space, along posing significant limits, creates also new possibilities of not only more obvious economic but also emotional ways of doing kinship. These for various reasons may be absent when kin reside locally.

Maxwell, C.   **Institute of Education, University of London**

Agency in action - young women and their sexual relationships

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

Agency as a concept continues to be drawn on by theorists and researchers, especially in discussions on girls and young women and their experiences in both public and private contexts. Drawing on data from a study undertaken at a secondary school, involving 54 young women talking about their experiences of the school and of sexual and intimate relationships, this talk will explore how young women conceptualised power within their relationships and how these might help to inform an understanding of agency. While the young women seemed to view power as a resource shared (usually unequally) between partners, they also described themselves as powerful - a positioning they could simply occupy. Based on these two ways of conceptualising power, young women's narratives revealed two main ways in which agency occurred -either by reacting into action and taking power back; or through starting from a powerful position. Central to understanding agency in this study appeared to be the role of emotions.

McDonald, K.

Terror and subjectivity: grammars of extreme violence in global movements

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

Analyses of contemporary terrorism are dominated on the one hand by instrumental theories of violence which understand violence as a tool, or by cultural and psychological analyses that approach violence as a pathology of modernity, religion, 'identity' or personality.   This paper explores terror as both private experience and public relationship, and considers the extent to which contemporary forms of jihadi violence can be analysed in terms of emerging models of global movement, where we see the importance of global cultural forms such as conspiracy theory, technological mediations such as the Internet, the importance of horror and the extreme, the inexperiencable and the unimaginable that together may constitute a new 'grammar of violence'. The paper considers the implications of such violence for the way we attempt to understand and respond to increasingly globalized forms of conflict.

McDonough,P. Sacker, A., Worts, D.   **University of Toronto**

Socioeconomic inequalities in health dynamics in Britain and the US

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Drawing on theory and research on the fundamental causes of health, the life course, and the welfare state, we investigate social inequalities in dynamic self-rated health for working-aged Americans and Britons. Using data from the PSID and BHPS (1990-2004) and latent transition analysis, we offer four new insights. First, our finding of three distinctive types of health processes (stable good health, stable poor health, and a "mover" health trajectory) represents a more differentiated profile of long-term health than previously shown. Second, we characterize health trajectories in structural terms by suggesting who was more likely to experience what type of health trajectory. Third, our more differentiated picture of dynamic health leads to a more nuanced understanding of comparative health: Although the health advantage of Britons was confirmed, our results also indicate that they were more likely to experience health change. Fourth, the socioeconomic gradient in long-term health was steeper in the US, raising provocative questions about how state policies and practices may affect population health.

McGovern P. B. M.   **University of Salford**

Small voluntary groups, funding and power inequalities in the field of community health Promotion

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

In this analysis of doctoral fieldwork, two case studies of different kinds of self-help groups for people with heart disease in an urban area of high deprivation - one face-to-face and one virtual - will be used. These two self-help groups are different in genesis, length of time in which they have existed and stage in social trajectory. This paper will link the social trajectories of these two groups to the wider field of community health promotion.   It will focus on the consequences of the unequal power relations between such small voluntary groups and powerful funders in the field and argue that the perceived need of such groups for external funding leads them to become diverted from their founding aims toward maintenance goals related to expansion and professionalisation.

The paper will reflect on how, at the institutional level of analysis, largely latent power relations are structured in the field of community health promotion on a persisting basis and explore the loopholes and contradictions that may be exploited by small voluntary groups to preserve their original purposes and yet survive.

McKenzie, J.S.   **University of Aberdeen**

"Tartan Buddhists": Participants and Participation in a Tibetan Buddhist Organisation in Scotland

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Religion   Syndicate H

In transplanting from one country to another, Buddhist organisations have to adopt to new and foreign environments if they wish to survive and flourish (Baumann, 1997). In so doing these Buddhist organisations produce different types of practice (Cush, 1990: Tweed, 2002) and I wish to explore these practices through an ethnographic case study of the branches of the Tibetan Buddhist organisation, Rokpa Scotland. The purpose of this paper is to discuss the participants and participation in Rokpa Scotland. I will begin identifying demographic patterns amongst participants before going on to outline motivations for initial and continuing involvement. The various forms of involvement will then be described. This will lead to an explanation of a typology for understanding participation and identify the implications managing these different types of participation has for the organisation and the maintenance of traditional authenticity. In conclusion it will be suggested that the mix of practitioners in Rokpa Scotland may be representative of those within the wider spiritual milieu and facilitate our understanding of religious participation in general.

McKinnon, A. Brittain, C

The conflict over sexuality in the Anglican Communion: A preliminary research report

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Religion   Syndicate H

Although bitter theological disputes have arisen in the Communion in the past (over liturgical change, the ordination of women, and the issue of polygamy) such tensions did not threaten to split-up the global Church. Although internal disputes within religious communities are not uncommon in contemporary society, the global dimension of the conflict is perhaps what is most striking. Much of the opposition to gay bishops and the blessing of same sex unions has come from the global South, and a new set of alliances have formed between conservative bishops in Nigeria, Uganda, and Argentina (to name a few) and conservative groups and congregations in Canada, the US and the UK. Some congregations have recently left the oversight of their 'liberal' bishops in Canada and the US, and have joined the Anglican Church of Argentina, Uganda, or Nigeria. The developing division over the question of homosexuality is thus a unique problem in the history of the Anglican Communion, as well as an illuminating example of how shifts and developments within contemporary global society impact on traditional religious communities. This paper reports on 14 hour-long, semi-structured interviews with bishops in the Church of England, The Scottish Episcopal Church, and the Churches of Ireland and Wales, who provide insight into the conflict from the perspective of the British leadership within the global Anglican Communion. As actors and observers themselves representing divergent views, these leaders provide valuable insight into the basic dimensions of the conflict.

McLennan, G.

Sociology, Eurocentrism, Secularity

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Theory   Syndicate B

In this paper, I question certain readings of what it means to 'de-colonize' sociology as a way of meeting the challenge of global social inquiry. The first part of the argument shows that claims about sociology's continued Eurocentrism cannot be pushed very far, because the notions of anti-Eurocentrism and (theoretical) postcoloniality are themselves problematical. Sociologists have had to 'catch up' on postcolonial questions, and can do better still in grasping the full range of global/glocal phenomena and cultures. But calls for the wholesale reconstruction of sociology's 'secular' explanatory frame in order to embrace radically plural cultures and ontologies are mistaken.

Meier, L.   **Institute of Employment Research (IAB)**

The Power of the Local in the everyday formation of elite identities

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

Usually the elite and their identities, the white high qualified and well paid males, are invisible in social research. In my presentation the formation of elite identities by their everyday activities and performances is investigated in two different cities. Based on the analysis of empirical data collected by participant observation and in semi-structured interviews with German finance managers working in London and in Singapore the construction of whiteness, maleness and of being the global elite became visible in both cities. By living, working and spending leisure time in London or Singapore the process of identity construction becomes a process of a steady interaction with the city: with its specific history, its social structure and its materiality. My presentation will not only demonstrate the process of identity construction in different contexts, it will also demonstrate the process of identity construction as an interaction with the city and its specific history: with the colonial city of Singapore and with the imperial city of London. In their everyday production of identities the German bankers interact with the city structures. And they are also bringing something with them into the city which massively influences their encounter with the city: their images of the cities. These images produce different expectations of the city and of specific places in the city. They have some impact on the everyday activities and the unique identity formations of the managers.

Mekada, G.   **University of Oklahoma**

Changing paradigms in sociology of childhood - implications for the social professions

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

The welfare and protection of children are deeply embedded in the history and development of the social professions. The key disciplines of sociology and psychology underpin professional knowledge about children and childhood. New approaches in the study of children and childhood have emerged challenging accepted representations and perspectives of children to consider the evolving agency and social contexts of children's lives as they construct their own perspectives of daily lived experiences and new cultural patterns of childhood. Under the rubric of 'new social studies of childhood' multi-disciplinary approaches have utilized scholarship in various disciplines building upon the growing acceptance of 'studies' in academic institutions to engage with childhood in a variety of new and interesting ways. These evolving fields of knowledge present particular challenges to the social professions as they struggle to integrate these new social realities. Theory and research inform professional knowledge as well as policy and practice issues about how children should be cared for and considerations about their overall well-being. This paper examines tensions and debates in light of social change and shifts in the character of contemporary childhood and the ways in which the social professions have responded with particular reference to social work.

Mellor, D.   **University of Wales institute**

Why do we bother to teach sociology?

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Education   Syndicate C

How should you spark a student's sociological imagination? If the project of public sociology is to be a serious and successful endeavour, this must be a key concern for all lecturers working with first year students. These students constitute our largest, and arguably most important, public. Borrowing a phrase from educational studies, the sociological imagination is a central 'threshold concept' that must be learned during the first year of a sociology degree, and many degrees now contain modules concerned with the sociological imagination. Yet how can we be sure that they successfully explain the connections between biography, history and social structure that lie at the core of our discipline? Might a creative approach to first year teaching, utilising the key aspects of seeing, doing, imaging, creating and reflecting, help engage students' imaginations? These aspects would not only aid students during their studies, but also as sociologically minded professionals in their future careers. Creative sociology is not suggested as a radical 'new way forward' in teaching and learning, but rather a recognition, consolidation and development of existing practice. If students of sociology are to understand its relevance, realise its importance, and fulfil its potential, then surely this should be a primary concern for all sociologists? Drawing on practitioner research and teaching and learning theory, this paper engages with these pressing issues.

Meyer, M.   **University of Sheffield**

Brokering scientific knowledge across boundaries

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

Knowledge brokering is an increasingly important feature of what is now called the 'knowledge society'. Some even argue that knowledge brokering is a key characteristic of 'post-modern professionals'. However, the ways in which knowledge is moved and translated across the boundaries of different worlds has not been much explored. How, for instance, do people move scientific knowledge between a university, on the one hand, and the private sector, the policy world, or the public sphere, on the other? How do they create and maintain links between these worlds? My aim will be to understand under what circumstances - and why - knowledge brokering has emerged and how knowledge brokering is actually being done.

When science moves out of the laboratory, the university, the research centre, brokers are needed, in particular roamers, that is, people who move between places, create connections, and move knowledge. My starting point is that knowledge brokering tends to happen in particular locations - spaces that privilege the brokering of knowledge across boundaries, such as science shops, university technology transfer offices, or foresight exercises. Knowledge brokers can be understood as persons or organizations that facilitate the creation, the sharing and the use of knowledge. Their task is to establish and maintain links between researchers and their audience, via the appropriate translation of research findings.

Miele, M., Evans, A., Higgin, M.

Halal and Kosher food consumers understanding of slaughtering practices

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

Kosher food is food that meets Jewish dietary laws, while Halal food is consumed by Muslims. The way in which cattle and poultry are slaughtered is one of the required, even though not sufficient, key characteristics for meat to be qualified as either Kosher or Halal. Current EU regulation requires that all animals are stunned before slaughtering, however there is an exception for the slaughter of animals for the Kosher and Halal markets. For Kosher food, poultry and cattle must be slaughtered under strict guidelines called "shechita." This means the animals are slaughtered without stunning and only those who are trained and qualified are allowed to slaughter kosher animals. Similarly, for Halal food the slaughter guidelines are called Zibah, and they require animals to be alive and healthy at the time of slaughter, and, jugular vein, carotid artery and windpipe have to be severed by a razor sharp knife by a single swipe, to incur as less a pain as possible. However, several Halal certifying bodies consider stunning a practice compatible with their guidelines. In this paper we present the results of a series of focus groups conducted in the UK, within the EU project Dialrel, with consumers of Halal and Kosher foods where we discussed their motivations for consuming these foods and their understanding of the Halal or Kosher qualification. From an STS perspective we address the controversy around the practice of 'stunning' and the issue of animal suffering for different groups of Halal and Kosher consumers.

Molyneux-Hodgson, S., Meyer, M.   **University of Sheffield**

Adhesion through cohesion - the making of a synthetic biology community

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

Currently, there is a head of steam evident around discussion and analysis of synthetic biology. Debates on the challenges of synthetic biology are organised, the BBSRC (the UK's Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council) recently announced the funding of seven networks in synthetic biology, and the more recent publication of a report on the ethics and social aspects of synthetic biology (Balmer and Martin, 2008), mark a symbolic starting point for synthetic biology in the UK context. Synthetic biology presents us, as sociologists of science, with an opportunity to engage with scientists involved in an emergent area of scientific practice and the possibility of following the process of community building in 'real time' (in actu).

In this paper then, we trace the beginnings of a scientific community and probe the formation of a potential discipline. How is the idea of 'community' mobilised - both by scientists in building an agenda for new forms of knowledge work, and by social scientists as an analytical device to understand new formations for knowledge production? Our analysis leads to two key themes to be explored in the paper: the theme of 'movements' - the way in which people, success stories, disciplines, and objects move and are enrolled; and the theme of 'stickiness' - the glue that holds the various constitutive elements of community together.

Moore, N.   **University of Manchester**

Feminist Methodology and the Challenges of Researching Feminism

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

While there has been much reflection on feminism and its recent past, these reflections have tended not to encompass feminist methods and methodology. Rather the focus has often been on feminist theory, and feminist politics and activism. There has been considerable anxiety about the supposed demise of feminism, often meaning feminist activism, and/or the related success of a particular version of feminism, that is academic poststructuralist feminist theory. This paper asks how our understanding of feminism might be transformed if we included a focus on methods in our accounts of the feminist past.

For instance, we might note the widespread influence of feminist methods across the social sciences and humanities. This could be taken as evidence of feminism's vitality, countering narratives of the end of feminism, although it is also the case that the influence of feminist methodologies often goes unmarked and unacknowledged.

At the same time, if, as feminists, we understand research as not merely descriptive, but also as productive, I am interested in how it is that we, have produced such an abject script for ourselves, that is, how it is that our methods appear to have produced the end of feminism. Thus paradoxically, while feminist research methods appear to flourish, the demise of feminism narrative suggests that 'history', and an impoverished notion of history at that, is the only method left for researching feminism. The paper asks how might we invoke feminist methods, and a revitalised notion of feminist history, to produce more hopeful stories of feminism.

Morgan, B   **Essex University**

From Punk to Sheddy: Nostalgia, Loss and the Ageing Body

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open   Syndicate J

This paper explores the psychological function of nostalgia as a way of coping with changes, losses and anxieties related to the ageing process and in particular the ageing body in midlife. Illustrated by a psycho-biographical case study of a 49-year-old man named Joe, it is shown how past life-events and a 'past self' are often idealised in the nostalgic episode.

It could be argued that midlife is frequently characterised as a period of increased losses and change. The idealisation of a past self can heighten the sense that that part of themselves is now lost and unrecoverable, leading to an inevitable process of mourning which needs to be psychologically negotiated. In addition anxieties about mortality are often heightened during the midlife period and this paper considers Sedikides et al's claim that nostalgia serves as 'a vital resource for buffering [against this] existential threat' (in Sani (Ed.), 2008, 231).

Joe's story is one of 22 life stories from British born men and women aged between 39 and 58 years old. His is an interesting case study in way in which he nostalgically reflects upon his years as a punk in the 1970s. He now considers himself a 'typical sheddy', no longer wearing his leather jacket and attending gigs, but rather spends his time practising carpentry in his shed. His story highlights issues of loss and mourning for a past self which has to be let go of and a present and future sense of self which needs to now be renegotiated.

Morgan, K. J., Cole, M. D.   **Cardiff University**

"Meat is Murder": the denial of human violence against other animals

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open 2   Syndicate A

Definitions of violence often depend upon the extent to which an act or series of acts are socially acceptable. To a large extent, this rests on the fact that 'violence' is a particularly emotive word and using it imputes an element of illegitimacy upon an act. Once actions are perceived as illegitimate, preventative measures should be taken to ensure they are no longer permitted. However, the contingent construction of the concept of violence enables us to ignore its existence when it does not suit us to acknowledge it. Specific acts of physical violence against other animals may at times be acknowledged, depending on the context, the precise nature of the human-nonhuman animal relationship and the extent to which we have granted subjectivity to the nonhuman animal concerned. The majority of violent acts against other animals however are ignored or denied, excused through objectification and the use(s) to which we intend to put them. In this paper we challenge the inconsistencies in our relationships with nonhuman animals through an examination of structural, physical, and psychological violence imposed by human actions onto other animals. We suggest that our refusal to explicitly recognise our relationship with other animals as being predicated upon a normalised system of culturally-sponsored violence is because such an acknowledgement would disrupt our construction of a hierarchy of species, with ourselves as human beings situated in a position of privilege at its summit.

Mottram, A.

The Sick Role: "Being in for a Day doesn't count!" Patient experiences of Day Surgery

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

A qualitative study, utilising the Grounded Theory methodology, was undertaken to explore the experiences of patients undergoing day surgery in two day surgery units in the United Kingdom. 145 patients were interviewed on three occasions over a two year period.

A major theme to emerge from the data was the ambiguity presented to the patient in relation to the sick role. Throughout the data it was clear that there were some difficulties encountered by the patient sample regarding the cultural norms and expectations relating to the sick role. Of concern to the patients was society's attitude which seems to deny to the day surgery patients the full entitlement of the privileges associated with the sick role. Day Surgery patients wanted to feel comfortable in a role that was socially acceptable to society.

 Patient expectations of Day Surgery gave rise to other dilemmas concerning appropriation of the sick role. Due to the speed of the service many patients actively resisted this role. This could have implications for their recovery. A large number of patients wished for a limited ascription of the sick role whilst a minority actively sought to acquire the sick role.

Parsons "Sick Role" offers a useful framework of analysis and provides insight into the dilemmas of patients undergoing day surgery. Clinical implications of these findings include the necessity of providing detailed patient information to encourage realistic expectations of day surgery.

Müller, F.   **Federal University of Sao Paulo**

Childhood in the City of Porto Alegre/Brazil

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

Childhood in the City of Porto Alegre/Brazil is an interdisciplinary study which analyses how children view the city in which they live. The study uses an ethnographical methodology, and describes the experiences of a group of nine children who live in different neighbourhoods of the city of Porto Alegre. The children were invited to photograph places they considered important in their daily lives, following which conversations with them were recorded and transcribed. The results of the study show that 1) Childhood is a hybrid phenomenon which is produced through the interaction of biological and social aspects, as well as inter-generational relationships; 2) The children have a fragmentary rather than an overall concept of the city. Social institutions such as family and school mediate the relationship of the children with the city; 3) The children create alternative spaces to those which are provided for them by the authorities, which reinforces their relationships with their peers; 4) The children manifest their opinions, worries and fears, which shows how vital it is to listen to them, and to allow them a voice in the debate concerning the development of the city in which they live.

Murray, S., Lambert, P., Gayle, V.   **University of Stirling, DASS, Colin Bell Building**

Social change for the 1975-1989 birth cohort: Evidence from the BHPS

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

In this paper we examine young adults' educational and labour market experiences in contemporary Britain. We present a representative case study of the 'rising 16's' cohort from the British Household Panel Study. These are a generation of young adults, born 1975-1989, who have typically been interviewed on numerous occasions both as children and as adults in this longitudinal survey. The vast data opportunities offered by the BHPS give a great deal of information on this cohort, including current circumstances, data on parents' education and occupation, and, potentially, data on grandparents and siblings. We use this data to examine the nature and transmission of social inequality for the 'rising 16' cohort, and we question whether the evidence is consistent with this generation being (as is often asserted) at the vanguard of major social changes in contemporary Britain.

Neale, B.   **University of Leeds**

Linking questions and data in longitudinal enquiry: Re-framing 'mixd methods' research

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

There is a growing interest in the idea that our understanding of the social world can be enhanced through the integration of Qualitative (QL) and Quantitative (QN) methods of enquiry. Indeed, what is now commonly called 'mixed methods research' has been described as a 'growth industry' (Bryman 2008: 603). These developments could herald the end of the 'paradigm wars' that dominated scholarship during the 1970s and 1980s. Yet despite these advances, there remains little consensus over how a mixed methods approach is best conceptualised and practiced. What does it mean in terms of our methodological orientation (our preferred ways of knowing and understanding the world), and the practical methods or techniques that we employ? Should mixed methods research become the 'gold standard' of research practice - an emerging orthodoxy in its own right? Or should it take its place alongside unitary modes of enquiry that are equally viable? Linked to this, should we retain the terminology of QL and QN methods, thereby reinforcing the distinctions between them, or is there a case for abandoning this terminology?

This paper addresses these questions through a brief overview of 'mixed methods' in the context of Longitudinal research, exploring the drivers towards methodological separation or integration and the spectrum of designs that link different kinds of questions and data. Arising from the review, new ways of conceptualising mixed methods research are suggested.

Negreiros, J.

'What I've learned from other people's marriages': ambiguity and complexity in mass mediated representations of family life

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

When we think of mass mediated representations of the fluid dynamics that characterizes contemporary family life, we tend to identify two contrasting discourses which may be mobilized to make sense of the the deep changes affecting this domain of social life. In accordance with such perspective, the fluidity of contemporary family life is represented in the media either as a disruptive transformation that menaces social order (the threat discourse) and the one that emphasizes the emergence of new opportunities for self-identity development and personal autonomy (the promise discourse). This paper draws upon the close analysis of an advice text published in 'New Woman' ('What I've learned from other people's marriages', March 2005 issue) to question the perception of mass mediated representations of contemporary family practices and values in terms of a dichotomy between the threat and the promise discourses. The text, written by an 'expert' and consisting of five 'lessons' concerning marriage, displays a far more complex and ambiguous approach, combining threat and promise discursive elements in a pendular oscillation between the legitimization of an uncompromising pursuit of individual satisfaction and the need to accommodate the constraints represented as indispensable for a stable and functional married life.

Nehring, D., Turton, J.

Narrative constructions of denial in interviews with women who sexually abuse children

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

Child sexual abuse has been a high profile public concern for the last four decades. There is little doubt that the sexual abuse of children is commonly a male crime and the majority of victims are female. However, the research behind this paper involved an investigation of women who sexually abuse children. It highlighted the ways in which the behaviour of female perpetrators maybe ignored, denied or minimised by professionals, and in some cases the victims themselves, it also identified some of the rationales, justifications and excuses used by the offenders. The paper considers some of the interviews with these female offenders offering a micro-perspective by analysing the effect of the interview process on the emergent narratives of sexual abuse and the ways in which the participants made use of different culturally specific discursive strategies to account for their behaviour. It asks two main questions: What are the central cultural elements of the participants narratives, and how was the construction of these narratives enabled by the dynamics of the interview situation? The data for this paper resulted from interviews with two female perpetrators. Drawing on theoretical perspectives from criminology and cultural sociology, we distinguish different narrative 'strategies of denial' employed by these women, such as the utilisation of cultural meanings of motherhood, maternal attachment, or love in British society to account for the abusive behaviour.

Nerlich, B., Koteyko. N   **University of Nottimgham**

Creativity, complexity and 'carbon compounds': Tracing the meaning of climate change

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

Climate scientists and social scientists are grappling with complex and dynamic feedback mechanisms that operate between economy, society and the ecosystem. Language is part of this dynamic system and has developed a dynamics of its own with relation to climate change. Whereas the 20th century was the century of 'the gene' whose meaning has been studied by many social scientists and STS scholars (e.g. Condit, 1999; Keller, 2000 and many more), the 21st century will be the century of 'carbon' whose meaning still needs to be studied, preferably before we enter the era of 'a post-carbon society'. There is what one may call an explosion of information around climate change. Advice on how to reduce one's 'carbon footprint' is provided almost daily in newspapers, adverts, books, and on websites. This explosion of information is mirrored by the explosion of creativity around 'carbon', as much of this advice is framed by using 'carbon compounds' - lexical combinations of at least two roots - such as 'carbon finance', 'carbon sinner', or 'low carbon diet'. These are only some of the numerous discursive and metaphorical clusters that have emerged recently around 'carbon' as the hub. A whole new language is evolving that needs to be monitored and investigated in order to discover how climate change is framed by various stakeholders, how public attitudes and perceptions are shaped and what solutions to climate change and global warming are proposed.

This paper will report on a project that tracks the emergence and proliferation of carbon compounds in traditional media and in blogs. It will contribute new empirical data to the social study of climate change and contribute new methods, such as corpus linguistics and cybermetrics, to the social study of public controversies. The overall aim s to construct a (rough) 'conceptual map' of the linguistic landscape on which the battle for climate change communication is being fought, indicating sign-posts marking sites of major communicational conflicts and contestation.

Newton, P., Scambler, S., Asimakopoulou, K.Kings College London

'I realised I had diabetes': Diagnostic realisation as an enacted social process in Type 2 Diabetes.

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Background: The process of diagnosis has traditionally been studied in relation to the labelling process and its implications for chronically ill patients and their professional labellers.   Sociological approaches explore the social 'utility' of labels and roles; for example, inequalities regarding or resultant from diagnosis; and/or personal meanings attached to diagnosis.   Whereas, psychological approaches have examined diagnosis from a 'health beliefs' perspective, by exploring cognitive and behavioural factors patients bring to diagnosis This study focuses on the patatnt perspective arguing that diagnoses are 'enacted', i.e. people realise the real and anticipatory effects of their diagnosis within the practical elements of everyday life.

Methods: Respondents were recruited from Southwark Diabetes Patient Participation Group to explore their experiences of managing Type 2 diabetes. Mixed methods were used to collect qualitative data. All data were transcribed verbatim and analysed thematically.

Results: The receipt of a diagnosis is not a passive event, it is through enacting of the diagnosis that the label becomes meaningful. People interviewed engaged in two key, interrelated processes in relation to realising the diagnosis of diabetes: adjusting existing interdependencies; and assessing and adjusting time horizons (biographical reconstruction and retrospective and prospective time adjustments).

Conclusions: Factors such as beliefs and motivation, and sociological phenomena such as inequalities and labelling, have been shown to interplay and/or have causal efficacy in the diagnostic process. However, this research suggests that these concepts do not sufficiently describe the conduits of the social process, i.e. how diagnosis becomes a 'reality' (or not) for people with diabetes.

Niculescu, M.   **Ehess**

When jews meet buddhism in the contemporary Occident: the 'jubu' phénomenom

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Religion   Syndicate H

The introduction of Buddhism in the West in the twentieth century has been accompanied, in the United States, by the emergence of a new figure of hyphenated religious identity: the Jewish-Buddhists or Jubus.Indeed, American Jews are the first ones to have turned to this alternative eastern spiritual path, very popular in the counter-culture. Although they are not the only Westerners attracted to Buddhism, Jews now represent nearly a third of converts, for only 2.5% in American society. This phenomenon is the fruit of elective affinities between two People familiar with Diaspora: Judaism and especially Tibetan Buddhism.

The Jubu phenomenon also exists in Europe, and in Israel. At certain times of year, half of the population of Dharamsala -the refuge of the Dalaï Lama in India- is Israeli! Buddhism seems to be so well rooted in the West that new converts have elected its land of origin as their new sacred land.

'Jubudism' can thus be seen as a result of religious globalisation, in a postmodern widened 'religious market' where individuals are freer to choose their own spirituality . However, this new religious circulation is to be tempered by the material and psychological limitations of the choices: the commitment in the 'path of peace' offered by Buddhism often leads to internal, family and community conflicts. But another consequence of this phenomenon is its positive influence on the American Jewish community: according to some reformative leaders, it has inspired a spiritual renewal, as well as an opening towards cross-religious dialogue.

Nowicka, M   **Institute of Sociology, Ludwig Maximilian University**

Studying (trans)cultural diversity in Europe - the case of the recent migration from Poland to the UK and Germany

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

Today migrants encounter a social context that is much more tolerant to ethnic diversity and long-term transnational connections. In fact, cultural diversity has now become an integral aspect of the social landscape of Europe. Contemporary diversity has been intensified yet less in terms of bringing more ethnicities of origin but rather in respect to a multiplication of immigration statuses and experiences, and local responses by residents. Also, migrants who engage in transnational practices do so with considerable variation in the levels, strength and formality of their involvement. Despite a growing number of empirical studies on the topic, few scholars explicitly address the question of an adequate methodology that could capture the complexity of transmigrant phenomena. I place this concern in the center of my presentation. I want to probe the concept of transcultural diversity which better helps to display various aspects of diversity related to transnational migration and to break up with a strictly multi-ethnic and multi-national idea of culture in Europe. I posit that migrants are increasingly in a position to distance themselves from the social and cultural life of imagined national and ethnic communities and construct alternative forms of sociality. They are compelled to be self-reflexive about the choices that they make about how they live, to whom and what they are loyal or which rituals they practice. Cultural ambivalence and the questioning of powerful imaginaries of one culture as a homogeneous entity characterize their experience, becoming a challenge to the social research.

O'Brien, V Wittlin, F   **University of Cumbria**

Visual Ethnography, Visual Activism and Community Development in the Rocinha favela, Rio de Janeiro.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

In our work in the Rocinha favela, Rio de Janeiro we use participatory video and photography, to enable people to communicate in a meaningful way about their own lives, thoughts and experiences. We ask our participants to produce explicitly public visual narratives about their everyday lives in the favela in order to explore the way that issues of health and well being are conceptualised, prioritised and responded to in everyday life. Participant films and photo galleries from the project workshops are exhibited for a wider population and, at the initiative of the participant groups, are used as a form of visual activism to draw attention to community issues.

The reflective process of creating visual narratives takes time and the act of making something that you can look at, think about and change, is different to responding and engages the brain in a different way, drawing a different kinds of responses form participants and different kinds of insights into lived experiences. Our work, in Rocinha, draws attention to the relationship between researcher and the researched, the observer and the observed. It focuses attention on who is in control of the technology, what is being filmed or photographed and how visual narratives are produced, disseminated and received by different audiences. It demonstrates the fluidity of boundaries and relationships between researchers, communities and audiences.

Ocloo, J   **King's College London**

Harmed patients gaining voice: challenging dominant perspectives in the construction of medical harm and patient safety reforms

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

There is now widespread acknowledgement that patient safety is a central issue in healthcare. Although there is more accurate information on NHS hospitals than on primary care or the private sector, the available evidence on adverse incidents shows that avoidable medical harm is a major concern. This paper looks at the occurrence of medical harm and argues that in the construction of a new patient safety culture, it is important to be aware of alternative narratives on the issues from harmed patients and self-help groups. These perspectives frequently contest the way in which dominant perspectives put forward by the medical profession, the state and big business have shaped the debate in their own interests. Drawing upon research with harmed patients' this paper suggests that a broader conceptual framework is needed for addressing the medical and social processes involved in medical harm that also deal with the issue of the exclusion of harmed patients from the debate and in their identifying solutions to the issues.

Ojha,N.

Globalization and gender inequality: A study of the blue- collared workers in the industrial sector

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

Globalization and gender inequality: A study of the blue- collared workers in the industrial sector Globalization is a complex economic, political, cultural, and geographic process in which the mobility of capital, organizations, ideas, discourses, and peoples has taken on an increasingly global or transnational form. Consistent with the contradictory nature of globalization, the impact on women has been mixed. Women have been gaining an increasing share of many kinds of jobs, but in the context of a decline in the social power of labor and growing unemployment, their labor-market participation has not been accompanied by a redistribution of domestic, household, and childcare responsibilities. Moreover, women are still disadvantaged in the new labor markets, in terms of wages, training, and occupational segregation. They are also disproportionately involved in forms of employment increasingly used to maximize profits: temporary, part-time, casual, and home-based work. In much of the developing world, a class of women professionals and workers employed in the public sector and in the private sector has emerged due to rising educational attainment, changing aspirations, economic need, and the demand for relatively cheap labor. However, vast numbers of economically active women in the developing world lack formal training, work in the informal sector, have no access to social security, and live in poverty. Women have had to assume extra productive and reproductive activities in order to survive the austerities of adjustment and stabilization policies, including higher prices, and to compensate for the withdrawal or reduction of government subsidies of food and services.

Ojha,N.

Miles to Go Before I Sleep.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Sub-plenary - Generations and the lifecourse   Assembly Hall

The debate on ageing as a global phenomenon, addresses contemporary issues in human ageing, like the social and cultural as distinct from the biological meaning of age; age as a basis of allocation of social roles and resources over the life span; the bases of social integration and adaptation in the later years of life; and methodological problems of studying time dependant processes over the life cycle.Implications of ageing:
  •Pensions and retirement income will need to cover a longer period of life.
  •Rise in health care costs.
  •A new dimension to intergenerational relationships.
  •The number of centenarians will grow significantly for the first time in history. This will yield clues about individual and societal aging
  •Patterns of work and retirement are shifting.

Long-term care for older people has also become a key issue because the staffing needs of caring for aging populations have increased the migration of health workers from lower income to higher income nations leading to the globalization of support for older persons. Pressures on family formation, stability and fertility: Key contributing factors include: the need for longer periods of education for entering a more highly-skilled labor market; the converging aspirations of both women and men to establish a career before having a family; costs of housing and childrearing; longer periods before attaining employment security; problems in balancing the achievement of work and family goals.

O'Neill, M.   **University of Salford**

The Culture of Plural Policing

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open 2   Syndicate H

Since the arrival of New Labour in 1997, multi-agency practice has been a key feature of social policy in the UK. The public police play a central role in policy areas relating to crime, anti-social behaviour, deviance and social control. However, as the term implies, they do not do this alone, and now find themselves with a mandate to work in partnership with local government agencies, Community Support Officers and some private policing organisations. The public police are no longer the sole agents in the 'fight against crime', and increasingly find themselves working in a plural policing field. The implications of this for the occupational culture of the police have received little research attention to date. This paper will examine some preliminary findings from an ongoing study of the working relationships and practices between the public police and these other security/safety agencies, and their social and cultural implications for the police. It will discuss how the idea of 'multi-agency' practice through plural policing actually works in reality, how the public police relate to these other groups and what implications this has for our understandings of police culture and police practice.

Orton-Johnson, K. , Bancroft, A. Jamieson, L., Coxon, A.   **The University of Edinburgh**

Teaching Qualitative Methods - Problems and Practice

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Teaching and Learning   Syndicate L

Since the mid 1980s various policy changes in postgraduate education instigated by the ESRC have reshaped doctoral study in the UK, perhaps most notably in an emphasis on taught research methods in year one of study. While the ESRC fund a proportionately small number of students their impact has been significant; formal training is a condition of funded studentships extending to an expectation that all students will participate in training across a range of methodological techniques. Resistance among students is well documented: methods training perceived to be irrelevant to current work or at an inappropriate level or volume is viewed as an unwelcome disruption to progress. While considerable attention has been paid to the teaching of statistical methods and capacity building with respect to quantitative skills, there is a danger that qualitative methods are understood using narratives of 'craft' transmission rather than through provision of practical training in systematic and rigorous analysis techniques.   Similarly undergraduate qualitative methods can fall between 'theory of doing' and 'doing without theory'. At Undergraduate level the strictures of timetabling may reinforce an overly rigid divide between quantitative and qualitative approaches.

The panel will discuss the use of e-learning in a qualitative analysis course to provoke thinking about the pedagogical contexts of qualitative training and to question the qualitative / quantitative dichotomy. Panel members will raise key questions about methods teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level with the aim of stimulating further discussion and sharing experiences about teaching 'the craft' of qualitative research.

O' Toole, J.   **Department of Humanities, Institute of Technology, Sligo, Ballinode**

'Are you a danger to yourself': a narrative analysis of motivational talks in group slimming classes.

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Motivational talks are well established and significant components of group slimming classes. They serve a number of overt purposes within the context of group slimming including renewing the commitment and efforts of members both in and outside the classes; eliciting stories from members about their weight loss strategies; instructing members on appropriate health and lifestyle patterns; and aligning members with the particular narratives of weight loss promulgated by the slimming organisation. Currently involved in a micro-ethnography of three weekly group slimming classes in the West of Ireland I am observing the delivery and what I term the 'performance' of the motivational talk by the group leader each week. This usually occurs immediately after all members have completed their weigh-in and neatly segues into the final segments of the class. Drawing from an on-going PhD study on women's embodiment of weight management/loss this paper will deploy a narrative analysis to examine a series of recurring narratives within a selection of the weekly motivational talks.   Narratives of hetero-normativity, responsibilization, guilt, anti-fat, recovery/ hope and acceptable food consumption will be examined. Arguing that there are powerful gendered undercurrents running through the complex of narratives, I suggest that the methodological approach enables consideration of more covert characteristics imbued in such motivational talks. These include the role of the talks as aspects of the performance of identity work centring on the formation of particular types of moral identities enmeshed within contemporary neo-liberal discourses of the individual and the widespread 'war on obesity'.

Owen, C., Riley, S., Griffin, C.   **Psychology Department, University of Bath**

How are we training the next generation of ethnographic researchers?

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

I am a PhD student currently undertaking ethnographic research which focuses on the experiences and performances of male dancers in capoeira, Latin and ballroom and break-dancing classes. When I first attended classes and began using participant observation as a means for learning to dance, I was stuck by the vibrancy of the sounds resonating from the musical instruments and voices of the musicians, the bright colours of the dancers' clothing, the strange rituals and the intricate movements of bodies in dialogue. In response to these initial fieldwork experiences I began to question, 'how can I possibly capture, make sense and represent these multiple dimensions of social life?'

In this paper I will outline the opportunities research training workshops have provided for me to develop my skills as a multi-media ethnographer. I will provide examples of how the practice based multi-media workshops have allowed me to explore the opportunities digital technologies and new media offer for enhancing the scope, depth, creativity and accessibility of ethnographic research. These workshops involved working in groups, experimenting in the field with a variety of cameras, audio and audio-visual recording equipment, digital editing software, and online publishing resources. The fieldwork sessions were accompanied by seminars from leading multi-media researchers and interactive group discussions. These encouraged me to critically reflect on my experiences of multi-media fieldwork in my own research. Ultimately, I will demonstrate how these workshops have simulated my critical awareness of the affordances and limitations various media and modes of data create for knowledge generation.

Owen, G.

The body of physiotherapy - making the absent present

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Economy and Society 2   Council Chamber

Physiotherapy is currently experiencing considerable challenges to its professional practice and identity as it responds to changes in healthcare design and delivery, and the developments in science and technology (Shilling, 2005). This paper responds to this challenge by exploring the evolution of physiotherapy as a profession through the lens of the sociology of the body.

To contextualise this paper, it is important to understand that physiotherapy practice uses physical approaches to maintain and maximise human function, movement and potential (CSP, 2002). Consequently, physiotherapists identify with physical concepts. It is usual for physiotherapists to discuss their competencies and interests, but unusual to hear discussion about their profession's epistemology (Tyni-Lenné, 1989). Physiotherapists use their body as a machine - to assess and treat. The body is also a space for learning; students practice techniques on each others' bodies before moving to practice on patients'. Furthermore, the physicality that constitutes physiotherapy's professional practice is subject to regulation; traditionally by medicine, and more recently by the State (Larkin, 1983). These qualities of physiotherapy are consistent with Foucault's ideas about the body as a mechanism for the exercise or denial of power. I will draw on ideas from sociology of the body to review the discourses occurring within physiotherapy as a means of understanding how the profession has evolved. The paper will explore how, despite the physical nature of physiotherapy, the evolution and identity of the profession is an 'absent present' (Leder, 1990).

Paddock, J.

Spaces of ethical food consumption: The contemporary relevance of class

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Consumption   Syndicate G

This paper will outline the emerging research questions that are currently driving a forthcoming research project in which places of alternative food networking (farmers markets and community food co-operatives) come to represent sites for the distillation of different 'capital' resources within the wider social field. The theoretical motivations of the project will be outlined in order to assert the case for a study of 'ordinary' over 'extraordinary consumption' (Warde 1997) which focuses on the ordinary consumption of materials of subsistence such as food, as opposed to the purchase of goods associated with ostentatious 'display'. Such emphasis on the 'ordinary' seeks to highlight the necessity for research that focuses on the moral significance (Sayer 2005) of class in the contemporary Welsh context. Such a focus on morality, class and ordinary consumption has lead to the cultivation of a research project that seeks to empirically explore and gain insight into the significance of social class in a multi-cultural Welsh community as mediated through consumer and producer engagement with ethical consumption. This talk will discuss an emerging research project(as part of PhD) that engages with spaces of 'ethical' food consumption within a local community.

Page, J.   **The University of Texas at Arlington**

Wrongful Convictions in the U.S and the Destruction of Social Identities

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Ferrier Hall

There is an increasing interest in the topic of wrongful conviction in the United States in the criminal justice system, public policy, academia, and the media. Scholarly research has increased, but there remains a tremendous dearth of evidence-based knowledge relating to the various facets of wrongful conviction. The number of high-profile cases of wrongful conviction continues are expected to grow, as a result of DNA evidence-based exonerations.

One common experience that Exonerees share is trauma. They experience trauma upon arrest and then again upon conviction. They also experience trauma while incarcerated. Others note the negative consequences of claiming and maintaining their innocence in prison, including being categorized as having a high risk of recidivism, which can defer their release date. Upon release when exonerated, they may still experience trauma as they try to re-enter society.

The limited research that has been conducted reveals significant psychiatric morbidity, including post-traumatic stress disorder, mood and anxiety disorders, alcohol and drug dependence, and enduring personality change. Exonerees also experience significant problems with re-adjustment upon release in several areas, including sudden notoriety, difficulty rejoining any surviving friends or relatives difficulty with day-to-day practical skills. Other difficulties include poverty, unemployment, and isolation.

In effect, these individuals were forced into a catastrophic social division where their previous identities were lost. Empirical data will be presented from a 2008 – 2009 study involving Texas exonerees and their families which will help elucidate the factors involved with wrongful convictions, effects, coping strategies, service and policy implications, and an international perspective.

Page, S.   **University of Nottingham**
'As far as the Church goes, the male spouse is still a bit of an unknown phenomenon': The experiences of the spouses of women priests in the Church of England

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Religion   Syndicate H

When women started to be ordained as priests in the Church of England in 1994 a question emerged as to the role men as spouses would play, especially as the 'clergy wife' identity carried much resonance and definition within church circles. However, very little focus has since been placed on the male partners of women priests, and whether these spouses accepted, rejected or reconstituted the role of the clergy spouse. Did dominant gender constructions enable the men to redefine the role in any significant way? Were they able to reject traditional expectations of what a spouse should do? This paper, based on interview accounts with male non-ordained spouses, will outline the way in which a differently gendered parishioner expectation emerged, centred upon 'breadwinning' and paid work rather than volunteerism. The way the men engaged with this expectation will be discussed, as will the tasks the men involved themselves in, including the interesting finding that all of the spouses in the sample were involved in their wife's vocation in some way - but tasks undertaken and time spent differed enormously amongst the sample and were influenced by age and class.

Palmer, D   **University of Kent**

Oral History and mental Health: practical application and ethical issues from undertaking oral history narratives with Ethiopian forced migrants

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Conducting research into health and social care issues with forced migrants is a sensitive and complex issue and can place emotional demands on contributors, requiring high ethical and moral standards which safeguard participants, researchers and the integrity of the study. In addition to the medical and personal benefits from undertaking such research, there comes the risk of stigmatization, exploitation and harm. This paper is based on narratives undertaken for a pilot PhD study with Ethiopian service users and community leaders.

Analysis suggests that this group face multiple forms of disadvantage including poverty, destitution, high unemployment as well as frustrations about immigration status, which impact on mental ill health. A further dynamic is the inter-relation between a lack of 'help-seeking behaviour' due to cultural norms which impacts on access and engagement with western treatments.

The methodology for this research was developed with the specific interests of the participants in mind, importantly taking cultural considerations and traditions as key to its development. The use of oral narratives offered an in-depth approach and provided many insightful experiential observations often overlooked or unheard when more formal interview techniques are adopted.

The paper will focus on some of the key difficulties confronting the researcher using this method of inquiry including complex issues of language and translation, memory and recall, issues of stigma, issues of informed consent and safeguarding anonymity, sensitivity to cultural traditions and values. Avoiding re-traumatization also need to be considered as this knowledge can minimize research risks and protect the rights of participants.

Park, M.   **Dalhousie University**

"Contested principles of global trade: A critical analysis of the counter-hegemonic discourse on alternative global trade frameworks"

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

Contested principles of global trade: A critical analysis of the counter-hegemonic discourse on alternative global trade frameworks

Drawing on framing theory, this paper offers a comparative analysis of anti-free trade movements in Asia, Europe, and Latin America. After providing a brief overview of the political and organizational profiles of the movements in the three regions, it analyzes competing perspectives on alternative global trade frameworks. Broadly speaking, the existent discourse on alternatives operates within the two opposing frameworks: regulated capitalism versus anti-capitalism. As to strategies of bringing about the desired changes, however, the two camps entail the following approaches within: grass-roots initiatives, nation state-oriented approach, and global governance approach. Each approach is outlined in detail with regards to its concrete examples, advocates, limitations and challenges. While analyzing the counter-hegemonic discourse on global trade, it identifies some country-specific particularities and similarities across the border.

Parkhill, K., Simmons, P., Henwood, K.,
Pidgeon, N., Venables, D.

Identifying and interpreting intangibles in risk narratives

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

Recently the researcher's role in framing/co-constructing a risk narrative has been thoroughly considered by research conducted within the ESRC network "Social contexts and responses to risk" (SCARR). A different facet of the same problem remains: how to identify and interpret the 'intangibles' widely recognised as being important in research on how people living near to major socio-technical hazard sites perceive, experience and live with risk? In interpretive risk research, as in qualitative inquiry generally, people's accounts and ssertions are rarely taken at face value. Equally, where research suggests the presence of suppressed concerns, worries, anxieties etc the evidence is often elusive and fragmentary. We will engage directly with the problem of identifying and interpreting such intangibles, or at least elusive evidence, as the identification and uses of humour, language tropes, hyperbole, metaphors and other ambiguities. How does the researcher use such intangibles to frame/construct the researched situation and the people within it? Are these intangibles used to reinterpret or even to challenge the 'evident' tangibles of the situation and of the accounts and identities presented? What are the 'politics' of such inferential (abductive?) detective work by the researcher - for the construction of the subject and for the equality/empowerment of the research participant? What are the epistemological and methodological premises upon which 'intangibles' can have equal evidentiary status to 'tangibles', or even supplant the tangible in our (the researcher's) accounts of the situation?

Pasztor, A.   **University of Amsterdam**

Go, go on and go higher an' higher. Second generation Turks' understanding of higher education and their route to success

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Education   Syndicate C

The growing body of research on minority access to HE is rather limited in scope: it tends to overemphasize the process of college choice on one hand and the student dropout on the other. Conversely to US and the UK, there are countries with early-tracking systems of education such as the Netherlands, where higher education studies are more constrained by the previous school types attended i.e. by the 'routes' leading or blocking the way to university rather than admission or tuition fees. Another weakness of current research is the sole focus on between-group differences, i.e. studying the minority-majority disparity by putting all ethnic minorities into one 'bag'. This approach excludes the diversity within the ethnic group which tends to be understudied. Therefore, the current paper focuses on the diverging educational experiences of the children of Turkish labour migrants in the Netherlands by discussing the Dutch educational system. With reference to the capital theories [Bourdieu 1971] and the rational choice theory [Boudon 1971; Goldthorpe 1996] the paper aims to understand how schooling ambitions and opportunities are intertwined with social class, gender and ethnicity. By drawing on 16 in-depth interviews carried out with young second generation Turks in Amsterdam, the paper discusses the resources, opportunities and educational attitudes of young people, together with the role of the school system and that of the teacher's in perpetuating ethnic inequalities.

Paton, K.

'I belong tae Partick': Exploring class (dis)identity and the use of place as a proxy for class

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

'Culturalist' approaches to class have salvaged analysis from embattled S-C-A models by taking disassociation as the starting point of study. Various patterns of disassociation with traditional working-class identities drawn along the axes of gender and age destabilize the need for a coherent class collective identity. This paper asserts that disassociation with class is not inherent to these specific subcultural or gendered experiences. We should not abandon the idea of collectivity as there is coherence in the trend of disassociation in working-class neighbourhoods which crosscuts other categories. I argue that working-class (dis)identities have a significant place-based connection. This challenges wider interest in middle-class place-making and territoriality whereby location in residential space marks identity and position. Place-based attachment becomes a meaningful proxy for class, signalling a working-class collectivity in disassociation. This relates to hegemonic neoliberal and post-industrial shifts, strongly articulated in former industrial working-class areas. Urban policy, particularly state sponsored gentrification, derides working-class practices, especially those pertaining to social welfarism.

Findings are drawn from PhD research on traditional but gentrifying working-class neighbourhood, Partick, Glasgow. The paper is positioned with New Working Class Studies literature as an ethnographic exploration of the contemporary relationship between structure and identity. It finds patterns of collective class identity expressed using a place-based proxy. 'I belong tae Partick' was a coded expression of working-class status and collective local 'us' in un-classed terms. However, gentrification makes residents' physical and cultural attachment to place increasing tenuous. It accounts the ramifications of this, including contemporary expressions of consciousness and action.

Peggs, K.   **University of Portsmouth**

'A call to arms?': Exploring nonhuman animal advocacy-oriented sociology

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open 2   Syndicate A

Sociology has taken as its focus human societies and no feature of human societies is seen to be beyond sociology's remit. Nonhuman animals play important roles in human societies and human nonhuman animal relations are typically based in human exploitation of nonhuman animals. However, though human nonhuman animal relations are taking an increasing role in social inquiry still the study of these relations is seen as marginal to the main focus of sociology. Moreover, although the liberative potential of sociology is recognised by many as important for oppressed human groups, the positioning of sociologists who argue against the human oppression of nonhuman animals has been criticised by those who suggest that such an advocacy-orientated approach is opposed to the crucial sociological objective of value freedom. Using as a catalyst the comments of two referees on a paper about nonhuman animal experimentation submitted by the author to a sociology journal, this paper explores nonhuman animal advocacy-oriented sociology. The intention here is to concentrate on the implications of a purportedly value free approach to the exploitation of nonhuman animals for sociology, and more broadly for the ethical position of humans and for the welfare of nonhuman animals.

Perrier, M.   **University of Warwick**

Right Time?: Morality, Biology and the Social in Younger and Older Mothers' Accounts of Reproductive Timing

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

This paper is based on a UK based qualitative study of younger and older mothers' and discusses how their reproductive timing informs the construction of their identities as good mothers. To present themselves as moral persons who picked the 'right' time to have a child, I found that these mothers drew on the idea that appropriately timed motherhood is linked to a chronology of education, career and then motherhood and also on discourses of achieving adulthood. I argue that age (in terms of notions of adulthood, biological and psycho-social age) and class based notions of right time (through the discourse of appropriately timed motherhood) come together to shape mothers' conceptions of the right time for motherhood, and in turn their identities as good mothers. Drawing on Barbara Adams' concept of multiple times, I also highlight that mothers' conceptions of the right time for motherhood in fact encompass many simultaneous 'right' times which are sometimes in tension with one another, for example in the case of older mothers, clock time depletes them from biological readiness whilst simultaneously enhancing their psycho-social resources. However, the normative narrative of appropriately timed motherhood which dictates that motherhood should come after a long-term relationship, education and employment have been secured, clearly limits the multiplicity of 'right times' available to narrate oneself as a good mother. In the light of these findings, I argue that although both younger and older mothers account for their reproductive timing as moral, it is mothers' differential class positions which enables them to have these choices recognized as moral by others.

Petev, I.D.   **Stanford University, France**

Measuring Lifestyles: A Framework and a Test for Competing Theories.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Consumption   Syndicate G

Unobservable in any direct way, lifestyles make up for a problematic measure in quantitative empirical research. To that unfortunate quality attest the contradictory conclusions in the literature: reference to lifestyles has been made to illustrate class identities and to refute their presence, to celebrate the unleashing of individual expression and to bemoan its manipulation, to describe an emancipating diversity and to assert a meaningless conformity. In an effort to improve on quantitative research, I propose in this paper a framework flexible enough to model a variety of competing conceptualizations of lifestyles and then use empirical data to assess the explanatory power of the leading theoretical arguments. For the purpose, individuals are understood as populating a "lifestyle space", the structure of which is expressed in terms of contending hypotheses – on the size and number of lifestyles, the presence or absence of a ranking order, and the influence of exogenous factors and the prevalence of particular ones. The hypotheses – constructed so as to capture the main debates on class and status and on the role of work and culture – are operationalized using latent class models, in which lifestyles are treated as a latent variable, defined by manifest variables (i.e., observable lifestyle practices) and moderated by exogenous variables (e.g., income, occupational class, ethnic identity, family status, etc.). The empirical validity of the hypotheses is assessed with data (from the U.S. Consumer Expenditure Survey, years 1996-2003) on the expenditures of American households across aggregate consumption categories.

Pettinger, L   **University of Essex**

Being a good punter: the moral economy of paying for sex

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Consumption   Syndicate G

Although the field of commercial sex has been well-studied, why and how men come to purchase sexual services remains under-researched. This paper analyses men's customer service reviews of commercial sex encounters posted on the website Punternet to consider how men construct themselves as moral agents. Punternet acts as a space for the creation of a 'community of virtue', where moral condemnation of prostitution per se is set aside. Participants nonetheless engage in complex moral discussions about how they, other punters, sex workers and brothels ought to behave. I argue that the moral economy of paying for sex involves punters in drawing on a gendered understanding of their sovereignty as consumers. Doing this means they recognise risk, both to themselves (their reputations, the danger they will be 'ripped off') and to working girls who face exploitation by other punters. The complex acceptance and rejection of the idea of prostitution as morally bad is needed for punters to claim moral status for themselves.

Philburn, R   **University of Salford**

Orders of attention and inattention

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

This paper looks at social attention and inattention in everyday life. Taking Erving Goffman's concept of 'civil inattention' as its starting point, the paper extends Goffman's reading of social interaction by adding three other categories of interactional phenomena: civil attention, incivil attention, and incivil inattention. How much attention or inattention we show to one another in our various social relationships, and whether or not these might be perceived as being potentially or actually civil or incivil, is shown to be closely linked to the situational demands that emerge from the flow of interaction. The paper proposes that most moments of social interaction can be examined in terms of these four interactional categories. Mitchell Duneier's (1999) ethnographic text Sidewalk is drawn upon, the candid images of life on the streets of New York from which are used to illustrate various interactional moments where attention and inattention is variously shown, and how these moments might be read for potential situational civility or incivility. The examination of these images is then extended into a wider analysis of social interaction in a range of familiar social settings and situations. Ultimately, the paper defends and extends Goffman's commentary on civil inattention and calls for an empirical application of the propositions presented.

Phoenix, C

Auto-Photography in Aging Studies: Exploring Issues of Identity Construction in Mature Bodybuilders.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Open   Syndicate J

In this presentation I examine issues surrounding the ageing body and identity construction by analysing auto-photographic data from a project that explores the embodied identities of mature bodybuilders. The analysis identified three salient identities that the participants constructed via the auto-photography task. These identities were; a healthy body-self, a performing body-self, and a relational body-self. In combination, these three identities offer insight into what mature bodybuilders themselves regard as important in their lives and social worlds. I conclude by discussing the ways in which the respondent driven photographs might allow additional insight into the meaning of ageing, and also act as counter-narratives to dominant narratives of decline in older age.

Piacentini, T,   **University of Glasgow**

Transitional identities : triggers and trajectories for identity making in exile

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30 Social Divisions and Social Identities   Ferrier Hall

The experience of claiming asylum is an experience of transition and change, marked by stages of increasing or decreasing rights and restrictions. Processing times have trapped many in a status void and occupying this space means existing at the extremes of exclusion. Although they might be now here, asylum seekers remain nowhere. But, it will be argued, this exclusion can also be transformative and can be described as a trigger that sets people on a trajectory of collective identity making that works to keep people culturally alive and connected whilst legally disconnected from civil and civic society. And when the transitional space of asylum results in positive decisions, this triggers a further set of alternate trajectories of identity making in exile. This raises a number of key questions related to how the path from asylum seeker to refugee to possibly citizen continues to be shaped by processes of external and internal identification. Can these 'strangers' and 'scroungers', so long excluded through economics and culture, suddenly become accepted as belonging to their society of settlement? And once granted leave to remain, along which axes will this acceptance and belonging be based: immigration status, gender, 'race', ethnicity? This paper explores these questions drawing directly from experiences of African asylum seekers and refugees in Glasgow. This paper contributes to debates of 'settlement', identity, acceptance and belonging by arguing for fresh perspectives of the processes of identity making in exile as experienced by the long-term excluded as they negotiate their transitional identities.

Pickard, S   **University of Manchester**

The loneliness of the long-term carer: moral practices in late modernity

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

Informal carers trying to live a 'moral life' must negotiate two conflicting discourses. One is associated with a post-traditional and increasingly individualised society characterised by 'pure' relationships with an emphasis on self-actualisation and authenticity. The other is found in current policy – particularly the promotion of home over hospital - which relies explicitly on a significant and increasing input from family carers. This paper aims to analyse the tensions arising from this paradox specifically for carers engaged in long-term care of older people. It has four parts. Part one examines policy towards carers, noting the deontological rhetoric which refers to the 'duties' of family in return for 'recognition' from society and the support of, but not replacement by, health and social care. Part two summarises key theoretical perspectives including Giddens and Bauman on late/ postmodern morality, Callahan, Nussbaum and others' (re)evaluation of the social contract and approaches variously from the fields of virtue ethics, feminist ethics and narrative ethics. Part three draws from empirical data comprising interviews with carers to illustrate the complexity of carers' moral experience, their motivations and their 'moral practices'. Finally, the paper combines policy, empirical and theoretical perspectives to illuminate several identified tensions including that between autonomy and dependence, choice and moral obligation and duty and self-sacrifice or supererogation. It concludes by speculating on the possibilities for the reconciliation of such tensions in a new life politics that both values and rewards carers whilst also recognising a potential limit to their role in facilitating government policy.

Platt, J.   **University of Sussex**

Presidential addresses and global social enquiry

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Open 2   Syndicate I

This paper examines the presidential addresses given by presidents of the American, British and International Sociological Associations since 1950, and considers their significance as indicators of the state of sociology local and global of their times, drawing on textual and citation data on the addresses as well as on general historical background material. Among the questions addressed will be these: What do the addresses identify as the important issues for sociology within their associations to deal with? (Insofar as such issues are identified, are they internal to the intellectual life of sociology, or concerning its relation with the wider society and its politics?) To what extent can one treat the addresses as epitomising the sociology of their times and places, rather than just the work for which their authors are best known? Do their citations and frames of reference come from a global or a parochially national context? To what extent is there an implicit consensus on what is appropriate as the theme or style of a presidential address, either across time or across countries? In sum, what light do these addresses throw on the representative status of associational leaders and on the global relationships among national sociologies?

Ponsford, R.   **The Open University**

Consumption, resilience and respectability amongst young mothers in Bristol

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Consumption   Syndicate G

The progressive commercialisation of motherhood, babyhood and childhood suggests that consumption is becoming an increasingly important terrain through which 'caring projects' (Pugh 2001) are enacted and identity, style and parenting practices are displayed. Whilst all mothers may seek to act meaningfully by consuming for their children, this paper argues that aspects of material culture hold particular significance for teenage mothers who have limited financial resources and are positioned outside the boundaries of normative mothering. In popular and political discourse they are perceived as 'problematic', poor providers and immature carers. For the young mothers in this study, the social stigma associated with early fertility is felt intimately. They often feel surveyed in both public and private spaces and are concerned about being judged as 'no hopers' and 'bad mothers'. Consumption emerges as an important site for oppositional strategies where the young women are able to re-image themselves as respectable carers. Their desire for and purchase of branded and 'only new' material goods for their children is understood as a means of displaying their caring ability and their competence as parents. The young mother's investment in material goods, however, is often subject to public scrutiny, criticism and ridicule, and their spending is a site for policy intervention. This paper, rather than interpreting these young mother's consumption practices as excessive, trivial or pathological, argues that they represent a resilience that should be considered alongside the young women's dispossession and marginalisation as both mothers and consumers.

Pornsiripongse, S., Buasuang, A.   **Mahidol University**

Community-culture movement to develop and commercialize indigenous knowledge of massage

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

The objectives of this article are firstly, to describe the process of community- culture movement focused on the development of indigenous knowledge of massage and business opportunities that derive from it, with honor and dignity. Secondly, to demonstrate that the restored process of commercialization is under neither the umbrella of royal tradition nor the paradigm of modern medicine.   Furthermore, it is not under the power enlargement of modern medicine over folk medicine, as the post modern critique would have it.   Indigenous massage knowledge has in fact integrated traditional and scientific knowledge to create a kind of the "best" knowledge for the benefit of human kind regardless of the power of modern medicine. The concept used to combine knowledge created a win-win approach. To support this argument, a Thai- Khmer village in Surin province was studied from January-August, 2007. The community-culture movement approach to restore indigenous massage knowledge was applied in this village to create jobs for the villagers.

Poynting, S.

'We are all in Guantanamo':Case study of Habib and Hicks, two Australian captives in the 'War on Terror'

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

Mamdouh Habib and David Hicks, the only two Australians detained at Guantanamo, were handed over to US forces in Pakistan and Afghanistan respectively in late 2001. Each was demonstrably tortured in US custody. Habib was unlawfully 'rendered' by the US to Egypt and tortured over several months before transfer to Guantanamo. In 2005, details reached US courts during a habeas corpus case, and Habib was repatriated to Australia without charge or trial. Hicks was the only Guantanamo detainee tried in its discredited military tribunal. He pleaded guilty to aiding terrorists, and was convicted in March 2007 - a plea bargain that saw him returned to detention in Australia until the year's end. Australia's security forces and government were evidently complicit in both these cases and the unlawful mistreatment. Neither the presumptively innocent Habib nor Hicks were 'the worst of the worst', nor had much, if any, security-sensitive intelligence. What rationale was there for their long-term detention and interrogation? What purpose underlay their abuse and humiliation (including sexual assault) in custody? This paper argues that these forms of terrifying and well publicised crimes by the states involved serve to repress communities from which the victims come. On Australian soil, national security agents have conducted violent and terrifying raids against Muslim immigrants, including court-adjudged kidnapping, unlawful detention for advantage and unlawful interrogation. These fit the Australian state's definition of terrorist acts as 'intimidating the public or a section of the public' 'with the intention of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause'.

Pragya, T.   **Jawaharlal Nehru University**

Discrimination: an Operating Tool in the Urban Labour Market

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

The paper attempts to study one among various ways of functioning of urban labour market, how discrimination leads to vicissitude of Urban poverty as an operating tool in the recruitment of labour. This apparently simple behavioural attitude leads to serious lasting repercussions in the market and thus workers in the lower segment of the market remain trapped in the vicious circle of poverty 'if not intervened'.This study hypothesizes that the caste affiliation of a person affects opinion in the social and economic circle about his efficiency, education, occupation, life style and other day-to-day human behaviour. These two geographical spaces have significantly shown the difference in the caste factors in industrial economy because Kanpur city
1)is an old industrial town where social values are still traditional
2)has attracted short distance migrant population

On the other side Ghaziabad,
1)where industrial development have been phenomenal.
2)has absorbed long distance migrant population.
3)and being a satellite town of Delhi, it has shown change in respect of work culture and social values to a fairly good extent.

Methodology-This study evaluates the concept of discrimination with the support of both quantitative and qualitative data. A worker is the primary sampling unit.
1)After the selection of the area, the sample was drawn following the method of Systematic Random Sampling.
2)The PSU further will be controlled in three ways
a)Only Hindu male workers
b)Between the age group of 14-60

Prosser, J.   **University of Leeds**

Can I Photograph a Policeman?: Visual ethics and the Law

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

The rapid growth in the adoption of visual methods in the last two decades has left many ill prepared to absorb contemporary ethical thinking. Word and number-based researchers adapt and refine existing standards or absorb and apply revised ethical frameworks with relative ease compared to their visual-centric cousins.

Law both reflects and is inherent in contemporary visual culture and visual researchers will need knowledge of laws pertaining to visual methods in order to accord with notions of good practice. Visual researchers gaze, record and widely disseminate, and therefore are required to reflexively engage in the strange, specialised, complex world of the legality of their work. They find many grey areas and few straight answers and often wrestle with technical clarifications and subtle interpretations but these are insufficient reasons to remain ignorant.

Two elements of law of particular interest are copyright and data protection .Researchers wishing to retain control of images they have created or to use images made by others by, for example, publishing them, should be aware of laws that safeguard copyright. Intellectual property rights such as data protection and copyright are convoluted and are continually modified to meet changing circumstances. The Data Protection Act 1998 affects researchers' use of photography, even in public spaces. A digital image of an individual is considered, by some administrators and bureaucrats, to be personal data for the purpose of the Act, and therefore requires consent. So this paper will ask 'what do researchers need to know about the law' and 'how should researchers interpret the law'?

Qayyum, H.   **University of Essex**

Sources of Social Power and Radicalisation of Islam in Pakistan

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Open 2   Syndicate B

When one thinks of the ideas of power and resistance in the context of Pakistan, one generally thinks of the violent struggles of post 9/11 era. In the aftermath of 'War on Terror' the rise of Islamist terrorism in Pakistan raised considerable questions about the future of Pakistan. The overall effect of this escalating violence is: social disorder, economic decline and political instability. Presently, terrorism is a growing threat to the sovereignty of Pakistan. Furthermore, inability of State to provide basic services to its citizens and pursue popular policies increases social tensions. Consequently, Pakistani society is disintegrating on ideological, ethnic, class and cultural lines. What historical and social factors have contributed to this situation will be explore in this paper. The paper will also explore the social factors which can help to integrate Pakistan. The topic is very important, as we know Pakistan is a state equipped with Weapons of Mass Destruction and any disintegration can cause a wider threat to world peace. Finally, this paper will help to understand the underlying social factors which can help to make (or break) a society in which norms and values have decisive role.

Quinn, J., Lawy, R., Diment, K.

Listening to "the thick bunch": What can we learn from young people in Jobs Without Training in the South West of England?

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

Young people in 'jobs without training' are all around us: working in shops cafes, building sites: they are ubiquitous but invisible. For policy makers they are a problem group who need to be shepherded back into education, but in fact very little is known about them. In this paper we report on a large scale project in the SW region of England. The research involved a collaboration between university researchers and Connexions Personal Advisers working with 110 young people mainly aged between 17 and 18. Its main purpose was to explore the experiences of this marginalised and socially disadvantaged group as they moved into and out of work, with a view to influencing the policy debate through a deeper understanding of their lives. The assumption of our approach was that young people have not been involved or consulted in the development of policies aimed specifically at meeting their 'needs' by increasing their employability. The research was longitudinal and comprised a combination of semi-structured telephone interviews, face-to-face interviews and focus group sessions with young people in order to capture the changes in their understandings and interpretations. We suggest that the 'problem' of young people in JWT is not a problem of the young people themselves but is ultimately a problem of inequality. Only a restructuring of schooling, a major investment in local economies, adequate infrastructures of transport and housing and a shift in cultural narratives about what constitutes a successful and valid life will really improve opportunities for them.

Radcliffe, P.

Drug using parents. choices, identity and risks.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Consumption   Syndicate G

In this paper I argue that drug-using mothers, the 'flawed consumers' typified by Bauman (2007) are paradoxically enabled to move away from the 'gaze' of child welfare professionals by engaging with the medicalisation and treatment for their condition. Interviews with pregnant drug users, women who have had children in the last two years, drug workers and midwives reveal that by entering a regime of opiate substitution therapy, by supplying urine samples that are negative for non-prescribed drugs and by changing their lives in other specific ways; pregnant drug users are able to demonstrate an acknowledgment and self-management of the risks that drug using represents for children. They can in other words perform the kind of self-governing prudentialism required of the late modern citizen. I suggest that the 'choices' available to these women, illustrate more generally discursive conflicts between identity, consumption and governance in late modern society. In addition the paper discusses the contested status of the most commonly prescribed opiate substitute drug, Methadone in the UK. Since the nineteen sixties, Methadone has been both the subject of campaigning by drug advocacy organisations as a normalising treatment option, and of critique by academics and abstinence-based organisations as providing an addictive alternative to heroin that does not necessarily lead the way out of a drug using life.

Raisborough, J.,Adams, M.,

Departing from denigration: mediations of desert and fairness in ethical consumption

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

Recent sociological class analysis has argued that current cultural representations of the urban poor are distilled through denigration, disgust and humiliation to produce an identifiable and vilified social type (e.g. the 'chav'). Similarly, work within Social Psychology has identified how a 'self-control ethos', constituted through neo-liberal virtues of self-management, reliance and discipline, provides the content of denigration thought so that select others manifest specifically in terms of their 'lack' of these virtues. There is great potential here to analyse current class antagonism, but we take a departure from denigration to question how the self-control ethos may also serve to mediate others in more 'positive' ways and with what consequence. We draw on our wider exploration of ethical consumption, specifically the labelling initiative fair trade. That this is dependant on a consumer response to a plea for 'fairness' in otherwise treacherous world markets raises questions of how the distant poor materialise through fairness and how are they recognised as deserving of such. We approach the self-control ethos as mediating device, to argue that fair trade imagery fosters points of recognition which render the fairtrade farmer present through a currency of self-control values, environmentalism and nostalgia in such ways that may foster a practical response to buy fairtrade. These critical applications of the self-control ethos provide us with a striking juxtaposition of selected poor others, yet demonstrate the persistence of economies of individual culpability and responsibility. We end by discussing the implications of this mediation for global poverty initiatives.

Ranson, G., Dryburgh, H.

Firms as "gender regimes": the experiences of women in IT workplaces

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

This paper draws on data from an international study of employment relations in information technology workplaces to examine the way work is experienced by women in small- to medium-sized IT firms. The project involved case studies of a total of 44 such firms in Canada, the U.K., the U.S. and Australia. The most striking commonality, across almost all the firms, was the small proportion of women in each. This was not surprising, given women's much lower participation rates in IT employment generally. But its significance at the level of the individual workplace was profound. It suggested a scenario, repeated in firm after firm, in which lone women, or women in very small numbers, were working in organizations that were owned, led, and numerically overwhelmingly dominated by men. On a daily basis, gender played into work arrangements and workplace interactions, in ways that significantly shaped participation in and experience of IT work. The firms, to use the term coined by R.W. Connell, were also "gender regimes", differing in terms of how work was divided (and who was recruited to do it); how power was distributed; how symbolic representations of gender were drawn on; and how the emotional climate was managed. In this paper, we use the gender regime as a device to classify our case study firms, in each of the four study countries, in order to examine more closely the different experiences of the women (and, not incidentally, the men) who worked in them.

Rasbash, J.,Jenkins, J., O'Connor, T.

Seperating individual, dyad, family and genetic effects that make up social relationships between family members.

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

Relationship data often comes in a bidirectional form, so response data on a single dyad is made up of two measurements, for example, Joe's aggression to Fred and Fred's aggression to Joe. The social relations model, Snijders and Kenny(1999) can distinguish a number of effects: actor(the extent to which an individual displays consistent behaviour across dyads), partner effects(the extent to which an individual elicits consistent behaviour across dyads). As these actor and partner effects measure the extent to which an individual acts or elicits consistently across contexts these are individual traits. The extent to which relational scores are influenced by the context of an individual is relating to are picked up by dyad effects.

In this paper we use multilevel cross-classified models to implement an extended version of the social relations data on relationships within families. We explore the extent of the effect the family has over and above actor, partner and dyad. The analysis is applied to a sample with a genetically informative design which allows estimation of the extent genetic factors have on relational behaviour. We describe the relative sizes of actor, partner, dyad, family and genetic effects on relational behaviour. We also discuss the plausibility of the assumptions that are made to enable the genetic model to be identified. We look at the associations of relational behaviour and parental depression and family type(single, nuclear, step).

Snijders, T.A.B., and Kenny, D., The Social Relations Models for family data: A multilevel approach. Personal Relationships, 6 (1999), 471-486.

Rees, G., Power, S.   **Cardiff University**

The "Third Wave" and Educational Research

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Sub-Plenary – Science and Technology Studies   Assembly Hall

This paper takes as its starting point the analysis of the 'Third Wave' of science and technology studies developed by Collins and Evans. This analysis is subjected to - broadly - sympathetic critique and considers the implications of the normative aspects of the analysis for an understanding of the role of the social scientist within the sphere of public policy.   The paper moves on to present an analysis of the recent history of sociological research on education, rehearsing some of the problems that arise in relation to the 'application' of such research in the development of educational policy and informing wider public debate. This, in turn, raises important questions as to the ways in which different forms of 'expertise' are implicated in the relationships between educational research and policy.

Rhodes, J.   **University of Leeds**

Revisiting the 2001 Riots: New Labour and the Rise of 'Colour Blind' Racism

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open 2   Syndicate H

Following the Civil Rights legislation enacted in the 1960s in the United States, the notion of colour-blind racism has emerged within sociological literature. It has been used as a theoretical tool to explain the continuing presence of racism and racialised inequalities within a society where its significance in determining social location is increasingly disavowed. The use of the term has been restricted to those describing the context of racism in America. However, this paper will consider the applicability of 'colour blind racism' in the UK. The 2001 riots marked an important watershed in 'race relations' in Britain. They have been widely cited as marking the point at which New Labour retreated from the celebration of diversity in pursuit of a more monocultural, and by virtue of this, a more 'cohesive' society. Through an analysis of the governmental response to the events of summer 2001, and by contrasting the actions and rhetoric of the Labour Party to its approach to the 1981 riots, it will be suggested that notions of 'colour blind' racism can offer interesting insights into the development of the politics of 'race' in Britain.

Ribbens McCarthy, J.

The powerful language of 'family' in globalised and localised contexts

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

It is widely accepted that the language of 'family' may be the focus for ideal and moralised representations that bear little relationship to lived experiences of everyday lives. Family sociologists have therefore grappled with the dilemma of whether or not to use the term 'family' at all. Nevertheless, in European and New Worlds societies the term continues to maintain a powerful hold over the public imaginary, and to be used to refer to a model of personal lives that is highly significant for political and policy debates, as well as professional practices. At the same time, rights to family life are enshrined in international Rights legislation, even while the notion of 'family' may be argued to be ambiguous, contested, and inappropriate to global contexts. In this paper I will draw together materials from a range of UK research studies in which interviewees, across diverse social contexts, talked about their own everyday family lives and what 'family' means to them. The emerging themes and imagery convey an overwhelming sense of the power of the language of 'family', and some of the longings it can represent, but how far are these themes specific to particular cultural and policy circumstances, and how can we understand 'family' relationships in globalised and localised contexts?

Ribes, A. J.   **Universidad Complutense De Madrid**

Against fragmentation: meta-narratives, performances and sharedness.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Theory   Syndicate B

Most of both classical and contemporary sociological theories are based in the account of a socio-historical fragmentation's process. Modernity and then postmodernity appears as times in which social bounds and all what is shared disappears. Durkheim and Tönnies, among classic's, Lyotard, Giddens, Beck, Sennett or Bauman, among contemporaries's implicitly or explicitly assumes individualization, anomie and the loss of common shared beliefs as the main characteristics of the societies they have tried to analyse. Very often sharedness and social order are viewed as synonimous, although as I will show there is no need for this. In this paper I will focus on what is shared in contemporary societies, considering conflict as an unavoidable effect of sharedness. I will try to show the very importance of meta-narratives, as they together with performances and concrete situations are, as I will argue, the basic elements of the lifeworld. Although Lyotard and others (Marquard, Lash, Sloterdijk) presented the supposed death of meta-narratives, I will argue that they are, in fact, still alive, as they emerge as a consequence of the everyday performances taking place in concrete situations. I will finish following Durkheim, Alexander and Collins trying to present a theoretical model which might shows the unavoidable social and cultural sharedness and the way in which that sharedness is constructed, modifiyed and kept alive.

Richardson,D., Monro,S.

Rethinking Sexual Citizenship: Sexuality, Equality and Local Governance

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

Since the 1990s, the dominant political discourse of social movements concerned with 'sexual politics' has been that of seeking access into mainstream culture through demanding equal rights of citizenship. These citizenship demands have been, at least to a degree, answered via a tranche of recent legislation including the Civil Partnership Act (2004) and the Equality Regulations (Sexual Orientation) 2007, and by associated changes in policy making and practice. However, the shift towards the normalcy of lesbian and gay citizenship has taken place in tandem with the fragmentation of sexual politics and identities. It is possible to argue that the normative citizen is no longer necessarily heterosexual, whilst the non-normative subject is now non-partnered or multiply-partnered, ambiguous in gender identity, or inhabiting social spaces where they are likely to face multiple disadvantage. The sites of 'othering', in which certain groups or individuals are excluded from full citizenship, have seemingly shifted. This paper discusses these issues in relation to findings from a large ESRC funded study on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equalities initiatives in local government. The study takes an innovative action research approach in conducting a cross-cultural exploration of equalities work in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Rimmer, M   **Institute of Communications Studies**

Beyond omnivores and univores: exploring musical tastes and practices.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

In recent years the cultural omnivore thesis has come to take centre stage in debates surrounding cultural taste and its social structural co-ordinates. While the ongoing omnivore debate has seen the concept's original formulation undergo revision and refinement in light of new findings, a number of substantive and theoretical difficulties implicit in much omnivore-related research continue to receive inadequate attention. These difficulties relate to commonly made assumptions about the stability and sanctity of musical genre categories, hierarchies of cultural legitimacy, the ability of decontextualised expressions of taste to disclose the nature of real-world cultural practices and the associated deployment of cultural capital. While some commentators have advocated a focus upon fully contextualised cultural practices as ameans of overcoming these difficulties, by paying inadequate attention to the embodied nature of actors' deployment of cultural capital, the approaches suggested go only so far in providing an understanding of how musical preferences and practices function in contemporary status competition. Having assessed the current status of the debates surrounding musical taste, this presentation goes on to outline the potentially fruitful concept of musical habitus, as a means through which we might to better approach questions about musical objects' correlations with actors' social locations and the contemporary role of music in status competition.Finally, I present findings from my own quasi-ethnographic research project in order to shed greater light on the utility of a concept of musical habitus.

Robinson, P.   **School of Social Sciences, Cardiff**

Responsible retailing: an assessment of labour codes and ethical standards on banana plantations in Costa Rica

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

During the last decade, a plethora of voluntary labour initiatives have been introduced in global supply chains, which attempt to establish minimum conditions for workers employed in the production of goods for export. The paper explores the impact of such initiatives, including labour codes of conduct and certifiable standards in a highly concentrated industry: the banana trade. Banana production is dominated by three American agri-businesses: Chiquita Brands International, Dole Food Company, and Fresh Del Monte Produce, however, these businesses are increasingly being directed by international retailers, particularly in the United Kingdom (UK), where the four major supermarkets Tesco, Asda, Sainsbury's and Morrisons command access to the market. The banana is the biggest selling and most profitable food product for UK supermarkets. Thus, the influence of supermarkets is strong, and as the self appointed guardian of consumer interest, they are demanding that producers adopt more socially responsible practices. However, continued pressure to be competitive on the market price of bananas places additional demands on producers to reduce costs. Herein lays the dichotomy: how to ensure workers' rights whilst responding to market pressures for cheaper bananas. The theoretical framework employed in this analysis draws on global chain studies which emphasise shifting relationships and control within the chain. The paper draws on empirical data gathered during a two-month field study conducted on plantations in Costa Rica that included interviews with workers and a series of interviews with representatives from UK supermarkets, trade unions, non-governmental organisations and civil society organisations involved in the chain.

Robinson, V., Hockey, J.

Masculinities and life course transitions : Towards a re-figuring of masculine identities across public and private spheres

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

This paper sums up the key findings of our recently completed ESRC funded research on masculinities in transition. While the notion that masculinity might be differently performed (Butler 1990), or inhabited is well established (Connell 2001), less attention has been devoted to the question of how the practice or 'doing' of masculinity (Morgan 1992) might vary not just between men, but within the same man as his social context changes. Through our three field work sites of hairdressing, estate agency and fire fighting, selected to represent a range of 'stereotypical' masculinities, we reflect here on the demands of contrasting occupational cultures and argue that these can be seen as 'scenes of constraint' (Butler, 2004). Yet, as Butler suggests, these are also environments within which individual agency constantly materialises - and where gender is not only 'done' but 'undone'. We argue that it is through contradictions such as these that we can imagine new masculinities and the scope for conceptualising gendered power in innovative ways. The methodological stance we have taken in exploring men's domestic and occupational lives at three stages in the life course, is one which took into account a female perspective, and has therefore allowed us to get behind some of the established discourses surrounding the contextual and processual nature of masculine identification across public and private spheres. It is via this focus on contingency and transition across the life course that we hope to point a new way forward for studies of masculinity.

Rogers, C.   **Brunel University**

Learning to Teach, Teaching to Learn: the reflective academic in higher education

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Education   Syndicate C

Some academics have been accused of being elitist in their critical engagement with the state of university education and the 'dumbing down' of degrees (Evans 2004, Furedi 2004). Furedi even suggests that we live in a 'culture of flattery' where barriers have broken down and inclusion (into anything) is actually something to be desired and works. Inclusion is not experienced by everyone and does not work in every situation, even if politically it is promoted as attractive. Research on 'inclusive education', (Rogers 2007), suggests it is based on rhetoric and leaves many young people excluded within mainstream education. This begs questions, should all young adults study for a degree, or are universities turning into institutions that supply students with more than a degree: employability skills, for example. The author, in her first lectureship post was required to participate in a teaching and learning certificate. Based on her research during this process it became clear that 'supply' and 'demand' was all too important with the university market economy. Students and their parents want 'the degree'. 'The degree' is considered a purchasable end point; especially since the introduction of student fees. Her personal education narrative is weaved throughout a critical analysis of higher education as it currently stands. After all, being seduced and enthused by charismatic intellectuals and critically learning about a subject in depth are not prioritised and as Charles Clarke pointed out in 2003, "education for its own sake 'was a bit dodgy'" (Evans, 2004: 4).

Rogge, B.G.   **University of Bremen**

The inequality of coping with unemployment. Understanding disparities in role changes after job loss

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

I report findings from a qualitative study on coping with job loss,focusing on the barely investigated issue of role changes. As I show, the occurrence of, potentially health-maintaining, role changes depends on characteristics of social norms within the social context, as perceived by the unemployed individual, namely age-, gender- and milieu-specific role expectations.

In investigating the effects of jobs loss on mental health, sociological research has mostly focused on observing differences between the employed and the unemployed, while psychological research has put more emphasis on individual coping processes. Drawing on sociological social psychology, I try to integrate both approaches by looking at disparities in coping processes, notably in role changes. For this purpose, I conducted qualitative interviews (episodic interviews) with 25 short-term unemployed persons, aged 30-50. As known from previous research, role changes, for example greater investments in family roles, hobby roles or alternative work roles, represent potential ways of compensating for the health-enhancing functions of employment. However, the findings demonstrate that the perception and adoption of gender-, class- and age-related role expectations by an unemployed hat is crucial for her/his undergoing role changes. For instance, while traditional gender expectations attributed by a male unemployed to his female spouse hinder role changes, the construction of unemployment as a daily occurrence within high-unemployment milieus facilitates them. Role changes in unemployment thus occur in a confrontation of perceived role expectations and personal agency. The study delivers evidence on disparities in these processes, which have largely been neglected by previous research.

Rohan, H.; Zimmerman, C.; Watts, C.   **London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine**

Living in Limbo: Zimbabwean HIV-positive Women with Insecure Immigration Status

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

Background: HIV-positive Zimbabweans with insecure immigration status in the UK occupy a precarious medico-legal position. The New Asylum Model has improved the waiting time for many asylum applicants; however Zimbabweans occupy a unique immigration position.

Aim: To explore the implications of insecure immigration status for HIV positive Zimbabwean women's wellbeing.

Methods: In 2007-2008 qualitative data were collected through semi-structured interviews with thirteen Zimbabwean HIV-positive women with insecure immigration status, and 25 key stakeholders.

Results: Women reported they had not intended to stay long-term in the UK, but upon discovering their HIV status, their health and survival became inextricably bound with their ability to remain. The majority had been in the UK for more than six years. Most based their asylum claims on their HIV status, which were subsequently refused.

Most women were successfully receiving treatment for their HIV infection, although some had experienced treatment refusal in the past. For many, other health services were harder to reach. The absence of HAART in Zimbabwe meant that the threat of deportation to Zimbabwe was a major concern for these women. The waiting inherent to the asylum process exacerbated their fear, and made it hard to plan for the future or settle into life in the UK.

Conclusions: Women caught within an asylum-health nexus experienced a sense of entrapment. They felt trapped within their infection, trapped within an impenetrable and seemingly insurmountable immigration system and trapped in the UK, unable to return home. A temporary immigration amnesty for Zimbabweans could alleviate this protracted state of limbo and improve wellbeing for this vulnerable group.

Rosie, M., Orton-Johnson, K., MacInnes, J., Coxon, A.   **The University of Edinburgh**

Teaching Quantitative Methods - Problems and Practice

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Teaching and Learning   Syndicate L

This panel seeks to share experiences of common problems and provide a forum to explore 'best practice' in the process of making sociologists. Undergraduate programmes in Sociology treat methods as a core and compulsory part of that process and various policy changes instigated by the ESRC since the 1980s have emphasised taught research methods in year one of doctoral study. While the ESRC fund only a proportionately small number of students their impact has been significant; formal training is a condition of receipt of funded studentships, extending to an expectation that all students will participate in training across a range of methodological and analytical research practices.

Methods training is, therefore, seen as crucial within a 'doing' discipline, yet many students are resistant to compulsory training. Methods training can be perceived by students as irrelevant, pitched at inappropriate levels, or taking up too much of the curriculum. Quantitative methods in particular are often seen as an unwelcome distraction, a necessary evil to be endured, rather than as part of the core of the 'craft'. This panel aims to explore problems in defining and delivering 'core' quantitative skills at both Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels. Members will open discussion by describing the use of modular workbooks and e-learning in core statistical methods courses to prompt thinking about the pedagogical contexts of social statistics. A key aim of the panel is to stimulate further discussion amongst sociologists over our common problems with a view to developing best practice models of teaching.

Ross, N.J., Holland, S., Renold, E., Hillman, A.   **Cardiff University**

"I love this park. Me and all my friends hang around here.": young people's geographies of belonging

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

This paper focuses on young people's geographies of belonging and place making practices. It is informed by our experiences of conducting ethnographic, participatory research with a group of young people in public care (The (Extra)ordinary Lives project, carried out by the Qualiti node of the ESRC funded NCRM). The presentation draws upon multi-media material produced by the young people about their everyday lives and ethnographic material generated through our interactions with the young people during the project. Multiple displacements and relocations that characterise some young people's care histories dislocate and reconfigure geographies of belonging that are tied to localities. For others, in kinship placements in families with strong locally based ties, such local relationships can be more easily maintained. This paper focuses on the spatial in young people's narratives of belonging to highlight the ways in which young people 'place' themselves in their everyday locales. In doing so it widens out the term 'placement', often used in policy and practice to characterise a young person's care arrangements to explore young people's wider geographies of belonging.

Rowe, D.   **Centre for Cultural Research (CCR), New South Wales**

Twenty Thousand Leagues All at Sea: The State of the Media Sports Cultural Complex

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Open   Syndicate J

Over the last two centuries, there has been a progressive merging of the institutions of media and sport, and an increasing presence of sport within global culture. The 'media sports cultural complex' has grown and been re-shaped by many forces, from the globalization of sport to the shifting media balance between 'hard news' and entertainment. 'Live' broadcasting, especially television, has been crucial to the visibility and popularity of sport, while sport has been central to the expansion of television, especially on subscription ('pay') platforms. Sport television remains immensely important, not least through the sale of broadcast rights by sports organizations, but there are signs that the world media sport order is in flux. In this paper I seek to explain the causes and consequences of this current instability. It is argued that new media technologies and synthetic content forms are challenging the hegemony of sport broadcasting; that Western-dominated media and sports competitions are expanding into new regions, but in some areas there is a corresponding de-Westernization of media and sport control; and that there are some notable changes to the relationships between sport, fans, places, and social groups. Sport can be said to be becoming even more popular, but what counts as sport is changing along with its structure of ownership and control. The challenge of global social inquiry in this domain is to go beyond one-dimensional accounts, for example of sport as global lingua franca or as corrupted popular culture, to grasp the socio-cultural dynamics of media and sport.

Ryan, K.

Encounters at the edge of identity

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30 Social Divisions and Social Identities Readon Smith Lecture Theatre, National Museum

In recent years, the idea of intercultural dialogue has risen to prominence (Parekh 2000). The paper begins by reporting on an attempt to institute this approach in the Republic of Ireland. With the objective of 'healing the divide in Irish society...between the settled and Traveller communities', a campaign known as Citizen Traveller ended in controversy in 2001, and it provides insight into how intercultural dialogue may actually reinforce rather then bridge social divisions. With respect to Irish Travellers, research to date has focused primarily on discrimination and/or lack of supports and resources. Far less attention has been paid to the we-identity that circumscribes Traveller discourse, i.e. 'Irishness'. The second part of the paper presents examples (talk and text) of how members of the 'settled' community distinguish themselves from Travellers by constructing the latter as a negative supplement to the nation: a source of fascination which is given the symbolic status of excrement. The final section of the paper looks at the art of Kara Walker, which is immersed in this symbolic realm of discourse. Compositions such as Gone... (1994) disturb boundaries by refusing the subject positioning presupposed by intercultural dialogue. Gone... stages critical reflection/debate, not by facilitating mutual understanding between fully constituted subjects ('...the settled and Traveller communities'), but by folding the diachronic and synchronic poles of discourse into a narrative that shifts between fantasy, desire, tenderness, fear, abjection, and brutality. The paper concludes by considering whether this approach might work in conjunction with intercultural dialogue, or whether it should be seen as a radical alternative.

Ryan, L.   **City University**

Constructing progress: stories of innovation in the British Press

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

Exploration of the impact of innovation in information and communications technologies (ICT) on news production and relatedly, journalistic practices, has been an expanding field of study in media studies. However, investigation of how 'innovation' is constructed in the media has not received similar levels of attention. It is notable that one policy imperative at European Union and UK national levels is the so-called 'science in society' dimension of scientific and technological innovation. One element of this perspective is especially concerned with forging connections between media agents (journalists), the scientific community (researchers in academic and private laboratories) and 'the public' for the purposes of promoting 'rational' public debate. The role of the social sciences in the promotion of public dialogue between these diverse communities has, concurrently with this policy concern, been presented as an issue (as evidenced by the 2008 UK Government consultation, A Vision for Science and Society', Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills). A specific contribution of the social sciences relates to the explication of how the different media communicate 'innovation'.

This paper reports initial findings from a study of stories of innovation in the British press. The study employs both content analysis and qualitative analysis of newspaper texts. It considers how the press, as a particular discourse site, constructs innovation, identifying the differences between press discourses of innovation and academic and policy discourses.

Saaduddin, K.   **University of Dhaka**

Ascendency of Religon in Socio-Political Life of Bangladesh

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Religion   Syndicate H

In recent times religion has become such a strong and pervasive force in socio-political life of Bangladesh that it defies traditional form of analysis and interpretation. Historically the emergence of Bangladesh is the result of a prolonged and progressive movement which was not only secular in temperament but also liberal, democratic and even socialistic in its inspiration; religion was conspicuous by its absence in the entire process. After independence in 1971, Bangladesh society manifested an obvious indifference to the sprit of liberation while a counter trend was steadily growing. This reverse trend was all the more perceptible after August Coup of 1975, which indicates a systematic and surreptitious de-conversion. The historical circumstances which reduce the influence of religion in Western social life is not found in the East particularly in the Islamic World. This calls for a different theoretical and analytical mode, which is more ritualistic than ethical in content. The element of faith is minimal in case of corruption, whereas violence in the name of religion has been perpetrated in the name of faith. In order to identify the causes and consequences of this recent trends two different empirical dimensions have been taken: Firstly, case studies of outwardly religious six individuals with heavy records of corruption, chosen from three categories of people (businessmen, bureaucrats and politicians); and Secondly, content analysis of three significant acts of violence caused by religious

Saha, S.

Negotiating boundaries: whose reality counts

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

This study is based on the narrative stories of 40 women from different socio-economic groups, living on the rural flood plain in the Sylhet region of Bangladesh. The aim of the study was to elicit how individuals negotiate the boundaries that are constructed by socio-structural factors such as gender, class, age, and cultural norms to get access to the resources within their local environment.

This study reveals that women in different socio-economic groups have a different pattern of access to resources, roles, responsibilities and have different needs, interests and priorities. Gender and age act as cross cutting variables which determine to what extent women can exert their social power to get access to resources. Women's negotiation power to get access to resources is based on the individual's endowment, autonomy, and ability to draw upon social support networks and personal circumstances. Women in different socio-economic groups negotiate their obligations and responsibilities using support networks that include diverse groups of kin and non-kin members. The process of negotiation which occurs between women and their network members is not simply based on the exchange of financial and caring supports, but also on the emotional support they have given and received in times of crisis which they have experienced over many years. The social roles and status of women differ at various turning points in life; marriage, widowhood and grand-parenting. This study contributes knowledge to counter the belief that still persists that women are passive and silent in Bangladeshi society.

Sanders.,E   **University of Nottingham**

Sex Tourists or Dark Tourists?:Understanding Western Women's Interactions with the Sex Industry in Thailand

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Consumption   Syndicate G

My PhD research investigates western women's interactions with the sex industry in Thailand, examining how they understand their own engagement with sexualized spaces and places. This paper will highlight some empirical data collected in Thailand, and I suggest that women are increasingly accessing sexualized arenas ('ping-ping'/sex shows, transvestite shows, 'go-go' bars) as part of their 'tourist experience'. I will suggest that Thailand has come to be seen as a country where prostitution is part of the 'normal' tourist industry, and that interaction with these spaces is no longer limited to 'male sex tourists'. I will examine two strands of theory that might help to understand women's interactions: firstly by looking at current definitions of 'sex tourism' (Ryan and Kinder, 1996; Sanchez Taylor, 2001; Jefferys, 2003) I will suggest that these definitions do not go far enough to explain women's tourist behaviors in Thailand (as there is often a gendered assumption within many definitions that women are not able to be sex tourists) and secondly I will suggest that definitions of sex tourism as too narrow to include voyeuristic engagement with the sex industry and perhaps need to be broadened. Secondly, I will examine definitions of 'dark tourism' (Lennon and Foley 1999; Graham et al., 2000) to see how women's interactions with the sex industry in Thailand mirror those of 'dark tourists' and suggest that women see their interactions as part of a learning experience, one that they don't necessarily enjoy but feel they have to do on their holiday in Thailand.

Scambler,G   **UCL**

Old wine in new bottles? The case for a realist notion of class in the explanation of health Inequalities

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

This paper begins by distinguishing between the realist pursuit of explanation in sociology and the positivist pyrsuit of prediction in public health. An argument is made for horses for courses. A brief critique of positivist approaches to sociological explanation is illustrated with reference to the sociology of health inequalities. This is followed by a statement of justification for an alternative realist sociological perspective. Class is explicated in terms of structures, mechanisms, causal powers and tendencies. It is contended that the heterogeneous body of quantitative and qualitative research on health inequalities renders the active existence of class undeniable. The methodological implications of adopting a genuinely realist approach to explaining health inequalities are confronted. The paper concludes with an empirical examination of the 'greedy bastards hypothesis' (GBH), which states that health inequalities are in large part unintended consequences of the strategic decisions of core members of the strongly globalized capitalist executive, backed by core members of the more weakly globalized power elite. The 2008 collapse of financial markets is taken as a natural experiment.

Scherger, S., Savage, M.   **The University of Manchester**

Cultural socialisation, educational attainment and intergenerational mobility – some findings from the 'Taking Part'-Survey of England

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

The presentation deals with the relationship between socialisation into cultural practices during one's youth, educational attainment and intergenerational mobility. Children and young people from better-off backgrounds, i.e. from parents of higher education, higher occupational classes and disposing of a higher income, are known to attain higher educational qualifications. Hence the first question explored in this paper: Is it mainly socialisation into cultural practices and parental encouragement of cultural activities that explain this status transfer, or is the parental class as such beneficial for the educational attainment of young people? In a second step, the effect of the socialisation factors on intergenerational mobility is examined – does socialisation into (highbrow) cultural practices have a positive effect on upward social mobility? In order to answer these questions, data of the 'Taking Part'-Survey of England is analysed which contains four variables on whether parents or other adults took the respondent to (four kinds of) cultural events and sites when the respondent was growing up. A second set of variables gives information on how much the parents or other adults encouraged the respondents to read books or to be creatively active in different domains of arts, literature and music. These two sets of variables are used in descriptive and multivariate quantitative analyses in order to study how far the transfer of status and intergenerational mobility are affected by cultural socialisation at the time of the respondent's youth.

Schlembach, R.

Nation Europe: Far Right Thought and Politics between East and West

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Theory   Syndicate B

The 40th anniversary of 1968 has rejuvenated some debate about radical social change and counter-cultural social movements. Surprisingly however, movements and ideas of the Right and extreme Right have received very little attention. This paper then aims to shed light on a particular development in right-wing thought that in part is owed to a reaction to the upheavals of 1968. It traces from European pessimism and fascism via the French Nouvelle Droite through to contemporary German neo-Nazis those strains of conservative and reactionary thought that have aimed to 'preserve' and 'reawaken' a European Spirit or Culture in defence against the perceived threats of communism and globalisation. I analyse this pan-European nationalism as an attempt by ethnopluralists and anti-globalists to formulate a 'Third Force' position that is neither Left nor Right, and for which Europe serves not as a model to overcome the nation-state but as a cultural space between East and West that can incorporate particular nationalisms. I would argue that a better understanding of such elements in right-wing social movements and of its chances to offer an alternative to current elitist attempts to construct a European identity is paramount to finding an adequate emancipatory response to the threat that is posed by the European far Right.

Schnuer, G.   **University of Edinburgh**

Bataille's Realisation: Existence of a Self in Community

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Theory   Syndicate B

The paper on Bataille's realisation will show and consider Bataille's concept of self in relation to community. As such it will begin with birth and end with death and it is these two opposing ends of existence that might contain both community and Bataille's realisation. Birth, which for him was a moment of rupture that tears the self away from a continuity of existence into the discontinuity of being conscious, creates a self that is in a sense separate and alien in the world, yet also a part of that world. Existence for Bataille becomes tragic as it tries to both be autonomous and to elude or escape the separation that occurred at birth. Bataille's concept of the sacrifice, especially the human sacrifice, forms a possibility to escape this contraction as seeing the other die allows the self to experience death in life. The people that gather to watch the Other die all come together to experience a moment of shared intimacy as they jointly realise their own discontinuity, their own rupture and with that, their own finitude. Following this, the paper will move on to regard Bataille's concept of sovereignty and the impossibility of escaping the rupture and discontinuity (unless by dying oneself) as Bataille realised the excessive sacrifice in a community to be superficial and to be unable to offer intimacy. This paper will argue that the community that remains after it becomes unable to generate intimacy is what Jean Luc Nancy described as Inoperative Community.

Schröder, A.

Patterns of Social Mobility in an Individualized World - Exploring & Visualizing How Class Operates Through the Individual

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

The goal of this paper is to offer new perspectives on issues of social mobility and individualization: taking a holistic approach using innovative techniques, it seeks to unpack the apparent paradox of simultaneously governing reflexivity and persisting social inequality.

The paper investigates claims about increasing tendencies of de-standardization of life-courses coined as "do-it-yourself biographies" by Beck (1999) or as "disembedding" by Bauman (2001) that are often juxtaposed to persisting constraints on life chances as manifested in class structures (Jackson & Goldthorpe 2007). This also means bringing together two fields that - although addressing similar questions - rarely seem to interact.

Taking class structures and their impact on entire career trajectories to be prime indicators of stability, this paper investigates patterns of work-life mobility and explores whether there is any evidence on de-standardization (as defined by Mayer & Brückner, 2005). Examining work-life histories from the British Household Panel Survey, this paper shows how entire career trajectories are associated with class background and points out differences across age groups and birth cohorts.

The overall goal is to describe career patterns and to depict the interplay between individual trajectories and class structures by combining innovative techniques such as sequence analysis with standard regression models. Results suggest that the majority of respondents experiences high levels of stability, but findings also reveal a minority of extraordinarily mobile trajectories with several moves across social classes, possibly indicating de-standardization.

Scourfield, J., Gilliat-Ray, S., Khan, A., Otri, S.

Islam in middle childhood

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Religion   Syndicate H

Despite a flourishing of the sociology of childhood in recent years, there has been to date relatively little research on the significance of religion to children. In contrast, there is a rather more substantial body of literature within psychology which looks at children's spiritual development. This paper will report on an inter-generational qualitative study of how children learn about religion. We are focusing on British Islam, where our secondary analysis of the 2003 Home Office Citizenship Survey suggests inter-generational transmission of religion is especially strong in comparison with other religious groups. The empirical basis for the paper is research with 60 Muslim families in Cardiff; a diverse sample in terms of ethnicity, social class and school of thought within Islam. The particular aspect of the study discussed in the paper is the significance of Islam to children aged 12 and under. The data come from interviews with children, parents and some grandparents and also from the children's audio diaries and photographs. The authors will consider the potential for inter-disciplinary understanding of religion in children's lives which draws on both sociological and psychological theory.

Semple, M.

Where Have all the Children Gone? Death Denial or Taboo?

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

Some seventeen years ago, Tony Walter laid a challenge at the feet of British sociologists. He asked us to take seriously the issues of death, dying and bereavement. During the interim period many gaps in our knowledge have started to be filled (see for example; Riches & Dawson, 1997; Small, 1997; Seale, 1998 and Howarth, 2007). However, there remains one significant gap - that of child death, this continues to be ignored. Theoretically and empirically there is a tendency to deftly disengage with this area of our social existence. This disengagement raises many interesting questions that this paper seeks to explore as the first stage in a wider qualitative study into the social and cultural reactions to child death and the cultural scripts of bereavement available to siblings. This paper shall overview two key theoretical positions on death, sequestration and that of a death denying society. It will engage with a fundamental characteristic of modernisation, the decreased mortality of our young and it will ask whether the concept of 'habitus' (Shilling, 1993) can be usefully employed in this area of investigation. Ideas of a youth focused society will be highlighted in relation to sociology's neglect of investigating the death of our young. This paper will argue that unexceptional child death is not socially visible and thus cultural scripts of bereavement are not available to children and therefore this may have consequences for siblings grieving the loss of a sister or brother.

Sharp, G., Watson, J

The all day breakfast: aperiodic eating patterns and popular notions of healthy eating.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Consumption   Syndicate G

A recent trend by some large food companies has been to link consumption of processed cereals with the desire to lose weight. This has been attempted by repositioning the breakfast meal to other times of the day, potentially doubling the amount of cereals consumed in a day. At the same time, breakfast cereal, and cereal bars, are presented as healthy "alternatives", particularly suitable for weight-loss diets. We wish to unpack popular notions about periodicity of eating and healthiness. The starting point will be a well-known diet plan promoted by a leading breakfast cereal manufacturer. The manufacturer presents different versions of the diet for consumers in France and the UK, although in both countries a meal is to be replaced by a bowl of cereal. The UK version of the diet encourages consumption of 'healthy snacks' (cereal bars) The French version proposes that a bowl of breakfast cereal forms the centre of a slimmed-down version of a three-course meal. This would seem to reflect different eating cultures in each country.

This paper will report on a series of focus group interviews with university students who are following or have in the past followed, slimming diets. Respondents will be presented with stimulus material presenting contrasting versions of the breakfast cereal diet and their reflections on "snacking", calorie consumption, managing hunger, and convivial eating will be elicited. The findings of a student-administered questionnaire will also be analysed together with a broader discursive analysis of the promotional material used by the manufacturers.

Shaw, S.   **University of the West of England**

'You know more about me than my mum!': Exploring video diaries and voice

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

This work forms part of an ESRC-funded PhD project entitled 'Living and Learning in the Coalfields of West Yorkshire'. As a part of this, I have been concerned with the learning experiences and transitions to adulthood of young people within post-compulsory education who live in a community that no longer has a strong social or economic identity due to the disintegration of the coal industry. The project draws attention to the significance of geographical or spacial positioning alongside other factors such as family, social class, peer group, and so forth as key characteristics in determining the educational and occupational aspirations of young people.

This paper explores the rationale behind my usage of visual methodologies, and how these were initially incorporated into the second phase of the project in the form of video diaries as a means by which to try and give participants a stronger 'voice' by removing the researcher, as far as possible, from this part of the study. However, it became apparent that having this particular 'view' into the everyday experiences of the students had the opposite effect. In talking through the 'video diary' lens, participants built up an imagined relationship with me as a researcher. On the one hand it meant that I was even more present rather than absent, but on the other, it enabled a far more personal insight into their lives than anticipated, one that may certainly not have been possible through other forms of inquiry.

Shildrick, T., Garthwaite, K.

Two Steps Forward, Two Back: understanding recurrent poverty

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

This paper presents a discussion of and the first results from, a current, qualitative study of 'recurrent poverty', funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

The project builds upon previous qualitative studies in Teesside of the life transitions of poor young adults by providing an in-depth, qualitative appreciation of the lived realities of recurrent poverty for older age groups. The project interrogates important qualitative questions associated with the 'low pay, no pay' cycle and its significance for understanding recurrent poverty. We locate our questions about poor people's labour market experiences within a broader understanding of their lives thus allowing investigation of the wider set of factors (e.g. health, education, skills) that may make poverty a recurrent condition for some. The study is based in 'poor neighbourhoods' in Teesside, North East England. Detailed, qualitative, biographical interviews with 60 men and women (aged 30-55 years) who have experience of 'poor work' and recurrent poverty form the key data.

The study seeks to answer questions relevant to social policy including discussion of what should be the best balance between supply-side, employability agendas (e.g. about job entry) and demand-side, retention and progression strategies (about sustained and better employment). The study also seeks to contribute to sociological debates about social mobility and immobility, about life course transitions and about social class continuity and change.

Shin, J.   **School of Physical and Geographical Sciences, Keele University**

Living as a 'Foreign Bride': A Study of Cross-border Marriage Immigrants in South Korea

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Open   Syndicate J

The boundaries of the 'imagined community' and the narratives of cultural homogeneity have been widely challenged by the process of international migration. The discussion of the citizenship of marriage immigrants in this paper shows how gendered and racialised transnational movements have challenged and reconfigured boundaries of inclusion and exclusion in Korean society. The empirical data in the paper illustrates that the exclusive nature of Korea's citizenship rules – relying on 'blood' based criteria – extensively limits the formal rights of immigrant women and, even when these immigrants are granted formal rights, there are racialised and gendered barriers to claiming substantive rights. In the context of cross-border marriage, patriarchal gender relations exist across state boundaries and are constructed in terms of hierarchies of class and race. 'Foreign brides' are expected to accept and integrate themselves into the Korean culture and customs. The ostensible process of inclusion through the granting citizenship to immigrant women therefore implies another form of exclusion and racialisation based on gender and class. This paper also critically examines the recent government's rhetoric of promoting Korea as a 'multicultural society'. Policies on marriage immigrants focus merely on their reproductive roles as mothers and wives of Korean citizens. As these women become central to ethnic and national reproduction and markers of the boundaries of collectivities, the Korean state veils the cultural identity of those immigrants and incorporates them and their children into the dominant cultural group.

**Shivani, R., Manu, G., Dixitpankaj ,D.,   S.R.K.P.G. College Firozabad
Iswarappa,K., Puramal, Y.**

Effect of cultural globalisation in India

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

Since 1991, India has witnessed an explosion of new media. Between 1990 and 1999, access to television grew from 10% of the urban population to 75% of the urban population. Cable television and foreign movies became widely available for the first time. Despite being heavy users of this new media, nonelite urban middle-class men continue to be attached to previous family arrangements. The striking continuity of nonelite men's gender culture in the face of new meanings introduced by foreign media suggests that institutions are fundamentally important in rooting the fit between cultural orientations and institutional structures. Social theorists today often emphasize the mutually reinforcing nature of culture - meanings, norms, values - and structure - the way society is organized. But contemporary theorists too often sidestep consideration of the relative causal importance of cultural and structural factors. This paper confirms Swidler's argument that cultural "consistencies across individuals come less from common inculcation by cultural authorities than from the common dilemmas institutional life poses in a given society." Changes resulting from globalization are, then, more likely to follow from changed structural realities than the introduction of new cultural meanings.

Simone, C.   **University of Derby**

Negotiating social bonds after death: the embodied absent presence of the dead

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Social Relationships   Syndicate A

This paper arises out of a work-in-progress doctoral research project in which the author is investigating suicide bereavement. New models of grief, particularly 'continuing bonds', emphasize the maintenance of a relationship after death between the deceased and bereaved through, for instance, conversation, memorialisation and mediating objects. However, with interaction often tense and fraught with difficulties, the sequestration of grief from a stigmatised death inhibits bereavement adaptation as it discourages social communication. The barriers to talking about the deceased and sharing memories with other family members, friends and community, denies traumatically bereaved people the opportunity of integrating good memories. As a strategy for creating memories and integrating the deceased into the present, the everyday material culture that we live in can be utilised to offer a biographical continuity. Memories can be actively evoked through the material culture to bring an absent presence into the ongoing daily lives of bereaved people. The materiality of objects, environment, texts and conversation allow for a connection and bond which preserves and (re)constructs a relationship with the deceased in the face of an embodied absence. Through negotiating and renegotiating understandings of the death, subsequent loss and relationships with significant others, including with the deceased, bereaved people may reflexively change over time. Consequently, it could be argued, death does not end the relationship between the living and the dead as the deceased continue to be socially present in the ongoing lives of the bereaved.

Simpson, D.

Being Professional? Constructing Early Years Professionalism

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Education   Syndicate C

Promoting professionalism in the early years sector of education has become a key policy priority recently in many countries across Europe. In England unprecedented developments in the early years include the introduction of a new status - Early Years Professional (EYP). The introduction of this status parallels common moves in other countries to raise the quality and visibility of early childhood services through the adoption of a key professional in settings. This paper reports findings from a qualitative research project that tracked 8 EYPs based in the North East of England who were among the first to acquire the new status early in 2007. The research explored factors contributing to the construction of their professionalism - i.e. orientations to their work. In England some claim an official professional discourse pervading new early years regulatory and pedagogical frameworks functions as a mechanism for control of EYPs via a hegemonic process. Drawing on interview data, this paper: 1) highlights limits in the explanatory power of such claims; 2) agrees professionalism is 'situated', but its consruction is also conditioned by a wider whole that includes dominant discursive constructs and other socio-cultural forms; 3) argues that in addition early years workers are actively involved in constructing their professionalism; 4) offers a new conceptualisation of early years professionalism showing how wider social forms and agency are mediated by reflexivity and 5) concludes that this new conceptualisation has greater explanatory power in the English context and indeed potentially in other European contexts.

Simpson , P

Will Anyone Want a Fairy When He's 40 Plus: The Ethics and Aesthetics of How Midlife Gay Men Manage Ageing

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Open   Syndicate J

The paper explores the conscious and pre-reflective cultural politics of gay male midlife/ageing. The research engages with the work of Giddens, Bourdieu and Foucault to describe and analyse narratives relating to forms of embodiment, exploring how these profoundly moral projectsare linked significantly to the complex, over-etermined spatialisation of Manchester's `gay village', itself inflected by age, body shape/size/style, sexuality, class and status group membership.

To what extent is this spatialisation a defensive or proactive response to ageism both within gay and mainstream cultures? Some responses saw older gay men's belonging on the scene as partial, ambivalent - here space was simply consumed or inhabited. Yet this sat alongside more assertive negotiation, re-appropriation, even productions of space/belonging through counter-discourses largely related to the body or perceptions of the ageing/older gay male body. Challenges to a range of dominant discourses were based on a `cosmopolitanism from below' that problematised inter-related identity, gay community, and critiqued the youth-beauty conjunction, itself the premise of intergenerational conflict between younger and older gay men on the scene. Because lives are lived beyond the commercialised public 'gay scene,' the paper will also address how constructed family and connectedness can operate as resources against homophobia and ageism.

Singh,O.P   **Banaras Hindu University**

Social Construction of Illness and Health

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

An important aspect of understanding health and illness is to see the social meanings of health and illness. It has become evident now that illness can be understood as a social construction. It is not an objectively defined state but it exists because it has been socially defined such.

Kerala, India enjoyed good public health system despite being in deep poverty; but now residents are growing richer in terms of income and remittances from abroad, and at the same time overall health appears to be declining. Thus health and wealth share a relationship which is more complex than it meets the eye. Health is more socially determined. Social determinants of health are the social conditions in which people live. Illnesses are generally related to social, economic, political, and environmental conditions.

Theories about health and illness deal with the ideas people use to explain how to maintain a healthy state and why they become ill. Ideas about illness causation may include such ideas as breach of taboo, soul loss, germs, upset in the hot-cold balance of the body, or a weakening of the body's immune system. However what gets ignored in this understanding of health is the social relevance and causation involved in constructing the condition of ill health. The paper deals with this aspect of health and illness citing examples from Indian society drawn from secondary sources. In conclusion the phenomenon of social construction of health and illness is found to be valid.

Skourtes, S

Space, Place, and Class: The Re-Making of the 'Urban' Girl in "New Times"

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Lecture Theatre, National Museum

At a time when individualized narratives have replaced structural explanations like social class to account for inequality (Gillies, 2005), the material conditions of girls who are marginalized economically, politically, and socially are in part, being reproduced through the uneven social and economic outcomes of globalization (Nayak, 2003). For girls specifically, the rise of neo-liberal economic policies that favor privatization may produce discrete challenges for working-class youth who may be less able to make class shifts or meet the 21st century requirements of a 'future girl' (Harris, 2004) subjectivity tied to consumption, and professional success.

The narratives of economic transformation initiated in the Global North, are also stories about place, and the multiple connections between youth, places, and spaces that emerge and are transformed in the post-industrial city. In this paper, an interdisciplinary, spatialized theoretical approach is used to grasp the contemporary significance of social class for urban female adolescents in multiple institutional spaces. It is my contention that consideration of spatial theories can be used by youth researchers in many fields to address issues of difference, agency and power when discussing youth, and can make a theoretical move beyond description of youth difference to explain why differences are manufactured. Given the continuous and widening gap across the globe between the economically affluent and the marginalized, understanding how class operates spatially in the lives of young women in the Western neo-liberal political moment, is a critically useful tool to aid in comprehending the conditions that produce inequality and difference.

Smith, R.J.   **Cardiff University**

The Negotiation of a Pastless Place: Interpretation, Identity and Cardiff Bay.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

The regeneration of de-industrialised urban zones has transformed the disused areas of cities' industrial pasts. The reconfiguration and reorganisation of these 'spaces' heralds a shift in not only the management of these areas but also the way in which they are socially organized, understood and interpreted by the social actor in relation to the wider city in which they are constructed. Physical regeneration projects entail a reconfiguration both of the urban landscape and of the social relations that existed prior to their implementation. The complexity of these social relations are often shaped within the regenerated setting in the production of a 'smooth narrative of place' which defines the new urban zone.

Taking the regeneration of Cardiff's docklands as an example, this paper considers how identity and notions of 'place' are produced via the mundane interactions of the social actor in negotiating Cardiff Bay. In doing so this paper will explore how tensions that exist between representation, history, and local identities manifest within the setting, and, furthermore, the ways in which the mundane practices of the social actor, displayed in category work within accounts, act to re-produce but, also, breach and disrupt the constructed 'smooth narrative' of this neo-liberal setting.

Snee, H.

"That's what gap years are all about": Worthwhile travel and self-improvement

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Consumption   Syndicate G

Taking a year out to travel is an increasingly common rite of passage, and has become enshrined in the popular imagination, associated with exotic locations, adventure, backpacking and overseas volunteering. According to a review of gap year provision (Jones 2004), between 200,000 and 250,000 young people between the ages of 16 and 25 are engaged on some form of gap year, a significant proportion of which involves overseas travel. This paper utilises the new documentary source of weblogs, along with qualitative interviews, to investigate gap year consumption practices. Existing literature (Simpson 2004; Simpson 2005; Heath 2007) has suggested that taking a gap year is a way of accumulating cultural capital, either in the form of increased employability or in terms of the gains in status afforded by authentic travel. By examining how young people tell their gap year story in online journals, the paper explores: the framing of their accounts within a particular context and the consumption of a place that is away; ideas about proper travel as opposed to tourism; and the distinctions made by the 'gappers' when narrating their experiences. These anecdotes and stories offer insights into how practices are deemed to be worthwhile and how gap year travel is bound up with notions of self-improvement. The methodological and ethical issues of using resources such as weblogs for sociological research are also briefly considered.

Sokolov M.

The strange disappearance of successful 'theory groups' from the Russian social sciences: A case study in sociology of academic dependency

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

As many important works in sociology of science demonstrated (e.g. Abbott, Collins, Mullins), the coherent intellectual statements which we call "theories" are inseparable from a form of social organization Mullins named "theory group". Following this line of reasoning, we can suppose that the wider institutional context can inhibit development of this organizational form and, conversely, stimulate emergence of other types of academic groupings which do not produce theory-like statements. This possibly explains the fact that, in spite of existence of a huge disciplinary community in Russia, no theory enjoying nation-wide renown has emerged their in the last 20 years. The types of organizations which dominate the Russian academic scene are local "schools" (shkoly) with enormous internal cohesion and strong sense of loyalty to their leaders but with marked tendency to avoid posing their distinctiveness from other "schools" in intellectual terms. It is argued that prevalence of "schools" over "theory groups" results from (1) extremely low mobility of personnel at the academic labor market; (2) scarcity of means of professional communication, dampening down "market for ideas"; (3) general economic shortage, favoring investments into empirical research rendering short-turn monetary return over more long-term investments into developing intellectual reputations. As these traits are also characteristic of many other societies, we can arguably claim that they are responsible for the phenomenon "academic dependency" theorists try to explain: how does the disciplinary "core" localized in few Western universities maintains its privileged position of producer of theory in the global division of academic labor.

Song, M.

How do 'mixed race' young people racially identify in Britain?

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Sub-plenary - Social Divisions and Social Identities   Assembly Hall

The population of the UK is becoming increasingly diverse in terms of ethnicity, race, religion, and national identity (Owen 2001). For the first time, the growth in MR people was officially recognized by the inclusion of a "mixed" group in the 2001 UK census, in which about 674,000 people were identified as 'mixed'. Demographers have identified the 'mixed' group as one of the fastest growing of all ethnic groups, estimating that by 2010 it will have increased by more than 40% (or by more than 80% by 2020) compared with 2001 (ONS). In this paper I will present some of the key findings from an ESRC funded research project on the 'ethnic options of mixed race young people in Britain'. How do 'mixed race' young people describe themselves in ethnic and racial terms, and how may their identifications vary? I will focus upon the methodological and theoretical difficulties which arise when gathering multiple measures of racial identification. Despite its growing importance in demographic terms and its entry into "official" data collection, relatively little is known about the life experiences of so-called 'mixed' people in Britain, or how different types of 'mixed race' people, such as Black/White, Asian/White, Chinese/White, and 'minority mix' individuals perceive and negotiate their 'ethnic options'.

Spurling, N. J.   **Lancaster University**

University reform and the 'private life' of sociological ideas.

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Education   Syndicate C

This paper is situated within the debate on university reform in the last three decades. It takes as its starting point the frequently cited concern that changes in research funding are distorting, damaging or limiting the research social scientists undertake. The paper suggests that such perspectives offer a narrow and overly simplistic perspective on the relationship of policy to the research practice of academic sociologists, as well as implying (though never defining) a mythical 'Golden Age' in which academic ideas were 'freely' developed and could thus take their 'true form'. The paper offers an alternative perspective to these debates, recognising after Mills (2008) that disciplines have (and have always had) political economies that might be conceptualised as an interaction of 'the 4 I's': ideas, individuals, identities and institutions.

Based on in-depth interviews in sociology departments at four UK universities, the paper explores the different research pathways discussed by the participants. The interviews highlight the strong interrelationships between institutions, departmental cultures, the 'discipline' and external networks in the development of research projects. In addition, of particular interest are the different relationships that individual academics have to their ideas, for example the interaction of individuals' personal lives and past career experiences with their research topics and approach. This emphasises the importance of a further dimension -biography- in the development of sociological knowledge.

To conclude, the paper reflects on this 'thick description' of sociological research practice to consider how the effects of recent reform might be more effectively understood and critiqued.

Stanley, L., Dampier, H., Salter, S., Poustie, S.   **University of Edinburgh**

It's been done before! Olive Schreiner globalizing social inquiry

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Theory   Syndicate B

Globalisation is by no means a new phenomenon, with many important features rooted in capitalism in its imperial phase and taking on new dimensions around, eg, the 'scramble for Africa' c1870 to post-World War I. Some contemporary social inquiry about these developments was produced outside of and/or challenged then-existing disciplinary formations, with the analysis of feminist writer and social theorist Olive Schreiner (1855-1920) a case in point. The social inquiry Schreiner produced explored themes associated with present-day theorisations of globalisation but which pre-date these, doing so by using means generated by these changes themselves. Her analytic project crossed disciplinary and other writing genres and importantly included inter/national correspondences, to develop a distinctive conceptual apparatus which challenged both universalistic and localised understandings of capitalism, imperialism, labour, war, social movements... Schreiner's unpublished letters have to date been a neglected source for exploring this unfolding analysis and also the supportive feminist/socialist networks which supported it. These c7000 letters are currently being transcribed and analysed by the Olive Schreiner Letters Project, with the paper drawing on them in two respects: Firstly, to examine Schreiner's unfolding analysis of the global phenomena she was centrally concerned with as having important distinctive local manifestations and local phenomena having global aspects too, around her accounts of imperialist expansionism underpinning the South African War and of the militarism which produced and sustained WWI. Secondly, to explore the light Schreiner's letters throw on the trans-national feminist networks which sustained her radical pacifism.

Stephens, N.

Selling in vitro meat: contested constructions of animal parenthood

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

In April 2008 the In Vitro Meat Consortium held its first meeting. The consortium identifies as "an international alliance of environmentally concerned scientists striving to facilitate the establishment of a large-scale process industry for the production of muscle tissue for human consumption". Essentially they seek to turn the techniques of tissue engineering to the production of meat; producing animal flesh in laboratories that has none but the slightest relationship to living animals and conventional models of animal rearing. This is a radical and unique intervention within the emerging tissue economies that are usually orientated towards healthcare and healing.

This paper uses the Sociology of Expectations to unpick the promissory languages used by In Vitro Meat protagonists as they construct the value of their technology within specifically nuanced political and economic landscapes. Their efforts target people with sympathy towards animal welfare and vegetarianism, environmentalism, and health food niches. While laboratory scientists are currently able to make this 'meat' they can only do so at great expense. By aligning income sources and consumers they hope to mobilise R&D capital to make tissue engineered food a marketable reality. Doing so relies upon the discursive production of biovalue; turning biological vitality into saleable produce. Employing a Science and Technology Studies framework I will make explicit the ways that such alignment activity not only poses considerable challenges to existing global economies of farming and food production, but also to popular meanings of 'natural' foodstuffs, specieshood and food provenance.

Stevenson, O., Plowman, L., McPake, J.,
Stephen, C., Adey, C.

The Stirling Institute of Education

"Why not ask Me?": The methodological dilemmas of carrying out research with three - and four-year-old children about their use of toys and technology.

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

There is a broad consensus that children's opinions and observations must be taken seriously in the research process and much effort goes into developing methods to communicate directly with them. The tendency to prioritise methodological discussions over children's participation is arguably underpinned by justifiable concerns on how best to capture their experiences of everyday life. Yet research tends to be dominated by older children's experiences. However, we argue in this paper that a lack of engagement with younger children (three- and four-year-olds) is a missed opportunity. This paper draws on our current ESRC-funded project: "Young children learning with toys and technology at home (2008 – 2011)", in which a constellation of methods: including photo elicitation, mapping, using stickers and 'toy tours'; were employed to develop detailed case studies of fifteen households over an eighteen-month period. This paper presents insights into our justification for, and initial evaluation of, the different data collection methods employed and claims that these approaches have provided data on play, learning and technology in the everyday lives of three- and four-year-old children that would be inaccessible if we relied solely on caregivers or siblings as sources. By enabling the young children in this study to reveal their attitudes and experiences in a multiplicity of ways, they allow us to build a more complex picture of their life-worlds.

Stewart, F.

University of Stirling

Siren songs of the counter culture: religious identity formation among Straight Edge adherents.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Religion   Syndicate H

Religious is perhaps not the most immediate word one would think of when encountering or researching the Punk culture. However, when researching the Punk subculture of Straight Edge, one finds that, although implicit, religious is one of the key components within the construction of identity and lifestyle of these young people. Straight Edge began in 1981 as a song by hardcore punk band Minor Threat; it quickly became an epoch that has since grown to a worldwide subculture. While retaining aspects of the hardcore punk that they felt engendered a positive identity and self -esteem, they rejected others and forged a new identity that has religion, or rather spirituality at its core, albeit implicitly.This implicit spiritual identity differs from that which preceded it, whilst relying on certain aspects of traditional religious identity formation. It is predicated upon notions of individuality and authenticity rather than meta-narratives and future gain. It is deeply enmeshed within popular culture, analogous with the rise of the ordinary within religion. Finally, it is generational, with many adherents being from the ubiquitous 'Generation X'. This is evidenced in the search for meaning having more value than finding said meaning. This paper will facilitate a deeper and more wide-ranging awareness and appreciation of how the young people within the Straight Edge subculture view traditional religious instuitions, their own religious and spiritual needs and desires and how best this can be achieved while remaining true to their identity, personhood and values within an ever changing and secularised society.

Stewart, K., Cole, M.

University of Bristol

Reel animals: learning omnivory and affection in children's films.

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open 2   Syndicate A

Nonhuman animals are almost ubiquitous in children's stories, and the enduring emotional response to film events such as the death of Bambi's mother suggest that although children may recognise that the event is not real, they are still reluctant to let go of the fantasy. The recognition of nonhuman animals as subjects in children's film is commonplace and powerful. Children often form affective relationships with fictional and nonfictional animals, spontaneously empathize with them and display a distaste or revulsion for meat, and the violence inherent in its production, when they first learn its origin (Amato & Partridge, 1989; Fiddes, 1991). Recognising the subjectivity of some animals (e.g. cats) is unproblematic and encouraged; for other animals (e.g. rabbits) it is ambiguous; while for other animals (e.g. pigs, chickens, cows, fishes) it is threatening: refusing meat is a challenge to what are still 'normal' eating habits, and an important part of parenting is the socialisation of those 'normal' habits. The way animals are represented in children's film helps maintain and reflect two conflicting messages - firstly that animals should be protected, and / but secondly that meat eating is acceptable and normal. Learning this contradictory message is an important part of learning omnivory. In this paper we explore how narrative traditions in children's films relating to nonhuman animals contribute to a food socialisation process whereby children learn to conceptually distance animals they have an emotional-ethical bond with, from animals they eat.

Stingle, A.   **Pompeii Project**

The Crisis of the Biological Citizen: ADHD as an Assemblage for the Early 21st century

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Medicine, Health and Illness   Icons Suite, National Museum

I explore the Human Condition with ADHD as an Assemblage between experiment and education in historic and current discourses of science and in lay-culture. This describes a genealogy of the ideas of the "normal human condition" and its pathologies in efficiency and attention within the history of psychophysics, experimental and industrial psychology, their dissemination in public, science and laymen-expert discourses on behavioral disorders and the quality of life, and an exploration of the potential of translations between the languages of different scientific cultures on normalcy, pathology, experiment and treatment. The reductionist vernacular of current discourses in popular sciences and many expert circles has run into dead-ends and researchers have turned to the exploration of older conceptual frames such as William James, Fritz Heider or Phenomenology, and others seek the insight of other health cultures. This presentation will explore ADHD as an Assemblage that represents this crisis and its potential resolutions.

Storme, M.L.   **VARADI Institut**

Space and places trapped in webs

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

Ubiquity, instantaneity and the abolition of distances are some of the ideas currently held about networks. Any kind of network, not only physical infrastructures which link one place to another, one group to another and enabling personal mobility: but also virtual networks.

What can the multiplication of networks offer our societies? Do we have something to fear or on the contrary do they give us something to hope for? These questions form the basis of our research.

The first hypothesis we propose to confirm or deny, derives from Geopolitical studies and N. Gershenfeld's concerns about the control of the individual by communication and information media. We now suggest that the future of our networks will depend on the bifurcations we are able to make them take and, to a great extent, the choices will rely on our present representations of networks.

Using a geographical approach and knowledge, we will focus on the mental and collective representations of spatial and virtual networks. We intend to define a theoretical frame of operational concepts (step 1) that will lead to a better understanding of the networks increasing consequences for societies throughout the 21st century. Nevertheless, starting to answer our question, we shall enter in the field of world's complexity, so as to answer M. Castells'call and bring our "modest contribution to a necessarily collective, analytical effort… aimed at understanding our new world on the basis of available evidence and exploratory theory".

Straw, D.   **Leicester University**

The Counterpoint of Consciousness: A Phenomenological Enhancement for Human Rights Sociology

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Theory   Syndicate B

Human rights sociology has typically sought its foundation in a universal counterpoint to cultural relativism. This has been developed either from the vulnerability of the human body, or the satisfaction of basic needs in society. The contrast in perspective has led to a conflict of claims regarding the importance of particular emotions. Either 'positive' emotions such as sympathy and compassion, or 'negative' emotions such as resentment and hatred have been implicated. This paper attempts to reconcile and develop the two positions through the adaptation of a phenomenological theory present in the sociology of emotion. Consequently, while bound by a shared character, humanity is argued as also united in a relatively new endeavour. This is made clear in the attempt to globally assimilate the distinctive social character of human rights belief.

Suen, Y.T.   **University of Oxford**

Changing Gender Differences in Old Age - Self-Reported Health in UK

Friday 17 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Open   Syndicate J

This study examines the changing gender differences in self-reported health in old age in the UK from the 1970s to 2000s. Using the General Household Survey time-series data, this paper explores the changes in self-reported health for men and women aged 65 and over through cohorts and historical time. It is found that while there was significant gender difference in reporting poor health for those born between 1880 and 1920, the difference was not observed for those born between 1921 and 1940. It is also found that compared to the 1970s and 1980s, gender difference in reporting poor health in old age decreased in the 1990s and diminished to a negligible level in the 2000s. The results challenge the conventional understanding of comparative disadvantage of older women in the literature and it is concluded that historical timing plays an important role in the relationship between gender and ageing.

Sugden, J.   **University of Brighton**

Pragmatic Realism and a Human Rights Approach to Sport Intervention in Divided

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open   Syndicate J

This paper addresses the vexed question of what, if any, is the value of sport to processes of peace and reconciliation? After introducing the largely rhetorical arguments for and against the value of using sport as a vehicle to promote peace building in divided societies, the paper goes on to make a more detailed and forensic examination of the evidence based on firstly the role played by sport in South Africa before and after apartheid and secondly drawing upon the authors own experiences garnered over more than two decades of conducting research and leading sport-based intervention initiatives in Northern Ireland and Israel.   On the basis of this, the paper argues that under carefully managed circumstances sport can make a positive if modest contribution to peace building and that the mobilisation of an engaged sociological imagination in the context of a broader human rights agenda is central to this contribution. In this regard the paper shows how the authors own sociological imagination has been influenced by his engagement in sport-based community relations work and how, in turn his engagement with this work has influenced his sociological imagination The paper concludes by presenting a model illustrating the sociologically informed circumstances under which sport can make a difference.

Surridge, P.   **University of Bristol**

Education and Liberalism: Pursuing the link

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Education   Syndicate C

It is an often cited finding of social science research that greater education (as measured by years of schooling ro achieved qualifications) is related to greater liberalism and tolerance in social attitudes. However, whilst the finding itself is rarely contested, there is little agreement about the underlying mechanism which produces this relationship. This paper sets out to test alternative theories of the source of this relationship, using a wide range of quantitative secondary data sources. The paper is particularly concerned with those mechanisms which fall under the 'direct effects' model of the relationship between education and liberalism, that is those theories which argue there is something about increased education per se which produces greater liberalism as opposed to the 'allocation effects' models which suggest that the effect is largely a spurious one brought about by the distribution of those with higher educational experiences in social space. Stubager (2008) identifies three key varieties of the 'direct effects' models; a 'psychodynamic' model, a 'socialisation' model and a 'cognitive' model. In addition, the paper also considers whether reconceptualising education as 'cultural capital' (following Bourdieu) provides additional insights into the education-liberalism link. These alternative theoretical models are scrutinised using data from longitudinal studies in the UK, the National Child Development Study, the 1970 Birth Cohort Study and the British Household Panel Study.

Swain, P. K.

Reconstituting Social Identity: One Step Forward and Two Steps Backward

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Economy and Society 2   Syndicate G

Caste, the unique basis of social hierarchy in India, has always been at the centre stage of social, political, cultural as well as academic life and so is the room for social mobility that the caste-system offers. Post independence reservations (in jobs, educational institutions, electorates, etc) were introduced on the basic premise that the socially and culturally backward sections- the scheduled castes (SCs) and scheduled tribes (STs) were distinctively the stigmatized community that suffered social discrimination in India. Reservations as a policy of positive discrimination needed to be exceptional and self-destructive. By providing caste-based reservations, however, it was implicit that if society ceased to discriminate, reservations could be abolished. Unfortunately, reservations remained as one of the administrative measures of social justice and yet another means for vote bank politics.

The recent agitation of gujjars in Rajasthan (a state in Western India) for getting themselves the status of scheduled tribe has unleashed the phenomenon of reconstructing the content of social identity, turning the dream of reservations for the supposedly underprivileged into a nightmare. What this protest has done is to make a mockery of the functional division of societies India, upsetting the constitutional categorizations designed by the state to implement the affirmative actions in ways few could have predicted. The paper attempts to understand this paradox of reverse social mobility and reconstitution of social identity against the judicial/constitutional categorization made by the state for affirmative action.

Sweetman, P.   **University of Southampton**

Offering recognition? Why issues of anonymity and identification should not necessarily be seen as a problem for visual research

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

Anonymity and/or confidentiality are frequently regarded as a sine qua non of ethical research, and visual methods, because of the scope they offer for identifying research subjects, locations, etc, are often regarded as particularly or necessarily problematic in this regard. Ways around this difficulty include strategies such as not showing people's faces, making sure that shots of locations do not contain people and so on. These strategies are replete with their own difficulties however – ethical as well as practical - and we should also question the assumption that anonymity and/or confidentiality are necessarily required.

Instead we should acknowledge that one of the things that sociology can offer is a form of recognition, that this itself can be regarded as a positive part of the research process, and that visual methods – rather than being viewed as inherently problematic – can instead be seen as particularly helpful in this regard. Acknowledging the potential for an ethics of recognition also means acknowledging the dangers of a one-size-fits-all approach to questions of research ethics, and the important possibilities that alternative ethical positions can afford.

Tamari,T   **Nottingham Trent University**

Reform of Everyday Life and Consumer Culture in the Early 20th Japan

Friday 17 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Consumption   Syndicate G

The aim of this paper is to analyse the context of the emergence of the aestheticization of everyday life in terms of consumption and the exploration of lifestyles in the early 20th century Japan. The 'Greater Taisho Era'**,** from 1900-1930, was the phase in Japan of the development of '*kindai seikatsu*' (近代生活, modern lifestyle) suggesting a new or reformed way of life and '*bunka seikatsu*' (文化生活, cultural living) suggesting a more stylish, rational and efficient way of life. 'Modern lifestyles' and 'cultured living' were both produced for and demanded by the new middle class, who began to focus more on the enjoyment of 'aesthetic pleasures' and a more 'stylised' everyday life. Although for women the new consumer culture was generally more of a dream than a reality, it offered a redefinition of the home as an aestheticized and pleasurable space to live and work in. This involved a redefinition of family life for the new living spaces. In the Japanese case the dynamics of consumer culture were caught up between the intentions of business entrepreneurs (who founded department stores and women's magazines) and the reform of everyday life movement (a government-led project). It can be argued that the government efforts to encourage saving through thrift campaigns did not threaten consumer culture, but became incorporated, as careful saving and planned purchasing went together.

Tanulku, B.

5th Levent in Suburban Istanbul

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

In this presentation I will explain suburban change by looking at two gated communities built in different locations of Istanbul. In the literature, gated communities are mostly associated to the privatisation of public space (Blakely and Snyder, 1997) and spatial fragmentation (Caldeira, 2000). In the literature in Turkey, gated communities are considered as a part of suburban expansion (Ayata, 2002; Bali, 2004; Danis, 2001; Kurtulus, 2005). Most of these studies are based on single case studies (Ayata, 2002; Danis, 2001; Genis, 2007).However, in the last years a group of researchers argue that gated communities are parts of larger context such as Salcedo and Torres (2004) and Sabatini and Salcedo (2007) who look at the effect of gated communities on the poor in Santiago. On the basis of this framework, my research looks at gated communities at a larger level to analyse their interactions with the outside world.Due to the emergence of gated communities, the two suburban regions in Istanbul, Gorturk and Omerli have transformed from a village into a town. There are different actors in this process such as developer companies, town municipalities, local people, and residents of gated communities. Based on the semi-structured in-depth interviews with two groups of participants and other forms of data such as visuals and documents, I analyse the relations between these groups and argue that there are economic, demographic and cultural changes brought by gated communities to nearby towns.

Tarr, J., Thomas, H.

Mapping embodiment: representing pain and injury in dancers

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

This paper presents the findings of an AHRC grant titled 'Pain and Injury in a Cultural Context: Dancers' Embodied Understandings and Visual Mapping.' The research examined how contemporary dancers make sense of their experiences of pain and injury and distinguish between them, and the consequences this has for their bodies and careers. It used a mixed methodology involving surveys, semi-structured interviews, videotaping, and a 3D body scanning and mapping process developed specifically for the research.

The paper will focus on the methodological aspects of this project and on the relationship between the different types of data. The research found key differences between the data gained from surveys and that emerging from interviewing and the body mapping process, and at various stages of the research encounter 'pain' and 'injury' were often defined in different ways by participants. This not only points to the complexity of these terms in the context of professional dance but also to the difficulties of capturing embodied experiences such as pain in a research context. In particular, this paper will discuss the use of the body mapping process and the insights and challenges it provided for the research in relation to this problem of 'mapping embodiment'.

Tholen, G.   **Cardiff University**

Graduate employability in the knowledge based economy.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

As Western advanced economies are increasingly dependent on global forces of capital and labour, it is believed that the value of education will become of greater importance for individuals and nationals alike to foster prosperity. Individuals are encouraged but also expected to raise their employability by investing in education. Skill formation is foremost seen as an economic investment. Little attention is given to who obtains which skills or credentials and why. Little attention is likewise given to positional conflict in the competition for skilled jobs and what individuals do to gain competitive advantage over others in the labour market. The study compares how university students in Britain and the Netherlands view the value of higher education, credentials, skills and work. How do students manage their employability within higher education and as they enter the labour market? The study is based on 60 semi-structured interviews with university students from three different courses (business studies, history and engineering) in both countries. The paper focuses on the relationship between national structures of higher education and labour market, and students' perceptions of what makes them more employable and the 'rules' of the graduate labour market. It will review some of the outcomes of they study. I will also reflect on what the findings can reveal about the sociological significance of these institutional contexts wherein students interpret the positional competition for jobs and value of skills and credentials.

Thomson, R., Kehily, M. J., Hadffield, L., Sharpe, S.

Claiming intergenerational inheritance: New mothers and the re-making of continuity and change

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

Birth is an intergenerational act, resulting in an intensive traffic of conscious and unconscious meaning within a family - a moment when daughters 'come into focus', siblings relationships are revitalized and mothers are rediscovered in one's own embodment. This paper presents findings from an ongoing ESRC funded study of the transition to motherhood that combines an intergenerational and longitudinal design. Drawing on a diverse sample of 62 expectant mothers we map the ways that mothers-to-be position themselves in relation to their own mothers in terms of identifications and dis-identifications. The resulting intergenerational claims are characterised in terms of bodily inheritance (in areas as infertility, ease or difficulty with birth and breastfeeding), biographical inheritance (the identification of role models for both working and 'stay at home' mothering), and cultural inheritance (expressed through shared values concerning parenting and personal appearance). From a subsample of 12 family case studies that include interviews with grandmothers we developed more complex understandings of intergenerational processes, narrated from different positions within a wider constellation. This data enables us see how identities and practices formed in opposition, may in fact secure continuities in changing historical conditions. By focusing on the dynamic flow of families in time it becomes possible to understand how reinvention is a necessary expression of continuity, complicating the simplistic conceptions of social change implicit in theories of individualization and detraditionalisation.

Tinkler, P.   **University of Manchester**

Timely research

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

My contribution to the panel discussion will focus on three points that can be broadly described as temporal.

1. With regard to visual technologies and visual culture I want to make a case for more attention to be paid to how the experience (accumulated over time) and everyday practices of research participants shape the ways they engage with research that employs visual methods.

2. Currently visual methods are under-used as a means to explore temporal issues. Visual methods could and should be developed further to facilitate forms of social inquiry concerned with history, biography, change and memory.

3. Visual methods, like other methods, have temporal dimensions and dynamics; these are frequently neglected. One example of this oversight is the role of memory in interviews that use photographs.

Tjora, A., Scambler, G.

Subtle ties: Communal awareness in the urban cafe

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Space, Mobility and Place   Syndicate K

There is a growing use of coffee shops and cafes in urban areas, not only as meeting places, but also for being by oneself reading the newspaper or doing work. In this paper, we explore why people would spend time in these public places to be alone. On basis of observation and interviews of café customers in Trondheim, Oslo and London, we draw on concepts from Granovetter's classical work within network sociology (Granovetter 1973), as well as so-called workplace studies (Luff et al. 2000), to develop the notion of subtle ties. Within the sociology of economics, Granovetter puts emphasis on how weak ties enable access to potential resources within distant networks, and possibly resources in very different areas than those available through strong social ties. One of Granovetter's arguments is that weak ties demand low investments in maintenance. We also apply concepts from workplace studies, such as participation frameworks (Suchman 1996) and legitimate peripheral participation (Lave and Wenger 1991), to construct the concept of communal awareness. Without explicitly communicating, but rather on basis of peripheral recognition and acknowledgement, subtle ties are developed between regular café guests. We analyse in this paper how a communal awareness, by which recognition, routine and identification are resources that are made available, is developed by such ties.

Tomasson, J.   **Lancaster University**

Making Things 'Simple': Temporality, Home Life and Heat-Storage Cookers

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Consumption   Syndicate G

Over the past several decades many authors have commented, both positively and negatively, on the time-saving abilities of domestic technologies and their connection to everyday social practices. One such technology so far neglected within the social sciences, however, has been the heat-storage cooker, more commonly known under the brand names of 'Aga' or 'Rayburn'.

First introduced into the British marketplace in 1929, heat-storage cookers have come to hold an esteemed position within the discourse of 'traditional' English countryside living. Made out of cast-iron and lacking a method of incremental temperature adjustment, these ranges are often portrayed by their manufacturers as making life "simple and stress-free" (Aga Corporation 2006). But what exactly does 'simple' mean and how might the cooker enable this?

Based on field work drawing from a practice-based theoretical approach, this paper explores how Agas and Rayburns make things 'simple' by altering the temporal routines of their owners. It argues that in addition to acknowledging the potential of the cookers as signifiers of the 'rural idyll', attention should also be paid into understanding how the cookers script users' behaviours. I propose that the design features of such cookers (i.e. their 'always-already-on' functionality and lack of precise temperature controls) facilitate the perception of both saving time and of slowing down the pace of life. Thus, even as the cooker's design continues to evolve to meet the ever-changing demands of consumers, it is the practices surrounding the cooker which help to sustain its label as 'traditional'.

Tomlinson, A.   **University of Brighton**

Creating the global commodity: From European Cup to UEFA Champions League

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open   Syndicate J

The growth of multi-media and digital forms of broadcasting has transformed the landscape of the sport media and generated new modes of consumption, radicalizing the time-shifting innovations of the VCR age and undermining the hegemony of exclusive 'live' coverage of the sporting event. In the international media marketplace, the UEFA Champions League (UCL) is claimed as the only frequently scheduled football event that continues to increase its broadcast coverage viewing figures. In this paper, analysis of the UCL is preceded by a review of the model of the European Cup in its classic form from the 1955/6 season to the 1990/1 season. The UCL model is then reviewed, 16 years from its formation, in relation to its conception as a blueprint for the revitalisation of the European Cup, its impact upon the media marketplace and European football's political economy, market adaptations of the inaugural model, and its projections for its latest economic and programming cycle. The significance of this transformation is considered in relation to the changing political economy of international sport, the geopolitics of European football governance, the commodification of the sporting event, and the articulation of new post-Cold War European identities. The paper draws upon exclusive interviews with the marketing and football-administration pioneers whose brainchild the UCL was, market data from the sport industry itself, and documentary sources in UEFA's archive.

Tomlinson, A., Bairner, A., Burdsey, D., Carter, T., Dart, J.,   **University of Brighton**
Lusted, J., Rowe, D., Sugden, J.

'The role of the critical sport/leisure academic'; and 'Global questions and issues: Governance, markets, identity'.

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Open   Syndicate J

Sport and leisure are spheres of major policy making as well as barometers off global consumption. In these two seminar sessions, stimulated by the Sport, and Leisure & Recreation, Study Groups, the role of critical work on sport and leisure is examined, and studies of global governance, markets and identities are presented. The content of the two sessions is as follows: 'The role of the critical sport/leisure academic' - David Rowe (Western Sydney), 'Lion's den and media bites: Considering the practising public critical sports academic'; Alan Bairner (Loughborough), 'Sport intellectuals and public debate: Obstacles and opportunities'; John Sugden (Brighton), 'Pragmatic realism and the Human Rights approach to sport intervention in divided societies'; Jim Lusted (Lincoln), 'Serving two masters: Research and critical policy analysis in local football'.'Global questions and issues: Governance, markets, identity' - Jonathan Dart (Leeds Trinity and All Saints), 'Athletes and social networking'; Alan Tomlinson (Brighton), 'Creating the global commodity: From European Cup to UEFA Champions League'; Thomas F. Carter (Brighton), 'On labour and mobilities: The visibility, concealment, liberty and constraint of transnational labour in the global sport industry'; Dan Burdsey (Brighton), 'Obscured by the sight screen: English cricket, British Asian identities and colour-blind racism'.

Tomomitsu-Tomasson, J.   **Lancaster University**

From Raw Data to 3D Animation: Practices of Image Reconstruction at the Nano Scale

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

Recent scholarship in science and technology studies (STS) has demonstrated the inseparability of subject/object in practices of representation, as well as the ways in which bodily enactment participates in the localized production and understanding of digital objects in scientific imaging. While it would seem that digital data lacks material tactility, various STS studies show how visibility is produced in and through such acts as gesture or corporeal involvement with the computer screen, further contributing to debates about the shifting dynamics of agency. This paper builds upon this theoretical terrain by exploring the relationship between the material and the visual within practices of visualization at the nano scale. Drawing from ethnographic field work at the Lancaster Environment Centre in 2008, the paper will outline a case study based on observing how microscopic scans are transformed into a three dimensional animated object. The aim is to show how 'making visible' through the various stages of reconstruction is not a question of *who* or *what* is doing the imaging, but rather about how visibility emerges in and through entangled sets of material discursive practice.

Truninger, M., Day, G., Hounsome, B., Hounsome, N., Edrward-Jones, G.

Meanings of Freshness of Fruit and Vegetables:between Consumers' Plurality and Supermarkets Standardization

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Consumption   Syndicate G

Freshness is an important attribute when assessing food quality and it is often associated with quality meanings of local foods in the UK (Weatherall et al, 2003). Supermarkets use their own quality standards to assess the edibility, safety and marketability of fruit and vegetables. The main objective of the paper is to identify the differences between supermarket's understandings of quality, in which 'freshness' is paramount, and the multiple understandings of freshness and quality among consumers. Tensions between the two sets of meanings are identified in both quantitative and qualitative information collected via a survey of urban consumers in the UK, 50 in-depth interviews with residents of British rural areas, and the chemical analysis of vegetables grown in the UK and Spain. Different consumers' meanings of freshness are identified along with their frustration regarding the restricted notions of freshness imposed by supermarkets that allegedly configure and limit their choices. The chemical analysis shows that the nutritional quality of vegetables changes along the food chain - although apparently this is unknown to both consumers and retailers. It is concluded that supermarkets standards of freshness contribute to collectively format aesthetic configurations of fruit and vegetables, by standardising particular shapes, sizes, colours and tastes that clash with consumers' plural and multidimensional notions of freshness and aesthetic expectations of quality in fruit and vegetables. The paper contributes to the debate about collective constructions of food quality amongst different actors in the food chain by taking an interdisciplinary approach to the overall issue.

Trzebiatowska, M., Wallace, C., Grzymala-Moszczynska, H.

Polish Priests and Polish Parishioners in Scotland:identifying problems and possibilites.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Religion   Syndicate H

Between 2004 and the end of 2006 approximately half a million Poles made their way to Britain in search of employment. Their effect on the job market has been considerable, particularly in the service industries. The impact of Polish immigrants on the British religious milieu has been even more remarkable. Almost without exception the incoming Poles are Roman Catholics. Poland has one of the highest levels of religious practice in Europe, hence very many of the immigrants after settling down in the new country start to search for Catholic parishes where they can participate in the local religious life. Since many of the recent arrivals do not speak very good English there has been an urgent need for pastoral care and for religious services to be made available in Polish. The British bishops have responded to these developments by inviting Polish priests to join the native parish clergy. This 'merger' has resulted in new dilemmas and challenges.

This paper presents the preliminary findings from qualitative interviews with Polish clergy and parishioners in Aberdeen and Edinburgh. The issues explored include: training and recruitment of Polish priests who join Scottish parishes; differences in ecclesiastical policy between Polish and Scottish clergy; negotiation of the type of pastoral work required to cater for the needs of Polish migrants; the views of Polish parishioners on the pastoral services in their parishes. Implications and practical recommendations for tackling religious provisions in expanding Europe are discussed in the second part of the paper.

Twigg, J.

Clothing, Identity and the Embodiment of Age

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Open   Syndicate J

Clothes are central in the performance of identity; part of how we signal who and what we are to the wider social world. Such understandings have largely been explored in terms of the fashionable, youthful or transgressive; and little attention has been paid to the position of older people. The paper addresses this lack, exploring the role of clothing in the constitution of age, and in doing so addresses debates around the putative changing nature of identity in High Modernity, the role of consumption culture and the emergence of the Third Age. The paper draws on an empirical study of clothing and age that explores the views and experiences of older women, and key respondents in the fashion/clothing system, drawn from the design, retail and media sectors.

Van Der Bly, M. C. E.   **LSE**

Romantic globalization - the rationality of irrationality on the island of Inis Mór, Ireland.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

Globalization, as economic expansion of anonymous multinationals, driven by the values of rationality, efficiency, calculability, predictability and control, neglects other global driving forces that are simultaneously creating world society: man's search for unity, the longing for what not can be found here, but maybe somewhere else, the need to cross borders, to claim individual autonomy, to explore and spiritually connect.

In this paper, I introduce the novel sociological concept of romantic globalization, juxtaposing the more common idea of rational globalization. I have developed this concept, based on my fieldwork into the dynamics of globalization on Inis Mór, an island off the West-Coast of Ireland. Once claimed to be one of the most distinctive cultures of Europe, Inis Mór is now a cosmopolitan community. Here, islanders operating autonomously yet connecting globally, mix with blow-ins in search for an expansion of their horizon, for nature, spirituality and a sense of community beyond urban city life, creating an unique micro-cosmos. A century ago, the Irish nationalists came to the island to find the 'true Irish identity'. Global travellers now gather together on the island in search for global connection and maybe, a ' true World identity'.Could beside the well-known Weberian idea of the 'irrationality of rationality', an equally strong mechanism of the 'rationality of irrationality' be distinguished? Amidst the global financial crisis, romantic globalization might offer an alternative way to create an interconnected world society, as an innovation from the periphery.

Vasquez, R.   **Utrecht, Netherlands**

Social Struggle, the Fight against Invisibility and the Critique of our Frameworks of Understanding

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Sub-Plenary - Theory   Assembly Hall

The modern notions of time and the political tend to contribute to silence and 'invisibilize' the fight of the oppressed. This paper deploys the notion of the 'politics of time' in order to reveal how the imposition of modern time, is coeval with the widespread injustice and violence associated with the modernity/coloniality civilization project. The political practices of the Zapatistas embody a different politics of time, one that rescues memory as a site of struggle, one that involves the possibility of inhabiting and rescuing the past.

Vassilev, I.   **University of Aberdeen**

Trustworthiness and moral worth: normative questions in economic relationships

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Open 2   Council Chamber

Trust relations have been discussed at some considerable length in the social science. The emphasis however has mostly been on trust as means to an end: reducing complexity, uncertainty, etc. Yet, trust can also be an end in itself in the sense that it feels good to be able to trust and be trusted. More broadly, being trusted is recognition of one's moral worth. Building on arguments developed in the moral economy literature this paper argues that economic relationships are embedded into moral values pertaining to what are our responsibilities to others, how others should be treated, etc. While differential power and calculative rationality are certainly very important for understanding economic relations, economic relations cannot be reduced to calculation. Indeed, business actors often find it necessary to give justifications for their actions and would feel 'embarrassed' for doing something 'wrong', this rather than simply regretting the loss of potential opportunities. Drawing on case material from four different industries in five EU member states (UK, Poland, Estonia, Bulgaria and Greece), the paper will address questions of trust as a way of exploring the different routes through which normative questions affect business practices.

Vezyridis, P.   **University of Nottingham**

Technological innovation and change of nursing work in an emergency department: a quest for success

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

This paper evolves around the identification and analysis of the particular socio-technical factors and conditions that facilitate the implementation of new information and communication technologies (ICT) in complex clinical settings. Today most national health systems around the world link the need for best healthcare provision with the overall efficiency of their constituted institutions. Such orientations undoubtedly require outcomes linked to ICTs so as to assign them with criteria and measures of success. However, as science and technologies studies (STS) scholarship shows, such technologies, despite their often technical robustness, do not guarantee successful implementations. Rather, it is the intertwining of people, machines and spaces at the local setting that determine the fate of the new system. Using as a case study the implementation of a clinical information system for patient registration and tracking in the busy emergency department of a large University hospital in England, this paper aims to explore the complexity of relations and subsequent negotiations between these heterogeneous elements during the formation of a new practice ordering for nursing work. The findings support research arguing that the reengineering of healthcare practice with the diffusion of a new technology it is not a fixed and linear process, but an interplay of various fluctuant, performative and co-constitutive technical and social factors. Conversely, success includes not only the appropriate use of the system, but also the users' high dependence on it and finally the network's ability to act as a platform for continual, technologically mediated, reformation of its practices under specific strategic policies.

Waites, M.

Beyond the queer critique of Homonationalism to analysis of Homocosmopolitanism in Global Politics and Sociology

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Theatre, National Museum

The critique of 'homonationalism' by Jasbir Puar and others has become influential in queer theory and gender/sexuality studies concerned to engage with and contribute to post-colonial and anti-racist critiques of the War on Terror and Western foreign policy (cf. Jasbir Puar, Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times, Duke University Press, 2007). In this paper I will discuss whether this current focus on 'homonationalism' is excessive, and suggest the need for more critical attention to what I here identify as 'homocosmopolitanism', identifiable in the thinking of gay liberal left intellectuals such as David Aaronovitch which contributed to supporting the case for the war in Iraq. Western LGBT intellectuals and political elites are typically more cosmopolitan than nationalist, reflecting their transnational social experiences. I will argue that western 'homocosmopolitan' theorists, associated with discourses emphasising human rights including rights related to gender and sexuality, failed in their analysis of international politics, and the approach of Western powers to Iraq, Iran, Afhanistan and Islam. However, with reference to sociological and political theorisations of cosmopolitanism, I will explore whether critics of homonationalism have sufficiently grasped the significance and character of homocosmopolitanism, and how queer theory and sociology might inform a critical global analysis of homocosmopolitanism.

Wakeling, P.   **University of York**

All middle-class now? Social class in British postgraduate education.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Education   Syndicate C

Sociological studies of the relationship between social background, education and social mobility report inequalities in attainment and educational transitions which are consistent across time and place. Typically the effect of social class on progression is strongest in earlier transitions and reduces - but does not disappear - at higher levels. To date however, sociologists of education and stratification have almost entirely neglected the highest level of education: postgraduate study.

Recent expansion of postgraduate student numbers has been phenomenal, with a fourfold increase since 1990. As first-degree participation rates have also increased rapidly, there is prima facie support for credential inflation theories, with some suggestion that postgraduate qualifications are now associated with better labour market outcomes (a situation which did not apply in the past).

I will present evidence from my research project on access to postgraduate education in the UK which seeks to fill the knowledge gap at the apex of the education system. The research involved analysis of comprehensive administrative datasets containing UK first-degree graduates and postgraduate students, 2001/2 to 2004/5 and collection of detailed data about current postgraduates via a large survey. Empirically, I will describe the relationship between social class and progression to postgraduate study, the social class background of current postgraduates and the distribution of postgraduates across subjects, institutions and types of qualification according to social class. Theoretically, I will consider the implications of the observed patterns for key sociological theories about educational inequality, viz the persistent inequality/maximally-maintained inequality debate, cultural capital/relative risk aversion theories and primary/secondary effects.

Walkerdine, V.   **Cardiff University**

Youth unemployment, social trauma and globalisation in a South Wales town

Thursday 16th April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Open   Syndicate J

Waller, R., Bovill, H.   **University of the West of England**

Changing class and gendered identities through re-engaging with education: Tensions explored in narrative accounts from two studies of adult returners

Friday 17 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Education   Syndicate C

This paper draws upon data from two longitudinal studies of post-compulsory learners, both of which employed semi-structured interviews to gather narrative data. The first study encompassed adults returning to formal learning via an *Access to Higher Education* programme at an English urban FE college; the second focussed upon women from working-class backgrounds who received their secondary education within three time periods: post-war; 1960/70s; and from 1988 onwards.

The paper reports and theorises upon the reflections of participants from both studies on their educational biographies - from childhood memories of schooling through further education and, for some, to experiences at university.

The accounts offered consider how the process of engaging with formal post-compulsory education impacts upon their wider lives. The participants' changing sense of identity, especially its gendered and classed aspects are examined here, and links are made to the wider social processes that inform their experiences.

Waples, P. A.   **University of Hertfordshire**

Exploring reliable techniques for researching sensitive topics with young people: an example from research into stigma and mental health

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

As a teacher at a school serving an adolescent psychiatric unit I have often encountered difficulties when reintegrating pupils back into mainstream education.

I am now in the fourth year of a doctoral programme in which I asked the research questions:
- What are young people's understandings of mental health problems intheir peers?
- To what extent, if any, do these understandings lead to stigmatising attitudes?
- How can concerned professionals effectively employ the findings within the transition process?

I employed a theoretical perspective encompassing the ideas of Social Constructionism (Burr 2003) and Symbolic Interactionism (Blumer 1969). I adopted a between-methodology mixing methods from both quantitative and qualitative paradigms. Initially I explored, with reference to intergroup contexts (Maass et al 1989), how stigma of mental health problems may be reflected in the language used (Semin and Fielder 1988). I presented a questionnaire in a comic booklet form to Year 10 pupils at three mainstream schools within socially diverse communities. The questionnaire included such techniques as vignettes with cartoons and familiarity and social distance scales. I also carried out semi-structured interviews, with a sub-set of pupils who had participated in the questionnaire research, in order to explore their responses in greater depth.

I discuss how I applied a linguistic and narrative approach to the analyses of the quantitative and qualitative data respectively and, with examples, issues I found in relation to identifying reliable approaches to collecting the data and the reliability of evidence presented in some texts within this field.

Warde, A.   **University of Manchester**

Accounting for Taste: tasks for the sociology of culture

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Sub-plenary - Culture, Media and Society   Assembly Hall

Taste has been at the centre of debates about culture and consumption in recent years. This talk will review some key issues for the development of the sociology of culture by means of a critical analysis of different approaches to the understanding of taste. Orientation will be taken from three contrasting books seeking to account for taste(s) (Becker, 1996; Bennett et al, 1999; Ferguson, 2004). Arguably, much more has been written about the distribution of tastes than about the mechanisms involved in their acquisition and transmission. I will use material from some recent empirical research projects – of cultural consumption in Britain, and of the practice of eating out in Britain and France – to analyse how tastes are learned and come to be shared. I will use this to identify some elements of a research agenda of the sociology of culture in Britain.Gary Becker (1996) Accounting for Tastes.Tony Bennett, Michael Emmison and John Frow (1999) Accounting for Tastes: Australian everyday cultures.Priscilla Parkhurst Ferguson (2004) Accounting for Taste: the triumph of French cuisine.

Warr, D., Mann, R.

What's wrong with being poor? Tracing the sources of neighbourhood stigma

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Economy and Society 2   Syndicate G

This paper is concerned to understand the processes that contribute to widespread experiences of neighbourhood stigma among residents of deprived neighbourhoods. Stereotyping is the signature contrivance through which neighbourhood stigmatisation is effected. Stereotyping dehumanises personal situations, ignores structural inequalities and disregards the diversity of circumstances among households. Experiences of neighbourhood stigmatisation are reported in studies from the UK, Australia and elsewhere. Respondents' accounts suggest that neighbourhood stigmatisation limits social contacts with others outside their neighbourhoods, negatively impacts on local social relations, diminishes employment opportunities and undermines self-esteem and self-confidence. These concerns are echoed by commentators who have observed the debilitating non-material consequences of deprivation and disadvantage in 'post-scarcity' societies through processes of social stigma, powerlessness and social dislocation. Problems of social and neighbourhood stigma also reflect Axel Honneth's argument that social structural problems of unequal access to market goods are exacerbated by inequalities in the distribution of chances for social recognition. In order to respond to the harmful consequences of neighbourhood stigmatisation for local sociability, and its corrosive effects on self-esteem and self-confidence, it is helpful to get a better understanding of the processes that are contributing to it. This paper considers key issues entwined in these processes including the significance of 'consumption' capitalism, intensifying socio-economic-spatial polarisation in neighbourhoods, and contemporary struggles to generate positive experiences of social recognition and social esteem amidst the devaluation of working class labour and the struggle to participate at all in waged labour markets.

Warren, T.   **University of Nottingham**

Prosperities and poverties in time and economic well-being: Examining women workers in Europe

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Economy and Society   Syndicate D

Time is a fundamental concept for the sociology of work, economy and society. A core question has been how time in paid work connects with other aspects of peoples' lives, with long hours in the labour market fuelling particularly intense academic, policy and media attention. Commentators have asked: are we working too long in time rushed, harried societies, or do the number of hours committed to the labour market integrate smoothly with other life times? In the context of these debates, the paper considers whether shorter hours workers in contemporary Europe experience the most favourable of times by examining their time spent in paid work and on leisure. Since dedicating too little time to waged work can threaten the economic security of workers and their families, the paper also asks what the lower wages from reduced hours might mean for these workers' lives. Focusing on countries in Europe with diverse working time regimes and analysing data from the European Community Household Panel Survey, the paper concludes that working shorter hours was not universally favourable for workers' time satisfaction. The most significant dichotomy here was working long full-time hours, or not. Shorter hours in low level jobs were associated with the lowest living wages and with the most severe economic household problems. The paper concludes that more research is needed that combines a focus on prosperities/poverties of time and economics to facilitate a better understanding of the impact of diverse work times on different social groups.

Weaver, S.   **University of Bristol**

Analyzing Cultural Racism in British Stand up Comedy

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Culture, Media and Society   Ferrier Hall

This paper will outline some of the culturally racist logics that appear in British stand up comedy. Using semiotic theories of language, I present the argument that humour can be mobilised as an important rhetorical device for any number of ideological positions. This means that racist humour can, and often does, act as a distinct form of racist rhetoric. Using material from comedians such as Jim Davidson, Bernard Manning and Mike Reid, the paper will outline how their humour expresses three forms of cultural racism; first, as a form of coded racism; second, to negotiate national territory and fixate on the maintenance and transgression of national boundaries; and third, as a negotiation of the competing categories of the 'other' as an alien and a neighbour. Overall, the paper will give some suggestions on how to analyze racism in humour that overcome not only the idea that jokes are 'just jokes' but also monosemic forms of political correctness.

Webster, A.   **University of York**

Materiality, standards and scale-up: from experimentation to automation

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

The last few years has seen an increased interest in process automation technologies in the field of stem cell research and commercialisation. One proposition is that automation of manual processes will increase standardisation, reduce uncertainty by reducing variability and ultimately reduce cost. The introduction of standard automated systems would not only stabilise practices across laboratories but also by extension stabilise cell lines. Furthermore, the gradual calibration of cell culture systems could serve to further the understanding of ES cells and other types of cell.

Others argue that the push towards automation of cell culture, while welcome in the long-term is premature and raise the question of what sort of underlying knowledge base is required to successfully standardise something. The central concerns of the field as a whole relate to securing repeatable cultures and scalable cost effective automation; when and how it may be achieved and what hurdles might be anticipated on the way. Underlying this is the complex interrelationship between the understanding of cells, the requirements for their use, the measurement methods used to characterise cells, and the automated process technologies capacity to work with these in the presence of biological variation.

This paper explores the automation of stem cell culture techniques and the move from 'discovery-science' to bioengineering, the ways in which this has to cope with diverse forms of material and human variability and the downstream issues raised for both the commercial actors and regulatory agencies in the field.

Weinel, M.   **Cardiff University**

Counterfeit Scientific Controversies in Science Policy Contexts

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

Experts disagree for many reasons and it is generally accepted that there is no `rational' way to make them agree. As Michaels (2008) has demonstrated with regard to the activities of the tobacco industry, however, expert disagreement can be 'manufactured'. This suggests a distinction between 'genuine' and 'counterfeit scientific controversies.' I argue that it is necessary and possible to distinguish between these two forms of expert disagreement. It is important for policy-making to know which disagreements to take seriously. 'Counterfeit scientific controversies' can delay or impede policy-decisions that depend on scientific knowledge. One way for Science & Technology Studies to contribute to science policy-making is to develop a consistent and reliable way to demarcate 'genuine' from 'counterfeit scientific controversies'. This paper proposes four sociologically derived demarcation criteria

Weller, S.   **London South Bank University**

"More of a sister than an auntie": Young people's alternative understandings of intra- and inter-generational relationships

Saturday 18th April 2009 at 15:00 - 16:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

'Generation' is predominantly conceived in two ways; as a means of delineating and characterising those born within a particular period of historical time, with young people today defined as 'Generation Y'; or as a way of understanding familial relationships and the exchange and flow of care, resources and such like between, for example, children, parents and grandparents. Importantly, these two approaches to 'generation' are not necessarily concomitant. Moreover, despite the growth in research exploring the politics of age, little attention has been afforded to the meanings young people ascribe to different forms of generational relationships within their families. This paper draws on an ongoing Qualitative Longitudinal study that documents change and continuity in the sibling relationships and friendships of 52 young people (aged 10-17) living in a variety of circumstances in the U.K. The study explores how such relationships relate to young people's sense of self as their individual and family biographies unfold. Focusing on young people's perspectives, the paper presents a series of case studies that highlight the alternative ways in which some young people conceive of and (re)define generational connections. From 'sister-like aunts' and the bridging of 'generation gaps' through to 'fatherly brothers' and the assignment of siblings to a different generation by virtue of their alternative experiences and roles, the examples presented illustrate the complex, fluid and shifting nature of (intra-/inter-) generational relationships over time.

Wheeler, K. M.   **University of Essex**

"If the government can't make a difference then what difference can we make?": The complexities of Fairtrade and consumer-citizenship

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Consumption   Syndicate G

The often-held assumption that consumption and citizenship sit at opposite ends of the political spectrum has been challenged in recent years (Soper & Trentmann, 2008). The result has been the birth of an "uneasy hyphenated figure" (Clarke et al, 2007: 28), the consumer-citizen. This figure uses his/her consumption choices to enact political rights and responsibilities; for example it is suggested that by buying a Fairtrade product one can 'vote' for a fairer trading system. Awareness and sales of Fairtrade goods have been steadily growing in the UK over the last 5 years during which we have seen an increased availability of Fairtrade goods in high street and supermarket stores as well as a growing number of organised community groups who work hard to promote Fairtrade in their local churches, workplaces and schools.

This paper is based upon a series of in-depth and focus group interviews carried out in a Fairtrade town with both committed Fairtrade consumers and consumers with no preference for Fairtrade. It considers the types of people most likely to take account of Fairtrade in their purchasing decisions and pays attention to how those with differing levels of commitment to Fairtrade understand this consumer choice. This paper will reflect on the appropriateness of labelling consumer behaviours as citizen-like when a large number of consumers do not view their purchases in this way.

Widerberg, K   **University of Oslo, Norway**

In the Home of Others - Exploring new Sites and Methods when Investigating the Doings of Gender, Class and Ethnicity

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

What role does the experience of being in and observing other people's homes play in the forming of one's gender, class and ethnic identities and family aspirations? And how can it be explored?Within socialization theory we learn about the role of the family in the forming one's gender and class identity. But does this view from above - from the view of the parents, from sociological theory but also from a ruler's perspective - really tell us how it looks from below, from the perspective of the child? Using written memory-stories as illustrations it is argued in this article that by taking the perspective of the child, the door is opened to other important sites for learning acts of gender, class and ethnicity. It is further argued that a use of alternative methods and approaches can facilitate such an exploration. Taken together, this new approach - the perspective and the methods – it is argued not only expands the domains of family research but also transforms the resulting knowledge. The form of the article – presenting the stories first and their methodological genesis afterwards – is meant to support the argument as such.

Wilkinson, C., Bultitude, K., Dawson, E.   **University of the West of England, Bristol**

Engaging robotics: lessons for public engagement

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Science and Technology Studies   Syndicate I

In recent years policymaking within the UK has embedded public engagement strategies as a primary channel to connect citizens with scientific and technological innovation. Robotics is emerging as a key site for such new technological activity, its applications are likely to be increasingly notable on our lives in coming years. Robotics researchers are thus investing considerable time and effort in 'engaging' publics. Despite the multitude of ramifications robotics may have for citizens, in both private and public settings, our present understanding of attitudes is limited to very specific robotic interactions. Taking robotics as an example, this paper explores the investment and insight of 'engagers' and 'publics' discussed across 11 public engagement activities focused on the robotics field within the UK. Reporting on the findings of 57 qualitative interviews, this paper explores the different conceptions of 'public engagement' across expert and public settings.

Williams, S. N.

'A 21st Century POLIS': A Hypermedia Presentation of a New Approach to Citizen

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Methodological Innovations   Syndicate L

In recent scholarship, there has been considerable support for the idea that citizens should be given greater participation in political decision-making. Arguments rest on the assumption that decisions can be more democratically legitimate, and indeed more instrumentally effective, if they are made through deliberation between informed groups of citizens. However, the sociological literature has tended to focus more on theoretical critique than on empirical exploration. This in part is due to the fact that participation is difficult and expensive to organise in practice. Electronic (E-) participation is not only a cheaper and more convenient alternative to traditional face-to-face participation, but can also be seen to be more democratically legitimate in a number of ways. There is however a need for more empirical research to test whether in practice, such participation processes are more legitimate and whether their decisions are effective.

This paper introduces a new empirical approach to citizen participation: The Citizens' POLIS (Participatory On-line Interactive System). This is a multi-method, multi-phase, hypermedia participation process. Citizens interact with experts and with one another across a single 'electronic participatory space'. Citizens are recruited, are presented with expert evidence, and are given the opportunity to analyse and discuss this evidence before forming their decisions.

This paper will take the form of a hypermedia presentation. I will present my approach and a provisional analysis of my data across a variety of media and using the website I have constructed for the purposes of my research.

Woodhead, L.

A Sociology of Religious Emotions

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Sub-plenary - Religion   Assembly Hall

This paper posits the importance of emotion in religion, and examines what is characteristic of religious emotions. It begins by presenting an ideal-typical model of emotions generated in interactions between agents, community, and symbolic objects. It then examines the importance of 'emotional regimes' in religion, and argues that emotions are integral to patterned power relations. It concludes with a brief discussion of religious emotions in late capitalist societies. The paper engages with current work in the sociology of emotions, developing new perspectives through engagement with emotion in religious settings.

Woodiwiss, J   **University of Huddersfield**

From PMS to CSA: women and self-help culture

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Open 2   Council Chamber

Walk into any bookshop in England and you will find a vast selection of self-help, self-development and pop psychology literature. Very often this literature has taken over the shelves once occupied by sociology. It is largely aimed at, and read by, women and encourages them to reconstruct or redefine themselves as weak, inferior or in some way damaged - either by life in general or something more specific, but often unremembered in their lives.

With titles such as 'You can heal your life', 'The courage to heal', and 'No more PMS!' these 'inspirational' and 'life changing' texts promise women a brighter, happier, healthier, more successful life, if only they are willing to look to themselves for the cause of and solution to any unhappiness or dissatisfaction in their lives. Books which suggest women are suffering from conditions such as PMS (for younger women) the menopause (for older women) and the perimenopause (for those somewhere in between) vie for readers' attention alongside books which suggest the cause of women's unhappiness or dissatisfaction may be caused by some traumatic (and often unremembered) childhood experience. Whilst they may appear very different on the covers, there is surprisingly little difference in the texts which promote these competing 'disorders'.

This paper will look at the messages promoted through this literature, why women might engage with it, and what implications there might be - for individual women, women as a group, and society.

Woodthorpe, K.   **The Open University**

Making Money out of Misery? Consuming bereavement services

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 13:30 - 15:00   Consumption   Syndicate G

This paper examines the relationship between consumption and death through an exploration of the commercial elements of the UK bereavement services industry, with particular reference to cemeteries and funerary providers. Drawing on an ethnography of a large cemetery in London, the paper considers the entrepreneurialism that exists within the industry, examples of which have included the recent proliferation of green burial sites since the mid 1990s, the expansion of the pre-need market and the growth of funeral-related commercial businesses, where there is the (arguably visible) need to attract 'customers'. Utilising data generated from visitors and staff, and reflecting on the provision of bereavement services in the USA, it is possible to see that in the UK at least there are uncertainties for 'consumers' and suppliers/providers of bereavement-related services, as they negotiate the client/broker relationship. This ambiguity, this paper argues, reflects a broader tension regarding profiteering from bereavement, and is indicative of a more general uneasiness about a close relationship between money and death.

Woodward, K.

Boxing: the Ins and Outs

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 09:00 - 10:30   Sub-plenary - Social Divisions and Social Identities   Assembly Hall

Sport is a massive global phenomenon; even boxing, although its popularity has fallen somewhat since its heydays of 'when we were kings', offers high earnings to its successes (and even more to its promoters) and remains one of the most popular sports world wide. For example, boxing is in the top three most popular sports in Africa as demonstrated by the BBC World Service sports coverage. Boxing has strong links with social exclusion and with mobility and migration; the vast majority of its practitioners belonging to disadvantaged communities and diasporic peoples. Boxing remains a route out of poverty for many young men, in particular, and demonstrates powerful points of social exclusion and inclusion in its histories and embodied practices.This paper explores some of the transformations and points of connection within the sport of boxing, through its collusion with particular versions of masculinity and reconfigurations within a changing climate, where sport is often the site of the promotion of policies of diversity and cohesion and addresses some of the contradictions of boxing within this trajectory of change.The binary logic of boxing's corporeal practices may seem to counter the multiplicities of current understandings of social inclusion, but it is its possibilities and identifications which make it such an important site for the exploration of diversity, exclusion and inclusion.

Yeadon-Lee, T.

'Because I'm worth it': Negotiating Power, Professionalism and Identity in the Hair Salon

Friday 17th April 2009 at 15:30 - 15:00   Economy and Society 2   Council Chamber

In the UK, hairdressing is not formally credentialed and has a reputation as a low end, low skilled job rather than a 'professional' occupation. In the hairdressing sector itself, however, the discourse of 'professionalism' is regularly used to refer to both the services provided and the skills and knowledge of stylists. Being 'professional' is understood as being crucial to stylists' identities as competent workers and to their individual levels of performance within the salon. Some researchers, investigating small independent salons, have argued that despite the pervasiveness of the discourse of professionalism, being 'professional' is impossible for stylists to achieve. This is due to the commercial, service-oriented nature of the job, where stylists are often required to forfeit their expertise and knowledge in order to comply with clients' wishes and demands.

This paper explores this argument by drawing on case study research carried out in a large franchised hairdressing chain in the UK. It shows how, in this context, customer-oriented norms and practices are not simply designed to meet or satisfy clients' expectations. Rather, they comprise resources for stylists' to manage their identities in order to enhance both personal and organisational performance. The paper argues that these commercial service-oriented activities - involving stylists' exercising various forms of discretion, influence and control across customer-worker-management relationships - facilitate, rather than preclude, the maintenance of stylists' authority and expertise, therefore enabling them to achieve 'professionalism' in relation to clients.

Zemlinskaya,Y.   **University of Manchester**

Political Generations and Social Change: The Case of Conscientious Objectors in Israel.

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

"The concept of 'generation' is widely used across disciplines. Its widespread use however prompted debates about its various meanings. This paper aims to contribute to these debates in two ways: firstly, by clarifying the meaning of the concept of 'political generation'; secondly, by applying it to the case of Israeli conscientious objectors. In the first part of the paper, drawing on Mannheim, I explicate what is 'political generation'. It is argued that previous studies mainly used generational analysis as a framework to generate hypothesis regarding cross or inter-generational differences. As a consequence, they imposed generational categories on their subjects either defining generations as successive birth cohorts or as cohorts which experienced prominent historical events. In the second part of this paper, by utilising the case of Israeli conscientious objectors I demonstrate how interpretative analysis can be used to derive generational categories and then discuss its advantages. It is argued that generational analysis based on in-depth interviews presents an invaluable opportunity to demonstrate how generational consciousness is formed, and how it is reshaped under the influence of historical events. The analysis of the case of Israeli conscientious objectors highlights the phenomenon of the co-existence and evolution of two political generations when the same historical events are experienced differently by generations of contemporaries. It also exemplifies how these historical events shape and reshape generational consciousness. Finally, it shows how a unique juxtaposition of biological factors, family background and period effects politicised and radicalised two generations of Israeli refusers."

Zhang, C.

Generational Imprinting: Cohorts and Institutions in Shaping Private Entrepreneurs (Chinese Context)

Saturday 18 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30   Generations and the lifecourse   Syndicate E

Age-Period-Cohort effect has long been examined and explored in life course research with longitudinal studies. As the author argues in the paper that we should find out, with in-depth qualitative study, what and how these effects are embedded and unfolded in society and human life instead of extensive triangulation. It investigates three Chinese private entrepreneurial cohorts who started up their business at around age 30 in three different investment reform periods, trying to understand what kinds of network strategies those three cohorts employed during the institutional investment reform?How did they change or evolve their network strategies respectively? The new typology of network strategies (political, market and social cultural) in studying entrepreneurship in transition economies is suggested to indicate the entrepreneurial cohorts' behavior. By inner-cohort comparison and inter-cohorts comparison, it suggests that both the start-up conditions (as cohort effect) and the investment institutions (as period effect) could imprint and sharp the Chinese entrepreneurial generations and their network strategies. The empirical study could enrich the entrepreneurial life course study and challenge the institutional account of entrepreneurial behavior, which is actually a societal-historical embedded process.

Ziemer, U.

The social construction of Armenian gender positions in Krasnodar, Southern Russia

Friday 17 April 2009 at 11:00 - 12:30 Social Divisions and Social Identities   Readon Smith Lecture Theatre, National Museum

This presentation discusses the results of sixth month ethnographic research amongst Armenian youth in Krasnodar in Southern Russia. The Armenian diaspora is one of the oldest and largest in Russia. The presentation explores how gender is constructed and displayed in the Armenian community in Krasnodar and argues that the category of gender is a crucial identity resource for diasporic ethnic identification. The lives of young Armenian women are inscribed by gender relations and class structures. Armenian ethnicity becomes essentialised through its intersection with gender systems of differentiation. Ethnicised gender identities are formed through deeply held ideas and are products of a patriarchal order. I examine how young Armenian women create different positions for themselves from the dominant gender position within the Armenian community and thus draw upon diasporic identifications differently. I also explore the constraints on young Armenian women arising from group norms within the community concerning women's sexuality, gossip and surveillance. Discursive power resulting from a combination of parental authority, male dominance and community vigour together with established discursive meanings linked to female 'purity' and emphasised female importance for ethnic life come to sway upon young women's identities. Young Armenian women are not able to traverse ethnic boundaries. .

Zubair, M.   **The University of Reading**

"As long as you know where you're heading": Cultural Changes and Continuities among second-generation British Pakistani Muslims at University.

Thursday 16 April 2009 at 15:30 - 17:00   Education   Syndicate C

This paper explores the different ways in which second-generation British Pakistani Muslim ethnic minority students negotiate their ethnic and religious identities at university. A university education comprises not only the education itself, with its associated skepticism of authority and traditions, but also exposure to different cultural networks, and the possibilities of gaining upward social mobility. Education can therefore be seen as having important influences on people's world-views, their identities and their relationships with their families and communities.

Using qualitative data from in-depth interviews and participant observation with second-generation British Pakistani Muslim students studying at a university in London, this paper examines the influence of a university education on the young people's identity-negotiations and on their social and cultural integration with a White non-Muslim majority. In particular, the role of counter cultural influences from family and the wider ethnic community are explored.

The data shows that while there is a considerable variation among these second-generation ethnic minority students in their particular identity constructions at university, most of these young people studying within a multicultural university environment remain organised largely around ethnic and religious lines. By pointing to the importance of the particular educational setting in determining the direction and the degree of any cultural changes among the students, the data challenges some of the earlier literature on the cultural influences of education.