

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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Table of Contents

Abstracts: Alphabetical Listing of First Authors

A	3	N	699
B	73	O	727
C	160	P	749
D	241	Q	802
E	295	R	807
F	320	S	849
G	358	T	953
H	414	U	995
I	454	V	1000
J	466	W	1028
K	484	X	1055
L	550	Y	1057
M	603	Z	1070

Author and Presenter Index	1091
Index of Paper Numbers	1155

RC53-813.2

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Addressing Disparities in Knowledge Creation: Opportunities and Pitfalls of Participatory Research Methodologies

Despite remarkable developments to actualise children's rights, children continue to be an under-researched population across several disciplines in academic research; thus, their views are often not solicited. To address this breach of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a growing wave of scholars from a diversity of disciplines, including sociology of childhood, have developed and promoted participatory methodologies to ensure the effective participation of children in research, from respondents to co-researchers to lead researchers. This presentation will discuss current participatory research discourses and methods that seek to address the disparity in knowledge creation by facilitating children's involvement and addressing issues of power in research. Within this landscape, we will explore the intersection between the conception of children as competent social actors, participatory research methodologies, and decolonisation movements relating to knowledge generation with children.

RC53-813.1

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Overview – Whose Knowledge Counts? Reflecting on Child-Led and Co-Produced Research with Children and Young People

Historically, many groups of people have been excluded from knowledge production, including children and young people. In the last decades (years?), child-led and co-produced research with children and young people has emerged as an approach supported by decolonial perspectives to address this gap. It has challenged conventional research and contested what knowledge counts. This position argues that children are entitled to contribute to knowledge creation, and not only adult researchers. This presentation will offer an overview of this process of questioning knowledge production, including: a) a discussion on the children and young people's human rights to participate in all matters relevant to them, including research; b) the recognition of children and young people's experience and expertise as a fundamental resource for research; c) the importance of focusing on appropriate methodologies instead of limiting the discussion to children and young people's abilities; d) the influence of decolonisation of knowledge movements and the opportunities and pitfalls offered to address epistemic injustice. We seek to problematise research epistemologies, discuss counter-narratives to the traditional understanding of research about and with children and young people, and open the research space to them {children} as generators of knowledge.

RC15-237.5

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A Trip Towards Wellness? Perspectives of Facilitators and Users of Unofficial Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy in Slovenia

The recent resurgence of interest in psychedelic-assisted therapy coincides with a massive mental health crisis, sensationalist media reporting, and shifts in public perceptions. Classic psychedelics (like LSD, psilocybin, DMT, and mescaline) are classified as the most dangerous illicit substances without medical application. Yet, they are often described as posing little risk to physical health, low potential for development of chemical addiction, and huge (if insufficiently researched) potential to treat a variety of mental health disorders (depression, eating disorders, PTSD, etc.). Against the backdrop of such narratives, psychedelics are no longer confined to the psychonautic niche and are attracting new groups of users. In the context of restrictive legislation that precludes clinical trials with psychedelics, low accessibility of mental health support services, and an unregulated psychotherapy

market in Slovenia, a variety of unofficial psychedelic therapeutic and shamanic practices are taking place. While providing positive experiences for some, these clandestine practices also present various risks and ethical considerations. Such psychedelic practices remain undetected in the official statistics and thus merit an investigation that takes into account the particular experience, risks and motivations for engagement in, as well as general societal attitudes towards shamanic and therapeutic use of psychedelics and their regulation. The paper will present the results of a broad public survey and semi-structured interviews with facilitators and users of various forms of unofficial psychedelic-assisted therapies and shamanic rituals in Slovenia. While the empirical research presented in this paper focuses on the local context, the research conducted does not neglect the fact that the changing trends in psychedelic use are similar across the Global North, nor does it ignore the problematic implications for the communities of the Global South stemming from the Global North's fascination with traditional shamanic practices and substances.

RC06-91.1

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DESPIC, JELENA (Institute of Social Sciences, Serbia)

Enacting Transnational Family Lives in Temporary Labour Migration Flows

In migration regimes regulating temporary labour migration, there exists a lack of attention to transnational family separation and ties across temporal and spatial borders and to the reconciliation of work and family life. In such a transnational division of labour, there is an increasing contradiction, especially for women, between the expanded power of market sources and the capacities for socially reproductive labour in the context of spatial displacement. Furthermore, the increasing complexity of temporally and spatially bounded migration is illustrated by the lived experiences of migrants and their families. Using examples of temporary/circular migration and the posting of workers from the countries of the former Yugoslavia to the EU, the aim of the paper is to contribute to a more nuanced understanding of transnational families and to show how transnational family arrangements are embedded in institutional contexts of temporary and precarious forms of migration. Selected features of labour migration, such as employer-bound contracts, recruitment opportunities, and the temporal dimension of temporary migration programmes, and their effects on transnational family life are examined using the example of the former Yugoslav countries. How do family boundaries change in such families and what are the most common practices in enacting 'transnational family lives' will be among the main questions of the paper. We analyse the exclusion and inclusion of family issues in policy discourses on migration, which often overlook the micropolitics of gender and generation, and suggest ways to better integrate a transnational family perspective into national and international policies on temporary migration in EU and regional contexts.

RC46-721.2

CUMMING, SARA* (Sheridan College, Canada)

From Theory to Action: The Power of Clinical Sociology in Community Development

This presentation explores the transformative power of clinical sociology in addressing real-world challenges and fostering sustainable change in marginalized communities. Clinical sociology, through its application of sociological theories and methodologies, provides effective, evidence-based interventions to solve complex social issues. This presentation will highlight key areas where clinical sociology has made a significant impact, particularly in bringing life skills to marginalized populations, overhauling philanthropic giving processes, and enhancing educational opportunities for women in underserved regions, such as Kenya.