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Paper session programme

Time	Monday, March 30	Tuesday, March 31	Wednesday, April 1
8.00 – 9.00	Registration and coffee	Coffee	Coffee
9.00 – 9.15	Welcome and conference opening, Tea Bengtsson & Signe Ravn, local organisers (Chr. Hansen aud.)	Editors' sessions: 3 concurrent sessions	Keynote: Paul Hodkinson, University of Surrey: Subcultures, Post-Subcultures and Beyond: Studying Youth Cultures in Context (Chr. Hansen aud.)
9.15 – 10.30	Opening Keynote: Andy Furlong, Tracy Shildrick and Rob MacDonald, editors of JYS: <i>Contemporary Youth, Contemporary Risks</i> (Chr. Hansen aud.)		
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee
11.00 – 12.30	Paper sessions 1	Keynote: Jon Kvist, Roskilde University, Denmark: Youth and inequality: Nordic public policies analyzed through a life course perspective on social investments (Chr. Hansen aud.)	Paper sessions 6
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch	Lunch 'Meet the author' lunch bag event: Dan Woodman talks about the book 'Youth and Generation' (written w/ J Wyn) (Chr. Hansen aud.)	Lunch 'Meet the author' lunch bag event: Sara Bragg talks about the edited book 'Youth Cultures in the Age of Global Media' (Chr. Hansen aud.)
13.30 – 15.00	Paper sessions 2	Paper sessions 4	Paper sessions 7
15.00-15.30	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee
15.30-17.00	Paper sessions 3	Paper sessions 5	Keynote: Anita Harris, Monash University, AUS: <i>Belonging in a Globalised World</i> (Chr. Hansen aud.)
17.15-18.30	Panel debate: Youth, generations and social inequalities in contemporary society Panelists: Dan Woodman, Alan France, Steven Roberts Chair: Ken Roberts (Chr. Hansen aud.)	Keynote: Rachel Thomson, University of Sussex: Inside Out? Reflections on 30 years of researching teenage sexuality (Chr. Hansen aud.)	Conference closing (Chr. Hansen aud.)
Evening	Welcome reception (Chr. Hansen foyer)	Conference dinner (19.30)	

Paper session 1, Monday 30th, 11:00 – 12:30

1a: Transitions	1b: Work, Welfare & Unemployment	1c: Education (panel)	1d: Gender and Sexualities	1e: Health	1f: Crime, Deviance & Criminal Justice	1g: Politics & Resistance	1h: Youth Work	1i: Place and Space	1j: Methods (panel)
Room 2.0.30	Room 2.0.36	Room 2.1.18	Room 2.1.30	Room 2.1.36	Room 2.1.49	Room 2.2.30	Room 2.2.36	Room 2.2.49	Room 2.1.42
Chair: Noemi Katznelson	Chair: John Goodwin	Chair: Kim Allen	Chair: Sveinung Sandberg	Chair: Kathrine Vitus	Chair: Kim Møller	Chair: Robert Hollands	Chair: Janet Boddy	Chair: Jakob Demant	Chair: T. Wulf-Andersen & R. Follesø
Beth Suttill: I want to get a job and move out of my parents' house because people expect me to": the impact of 'dominant discourses' of adulthood on the narratives of NEET young people	S. Hultqvist, I. Nørup and L. Kolouh-Söderlund: Consequences of activation to work targeting young people with health related problems – a comparison of activation policies in Sweden and Denmark	Kirsty Morrin: Abject' to get Respect?: Student Narratives on 'being aspirational' in an 'Entrepreneurial' Academy	Eivind Grip Fjær, Willy Pedersen and Sveinung Sandberg: "I'm not that girl": boundary-work in a liberal hookup context	Julia Coffey: Youth, risk and the body: body work, health and affect	Annette Coburn & Sinead Gormally: Youth work as emancipatory practice	Carlo Genova: Wearing protest. Clothes and accessories in the Italian «antagonist» movement	Bernadine Brady: Is there a role for manualised programmes in youth work? A critical reflection based on the experience of Irish youth organisation, Foróige	Kirsten Visser: Youths' lived experiences in a hyper-diverse city – a case study in Rotterdam, the Netherlands	Terje Olsen, Jenny Tägtström and Lidija Kolouh-Söderlund: <i>Young People at Risk – The Situation in the Nordic Region</i>
K. Ralston et al.: Outcomes of NEET, what happens to young people in Scotland who are not in education, employment and training? Longitudinal analyses over a 20 year follow up period	Sarah Hadfield: Young adults' experiences of welfare agencies that deliver services for those identified as 'NEET': identity and navigation	Helene Snee and Fiona Devine: Fair chances and hard work? Making sense of inequality and opportunity in recession Britain	Ann-Karina Henriksen: Bargaining hyper-masculinity – female tactics for safety and social mastery	Kerry Montero: Health Promotion and Young People: Troubling At-Risk Discourses	Anqi Shen: The Study-Work School in Post-Mao China: Its Role in Juvenile Crime Prevention and the Challenges	Deirdre Duffy: Missing frustration: Youth people's emotional education and the necessity of anger	Aniela Wenham: Young People and the 'Troubled Families Programme'	David T. Gravesen & Peter Frostholt Olesen: Unstructured socialization and territorialisation. A street-ethnographic take on urban youth in a medium-sized town in Denmark	Cecilie Høj Anvik: Vulnerable transitions – youth struggling with everyday life

Dawn Everington, Kevin Ralston, Zhiqiang Feng and Chris Dibben: Risk factors of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET): Longitudinal analyses over a 10 year follow up period	Caterina Thomàs-Vanrell: The social networks approach to explain the processes involved in finding a job for young people. The case of young Spanish migrants in Toulouse (France)	Jessica Abrahams: "It's just there are so many choices and it's hard to pick one": Exam grades, social class and young people's post 16 plans	Helena Parkkila and Mervi Heikkinen: A sense of belonging and violence in residential care girl's identity performance	Louise Laverty: Examining the importance of shame and the moral imperatives of health with young people at a North West Youth Club	Annie Crowley: Protection for whom? Responding to 'at risk' young women in Scotland	Birgitte Thylstrup, Thomas F. Søgaaard & Torsten Kolind: Reformed Street Gang: Exploring the implications of friendship and 'reformed street culture' in youth desistance processes	Sara Carpenter and Ahmed Ahmed: Race, space, and youth: A Critique of the Stages of Change Model of youth outreach work	Mette Pless and Niels Ulrik Sørensen : "I don't hate living here, but..."	Trine Wulf-Andersen: (Poetic) Representation, (Professional) Texts and "Young People at Risk"
Noemi Katznelson and Anne Görlich: Young NEET: Navigating towards education	Adam Formby: Graduates and Engagement of Jobcentre Plus Services in Difficult Times	Kim Allen: Revisiting 'Blair's Babies': materialising imagined futures in austere times	Linda Arnell: Narrating family - talk about a troublesome girlhood	Kathrine Vitus: Race, affect and becoming: young people's bodily health practices	Sharon Ingrid Kwok and T. Wing Lo: Triads and casinos in Macau: quasi-legitimate opportunity structure for young people	Robert Hollands, Marie-Avril Berthet, Eva Nada, Virginia Bjertnes: Young Adults and the Struggle for the 'Right to the Creative (Party) City' in Geneva	Carmen Corral, Kelley Moulton and Talia Meer: Contemporary Knowledge/Contemporary Gaps? A 'Semi-systematic' Review of Programmes for Sex, Gender and Gender-based Violence Education in South African Schools	Danya Fast: Belonging on the streets of Vancouver: Senses of place in an inner city drug scene	Reidun Follesø: Youth at risk or terms at risk?

Paper session 2, Monday 30th, 13:30 – 15:00

2a: Transitions	2b: Work, Welfare & Unemployment (panel)	2c: Education	2d: Gender & Sexualities	2e: Health (panel)	2f: Crime, Deviance & Criminal Justice	2g: Politics & Resistance	2h: Youth Work	2i: Youth Culture & Subculture	2j: Exclusion & Marginalisation
Room 2.0.30	Room 2.0.36	Room 2.1.18	Room 2.1.30	Room 2.1.36	Room 2.1.49	Room 2.2.30	Room 2.2.36	Room 2.2.49	Room 2.1.42
Chair: Valentina Cuzzocrea	Chair: Ruth Patrick	Chair: Mette Pless	Chair: Sam Stiegler	Chair: Ylva B. Almquist	Chair: Victor L. Shammas	Chair: Erik Hannerz	Chair: Adrian Van Breda	Chair: Geoffrey Hunt	Chair: Peter Kelly
Enzo Colombo, Luisa Leonini, Paola Rebughini: An intersectional analysis of the current economic crisis: how risks and insecurity are differently affecting the lives of young people in Italy	Laura Cartwright: "Just a temp" - The experiences and effects of precarious employment amongst university graduates	Steven Roberts, Ann Berrington and Peter Tammes: Educational Aspirations of Teenagers in the UK: Exploring the role of gender, class and ethnicity	Elizabeth McDermott & Victoria Rawlings: Youth suicide: Managing the risk of neoliberal heteronormative 'failure'	Evelina Landstedt, Julia Coffey, Dan Woodman, Johanna Wyn: Young people's navigations of the present and the future – a matter of well-being?	Paul Gray: "Dealing with it, it's hard": how young offenders cope with traumatic life experiences	Airi-Alina Allaste: Everyday activism in two contrasting sites in Estonia	Gavin Turnbull: Risk and the Commodification of Young People – The Shaping of Young People's Risk Biographies Through Organisations and Practitioners	Rachel Brown: "They're adults essentially so they need to learn themselves.": legal adult status as a barrier to the delivery of alcohol interventions within university settings.	Hannah King: Critical Moments: Structure and Agency in Times of Crisis
Edda Orlandi: Narratives of luck in the Italian uncertain post-crisis reality. The role of chance, risk and coincidences in the biographical trajectories of young women	Neil Lee: Youth unemployment, churn and stalled careers: The UK youth labour market in the 2008/2009 recession	Bram Spruyt et al: "Some people look down on me because of my studies": A theoretical discussion and empirical analysis into the origins of feelings of futility amongst secondary school pupils in Flanders	Jessy Siongers & John Lievens: Gender differences in cultural participation: social class or gender based socialization?	Gabriella Olsson: Family composition and youth health risk behaviors. The role of parental relations and school disorganization	Siobhan McAlister & Nicola Carr: Regulation, Control and Punishment: Young People's Experiences of Risk and 'Justice	Marti Taru: Types of youth activism in selected localities of European countries	Päivi Berg and Sanna Aaltonen: Wendy, Peter and the Lost Boys – The meanings of gender in the service encounters of young people and staff	C. Griffin et. al.: Young adults, social media alcohol marketing and the culture of intoxication in Aotearoa New Zealand	Catherine Flynn, Dominique Damant & Genevieve Lessard: Street-Involved Young Women Against Structural Violence: A participatory action research (PAR)

Sara Carpenter and Shahrzad Mojab: Youth in/as 'crisis': Locating youth and young adults in policy responses to systemic crisis	Anthony Ruddy: Another way out – better? Youth poverty, risk and hope in the UK?	Agnes David-Kacso, Maria Roth, Paul Teodor Hărăguș and Sergiu Raiu: The protective effect of educational and career aspirations in the process of transition to adulthood of vulnerable youngsters in Romania	Lance McCreedy: On resiliencies: Black male youth, sexuality, and space	Laura Simon: Socio-economic background, health behaviour, and health in youth: Findings from the Swedish Level of Living Survey	Gloria Hongyee Chan: The effect of negative experiences on delinquent behavior in a hidden situation	Anna-Britt Coe, Maria Wiklund, Margaretha Uttjek, Lennart Nygren: Politics as multiple processes: Perceptions among a sample of young activists in Sweden	Ditte Andersen: What's so funny? Towards a user-perspective on professionals' use of humor in drug treatment targeting young people	Mari-Liisa Parder: Alcohol consumption and the norms of youth culture	Marta Albert: Critical Literacy, Class Awareness, and Ordinary Teaching in Work-Oriented Contexts: Cases of Rural Youth Development
Sharlene Swartz: Navigational Capacities for Youth Success in Adversity: A Southern Perspective	Ruth Patrick: 'It's not Great Britain anymore, it's just Britain. It's going under.' Exploring young out-of-work benefit claimants' attitudes towards welfare reform in the UK		Sam Stiegler: Queering the DREAM: On immigration, youth, and heteronormative logics	Ylva B. Almquist: The social hierarchy of the classroom: A mixed-methods case-study	Kim Møller and Sveinung Sandberg: Fronting drugs – balancing trust and threats amidst opportunism	Elena Omelchenko & Guzel Sabirova: Russian young people narratives on the historical past in the intergenerational perspective	Liesl Conradi: Unexpected online opportunities and risks: unsanctioned connections between young people and youth work practitioners on social network sites	Geraldine Hogan, Maria Lichrou and Deirdre O' Loughlin: "Someone really needs to make a statement about the fact that it's okay to be sober like..." – Exploring the lived experience of sobriety within a culture of intoxication.	Peter Kelly: Re-thinking Young People's Marginalisation: Agency and Structure after Neo-Liberalism

Paper session 3, Monday 30th, 15:30 – 17:00

3a: Transitions	3b: Work, Welfare & Unemployment	3c: Education	3d: Gender & Sexualities (panel)	3e: Youth Culture & Subculture (1)	3f: Crime, Deviance & Criminal Justice	3g: Politics & Resistance	3h: Youth Work (panel)	3i: Youth Culture & Subculture (2)	3j: Exclusion & Marginalisation
Room 2.0.30	Room 2.0.36	Room 2.1.18	Room 2.1.30	Room 2.1.36	Room 2.1.49	Room 2.2.30	Room 2.2.36	Room 2.2.49	Room 2.1.42
Chair: Jeanette Østergaard	Chair: Claus D. Hansen	Chair: Helene Sneek	Chair: Laura Harvey	Chair: Sian Lincoln	Chair: Thomas Sjøgaard Friis	Chair: Ane Grubb	Chair: Rebecca Coles	Chair: Lars Fynbo	Chair: David Farrugia
Anne Berngruber: 'Generation Boomerang' in Germany? Determinants of Returning to the Parental Home in Young Adulthood	Lukasz Albanski: Who will do the dirty work in the humane society? Inequality and the growth of menial jobs	Barbara Schulte: Politically intended vulnerabilities: Chinese youth as target of ICT policies in education	Sumi Hollingworth: Neoliberalism, middle class masculinities and the maintenance of privilege through subcultural style	Charlotte Fabiansson: Risky Behavior: Managing Risk and Resilience among Tertiary Students	Ross Deuchar & Line Lerche Mørck: Young Offenders, Spiritual Journeys and Criminal Desistance in Denmark and Scotland	Kristen Hackett: A Relational Perspective of Youth Political Participation and "Resistance"	Frances Howard: Using and abusing the arts with 'at-risk' groups	Rob Drummond and Susan Dray: (Mis-) Interpreting urban youth language	Kristine Hickle & Dominique Roe-Sepowitz: Experiencing Sex Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation as Homeless Young People: An Exploration of Risk Factors and Support Needs
Tabea Schlimbach: The role of parents in critical school-to-work transitions	Irini Rigopoulou, John Kehagias and Niki Tsiami: Public Sector as an Employer of choice	Valerie Lehr: Liberal Arts Colleges: Obsolete or a Model for Education?	Laura Harvey and Kim Allen: 'They said Tupac shouldn't be my role model': 'risky' masculinities, youth aspirations and celebrity culture	Jelena Gajić, Tamara Ilic Petrovic, Radmila Zivkovic: Being a Student in Serbia Today, or How to live instead of survive?	Line Lerche Mørck & Peter Hansen: Major identity transformations - movements beyond criminal life and the biker gang environment	Anja Gvozdanović et. al.: Contradictory tendencies of youth's political culture in Croatia: Unexpected anomalies or expected answer to social crisis?	Nicola Sim: Mapping risk in partnership work between visual arts organisations and youth organisations	Yaron Girsh: "Extraordinary times, ordinary heroes": Israeli youth search for meaning	Justin Barker: A Habitus of Instability: youth homelessness and instability

Elyse Warner: Returning home to Mum and Dad: A solution to contemporary 'risks'	Víctor Montuenga & Inmaculada García-Mainar: Youth occupational prestige and parental influence	Sara Bragg: Young people, schools, digital cultures and the 'face to face'	Victoria Cann: Tom Troubling Masculinity: Transgressions of gender-appropriateness or reconfiguring traditional masculinity	Sven Mørch: New Youth challenges: The price you pay to become late modern	David Maguire: Lads to Lags: Adolescence to Adult Transitions in the Local Prison	Mark Ellison and Gary Pollock: Young People's understandings of Contemporary Politics: Trust, Representation and Barriers to Participation	Pat Thomson and Jodie Pennacchia: Hugs and behaviour points: alternative education approaches to 'risky youth'	Geraldina Roberti: Consuming more responsibly. Rethinking youth lifestyles during the period of transition to adulthood	Jacqueline Kennelly: Symbolic violence and the Olympic Games: low-income youth, social legacy commitments, and urban exclusion in Olympic host cities
Diego Carbajo Padilla: Quasi-adults. The management of dependencies in the residential trajectories of young people of the Basque Country	Regine Grytnes & Claus D. Hansen: Dreams at work: experiences of work and future orientation among Danish youth	Marta Moskal: Young people transcending in and out of global education	Signe Ravn and Julia Coffey: "Steroids, it's so much an Identity Thing!" Perceptions of Steroid Use, Risk and Masculine Body Image.	Bethany Alden-Rivers, Richard Hazenberg and Meanu Bajwa-Patel: Barriers and enablers of youth as drivers of social change: University students' perspectives	Alex Newbury: Changing risky pathways: Young peoples' perceptions about the impact of alcohol on their offending behaviour and the need for early interventions	Matt Henn and Nick Foard: Is compulsory voting the solution to the young citizen-state disconnect?	Rebecca Coles: Teaching risky young people about film: art, training, recreation and politicisation	Sofie Beunen, Jessy Siongers and John Lievens: Youth cultural participation of different ethnic groups in Belgium	Sue-Ann MacDonald: Risky and At-Risk Homeless Youth

Editors' Sessions, Tuesday 31th, 9.00 – 10.30

Editors' Session 1: Precarity and precarious work Room 1.1.18	Editors' Session 2: Drugs and Alcohol Use Room 2.0.63	Editors' Session 3: Youth transitions Room 25.01.53 (in the basement)
Chair: Robert MacDonald	Chair: Tracy Shildrick	Chair: Andy Furlong
Lorenza Antonucci: Explaining structural precarity: how welfare structures shape young people's precarity in university	Fiona Measham, Kate O'Brien & Gavin Turnbull: "Skittles & Red Bull is my favourite flavour combination": the changing landscape of nicotine consumption amongst British teenagers	Harriet Bradley: Aspirations and Adaptations: young people's careers in the context of neoliberal policies
Christian Imdorf, Akio Inui, Mai Sugita & Laura Alexandra Helbling: Job insecurities of young women and men in Japan and Switzerland	Geoffrey Hunt: The Terrains of Youth Cultures in Drug Use and Distribution	Julia Cook: From plans and choices to hopes and fears: Young people's strategies for coping with parallel conceptualizations of the future
Mette Lykke Nielsen & Johnny Dyreborg: Precarious work among young Danish employees - a permanent or transitory condition?	Kathryn Daley: The (gendered) pathways into problematic youth drug use: An Australian case-study	Herwig Reiter & Tabea Schlimbach: NEET in disguise? The workings of rival narratives in troubled youth transitions
Hannah Smithson & Gary Pollock: Hidden underemployment: the centrality of work for vulnerable young people	Sébastien Tutenges & Sveinung Sandberg: Intoxicating Stories	Valentina Cuzzocrea: Imagining a future where society does not change: an exploration into young Sardinians' narratives

Paper session 4, Tuesday 31th, 13:30 – 15:00

4a: Transitions (1)	4b: Transitions (2)	4c: Youth Culture & Subculture (1)	4d: Methods (panel)	4e: Youth Work	4f: Crime, Deviance & Criminal Justice	4g: Youth Culture & Subculture (2)	4h: Education	4i: Politics & Resistance (panel)	4j: Exclusion & Marginalisation
Room 2.2.36	Room 2.2.42	Room 2.2.49	Room 4.1.30	Room 4.1.36	Room 5.0.28	Room 5.1.16	Room 7.0.18	Room 7.0.22	Room 2.2.30
Chair: Richard Waller	Chair: Dan Woodman	Chair: Sumi Hollingworth	Chair: Natalie Hendry	Chair: Ditte Andersen	Chair: Geoffrey Hunt	Chair: Ann-Karina Henriksen	Chair: Steven Roberts	Chair: Judith Bessant	Chair: Ruth Patrick
Danielle White: Reflexivity within Youth Transition	Howard Sercombe: Is the teenage brain really wired for risk and 'sub-optimal' decision-making?	Sian Lincoln & Brady Robards: Editing the project of self: Sustained Facebook use and growing up online	Jocelyn Murtell: Why do you want to know? Class, stigma and reluctance in young women talking about selfies	Kottu Sekhar: Youth and social 'connect': A critique of two major institutional initiatives in youth work in India	Linzi Ladlow: Risk, Redemption, Resource? Re-thinking young fatherhood in custodial settings	Changho Lee & Sook-Jung Lee: The Effects of Application Usage and Mediation: Strategies on Smartphone Addiction in Korean Adolescents	Carolina Esther Kotovicz Rolon: The weight of an uncertain future for the schooling experience of Brazilian high school students	Judith Bessant: Criminalising Youth Politics	Tarja Tolonen: Making space with different tactics of masculinities - experiences of marginalization and belonging of immigrant background boys in Eastern Helsinki
Sharon Elley: "University social life is like being in a fishbowl - everything is magnified and the lines become blurred." Young Men's Accounts of 'Laddishness' and 'Riskiness' in the University Context	Clare Holdsworth & Marina Mendonça: Youth entrepreneurship, individualisation and responsibility	Jesper Andreasson & Thomas Johansson: Online Doping	Megan Sharp: Knowing queer punx: reflexive understandings of research methods in DIY online spaces	Sue Maguire: The Youth Contract – A Flawed Approach to Engaging the Hardest to Reach	Christian Sandbjerg Hansen: Policing the Juvenile Delinquent. The Street as Pedagogical Object, Copenhagen 1930s as Case	Marina Moguillansky: Inequalities, youth and new technologies. A qualitative case study in Argentina	Susan Steward: "If you don't make the cut then you're out basically, I don't think they offer anything, they don't offer you another chance"...	Nicole Gallant & Guillaume Tremblay-Boily: Young people and politics in Quebec: participation, protest, avoidance	Alba Lanau: We are all at risk, but some more than others: Youth Poverty and Labour Market Transitions in Europe

Dawn Lyon & Giulia Carabelli: Young people's orientations to the future	Jalal M. Pour: Institutionalized Individualism: A Further Dimension to the Debate on Individualization	Cath Larkins & Joanne Westwood: Whose risk is it anyway? Negotiating access to multi-media and capability opportunities with young people in out of home care	Benjamin Hanckel & Natalie Hendry: Examining methodological practices: Locating young people's agency in digital media research	Sebastian Abdallah: Youth workers engage "radicalized" young Dutch Muslims	Haslinda Abdullah, Adriana Ortega and Nobaya Ahmad: Patterns of Aggressive and Delinquent Behaviour among High Risk Youth in Urban Malaysia	Filipa Pereira, Fábio Novo & Marlene Matos: Adolescents and cyber-harassment: Victims, aggressors and double involvement	Lavanya Ramesh: Labouring to Learn: Reframing 'Resistance' amongst Tamil Youths in Singapore Schools	Sarah Pickard: The problems and pleasures of resisting for young people in contemporary Britain	Eldin Fahmy: Youth deprivation and exclusion in the UK, 1990-2012
Maike Birzle: L'avenir, c'est pour nous! – Trust, Hope and Orientation towards the Future among young University Graduates in Burkina Faso	Valerie Farnsworth: Territorializing and deterritorializing post-16 progression through agency and critical literacy		Sinikka Aapola-Kari: Youth in time – launching a longitudinal study on youth in Finland	Tanja Dibou: Youth policy stakeholders' perceptions about youth Participation In Estonian Youth Policy	Rob Ralphs and Karen Kent: That Joke Isn't Funny Anymore: The impact of Violent Youth Gangs discourses on the risk management of gang associated youth.	Angela Gigliotti: Lump in the Throat - New becomings for youth poets and practitioners	Helen Stokes: Young people at the margins successfully engaging with education	Judith Bessant and Rob Watts: New Politics, New Media: an International Project	Andreas Cebulla: Learning in a rich country: the normalisation of economic hardship and housing risk among apprentices in Australia

Paper session 5, Tuesday 31th, 15:30 – 17:00

5a: Transitions	5b: Youth Culture & Subculture (1)	5c: Gender & Sexualities (panel)	5d: Methods	5e: Youth Work	5f: Crime, Deviance & Criminal Justice (panel)	5g: Youth Culture & Subculture (2)	5h: Education	5i: Politics & Resistance	5j: Exclusion & Marginalisation,
Room 2.2.36	Room 2.2.42	Room 2.2.49	Room 4.1.30	Room 4.1.36	Room 5.0.28	Room 5.1.16	Room 7.0.18	Room 7.0.22	Room 2.2.30
Chair: Jacqueline Kennelly	Chair: Sebastián Tutenges	Chair: Nicola Ingram	Chair: Kathrine Vitus	Chair: Sanna Aaltonen	Chair: Alistair Fraser	Chair: Airi-Alina Allaste	Chair: Helen Stokes	Chair: Ken Roberts	Chair: Ditte Andersen
Helena Helve: Transitions from education to work - social exclusion or inclusion	Liam Berriman: Curating Youth: Digital and Material Practices	Michael RM Ward, Brigit Featherstone, Martin Robb, Sandy Ruxton: 'I will respect anyone that respects me': Gender identities and work with young men	Ravinder Barn & Balbir Barn: Participatory approaches in action research: A case study of technology building in youth justice	Jaana Lähteenmaa: The construction of "Young unemployed" and "youth professionals" in the policy texts of YOUTH GUARANTEE in Finland	Alistair Fraser: Homologies of Habitus: Gangs, Scale and a Global Sociological Imagination	Reda Satuniene: Social alienating for 'safe space'? Social self-distinguishing and changing patterns of young adults" subcultural identity in Lithuania	Judith Sligo: Shocked to be an electrician, suited to being a tailor, any future in being a historian? Ways of understanding young people's vocational aspirations	Peeter Vihma: What is the point of Internet activism? Discourses of politics among Internet activist: Estonian Pirate Party	Maria Kukhareva: You can't be yourself because you can't share these things: otherness and exclusion in making sense of own place in the world. Insights from a UK qualitative study with young people in public care and alternative education
Thijs Schut: Education to work transitions of Indonesian rural youth	Benjamin Hanckel: Mitigating risk and facilitating access to capabilities: An analysis of the design of a regional ICT intervention for queer youth in Asia	Derron Wallace: Man Ah Bad Man?: An Exploration of Gender & Generational Anxieties Among Afro-Caribbean Boys' in State Schools in London and New York	Lars Fynbo & Tea Torbenfeldt Bengtsson: When nothing is said - investigating the role silence in interviews with young risk-seekers	Bianca J. Baldrige: (Re)imagining Black Youth in Neoliberal Times	Sveinung Sandberg and Jennifer Fleetwood: Street Talk and Street Cred: The importance of stories for street capital	Erik Hannerz & Jacob Kimvall: Keeping it clean – Graffiti, urban space and the exploitation of a moral panic	Birgit Reissig & Jan Skrobanek: Chances and risks of being set on track after school. – The case of German apprenticeship system	Eva Espinar-Ruiz & María José González-Río: Internet use and political practices: a quantitative analysis of Spanish young people	Riikka Korkiamäki: Friendship as potential: young teenager's friendship in the context of societal inclusion

Sean Duffy: Precarious Transitions: How education shapes school leavers perceptions of work in austerity Scotland	David Wästerfors & Kristofer Hansson: In my bubble, in my fight: Youth, disability and gaming engrossment	Constantino Dumangane: Black Bodies, White Universities: Black Men's Negotiations of their Habitus at Elite UK Universities	Emily Fowler: Who Am I Today? Exploring Multiple Roles in Participant Action Research	Maurice Devlin: "What could possibly go wrong?" Changing perceptions of risk in Irish youth policy.	Victor L. Shammas & Sveinung Sandberg: Taking Bourdieu to the streets: On the advantages of field theory for street capital studies	Jason Torkelson: Dispositions toward (ex) elective identity from youth and beyond: The case of former straightedge adherents	Marc Molgat Supporting youth transitions? Young adults and high school vocational education in Canada	Natalia Waechter: The "Facebook- Revolution": How Arab youth uses social media for making politics	Florina Pop & Mihai-Bogdan Iovu: Understanding social marginalisation through the narratives of Romanian Roma youth
Ana Martí, Mercedes Alcañiz & Vicent Querol: Free, precarious and scammed. representations and expectations of social intergenerational mobility of Spanish youth	Mohd Muzhafar Idrus & Ruzy Suliza Hashim: Youth, TV Fiction, and the Rediscovery of the Malay 'Local'	Nicola Ingram & Richard Waller: White Young Men in the City: the shaping of the future elite		Yannis Pechteliadis: Young People and Crisis: The discursive construction of youth and risk in the Greek press	Jonathan Ilan: Conceptualizing Street Fields	Rob Ralphs: Dancing on what? The prevalence and nature of novel psychoactive substance use and other substance use trends amongst a sample of 2,139 UK night clubbers		(Deirdre Horgan &) Shirley Martin: Children and Young People's participation in decision-making in the community: Place, Space and Voice	James Alexander: Understanding the role of informal relationships and the creation of obligations in supporting young people transition into adulthood

Paper Session 6, Wednesday 1st, 11:00 – 12:30

6a: Transitions (1)	6b: Transitions (2)	6c: Politics & Resistance	6d: Health	6e: Work, Welfare & Unemployment	6f: Youth Culture & Subculture (1)	6g: Youth Culture & Subculture (2)	6h: Methods (panel)	6i: Youth Work	6j: Exclusion & Marginalisation
Room 2.2.42	Room 7.0.40	Room 2.2.49	Room 4.1.30	Room 4.1.36	Room 5.0.28	Room 5.1.16	Room 7.0.18	Room 7.0.22	Room 7.0.28
Chair: Andy Furlong	Chair: Kristoffer Vogt	Chair: Julia Coffey	Chair: Howard Sercombe	Chair: Carsten Yndigeegn	Chair: Jakob Demant	Chair: Steven Threadgold	Chair: Jeanette Østergaard	Chair: David Wästerfors	Chair: Tarja Tolonen
Rene Bendit & Ana Miranda: Transition between education and employment in a post-neoliberal Argentina	Izabela Grabowska & Justyna Sarnowska: The role of migration in transiting from school to labour market: Formal and tacit skills	Ane Grubb: "Just like in an airport" – An ethnographic study of young volunteers associating and engaging in new organisational forms	Fiona Brooks, K.Chester, N.Smeeton, J.Magnusson, E. Klemera: Emotional Well Being in Adolescence: Protective Factors and New Risks	Sarah Hadfield, John Goodwin and Henrietta O'Connor: The lost generation: political discourse around youth unemployment	Lisa Whittaker & Leona Li Ngai Ling: Peng-gwo and Oranges: researching youth leisure in Scotland and Hong Kong	Jan Skrobanek: Substance Use among Adolescents: The Reproduction of Social Classes or the Product of Individualized Lifestyles?	Elisabeth Backe-Hansen, Janet Boddy, Jeanette Østergaard: An ethical balance? Using visual methods to understand life course events amongst young people (formerly) in care?	Jennifer Brooker: Global Youth Work Pre-service Training: An historical and current comparison	Marja Peltola: Family life, sexuality and otherness – Young people with immigrant background negotiating gender and sexuality in family context
Jill S. Walahoski: A Mixed Methods Case Study: Understanding the Experience of Nebraska 4-H Participants Relative to their Transition and Adaption to College	Magdalena Sjöberg & Hanna Bertilsdotter Rosqvist: Who is the mother? Exploring the meaning of grandparental support in young Swedish mothers' narratives	Amy Cheung: Friendship brought me into it, but commitment bought me into it: Exploring civic engagement among Asian American youth	Michaela Kosticova, Capíková, S., Mojzešová, M.: Suicidal behavior among adolescents in Slovakia: analysis of trends and patterns	Cecilia Hok Man Wong: The shaping of career identity in transitions	Susan Anusas Batchelor & Alistair Fraser: Im/mobile Youth: Leisure Frontiers in the Wireless City	Roger Martínez: Present Dislikes and Future Trajectories: Class, Youth Styles and Emotions	Hélène Join-Lambert: Giving control to young people: the use they make of our tools	Goran Basic: Coherent Triads in Swedish Youth Care	Floor Verhaeghe, Lieve Bradt & Ilse Derluyn: Structural, cultural and identificational assimilation processes in young migrants in Flanders: dimensions going hand in hand?

Claus D. Hansen & Jakob Skjøtt-Larsen: Major life goals (and early life trajectories) among young adults in different social classes	Eugenia Katartzi & Geoff Hayward: Theorising educational transitions	Jasmin Arif Shah, Siti Raba'ah Hamzah, Turiman Suandi, Ismi Arif Ismail, Azimi Hamzah: Factors contributing to Malaysian youth participation in volunteerism	Smiljka Tomanović, Dragan Stanojević and Milana Ljubičić: Elements of Life Satisfaction among Young Adults in Serbia within the Context of Structural Risks	María Eugenia Longo: Stability? Security? What do these mean to young people? Young Employment dispositions in Argentina and France	Karen M. Dahl, Mai H. Ottosen & Anne T. Hansen: The rise of well-behaved teenagers during the financial crises in Denmark. Relationships with economic capacity and outgoing activities with friends	Elias le Grand: The Role of Social Types in Young People's Lives	Daniela Reimer: Challenges in a follow-up study with young people from foster children	Vibe Larsen and Üzeyir Tireli: Youth work – challenges and contradictions	Mashood Omotosho: Goodbye to Innocence: The Almajiri Child Labour Phenomenon in Northern Nigeria
Susann Ludwig: Opening up „la chance“ - Life-courses of University Graduates in Bamako, Mali	Kristoffer Chelsom Vogt: The choice vocabulary and transitions from school to work	Krittinee Nuttavuthisit: Promoting Active Youth Citizenship: Hope and Reality in Thailand	Guillermo Julian Gonzalez-Perez & Maria Guadalupe Vega-Lopez: Youth and firearms in Mexico: growing problems, uncertain solutions	Carsten Yndigegn: Facing the aftermaths of the financial crisis – an unforeseen social challenge	Annelore Van der Eecken, Lieve Bradt & Ilse Derluyn: The influence of neighborhood characteristics on parents' perceptions toward adolescents' structured and unstructured leisure time	Anni Rannikko, Päivi Harinen, Jussi Ronkainen, Pasi Torvinen: <i>Exclusion and creative applications in lifestyle sports</i>	Anne-Kirstine Mølholt & Tea Bengtsson: Keeping you close at a distance. Ethical challenges when studying vulnerable young people through time	Stephen Case: Children First, Offenders Second. Positive youth justice	Jamie Magnusson: Domestic Sex Trafficking of Youth: Primitive Accumulation, Shadow Economics, and Finance Capitalism

Paper Session 7, Wednesday 1st, 13:30 – 15:00

7a: Transitions	7b: Politics & Resistance	7c: Youth Work	7d: Health	7e: Youth Culture & Subculture	7f: Gender & Sexualities	7g: Education	7h: Youth Work,	7i: Place & Space (panel)	Special session: Discover Society
Room 2.2.42	Room 2.2.49	Room 4.1.30	Room 4.1.36	Room 5.0.28	Room 5.1.16	Room 7.0.18	Room 7.0.22	Room 7.0.28	Room 7.0.40
Chair: Alan France	Chair: Rob MacDonald	Chair: Harvey Krahn	Chair: Adam Fletcher	Chair: Susan O'Neill	Chair: Sinnika Aapola-Kari	Chair: Steven Roberts	Chair: Anne-Kirstine Mølholt	Chair: David Farrugia	Chair: Lorenza Antonucci
Laura Davies: Young fathers' transition to adulthood: support and interventions	Kenneth Roberts: Youth and the Arab Spring: Misread by the international community	Juliane Achatz: Social participation of children from low-income families: How much evidence can we find?	Alexandra Müller & Kelley Moul: Condoms? Yes! Sex? No! Morals, judgments and the provision of quality sexual and reproductive health care for adolescents in South Africa.	Sonja Marzi: 'Uno aprende a querer su tierra' – 'one learns to love their land': A Sense of Belonging and its Relation to Social Mobility Aspirations	Lauren Vandebossche: Sexism among Flemish youngsters. Differences in sexist attitudes according to sex, age and education	Christy Kulz: To the margins: Securitisation, racialization and the business of education	Adrian D. van Breda: Young people leaving residential care in South Africa: Risk and resilience at 12 and 24 months after leaving care	Jakob Demant & Signe Ravn: An Aesthetical Sense of Place? – How Signifiers of Style Become Attached to Place	
Francesca Salvà-Mut & Elena Quintana-Murci: Spanish Young women transitions: The Meritocratic model crisis	Darcie Vandegrift: Symbolic Divisions & Everyday Life in Latin American Cities: Youth Political Subjectivity in Venezuela	Tanya Brann-Barrett: What 'counts': Youth, engagement and changing rural places	Felicity Hayball, et. Al: Exploring perceived environmental determinants of physical activity in children – a qualitative study	Michael A. Tagoe: Use of social media in ghana: exploring risks and benefits to young people	Sanna Spisak: Young people, pornography and negotiations with notions of risk and harm	Gil Keppens: Measuring different dimensions of truant behavior: a typological approach	Emma Davidson & Lisa Whittaker: My life? Re-conceptualizing critical moments in the life of a care leaver	Steven Threadgold: Class Figures and a Sense of One's Place	

Magdalena Sjöberg: Risky young mothering? Exploring young motherhood in relation to dominating discourses of good motherhood in Sweden	Amelia Johns: White riot and gangsta nationalism on Cronulla Beach	Brian Gilchrist, Maldonado, G., Gilchrist, S., Dewberry, T.: Reducing Conflict and Aggressive Behaviors among Youth: A Preliminary Study for Developing of a Goal-Based Intervention for Urban Middle School Children	Leah Levac: Neoliberalism vs. intersectionality: Rectifying young women's invisibility in public policy	Susan O'Neill: Youth music cultures and identities in a digital age: An interview study of young people's sense of connectedness	Lara Pizycki: Sexualised girls: Narratives of the safeguarded?	Itta Bauer: Assembling and Performing Educational Transitions - A study from Zurich, Switzerland	Alex Hudson: The Higher Education Experiences of Young People Leaving Public Care	Sara Landolt: Approaching young migrants' career aspirations from a translocal perspective	
Alan France: Gender (in) equality and youth policy in the 'Great Recession'	Akin Iwilade: Social Navigation in Uncertain Contexts: youth agency and post-amnesty politics in Nigeria's Oil Delta	Victor Wong & Sharon Leung: Overcoming at-risk circumstances of a-socialness and anti-socialness confronted by young people: A critical social capital perspective			Yana Krupets & Nadya Nartova: Teenage girls and (re)production of age in Modern Russia	Alexander McAuley and Fiona Walton: Alluriarniq: Youth Perspectives on High School Education in Nunavut		David Farrugia: Rural Young People and Space: Affective Topologies	

1a: Transitions, room 2.0.30

Chair: Noemi Katznelson

Title: "I want to get a job and move out of my parents' house because people expect me to": the impact of 'dominant discourses' of adulthood on the narratives of NEET young people

Author(s): Beth Suttill

Abstract:

Adulthood is tied to ideas about financial independence, owning a home and holding down a job (Montgomery 2006). However, young people remain financially dependent on their parents until a much later age, the current generation have been labelled 'Generation Rent' (The Guardian, 2014) and uncertainty in the labor market means that "young people cannot invest so much of their sense of identity in gaining a permanent job" (Head 1997).

Transitions from education to work have become fragmented, extended and reversible, with young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) being most likely to have 'insecure and chaotic transitions' (MacDonald 2011). This research captures the experiences of a group of young people attending a center for those who are NEET run by a charity in the East Midlands. A mixture of ethnography and visual methods were used to look at how these young people construct their past, present and future identities. This presentation will focus on how the narratives of the participants were shaped by this 'dominant discourse' of what the transition from youth to adulthood should entail. Their aspirations reflected this ideal as most of the young people wanted a house, a family and a 'long term and full time job'.

Title: Outcomes of NEET, what happens to young people in Scotland who are not in education, employment and training? Longitudinal analyses over a 20 year follow up period

Author(s): Kevin Ralston , Dawn Everington , Zhiqiang Feng, and Chris Dibben

Abstract:

Background: Young people not in education employment or training (NEET) are the subject of policy concern in several countries. The NEET classification is open to criticism as many NEETs transition into employment. This analysis follows young people 16-19 years old in 1991 over a 20 year follow up period to understand how NEET status relates to health, education and occupational outcomes.

Data: We use the Scottish Longitudinal Study which provides a 5.3% sample of Scotland and is based around the Censuses of 1991, 2001 and 2011. Routinely collected administrative health data and education data are also linked to the SLS for these analyses. This allows us to test whether NEET status is associated with worse health outcomes, lower educational attainment and occupational position.

Methods: We apply descriptive and modelling approaches, including logistic regression. We use economic, educational and health outcomes. We control for confounders such as sex, limiting long term illness, prior economic activity, prior educational attainment and geographical deprivation. We use NS-SEC and CAMSIS to measure occupational position.

Findings: 18% of those NEET in 1991 are not economically active at both the 2001 or 2011 Census'. We find the NEET categorization to be a strong marker of subsequent negative outcomes, such as a higher odds of admission to hospital following self-harm OR, 5.8 (CI 3.6-9.6) and higher odds of having no qualifications, OR 5.9 (CI 4.8-7.4). Of those NEET who do transition to work there is strong evidence of a scarring effect.

Title: Risk factors of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET): Longitudinal analyses over a 10 year follow up period

Author(s): Dawn Everington, Kevin Ralston, Zhiqiang Feng and Chris Dibben

Abstract:

Background: The high level of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) has been an important issue in Scotland for over a decade. This analysis follows people who were 6-9 years old at the time of the 1991 Census to the 2001 Census when they were 16-19 years old. This allows us to test whether NEET status in 2001 is associated with individual characteristics and childhood living conditions measured in 1991 and the highest qualification, local area characteristics and whether they had had a teenage pregnancy in 2001.

Data: We use the Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS) which provides a 5.3% sample of Scotland and is based around the Censuses of 1991, 2001 and 2011. We link Census data for family members and vital event data to these records.

Methods: We apply logistic regression, reporting odds ratios and confidence intervals.

Finding: Many factors were found to be associated with the likelihood of being NEET. The most important of these were teenage pregnancy and having no qualifications. Nearly half of the NEETs had one of these attributes. Living in an area where there was a high level of NEETs was also important. Significant childhood factors were living in rented accommodation, living in a household where either all economically active persons were unemployed or there were no economically active persons and having more than one sibling.

Title: Young NEET: Navigating towards education

Author(s): Noemi Katznelson and Anne Görlich

Abstract:

Across Europe and the Nordic countries, it is widely agreed that the high proportion of 15-29 year-olds not in employment, education or training (NEET) is a challenge, which needs to be tackled by focusing on education. The purpose of this paper is to discuss the multiplicity that characterizes young NEET in transition towards education. Often the young NEET in a context of practice is referred to as 'vulnerable', 'exposed', 'at-risk', 'marginalized' etc. We would like to present an analysis that brings more nuances into this general and often non-descriptive way of categorizing and understanding a highly differentiated group of young adults and their situation on the margin of the educational system and the labor market.

In a quantitative and qualitative study evaluating 12 nationally widespread pilot projects aiming at helping young adults NEET towards education, we analyze the characteristics of this specific group. We analyze its complexity and how the various young adults practice the demand on education which is political practice in Denmark enacted as a demand of 'compulsory training'. The analysis is based on qualitative interviews and observations with 32 participants in four case-projects and revolves around specific characteristics as gender, age, educational background, work experience as well as their perception of education, of barriers, and how they practice the demand of 'compulsory training'. The paper presents four distinctively different case-figures: the employable, the diagnosed, the vulnerable, and the undecided. Understanding the various figures is important when understanding the young adults various transitions towards ordinary education.

1b: Work, Welfare & Unemployment, room 2.0.36

Chair: John Goodwin

Title: Consequences of activation to work targeting young people with health related problems – a comparison of activation policies in Sweden and Denmark

Author(s): Sara Hultqvist, Iben Nørup and Lidija Kolouh-Söderlund

Abstract:

The Nordic countries have a long history of active labor market policy and over the years activation in different forms have with some success been used as a method to combat unemployment amongst unemployed with no problems beside not having a job. However activation policy is now permeating policy within the field of social and economic protection for young adults who for medical reasons cannot work. A strong emphasis on paid work as the main source to social inclusion has legitimized work promoting activation targeting socially vulnerable groups such as young adults with comprehensive health problems, a group that previously was considered unable to work.

Nevertheless little knowledge exists of the effects and consequences of activation to work targeting people with health problems.

In this paper we discuss the consequences of activation policy in two Nordic countries, Denmark and Sweden. Findings from two recently submitted theses (Hultqvist, 2014, Nørup, 2014) constitute the empirical base and enable us to distinguish similarities as well as differences. We argue that the strong emphasis on work has counterproductive consequences when directed towards individuals whose problems are medical rather than related to their position on the labor market. We also argue that it constitutes a significant shift in the relation between the state and the individual. With these statements as a common starting point we elaborate on the different shapes activation policy takes in the Swedish activity compensation (aktivitetsersättning) and the Danish resource activation (ressourceforløb), and how it affects the young individuals it is targeting.

Title: Young adults' experiences of welfare agencies that deliver services for those identified as 'NEET': identity and navigation

Author(s): Sarah Hadfield

Abstract:

Young people are disproportionately affected by unemployment, regardless of economic times (Bell & Blanchflower 2010). Youth with 'NEET' status are identified as a policy problem in media and in political discourse. Recent sociological studies have explored youth unemployment in the context of community and have considered how concepts of poverty and class have affected labor market experiences. This paper argues that government agencies that provide welfare support are central to unemployment experiences and therefore warrant exploration.

This paper presents empirical findings from research conducted in 2013 that explored how government agencies (Jobcentre Plus and Connexions) affected youth unemployment experiences and identity. This was a qualitative study interviewing sixteen 18-24 year olds with NEET status. This research took place in the context where government policy changes have extended the age of 'youth', where financial risks associated with growing up and unemployment is being devolved from the state. Amongst the findings, this study found that identity in unemployment is affected by agencies and that how young adults construct their identity and experiences reflects greater theoretical concepts of class and stigma. Furthermore, the cross over in policy areas (reflected in the two welfare agencies) raises questions around 'NEET' as a construct of governance.

Title: The social networks approach to explain the processes involved in finding a job for young people. The case of young Spanish migrants in Toulouse (France)

Author(s): Caterina Thomàs-Vanrell

Abstract:

The adoption of the social networks approach provides an innovative way to study the process of finding a job in the current Intra-European labor migration context. The main objective is to analyze access to resources by Spanish young people to get a job in a risky socio-economic context, given that vulnerability experienced by young people in finding a job is further compounded by the problems they face in the transition from education to employment (León 2011). Since 2008 youth unemployment has risen in most countries in the OCDE, and in Spain one in two under-25s (55,5%) were jobless in 2013 (Eurostat, 2014). Because the studied phenomenon is understood from an optical process, the applied methodology considers it within a time dimension. However, we use a mixed method approach (qualitative and quantitative) that focuses on the analysis of relational chains (Grossetti and Barthe 2008). The data is constructed from biographical interviews to identify links and resources used in the access to employment and settlement in Toulouse. In addition, we study the composition and structure of personal networks and their involvement in the dynamics of mobility. This proposal will be exemplified with data collected in Toulouse from young Spanish people settled in this city in last ten years (data collected from 11-2012 until 02- 2014). The sample age is between 20-35 years old (N=54) and people are from all educational levels that currently work in the host city.

Title: Graduates and Engagement of Jobcentre Plus Services in Difficult Times

Author(s): Adam Formby

Abstract:

This paper will present some of the findings of my PhD thesis, which is an examination of how welfare to work policies have supported recent graduates (mostly between the ages of 21 to 25) in the UK in their pursuit of work – more specifically how such graduates have engaged with Jobcentre Plus from 2008 – 2013. The conceptual framework of this work focuses on the rise of the ‘knowledge economy’, and the effects of post-Fordist economic transformation of service provision. During the economic downturn in 2008-9 (and subsequent recovery), many young graduates that have engaged with Jobcentre Plus have found particular difficulties.

Indeed, as the transition to the labor market for recent graduates has been typified in recent years by instances of unemployment, underemployment, unpaid internships and insecure working patterns, it may be the case that public provision has not found a sufficient policy response to new forms of ‘social risk’ in relation to graduate transitions to the labor market. Therefore, this paper will draw on data gathered through a mixed methods approach to both explore graduates experiences of Jobcentre Plus provision, as well as attempt to provide empirical insights into graduate experiences of unemployment and underemployment, as these are predominantly unexplored areas in the context of the UK.

1c: Education (Panel: Talking about my generation: young people's aspirations and perceptions of inequalities in education and employment), room 2.1.18

Chair: Kim Allen

Title: 'Object' to get Respect?: Student Narratives on 'being aspirational' in an 'Entrepreneurial' Academy

Author(s): Kirsty Morrin

Abstract:

Explanations of educational under-attainment have often been centred on arguments of aspiration. In order to 'raise aspirations' and tackle 'blocked social mobility', educational policy reform has focused attention upon Unleashing Aspiration (Milburn Report, 2009) within schools, and closing persistent attainment gaps by 'encouraging parents and carers in their children's education' (DfES, 2006: 7 and 23). Moreover, we have increasingly seen a promotion of enterprise culture within educational policy and reform, where it seems 'common sense'- or 'doxic'- to incorporate private sector principles to establish 'a culture of ambition to replace the poverty of aspiration' in schools (Cuban, 2004; Bourdieu, 1977; respectively). This paper draws on ethnographic research within (and outside) a secondary academy championing such an 'entrepreneurial ethos' based in North West England. To begin I offer examples of the ways in which students interact with discourses of entrepreneurship. In particular, I will consider how 'enterprise culture' and wider debates on 'class' and 'respectability' collide in the context of the school and in the narratives of some working-class students. When talking about 'being aspirational' some working-class pupils considered their current position as untenable with a 'better' future self, leading them to talk about their imagined future trajectory through 'abjecting' their 'home' values, rather than in respect of them. Finally there will be a theoretical discussion about the notion of 'social abjection' (Kristeva, 1982; Tyler, 2013), questioning the temporality of this concept and possibility of 'reflexivity' in these processes.

Title: Fair chances and hard work? Making sense of inequality and opportunity in recession Britain

Author(s): Helene Snee and Fiona Devine

Abstract:

In British social mobility discourse, the rhetoric of fair access and raising aspirations obscures wider issues of social justice. While socio-economic inequalities continue to shape young people's lives, sociological work on class dis-identification suggests social class is less meaningful as a source of individual and collective identity. This paper considers subjective understandings of the post-16 education and employment landscape in this context. It draws on qualitative research exploring the aspirations of young men and women as they completed compulsory education in North West England, and the hopes their parents had for their future. What is the role (if any) of social class in how young people make sense of inequality, and how their parents talk about opportunities for their children to 'get on'? Unequal access to resources (including the experiences of their own parents) shaped the older generation's hopes for their children, although this was rarely articulated using the explicit language of class. Their children recognised they faced a difficult job market but embraced the idea that success was possible through hard work. Both generations drew moral boundaries and made judgements based on implicit classed discourses, while at the same time expressing a commitment to universalism. There was a more explicit recognition of gender inequality among the parents framed with reference to greater freedoms for daughters. Opportunities and inequalities

were thus understood in complex and sometimes contradictory ways, looking to the past, present and future.

Title: “It’s just there are so many choices and it’s hard to pick one”: Exam grades, social class and young people’s post 16 plans

Author(s): Jessica Abrahams

Abstract:

Academics and policy makers often talk about the inequalities facing young people, but how do young people themselves perceive of these issues? This paper draws on narratives of young people from different ages and social class backgrounds to explore this question. The cohort is drawn from three school year groups (ages ranged from 11-16) in three contrasting schools in one large city in England. Whilst political discourse has focussed attention on ‘raising aspiration’ as a key to encouraging greater educational success, inequality of opportunity and outcomes persist. This paper explores the extent to which young people see the route to their goals as straightforward or one filled with obstacles. I will show how young people speak about inequality not through the lens of social class but rather through the language of grades where their post-16 plans appear structured by their perceived chances of achieving the necessary GCSE’s. The paper demonstrates how students from more advantaged backgrounds talk about their futures through discourses of choice and enjoyment, while their disadvantaged counterparts discuss their decisions through a restricted set of options framed by their perceptions of the likely academic outcomes. The research also demonstrates that young people, regardless of background, largely internalise a neoliberal individualised discourse of meritocracy, interpreting their potential poor grades as products of their own lack of effort or ability.

Title: Revisiting 'Blair’s Babies': materialising imagined futures in austere times

Author(s): Kim Allen

Abstract:

Since the 1990s, young womanhood in the West has been defined by notions of choice, opportunity and aspiration. Encapsulated by political rhetoric of meritocracy and ‘postfeminist’ popular culture, young women have been addressed as what McRobbie calls ‘Top Girls’ (2009), encouraged to orient themselves to futures full of possibility. Yet, the financial crash and subsequent implementation of austerity measures have hit the young and women in particular, calling into question the realisation of such potential (MacDonald, 2011; McDowell, 2012; Fawcett Society, 2012). This paper draws on new empirical data to consider how changing socio—economic and political contexts shape the possibilities for young women to materialise their aspirations and imagined futures. Drawing on follow-up interviews with young women who participated in my doctoral research in 2006-8 (then aged 16-18, now in their early-to-mid-twenties), I seek to interrogate the promises and failures of neoliberal and postfeminist articulations of aspiration as these are lived and negotiated. Specifically, I will explore how participants’ location within material, affective and discursive structures shapes their opportunities in education and work, as well as their subjective interpretations of class, gender and race inequality. In doing so, I ask: do austere constraints and toxic conditions expose the idea of the self-determining, autonomous individual who can ‘become somebody’ through sheer hard work as a neoliberal fallacy? Or, do subjective investments in meritocracy and ‘positive thinking’ (Eherenriech, 2009) prevail despite young people living in conditions that undermine attempts to materialise their imagined futures?

1d: Gender and Sexualities, room 2.1.30

Chair: Sveinung Sandberg

Title: "I'm not that girl": boundary-work in a liberal hookup context

Author(s): Eivind Grip Fjær, Willy Pedersen and Sveinung Sandberg

Abstract:

The Norwegian high school graduation celebration constitutes an exceptionally liberal context for sexual practices. In the course of three weeks of hedonistically oriented partying the (primarily) 18-year-old participants can take part in hookup sessions where they may freely kiss, fondle and even have sexual intercourse with several different partners during the same night. While studies of similar, modern hookup cultures on North-American college campuses find traces of conservative sexual morals in slut-shaming and sexual double standards, the Nordic context and this Norwegian celebration are arguably much more liberal. Still, when the young women we interviewed (n=25) for a 2013 study of the celebration talked about its sexual dimension, they frequently drew symbolic boundaries between themselves and anonymous and often hypothetical others who had more sex, more irresponsibly than themselves. The basis of this boundary-work is a reduction of the values that guide other people's behavior; while they themselves could have pleasurable sex while also thinking about safety, dignity, hygiene and the like, they constructed anonymous, less respectful others as guided exclusively by pleasure. By drawing these boundaries the moral position of the "slut" is sustained by implication, even if our informants claimed to be tolerant and never used such terms in overt slut-shaming. While the male informants (n=16) also drew symbolic boundaries to others in their talk about sex, no such clear moral position was implicated. This gender difference in boundary-work may contribute to the persistence of a double standard among young people, even within this exceptionally liberal context.

Title: Bargaining hyper-masculinity – female tactics for safety and social mastery

Author(s): Ann-Karina Henriksen

Abstract:

The paper addresses how Danish young women navigate urban terrains characterized by high levels of interpersonal aggression and crime. It is argued that young women apply a range of gendered tactics to establish safety and social mastery, and that these tactics are framed by the limits and possibilities imposed by hyper-masculinity as the dominant masculinity of street based youth cultures. The analytical approach is inspired by Deniz Kandiyoti's concept of "patriarchal bargains" (1988), which allows for detailed analysis of how patriarchy in specific contexts sets the limits and possibilities for female agency and resistance. In this paper the concept "hyper-masculine bargains" is applied to tease out the complex and multifaceted gendered tactics of female youth, and four tactics are identified and empirically explored: 1) Capacity for violence, 2) Circumscribing race, 3) Least possible female, and 4) Hyper-femininity. The analysis rests on empirical data produced in an ethnographic study among 25 young women aged 13-23 living in Copenhagen who have engaged in repeated incidences of street-based physical violence. Only a limited number of European studies have addressed female involvement in street cultures, and the paper hereby contributes with unique empirical knowledge related to street culture and gender within a Nordic context.

Title: A sense of belonging and violence in residential care girl's identity performance

Author(s): Helena Parkkila and Mervi Heikkinen

Abstract:

Violence against women is still in Finland both a serious societal problem and a human rights violation. According to researches, young girls experience violence in several life sectors: at home, at school and in their leisure-time. The most common form of violence girls face at, beside the physical violence and threats, is unwanted sexual experience. One vulnerable group for the normalization of violence in their life among Finnish adolescents are girls in residential care institutions, since half of them have experienced violence or its threat compared with one third living at home.

In this article, we will examine how a sense of belonging and violence entangle into each other in an adolescent girl's identity performance, from interdisciplinary point of view. Data consists of eleven individual interviews and two group-interviews. Data is collected by using half-structured interviews and it was analyzed by qualitative content analysis following the principles of a hermeneutical analysis.

The results suggest that in order to prevent violence among adolescent girls, the girl's lives should be understood psychologically as a constant struggle in their processes for having experiences of belonging. The sense of belonging also makes the violence unrecognizable and acceptable. The way of seeing violence as a something that girls are exposed to and what they are forced to deal with addresses the interpersonal and cultural dimensions of violence.

Title: Narrating family - talk about a troublesome girlhood

Author(s): Linda Arnell

Abstract:

The aim of the paper is to investigate discursive meanings of families in relation to the construction of girls and girlhood. This will be done from the particular case of girls who are acting out. Girls' violence is investigated from a wide spectrum of different areas, but there is almost no research with a focus on girls' perspectives. One change of importance for the Swedish research about girls' violence is the introduction of critical gender theories within the youth science.

In this paper contemporary ways of doing girlhood in relation to acting out will be explored from the perspective of girlhood studies. This includes questioning, problematizes and theorize different discourses of girlhood, such as girl power or the girl(hood) in crises, and to reflect on the (multiple) positions the "violent" girls might claim or occupy. It also includes highlighting different discourses on family and how ideas and ideals on family affect girls' self-understanding and construction of subject positions in relation to ways of doing girlhood. The paper is based on a case study, a narrative interview with 18 year-old Amanda. The case study is part of a broader study about girls' violence. The design of the broader study is influenced by a child centered research-perspective, which is informed by a view of children as experts on their own lives.

1e: Health, room 2.1.36

Chair: Kathrine Vitus

Title: Youth, risk and the body: body work, health and affect

Author(s): Julia Coffey

Abstract:

In contemporary sociology, body shape and physical control are understood as increasingly central to people's sense of identity; however, these are frequently understood in relation to risk such as developing body image issues or negating the health risks associated with obesity. Combining a Deleuzian theorisation of bodies and the concepts of affect and becoming, this presentation draws upon data from a qualitative study which explored young people's understandings of bodies and body work practices in the context of gender and health ideals, consumer culture, individualisation and image. Body work can be understood as any practices aimed to modify or maintain the body's appearance, including dieting and exercise (commonly understood as 'health' practices). Body work is a central way in which young people are encouraged to be responsible for their own health and wellbeing. Social risks, particularly those related to health, have become individualised, meaning that young people in particular are required to take increased responsibility for managing risks while inequalities are rendered invisible. This presentation will unpack the complex ways 'health' is conceptualised and embodied in relation to social life and the context of risk, drawing on use concepts of affect and becoming to complicate understandings of youth beyond a 'bodies at risk' paradigm.

Title: Health Promotion and Young People: Troubling At-Risk Discourses

Author(s): Kerry Montero

Abstract:

In this paper I will draw on extensive research conducted on a long-running schools based health promotion program focussing on road safety to critically examine discourses of calculative rationality and technologies of governance that construct complex human behaviour in terms of calculable and mediated risk. Academic and policy understandings of road crashes and their prevention largely adopt discourses of 'risk' to analyse, explain, and develop policy in relation to, road safety. This road safety research connects with notions of young people as risk takers, as well as young people at risk due to inherent characteristics, such as their inexperience, lifestyle, brain development and their putative susceptibility to peer influence ('pressure'). This discourse serves to obscure and deny the rich and complex ways young people construct meaning and enact their relationship and dispositions towards car/road use.

The analysis will contribute to the work that seeks to identify and make problematic the limits and possibilities of imagining young people's health and well-being in terms of risk, of devising and deploying health promotion interventions on the basis of risk discourses and rationalities.

Title: Examining the importance of shame and the moral imperatives of health with young people at a North West Youth Club

Author(s): Louise Laverty

Abstract:

Public health campaigns often appeal to the public through emotive and moralising messages;

utilising fear, disgust, guilt and shame. This reflects a wider shift to what Deborah Lupton has described as the 'moral imperative of health', where the role of health becomes a measure of character and self-worth (1995). This paper draws on a year-long ethnographic study of young people (11-19 years) at a youth club in the North West of England. I argue that moralities of health seep into everyday life, and have implications for the inclusion and exclusion of young people who do not conform to the moral norms of the centre. Using Elspeth Probyn's work on shame as an analytic concept I will discuss the significance of shame during my fieldwork. The fear of being shamed, the proactive shaming of others, and being the subject of shaming are prominent in young people's identity work in this public setting. These issues will be discussed paying particular attention to the gendered nature of these interactions. It will also consider the problematic politics of belonging that shame illuminates. The findings will be placed in context by using the backdrop of the increasing prominence of 'shame debates' in UK.

Title: Race, affect and becoming: young people's bodily health practices

Author(s): Kathrine Vitus

Abstract:

Despite heightened focus on the health status of migrants in Denmark and internationally – as they do worse in mental and physical health statistics – few studies show how young migrants embody, experience and enact norms and practices of healthiness and how this relates to race and well-being. Using qualitative, participatory data, applying Gilles Deleuze's (e.g. 1988, 1992, 1995) concepts of affectivity, becoming and racial assemblages, this paper examines racially different students' embodied experiences, their ways of becoming through, and the influences of assemblages and forces of race on bodily health practices (such as exercise and dieting).

The study shows that in relation to dominating, normalizing bodily health practices, white students experience their bodily agency and potentiality (their becoming) as expanding, whereas non-white students experience their bodily capacities as limited. For instance, the white students describe body health practices as a means to increased well-being (feelings of satisfaction, self-confidence); in contrast racial minority students' engagement in bodily health practices rely on their well-being. The analysis considers how race and racial embodiment in the context of health discourses and body images dominated by implicit norms of Danishness and whiteness, affects the students' experiences of bodily health practices and well-being. The study is part of 'SULIM' ("Towards Sustainable Healthy Lifestyles Interventions for Migrants"), a Danish multidisciplinary research project focusing on migrants' health in a life course perspective. The project is led from MESU (Danish Research Centre for Migration, Ethnicity and Health) at Copenhagen University.

1f: Crime, Deviance & Criminal Justice, room 2.1.49

Chair: Kim Møller

Title: Youth work as emancipatory practice

Author(s): Annette Coburn & Sinead Gormally

Abstract:

This paper considers the value base of equality and social justice in youth work (Buchroth, and Parkin, 2010; Jeffs and Smith, 2010; Tett, 2010). It examines the extent to which contemporary practices in educational youth work address or compound the kind of age based discrimination that

young people are routinely subjected to in 'British' society. Drawing on empirical evidence, our analysis of power relationships shows how young people learn about equality in youth work. Yet, findings identify a series of contradictions in youth work. On one hand, it seeks to socialise young people into existing structures that perpetuate inequalities, yet, it also claims to liberate young people from age-based and other forms of discrimination. These contradictions are sustained through a disjuncture between a risk averse culture of compliance that is ineffective in developing equality work (Coburn, 2011) and a more radical and ethical value base for youth work (Banks, 2010; Sercombe, 2010), that has emancipatory praxis at its core (Batsleer, 2008; Cooper, 2012; Crooks, 1992; Cressey, 2008; Skott-Myre, 2008). The paper explores this duality of praxis and draws conclusions on possibilities and problems in conceptualising youth work within exiting frames of reference. The paper proposes new roles for youth workers in recreating the kind of dissenting vocation that Martin (2001) identified as critical to social and democratic education and which underpins our assertion of youth work as emancipatory practice.

Title: The Study-Work School in Post-Mao China: Its Role in Juvenile Crime Prevention and the Challenges

Author(s): Anqi Shen

Abstract:

The study-work school is an informal crime control mechanism in China available exclusively to juveniles. It admits students aged 12 up to 18 who have displayed 'unhealthy behaviour' or 'very unhealthy behaviour', and are deemed unable to continue studies at ordinary schools. It is recognised that the placement of juveniles in the work-study setting integrates the positive reinforcement of the community, thus the study-work school was once regarded as a good practice in the Chinese youth justice process. However, the use of study-work schools has declined significantly since the mid-1990s, and some commentators in China even question whether the measure should be abandoned altogether.

This article, through a small scale empirical study, aims to investigate the role that the study-work school plays in the prevention of juvenile delinquency and crime. A further objective is to explore the challenges facing it in the current socioeconomic climate in China. It begins with a brief outline of the legal basis of the study-work school. This is followed by a short methodology section. Relying on the empirical data, it then discusses the role that the study-work school plays in the prevention of juvenile delinquency and crime, and analyses the challenges facing this crime prevention measure for juveniles. Finally, it argues that the study-working school is potentially a hopeful development in the youth justice practices. However, radical reform is inevitable to enhance this mechanism, which requires the state and community support.

Title: Protection for whom? Responding to 'at risk' young women in Scotland

Author(s): Annie Crowley

Abstract:

This paper contributes to a debate on what constitutes good practice in working with girls and young women who offend, or who are deemed to be 'at risk' of offending. In recent years the number of young women coming into contact with criminal justice systems has been a subject of concern internationally, with a focus on the apparent increase in their offending. Young women are often identified as 'vulnerable' and 'at risk' from others or themselves, but instead of having their needs addressed by the (child) welfare systems, are transferred to the justice systems having been re-labelled as 'at risk' of offending. Despite an increase in academic, political and media interest, there is still insufficient knowledge regarding the needs and deeds of these young women, and what

appropriate responses for this group look like. The paper draws upon early findings from qualitative research being carried out exploring current criminal justice responses to girls and young women in Scotland, against the backdrop of the relatively recently introduced Whole Systems Approach. Emerging themes are highlighted, regarding the perceptions of practitioners working with 'at risk' young women in a range of settings, of both interpersonal and structural challenges and experiences of good practice.

Title: Triads and casinos in Macau: quasi-legitimate opportunity structure for young people

Author(s): Sharon Ingrid Kwok and T. Wing Lo

Abstract:

Despite the wealth of studies examining the risk factors of juvenile delinquency, few have examined the impact of triad associations. Using both quantitative and qualitative research methods, the present article investigates beyond these well-documented risk factors of juvenile delinquency, and explores the predictive power of triad influence in relation to known factors, such as family, school, and peer influences. Using a large youth sample in Macau in 2012, results confirmed that young people's associations with triad societies strongly predicted delinquency. Hierarchical regression analysis showed strong direct and indirect effects of triad influence on delinquent behavior. Triad influence was also found to mediate the effects of susceptibility to peer pressure, school attachment, and family conflict.

Qualitative data suggest that while triad influence on young people is significant, the model of triadization is different from that in Hong Kong. The paper argues that the uniqueness of triadization of young people in Macau is related to the existence of a quasi-legitimate opportunity structure, which contains several features: (1) triad subculture consisting of both legitimate and illegitimate activities, (2) intolerance of non-sensible and undisciplined use of violence, and (3) an opportunity structure for young people to achieve success through illicit and wicked means in the gaming industry.

1g: Politics & Resistance, room 2.2.30

Chair: Robert Hollands

Title: Wearing protest. Clothes and accessories in the Italian «antagonist» movement

Author(s): Carlo Genova

Abstract:

Dressing styles have been one of the main issues in youth subcultures studies. On the contrary, so far they have received little attention in social movements studies. It's a gap which appears particularly relevant considering that a lot of phenomena cross the boundaries between these two fields.

The paper try to fill in this gap by focusing on a specific case study – the Italian antagonist youth movement – under the hypothesis that this could be an interesting observation point to evaluate the relevance of the dressing issue in social movements analysis and to develop an innovative interpretative approach. In particular, by drawing on participant observation fieldnotes, qualitative interviews and photo-video documents, collected through three research waves during the last ten years in Italy, three main issues will be considered: 1) the evolution of dressing styles, comparing today's antagonist movement styles with those of the early 1990s (when the present movement was born) and also with those of the 1960s-1970s (the decades of previous social movements); 2) the strategic side (what is it useful for?) and the communicative side (what does it say?) of dressing in

nowadays movement, reflecting upon the effects of the intersection between these two sides on concrete dressing choices; 3) the relevance of dressing in the different sectors of the movement to develop collective identities and identification-recognition strategies, that is, to communicate “who they think they are like” and “who they think they are different from”.

Title: Missing frustration: Youth people’s emotional education and the necessity of anger

Author(s): Deirdre Duffy

Abstract:

The mental and emotional well-being of young people is subject of increasing concern. Across disciplinary boundaries, research has highlighted that while the dominant narrative of young people’s health is that it is improving, evidence places young people’s levels of emotional stability and good health in sharp decline (Eckersley, 2011; Furlong, 2013; Wyn, 2014). Thus far the deterioration of young people’s mental health has been discussed in terms of the pressures resulting from “the ‘tightening bond’ between educational qualifications and labour market outcomes” (ibid). This paper takes a different approach, exploring how the conflation of emotional education with discourses of discipline, ‘civility’ and control have excluded the expression of frustrations by young people, constructing contentment and happiness as the only acceptable forms of emotional expression and depicting anger as fundamentally illegitimate. The paper argues that this can have a profoundly detrimental effect on young people. By teaching them that anger is wrong, no quarter is given to help young people express their anger in ways which are productive and positive. The potential for anger to act as a force for change is, the paper proposes, severely debilitated. The paper connects youth studies debates on young people’s mental and emotional well-being with debates on the treatment of emotion in neoliberal educational discourses and feminist writing on the necessity of anger. This includes the work of bell hooks, Sara Ahmed and Ecclestone and Hayes, each of whom notes how emotions are regulated – either through their outright problematisation (hooks) or the promotion of ‘happiness’ as the only legitimate emotional expression (Ahmed). The paper argues that debates on young people’s mental and emotional well-being need to engage more overtly with these literatures and defend young people’s right to be angry.

Title: Reformed Street Gang: Exploring the implications of friendship and ‘reformed street culture’ in youth desistance processes

Author(s): Birgitte Thylstrup, Thomas F. Sogaard & Torsten Kolind

Abstract:

Risk behavior in marginalized ethnic youth constitutes a growing area within national and international research. An area that have received much attention is how street cultures in local communities function as social arenas, where risk behavior in form of crime, drug use and aggressive masculinity constitutes a central part of their personal and social identity and collective response to experienced marginalization. Consistent with the socialization perspective, greater exposure to peer deviance is hypothesized to prompt higher levels of delinquency and maladaptive outcomes, supported by findings on correlates of delinquency. However, while research continues to refine the theoretical and empirical significance of deviant peers, studies on how peer groups and ‘reformed street cultures’ may function as platforms for transitions away from risk behavior are lacking. The presentation is based on qualitative interviews and participant observation at a Danish rehabilitation center, New Start, for marginalized young ethnic minority men with a history of criminal behavior, gang involvement and excessive drug consumption. The aim of New Start is to facilitate an alternative youth culture that both draws upon deviant street symbolism and existing friendship

relations, but also promotes more pro-social values and positions. The presentation discusses how addressing and incorporating existing deviant peer groups in rehabilitation programs may facilitate youth desistance away from risk behavior, but also how this strategy involves significant dilemmas and everyday negotiations of risks and relationships with existing social networks.

Title: Young Adults and the Struggle for the 'Right to the Creative (Party) City' in Geneva

Author(s): Robert Hollands, Marie-Avril Berthet, Eva Nada, Virginia Bjertnes

Abstract:

Deemed the squatting capital of Europe in the mid-90s, Geneva's faltering alternative artistic counterculture and its associated experimental nightlife, has fallen victim to neo-liberal urban development (including the liberalisation of corporate/commercial licensed premises and legal challenges to squats, soaring property prices/rents and gentrification, the limits imposed by idea of the creative city and increased cultural regulation). More recently though, an alliance of young Genevois artists, dj's, activists, and revellers, have begun to fight back demanding new forms of alternative provision under the rubric of the 'right to the (party) city'. The main aim of this article is to theoretically and empirically examine this nocturnal urban movement in light of wider debates about urban entrepreneurialism, conflict over space, and struggles over 'creative city' discourses. After briefly reviewing a range of theoretical material on urban transformation, including discussions of the rise (and critiques) of the entrepreneurial and creative city, and the role nightlife plays within these paradigms, the article turns to the specific case study of Geneva, and assesses the current 'right to the (party) city' movement's character, contribution, and contradictions, in challenging neo-liberal urban developments.

1h: Youth Work, room 2.2.36

Chair: Janet Boddy

Title: Is there a role for manualised programmes in youth work? A critical reflection based on the experience of Irish youth organisation, Foróige

Author(s): Bernadine Brady

Abstract:

While there is a strong movement in favour of the use of evidence based programmes in the arena of social care (Axford & Morpeth, 2013), there exists a view that such programmes are not applicable in the more fluid setting of youth work, which operates informally, using dynamic and organic methods. For example, Coburn (2011) argues that a critical pedagogical approach to youth work engages young people by encouraging them to become inquisitive, to question why things are the way they are and to pose problems through which they can learn. Manualised programmes are seen as not having a role in such contexts. The Irish national youth organization Foróige, which works with over 60,000 young people in Ireland on an annual basis, has developed a range of manualised evidence informed resources to support its youth work over recent years. Drawing on research evidence from a range of studies conducted with youth workers and young people focusing on implementation of these resources, the paper explores the benefits and tensions associated with the use of programme manuals in a youth work context. The findings suggest that evidence informed resources have a valuable role to play in youth work if designed in collaboration with youth workers, showing respect for core youth work values and allowing for flexibility and adaptability in implementation.

Title: Young People and the ‘Troubled Families Programme’

Author(s): Aniela Wenham

Abstract:

This paper will draw upon qualitative research with young people who are predominantly silent or passive within the governments ‘Troubled Families Programme’ (TFP). This is significant for two reasons; firstly, and most notably, within the context of austerity, the decimation of youth services must be acknowledged as being a key barrier to the success of the TFP. It will be argued that real tensions lie here; the programme rests upon the assumption that a lead professional will broker in support via effective multi-agency working at a time when provision and support is being drastically cut. How are young people experiencing this cold climate and what challenges might arise for the practitioners delivering the family intervention? Secondly, it is important to question how appropriate this ‘family wide’ intervention is when it primarily rests upon the success of engaging and ‘turning around’ the lives of ‘risky’ young people. The very definition of a troubled family heavily rests upon the characteristics or behavior of ‘risky’ young people, rather than the adult/s within the household. This paper will explore how young people interpret and negotiate the TFP. How the very notion of ‘turning your life around’ might be distinctly different to the needs and perceptions of the wider family, and how, if at all, these differences can be reconciled. Finally, it will be argued that the potential benefits of this intervention may well be short lived. Indeed, as soon as the youngest child in a family turns 16 they are automatically disregarded as a ‘troubled family’ and consequently the intervention is closed. Understanding the young person’s journey *through* and *beyond* their encounter with the TFP, including their aspirations for the future, is critical in being able to really appreciate any claims to positive long term outcomes.

Title: Race, space, and youth: A Critique of the Stages of Change Model of youth outreach work

Author(s): Sara Carpenter and Ahmed Ahmed

Abstract:

A major focus of the ‘at-risk youth’ discourse has been youth engaging in and experiencing violence, perceived deviance by youth, and a general lack of social integration of young people in traditional institutions. Governments in the global north as well as civil society in these countries – particularly the not-for-profit sector – have used the construction of ‘at-risk’ to conceptualize, design and implement social programs for racialized and other marginalized youth. This paper will examine the racial and spatial ordering of youth through policy and programmatic interventions by critiquing the Ontario Youth Outreach Worker Program’s (YOWP) intervention model. The YOWP was launched in 2006 in response to the highly publicized spike in gun violence in Toronto in 2005, dubbed ‘the summer of the gun’. The program is housed in 20 not-for-profit organizations across Ontario, many of these organizations are located in Toronto’s ‘priority neighbourhoods.’ In 2009 the YOWP developed a new model for youth outreach work called the Stages of Change. This new intervention model systematically erases the social challenges racialized and other marginalized youth face; instead offering a psycho-emotional development model to explain the phenomena of ‘at-risk.’ This paper will critique the ideology embedded in the YOWP’s construction of youth as a racialized spatial project. In particular I will examine the state’s construction of racialized youth in poor communities as dangerous to society while employing the academy and civil society as a means to erase race through policy and programmatic interventions.

Title: Contemporary Knowledge/Contemporary Gaps? A ‘Semi-systematic’ Review of Programmes for Sex, Gender and Gender-based Violence Education in South African Schools

Author(s): Carmen Corral, Kelley Moulton and Talia Meer

Abstract:

Research shows that South African youth are sexually active relatively early, and that they experience high levels of coercion and sexual violence. While appropriate gender-based violence prevention programming is critical, the literature on such programmes is sparse and disparate. To remedy this shortcoming, the paper undertakes a cross-disciplinary semi-systematic review to map the findings on programmes for South African youth on gender, sexuality, and gender-based violence implemented in the last ten years. Using combined systematic and narrative review techniques, the paper analysed articles from six academic databases, screened them for content relevance and thematically analysed the articles that fit the inclusion criteria to generate information on the pedagogical and methodological approaches that programmes used, the issues addressed, and the effectiveness in providing knowledge and skills for young people in terms of gender, sexuality and gender-based violence.

The paper presents a nuanced thematic analysis of the state of the literature on youth gender, sexuality, and gender-based violence programmes in South Africa, highlighting problems such as their reliance on ‘outside’ experts, replicability, highly specific didactic approaches that are often not adaptable or context specific, and that fails to critically engage youth, or speak to contemporary challenges and risks. The paper shows that programme content is often reproductive health focused with a strong emphasis on HIV and pregnancy prevention through abstinence or condom-use, with little engagement with sexual diversity, the complexities of youth sexual decision-making, pleasure, consent and gender-based violence.

1i: Place and Space, room 2.2.49

Chair: Jakob Demant

Title: Youths’ lived experiences in a hyper-diverse city – a case study in Rotterdam, the Netherlands

Author(s): Kirsten Visser

Abstract:

Cities are becoming increasingly hyper-diverse: not only do we see an increase in different ethnicities living together in urban space, but also within ethnic groups many differences exist with respect to lifestyles, attitudes and activities. Particularly today’s youths grow up in a world where hyper-diversity forms an important part of their everyday lives, as they often occupy places where the production and contestation of difference is most heightened and meaningful, such as schools or youth clubs (Harris, 2009). This hyper-diversification might result in a complex web of cultural connections and (interethnic) identifications. In the Dutch context, however, little is known about the everyday experiences of hyper-diversity among youths, how these differ from the experiences of adults, and what the consequences are of hyper-diversity for urban policies. Based on in-depth interviews with youths (12-18 years) and adults living in a low-income, multi-ethnic neighbourhood in Rotterdam, the Netherlands we therefore provide insight into youths’ everyday lived experiences in a hyper-diverse city. How do they perceive hyper-diversity in their living environments and how is

this reflected in their socio-spatial practices, social networks and identities? These findings are compared with the perceptions and practices of adults in the same neighbourhood. How do youths' perceptions and practices differ from those of earlier generations? Based on the interviews I argue that more diverse and more tailored policies are needed for youths in low-income neighbourhoods, which have eye for hyper-diversification and are able to cope with the diverse needs of youths in different social and spatial settings.

Title: Unstructured socialization and territorialisation. A street-ethnographic take on urban youth in a medium-sized town in Denmark

Author(s): David T. Gravesen & Peter Frostholt Olesen

Abstract:

In 2013, the municipality in Horsens, a medium-sized provincial town in Denmark, bestowed the city's children and young people a skater / parkour / ball-cage facility right on the city's central squares. The facility serves as a territorial meeting place for a number of conflicting groups of adolescents with different codes of behavior based on their cultural orientation and sense of belonging to certain districts of the city. Through positioning battles of various kinds the groups fight for space and place for their unstructured socialization processes with their peers. Officially, the municipality donated the facility to give local children and young people an opportunity to use their bodies and participate in diverting and edifying cultural activities within the urban space. But not all children and young people subscribe to these municipal agendas, and thus conflicting relationships also occur between the municipality and (particularly) some groups of young people, whose forms of capital, activities and cultural life is not consistent with the normative basis in the city's self-understanding. The basis of our analysis are grounded in an anthropological field study and a series of follow-up interviews. In our presentation we examine how young people occupy, use and negotiate the facilities, and to what extent the urban site plays a role in the way the adolescents create, cultivate and maintain their cultural everyday life and social relationships.

Title: "I don't hate living here, but..."

Author(s): Mette Pless and Niels Ulrik Sørensen

Abstract:

Cultural images of young people's lives in the city and rural areas are characterized by polarization and hierarchization. The city is often portrayed as the natural centre whereas rural areas are positioned as periphery. This trend is supported by much contemporary sociological theory, where modernity is linked to urbanity and life in the city, whereas rural areas often are portrayed as 'backwards' or traditional (Farrugia 2013, Bloksgaard et al 2013, Paulgaard 2002). Farrugia underlines that the sociology of youth tend to theorize youth through "...theoretical frameworks based on urban experiences which capture neither the lives of rural young people nor the spatial dimensions of the structures and cultures that make up contemporary youth." (Farrugia 2013:295). By this, youth sociology tends to focus on young lives in urban areas, while there has been little attention pointed towards how young people experience life in rural areas (Bloksgaard et al 2013:188). Drawing on a research project focusing on young people's lives in rural Denmark, in this paper we explore how dominant storylines (Davies 2000, Søndergaard 2002) of urbanity can be traced in young people's narratives of youth, place and belonging. At the same time however, in the young people's narratives there are also traces of alternative storylines where young people re-articulate and 'talk back' at dominant storylines, and in the paper we focus on these elements of 'talking back' with the aim of reconceptualising the relationship between the city, rural areas and youth.

Title: Belonging on the streets of Vancouver: Senses of place in an inner city drug scene

Author(s): Danya Fast

Abstract:

In the public imagination, “street youth” are frequently defined through their relationship with place. Senses of place among young people who use drugs and inhabit the social, spatial and economic margins are often far more complicated than conventional understandings imply, however. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork conducted from 2008 to 2014 with a group of approximately 30 young people in Vancouver, Canada, we explore how involvement in an inner city drug scene could be articulated as both a fragile sense of belonging in “The Best Place on Earth,” and a fear of “getting lost” in the city. We situate these senses of place within the wider geographies of power, political economy and possibility that youth were navigating, during a particular historical moment. This was a moment marked by the rapid gentrification of the inner city; simultaneously, downtown Vancouver has become the site of a large poverty management infrastructure, offering housing, food, health care, harm reduction, advocacy and religious salvation to “at-risk populations.” We argue that the contradictions embedded in Vancouver’s inner city landscape could be embodied by youth, and shape ways of being at the most intimate level – including dangerous drug use practices. However, these contradictions also reflected youth’s desires to break open alternative horizons of belonging and becoming in a world city. The fractured city could be the site of imaginaries of inclusion, even among those young people who were largely positioned outside of the means to pursue these.

1j: Methods (Panel: Youth “at risk?”), room 2.1.42

Chair: Trine Wulf-Andersen & Reidun Follesø

Title: Young People at Risk – The Situation in the Nordic Region

Author(s): Terje Olsen, Jenny Tägtström and Lidija Kolouh-Söderlund

Abstract:

This paper takes as a point of departure the risks and challenges that young people in the Nordic countries face today. The population of young people (age 16-29 years) in the Nordic countries consists of approximately five million persons in total. This is a heterogeneous group in many ways. What they have in common, is those features, which is associated with growing up in the context of a Nordic welfare state. What do we know from recent research results about the situation for this group of citizens? What is the situation for young people who are outside established social institutions such as school and employment? What is the situation for young people in matters such as friendships, social networks or mental health? Are there any differences or similarities between the Nordic countries? The aim in this paper is to sum up relevant knowledge from Nordic and international research in these matters.

Title: Vulnerable transitions – youth struggling with everyday life

Author(s): Cecilie Høj Anvik

Abstract:

This paper argues that studying youth from an everyday life perspective enables researchers to grasp youth in vulnerable life situations from the advantageous standpoint of the youths themselves. Everyday life provides both an existential grounding in life and a beneficial analytical framework. Employing an everyday life perspective involves asking direct questions about the youths' daily routines, activities, and ways of organizing their everyday lives. As an analytical perspective, everyday life can offer insight into significant social and cultural conditions and discourses. Everyday life, including social practices and cultural values, is seen to be regulated by individuality and society, inclusion and exclusion, and belonging and marginalization. Drawing on interviews with Norwegian youths who struggle with daily life, this paper discusses their ideas of "factual, moral and dream everyday lives". In addition to striving with mental health issues, these youths are at risk of dropping out of school and being marginalized from working life. The "factual everyday life" consists of youths' narratives on how their daily lives unfold. The "moral everyday life" refers to how they envision their everyday lives should be, drawing on dominant discourses about societal perceptions of how youths should live their lives. The "dream everyday life" refers to how they wish their lives could be. By comparing these three interpretations of everyday life, the paper reveals a considerable gap between how the youths manage their daily lives, how they interpret societal expectations for their lives, and how they themselves wish their lives could be.

Title: (Poetic) Representation, (Professional) Texts and Young People at Risk"

Author(s): Trine Wulf-Andersen

Abstract:

The paper considers the different ways young people were involved in the research process in a Danish research project with young people with social and psychological problems. Young people were involved in life story interviews and subsequently in the interpretation of material produced through the interviews and discussions on how reflections and conclusions from the research should be written up and disseminated. The paper takes a methodological focus, considering briefly general aims and methods of the project, before turning to the elaboration on how poetic representations can be constructed and employed as a vehicle for certain kinds of participation, representation, and dialogue, of situated participants. The paper comments on the potentials of 'doing' poetic representations as an example of writing in ways which brings young people's voices to the foreground, includes aspects which academic writing tends to marginalize, and challenges what sometimes goes unasked in (participative) social work research with young people at risk.

Title: Youth at risk or terms at risk?

Author(s): Reidun Føllesø

Abstract:

A group of researchers at the University of Nordland recently completed the Norwegian research and development project, Youth in Flight. The main question was how youth at risk should be approached, motivated and helped in ways that may lead to the best possible transition into adulthood. The original title of the project was *Youth at Risk*, however, the young people we met reacted immediately to being referred to in these terms. Being called youth *at risk* gave them a feeling of being labeled as

"bad" or difficult people. It was as if the word itself drained both the youth and the specialists of energy. This paper discusses how the two terms *youth* and *risk* are connected to each other. The introduction provides a theoretical foundation, followed by a simple content analysis showing how youth and risk have been discussed for the past two years in one particular journal. This provides the basis for a discussion on how the term *risk* – as it is applied – opens the door to certain discourses while closing the door to others. The discussion is framed by the following two questions: (1) Is risk used as an inclusionary or exclusionary term? (2) Do predominant understandings of risk invite individual or collective explanatory models? In conclusion, I discuss whether there may be alternative terms that would encourage understanding and active movement in other directions.

2a: Transitions, room 2.0.30

Chair: Valentina Cuzzocrea

Title: An intersectional analysis of the current economic crisis: how risks and insecurity are differently affecting the lives of young people in Italy

Author(s): Enzo Colombo, Luisa Leonini & Paola Rebughini

Abstract:

The paper investigates how present economic crisis is affecting the daily life and the social position of young people in Italy. On the one hand, starting from the analysis of more general statistical evidences of the worsening situation in the job market, we develop an intersectional analysis – both intercategory and intracategory – of some indicators to shed light on educational and gender differences. On the other hand, we present the results of a qualitative research conducted on the experiences and representations of the economic crisis among young people with both low and high cultural capital in Milan.

The central hypothesis of our work is that 'the crisis' is not only a temporary economic conjuncture, but a social phenomenon reshaping the social position of individuals both from a structural and subjective point of view. Showing how the crisis is affecting different young people in very different ways, the paper investigates both structural evidences and subjective interpretations of the crisis. It highlights how the current economic crisis might represent both a potential danger and a new opportunity, stressing the relevant role of structural intersection of gender/education/ethnicity in shaping the factual space for youth's agency.

Title: Narratives of luck in the Italian uncertain post-crisis reality. The role of chance, risk and coincidences in the biographical trajectories of young women

Author(s): Edda Orlandi

Abstract:

The paper is based on in-depth interviews with young women having finished education during the post-crisis years in Italy. A comparison is drawn between the narratives of university educated young women and young women having left school early, as secondary school drop-outs or after vocational training. The different uses of the concepts of "luck" and "chance" in describing their life stories are analysed in order to highlight their different situations and responses to their uncertain pathways towards adulthood in a challenging globalised knowledge-based economy. The modern notion of fortune has been described as closely related to the concepts of chance and risk, and part of a

worldview that embraces uncertainty as an unquestioned feature of the world. In this respect, luck and chance are ideas that help to make sense of the contradictions inherent in the individualized narratives of the university educated young women, who in fact can draw from social, cultural and economic resources in navigating a world they describe as risky, but not frightful. They are confident in their ability to seize opportunities in a chaotic but also thrilling time of transition. On the contrary the less educated young women, who cannot count on these resources, describe the world they live in as dominated by unresolvable contradictions that prevent their transition to a fulfilling adult life. In their narratives there is no place for lucky coincidences. They describe lives dominated by unfair chance, leading to sense of perpetual insecurity, exclusion and inability to project in the future.

Title: Youth in/as 'crisis': Locating youth and young adults in policy responses to systemic crisis

Author(s): Sara Carpenter and Shahrzad Mojab

Abstract:

There is a marked trend since the 2008 fiscal crisis that considers a broader spectrum of young adults 'at-risk' of various types of material, social, physical, and cultural insecurity. In this way, young people are increasingly understood as socially, economic, and politically 'precarious'. Through various academic, popular, and policy literatures, they are imagined as being both 'threatened' by social inequality as well as a 'threat' against which our notions of security and social cohesion are constructed. In response to such a crisis, numerous policy initiatives have emerged internationally to confront insecurity amongst youth and young adults. It is a complex, fragmented project across local, regional, national, and international boundaries and involving stakeholders from civil society, governments, the private sector, and supranational governance. By outlining some of the divergent forms of theorizing the so-called 'crisis of youth,' this paper examines how young adults have been used to construct our contemporary 'crisis' in capitalism and how 'crisis' informs our understanding of how young adults are uniquely positioned within the cultural, economic, and policy landscapes of social precariousness. Drawing on Marxist, feminist, anti-imperialist, and anti-racists analysis of social reproduction and crisis, this paper will examine the state's intervention in the lives of young people through proliferating policies meant to intervene in not just 'crisis' broadly, but the 'crisis of youth,' specifically.

Title: Navigational Capacities for Youth Success in Adversity: A Southern Perspective

Author(s): Sharlene Swartz

Abstract:

The global South has for too long relied on global North contexts and theories in the study of youth and youth development. These Northern approaches have centred on US-driven positive youth development focused on dynamic systems, risks and protective factors, and the UK-led socio-cultural approach addressing youth agency, resistance and cultural reproduction.

This paper asks (1) Who are 'Southern Youth', and in what ways are their lives the same as, or different to their Global North counterparts? and (2) What new tools and language are required in order to make visible these similarities and differences and so bring Southern Youth out of the invisibility of current hegemonic youth studies? Substantially, it offers an alternative nascent framework, that of 'navigational capacities' to research and practice. Navigational capacities are suggested as specific socio-emotional and material capabilities required by youth living in contexts of adversity. These capacities, rather than skills, are learnable and are available to young people in the pursuit of success, where success is postulated as the capacity to exert individual agency; obtain, create and invest capitals in their primary proximal contexts of engagement; recognize and analyse the ways in which interconnecting distal contexts such as institutions, practices and policies exert influence to oppose and enable agency; see the way in which power operates through identity markers to restrict participation, and perpetuate domination and poverty; and practice collective agency for civic participation and life cycle transitions.

2b: Work, Welfare & unemployment, (Panel: Recession, welfare, precarity and poverty: reflections on young lives in 21st century Britain), room 2.0.36

Chair: Ruth Patrick

Title: "Just a temp" - The experiences and effects of precarious employment amongst university graduates

Author(s): Laura Cartwright

Abstract:

The widespread changes which have occurred as a result of the shift to neoliberal capitalism have significantly altered the context in which young people navigate the transition to adulthood, transforming the domains of higher education through market-led expansion and employment through the move towards 'flexible labour' and a growth of insecure and 'precarious' forms of work. Existing research demonstrates that even before the recent economic downturn, many young people are being compelled to undertake 'precarious' work in the absence of alternatives, and this includes a significant number of university graduates from the recently expanded higher education system (IPPR, 2010; ONS, 2013).

This paper will examine the rise of graduates in precarious employment. Using qualitative data obtained via interviews with graduates who are 'temping', I will illustrate how graduates experience their situation of 'precarity'; the onerous nature of recruitment processes, frustration with their current employment, and increasing pessimism about their future prospects. Challenging dominant discourses that tend to situate negative employment outcomes as a result of individual failure, I will argue that the shift to flexible labour and expansion of higher education has significantly impacted

upon the growth of precarity. Ultimately, I will suggest that the insecurity and uncertainty of such roles is preventing young people from making the transition to the autonomy and financial independence of adulthood, and instead, leading to feelings of failure, frustration and anxiety about the future.

Title: Youth unemployment, churn and stalled careers: The UK youth labour market in the 2008/2009 recession

Author(s): Neil Lee

Abstract:

This paper considers the impact of the 2008/9 recession on the youth labour market in the UK. It distinguishes between three potential labour market phenomena: (1) 'lock-out' where young people are unable to enter the workforce, (2) 'churn' or 'cycling' where young people are able to enter work, but only for short periods and, (3) 'stalling', as young people do not progress in the labour market. It shows that the principal effect of the recession was that young people were locked out of the labour market and unable to enter employment. When in work young people were actually less likely to change job or occupation. However, young people were increasingly 'churned' between inactivity, education and unemployment without entering employment. The weak labour market also reduced progression, whether measured as wage increases or exits from temporary work. The impact of the recession was also unevenly distributed amongst young people – those with fewer formal qualifications experienced the worst effects. These results suggest the policy focus in recession should be on work entry and progression, with sustainability proving less of an issue once young people are in employment.

Title: "Another way out – better"? Youth poverty, risk and hope in the UK?

Author(s): Anthony Ruddy

Abstract:

Research about poverty in the UK is typically centered on younger children or older age groups such as the elderly, rather than young people, whereas research about youth poverty is sparse and tends to be quantitative in nature. Even within the academic field of Youth Studies, the polarized schools of youth transitions research and youth cultural research in particular, do not closely engage with the concept of poverty. Based on biographical methods, observations and field notes, this new piece of research has generated a volume of rich, subjective narratives from young people who are growing up in contexts of multiple deprivation and material hardship in a small, deindustrialized town in North-East England, UK.

The research studies the interplay between youth poverty and material inequality, everyday social practice and youth transitions to adulthood. In particular, participants speak openly and honestly about their strong commitment to work, against a backdrop of intermittent (under)employment, precarity and permanent recession in a severely depressed youth labour-market. Participants' narratives provide qualitative evidence of everyday hardships and continuing working class struggle within a 21st Century socio-economic context. One focus of the paper will be the different ways in which poverty is experienced and has effects on people who are living in objectively the same material situations. Variations in values, behaviors and aspirations were reflected in the perceived powerlessness, fatalism and unsafe lifestyles of many young people who took part in the study, and the positive attitudes, actions and expectations of an optimistic minority engaged with an alternative risk framework in the hopeful pursuit of what Arthur Morrison's (1896) fictional character, Dicky Perrott, would term 'another way out – better.'

Title: “It’s not Great Britain anymore, it’s just Britain. It’s going under” – exploring young out-of-work benefit claimants’ attitudes towards welfare reform in the UK

Author(s): Ruth Patrick

Abstract:

Against a climate of ongoing changes to working-age benefits in the UK, this paper explores findings from a small-scale qualitative longitudinal study into the lived experiences of welfare reform. Young people have been particularly targeted by recent policy changes with further reforms inevitable, especially as the Government has announced proposals to restrict the eligibility to benefits of 18-21 year olds as part of their ‘earn or learn’ promise cum threat. While we hear a great deal about the hardening of public attitudes to welfare and the Government’s continued defence of an ever more punitive and conditional benefit regime, there is relatively little research into the attitudes of those directly affected. This paper presents findings on attitudes of out-of-work benefit claimants aged 18-30 towards welfare reform. Discussion highlights differing perspectives on the trend towards ‘ubiquitous conditionality’ (Dwyer and Wright, 2014), with a particular divergence notable between its potential applicability to people like ‘us’, and some ‘other’ judged to require the threat of compulsion. The paper also considers the ways in which young out-of-work benefit claimants internalise negative depictions of claimants as ‘shirkers’ and ‘skivers’, exploring how this can perhaps be linked to their perspectives on the case for continued welfare reform.

2c: Education, room 2.1.18

Chair: Mette Pless

Title: Educational Aspirations of Teenagers in the UK: Exploring the role of gender, class and ethnicity

Author(s): Steven Roberts, Ann Berrington & Peter Tammes

Abstract:

Young people’s aspirations are a source of significant concern for policy makers across the political spectrum. Yet, while administrative data has often been effectively used to analyse attainment differences, limited nationally representative data on young people’s aspirations has been available, especially in respect of ethnic differences. Here, drawing on a wider ESRC study into the aspirations for living and learning among young people in the UK, we analyse the responses of 4899 young people aged 10 to 15, who participated in the UK Household Longitudinal Study, to present an up to date picture of teenagers’ aspirations for higher levels of education during the recent economic recession. The timing of the survey is especially significant given the emphasis by politicians to raising aspirations as a means to stimulate the economy. Accordingly, we consider the impact of gender, parental occupational class, parental educational background, parental structure and parental attitudes towards education upon teenagers’ educational aspirations, and present analysis of these factors as more than control variables in simple additive models, allowing us to fully consider whether their effects are consistent across ethnic groups. This complements studies which have set out to better understand the ethnic variation in attainment and takes heed of criticisms that surprisingly little educational research explicitly considers potential interactions between ethnicity gender and class.

Title: "Some people look down on me because of my studies": A theoretical discussion and empirical analysis into the origins of feelings of futility amongst secondary school pupils in Flanders.

Author(s): Bram Spruyt, Filip Van Droogenbroeck, Dimokritos Kavadias

Abstract:

During the past decade, both qualitative and quantitative research have documented strong feelings of fatalism amongst pupils enrolled in technical and vocational tracks in secondary education. Whereas those feelings have been shown to predict decreased school involvement and school misconduct, relatively little is known about their exact origins. In this paper, we explore to what extent they should be considered a stigma consciousness caused by the demeaning impact of perceived contempt to which pupils from technical and vocational tracks are exposed. Data from the International Civic and Citizenship Education Study from Flanders (the Dutch-speaking part of Belgium, N: 1967) were used to explore the distribution and consequences of perceived contempt with regard to one's choice of study. About 20% of the pupils enrolled in technical and vocational education reported that some people look down on them due to their studies. Moreover, even after taking into account different ability measures and social background characteristics, a strong direct relationship remained between perceived contempt and feelings of futility.

Our results also shed new light on a long-standing discussion in the literature on social reproduction in education concerning the extent to which youngsters are aware of different expectations. This old dispute opposes on the one hand authors like Bourdieu, who put heavy emphasis on practical non-discursive knowledge and on the other hand authors like Willis, who wrote about resistance cultures. Both strands share the ambition to achieve a better understanding of how the victims of social reproduction processes actively contribute to their own deprivation, or 'become who they are' in the words of Bourdieu. However, they differ sharply about the mechanisms that underpin it.

Willis' lads, were consciously aware that they were held in contempt. They were not passive victims of prejudice, but motivated agents attempting to protect their identities from threat. Our findings align with that interpretation and, as such, support the more general criticism on Bourdieu that power differentials elicit more resistance than Bourdieu was willing to admit. The youngsters' fatalism did not so much originate in a 'tacit acceptance of one's fate' but were instead grounded in the concrete experience of being held in contempt.

Title: The protective effect of educational and career aspirations in the process of transition to adulthood of vulnerable youngsters in Romania

Author(s): Agnes David-Kacso, Maria Roth, Paul Teodor Hărăguș & Sergiu Raiu

Abstract:

The experiences with social adversities due to material deprivation and other associated factors (low income, poor housing, residential area with poor resources etc.) are strong predictors for individual attainment (Schoon, 2006). In the same time, the negative effect of social disadvantage can be moderated by future aspirations, the educational and career plans of adolescents guiding the process of transition to adulthood (Elder 1999). As Schoon (2006) points out, educational and job aspirations are strong predictors of adult status for both high and low risk individuals.

The objective of the present study is to analyze the effects of aspirations as registered in the final high-school year, on the educational and occupational attainment two years later, by youngsters with different levels of social vulnerability. Data are drawn from a nationally representative sample of 3508 youngsters coming from 70 schools surveyed in the frame of the project "Outcomes of Adolescence. A longitudinal perspective". The level of social vulnerability is determined according to the components of the risk index taken into consideration: material deprivation, parents' education,

crowding of the home, and the residential area of the adolescents' home before the age of 15 years. The relationship between educational and career aspirations on one side and actual social status on the other side will be analyzed for each vulnerability group. Results confirm the moderating effects of educational and career aspirations on education and work choices but this effects differs for the vulnerability groups engaged in the process of transition to adulthood in Romania

2d: Gender & Sexualities, room 2.1.30

Chair: Sam Stiegler

Title: Youth suicide: Managing the risk of neoliberal heteronormative 'failure'

Author(s): Elizabeth McDermott & Victoria Rawlings

Abstract:

Youth suicide is a concern across the world. Some young people have an elevated risk of suicide such as young men, those from poorer backgrounds and those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT). Youth suicide research tends to concentrate on psychiatric risk factors and ignores young people's powerful feelings as they manage a variety of life difficulties such as bereavement, poverty, homophobia and family breakdown. We report on the qualitative findings of a national UK study investigating LGBT youth suicide. Our findings suggest that suicidal distress is multi-faceted and often derived from feeling marginalised, socially excluded and the pressure to conform to heterosexual norms and neoliberal standards of success.

The young people in our study described the intense emotional work involved in managing their sexual and gender identities, and fulfilling their own and others' expectations. The 'failure' to fit within heavily prescribed heterosexual norms and neoliberal standards evoked anguish, self-hatred and feelings of personal inferiority which led sometimes to suicidal thoughts. Success and failure are widely understood in contemporary capitalism as the result of individual effort and the economic, social and cultural resources underpinning success are hidden and unequally available. Within the current economic climate these expectations of heterosexuality and neoliberal success are intensified, making it easier for marginalised young people to feel they have failed, and more difficult to imagine a future worth living. Policies and interventions which seek to prevent youth suicide need to concentrate on the social and economic circumstances of youth distress.

Title: Gender differences in cultural participation: social class or gender based socialization?

Author(s): Jessy Siongers & John Lievens

Abstract:

Although gender differences are found in several analyses on cultural participation, these differences have been relatively neglected as a research topic. Several studies indicate a higher participation rate –both in a receptive and an active way- among females than among males with concern to highbrow cultural activities (e.g. drama, visual arts, visiting libraries,...). However, research on determinants of gender differences in cultural participation remains scarce. Several studies highlight the importance of the early life stages in cultural and gender socialization. Still, few studies focus on cultural participation of young people and gender differences found in younger age. Drawing on a large scale survey held in 2013 in 67 secondary schools in Flanders (n=3843), we explored these gender differences in cultural participation among young people and searched for explaining factors. In our search for explanations we took cultural socialization approaches (e.g. Bourdieu's cultural

reproduction theory) and the doing gender approach as starting points. Multilevel regression and logistic analysis revealed that gender differences in cultural participation (which indeed are also found among Flemish youngsters) are little to no class-based, but are found in all layers of society. Regardless of the social class in which one grows up, boys are less likely to participate in cultural events than girls. These gender differences are already visible at the start of secondary education and remain but seem not to increase during secondary schooling. However, it appears that the school environments have an impact on young people's and especially on girls' participation patterns.

Title: On resiliencies: Black male youth, sexuality, and space

Author(s): Lance McCready

Abstract:

This paper draws on findings from Educational Trajectories of Black Male Youth, a qualitative study of diverse Black male youth's perceptions of resilience, education and employment opportunities in Toronto, Ontario and Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The primary aim of the paper is to compare and contrast gay-identified and straight identified Black male youth's perception of resilience, i.e. one's ability to adapt and positively respond to environmental stressors or trajectories of risk. Analysis of four focus groups and in-depth interviews in both cities revealed both similarities and differences in youth narratives. Both gay and straight Black male youth described a range of adversities they faced in the context of schools, their families and the labour market. They turned to family members, the ballroom community, teachers, coaches and social services to develop their resilience despite these challenges. Participants appreciated when space was made in these sites for critical dialogues that fostered a critique of the socio-political contexts driving the adversity they faced on a daily basis, but Black male youth who identified as gay articulated particular challenges addressing violence in their neighborhoods of residence and therefore uniformly sought support outside of their communities they grew up in. In conclusion the author discusses the strengths and weaknesses of these dynamics and links them to the social geographies of Toronto and Montreal.

Title: Queering the DREAM: On immigration, youth, and heteronormative logics

Author(s): Sam Stiegler

Abstract:

This theoretical paper offers a queered reading of notions of youth in order to reveal the pervasiveness of heteronormative logics in the dominant political discourses about immigration reform in the United States. Such a reading of the DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) and other political discussions about children of undocumented immigrants exposes dominant constructions of youth bodies and their relationship to the state. To highlight the regimes of truth constructing children of undocumented immigrants, I draw an analogy to legal discussions around paternity cases over "illegitimate" children in order to reveal the heteronormative structures constituting notions of citizenship, youth, belonging, race, and place. Viewing the immigrant parents as the feminized parental figure (the mother whose always already legally understood to be bound to the child) and the US government as the masculinized parental figure (the father whose legal relationship to the child is in question) assists in peeling apart the discourses amidst which immigrant youth bodies are entangled, epistemologically and ontologically. This paper, then, thinks through understandings of paternity and citizenship, of family and belonging and their relationship to the pervasive influence of heteronormativity in societal institutions in order to recognize how dominant notions of place and space influence which bodies have access to citizenship. It is this pervasiveness of heterosexuality, I argue, that creates the circumstances for the US to disown immigrant youth because of the spatial logics that constitute place and which bodies are thought to

belong to which places.

2e: Health (Panel: School conditions and youth wellbeing), room 2.1.36

Chair: Ylva B. Almquist

Title: Young people's navigations of the present and the future – a matter of well-being?

Author(s): Evelina Landstedt, Julia Coffey, Dan Woodman & Johanna Wyn

Abstract:

Research on how young people orient to the future is central within youth sociology. Drawing on theories of 'colonisation of the future' and 'choice biographies', researchers have developed typologies of different orientations. There is, however, a knowledge gap with regard to the importance of well-being in these processes. There is also a lack of qualitative longitudinal studies in which individual orientations can be tracked over time. This study aims to explore the importance of access to material and social resources on young people's orientations to the future as well as mental wellbeing over time. Theoretical perspectives are the social generation approach and the sense of coherence framework. This longitudinal qualitative case study uses material from the Australian Life Patterns Project, a mixed-methods prospective cohort study of post-secondary school transitions. The four cases included in this study (two men and two women from low and mid socioeconomic backgrounds) were interviewed two to four times between the age of 18 and 24. Data from open-ended survey questions is also included. Preliminary results show that goals and expectations about the future as well as the realisation of them can be both stable and inconsistent and are dependent upon stability regarding resources and support, predictability and norms of individualisation. Place, competition and uncertainty vary in importance between individuals and over time. A sense of coherence (e.g., low level of uncertainty) is highly relevant for well-being. Mental well-being is both a prerequisite for and a consequence of the 'becoming' of adulthood. Implications are discussed.

Title: Family composition and youth health risk behaviors. The role of parental relations and school disorganization

Author(s): Gabriella Olsson

Abstract:

Children not residing with both parents have repeatedly been shown to be more at risk of negative developmental outcomes than children residing in two-parent families. Although the effect of family composition on youth development has been widely studied, few studies have explored how other central contexts may interact with family characteristics to hinder or facilitate youth adjustment. The overall intention of this study is to examine how aspects of family structure and family processes are associated with youth health risk behaviors and interact with the structural characteristics of schools. The analyses are based on data from the Stockholm School Survey and consist of 5002 ninth-grade students distributed over 92 schools in the Stockholm area in 2010. School information is derived from the Swedish National Agency for Education. Random intercept and fully random models have been used. The findings suggest that adolescents not living with both their parents are more involved in health risk behaviors than adolescents that do. Differences in parental monitoring accounts for more of the disadvantage associated with non-traditional family structures than differences in socioeconomic background. Results further suggest that health risk behaviors are more prevalent in more advantaged school settings, net the effect of individual background characteristics, and that an

advantage school setting accentuate the protective effect of parental monitoring on youth risk behaviors.

Title: Socio-economic background, health behaviour, and health in youth: Findings from the Swedish Level of Living Survey

Author(s): Laura Simon

Abstract:

Background: From a life course perspective, early living conditions contribute to adult health inequalities. Yet disparities in health and health behaviour occurring between early childhood and adulthood remain under examined in the literature. Our aim was to test for the social differentiation of these processes in adolescence (10-18 years old) and young adulthood (20-28 years old). **Methods:** Drawing from the Swedish Level of Living Survey, its child supplement, and register data, we obtained information (n = 759) about adolescents' social background, their health behaviour (physical activity), and subjective health complaints (psychological complaints), with follow up in young adulthood. The Adolescent Pathway Model was utilized as a conceptual framework for identifying mechanisms of social causation operating on processes (i.e., pathways) in youth. **Results:** Multivariate logistic regression analysis supported socially differential exposure to low physical activity and psychological complaints in adolescence. Parental education, family social class, and family income were respectively patterned with low physical activity in adolescence. Psychological complaints were associated with low parental education only. The health behaviour and health pathways also tracked into young adulthood, with indication that tracking may differ due to social background. **Conclusion:** Our study supports multiple mechanisms of social differentiation in youth. However, socio-economic background indicators varied in importance to investigated adolescent pathways, suggesting more research is needed to identify more specific mechanisms. We also recommend that models of youth inequalities include a focus on the interrelation of youth pathways.

Title: The social hierarchy of the classroom: A mixed-methods case-study

Author(s): Ylva B. Almquist

Abstract:

Apart from the parents' social position in society, young people have a social position of their own that originates from the school context. The individual's location in the social ranking of peers has been shown to be linked to health outcomes but the results are mixed as to whether a high position has a positive or negative effect on health. This may be due to the multidimensionality of the concept of social hierarchy. The aim of the current study was to analyse two dimensions of the social hierarchy – peer status (PS) and perceived popularity (PP) – among young people. This was accomplished by the integration of several data sources (peer nominations, individual interviews, and social-cognitive mapping) for a class of 8th grade students in Stockholm, Sweden. Three types of high social positions were distinguished: "High PS and high PP"; "Low PS and high PP"; and "High PS and low PP". Individuals whose high position in the hierarchy was completely or partly based on high PP tended to cluster into peer groups which were recognised in the class as popular. Most individuals whose position was entirely based on high PS were, however, located in groups perceived as less popular. Thus, while peer status seemed to have its roots in the smaller context of the peer group, perceived popularity originated from a broader context. These differences are important to consider in future studies focusing on how young people's position in the social hierarchy affects health.

2f: Crime, Deviance & Criminal Justice, room 2.1.49

Chair: Victor L. Shammass

Title: “Dealing with it, it’s hard”: how young offenders cope with traumatic life experiences

Author(s): Paul Gray

Abstract:

Research (e.g. Jacobson *et al.* 2010) has shown that a significant proportion of young people serving custodial sentences in England and Wales have experienced some form of child abuse in their lives (predominantly emotional and/or physical abuse and/or neglect). In addition, experiences of bereavement and loss are often evident. This paper uses the biographies of three young men (all serving custodial sentences) to elucidate the feelings that traumatic experiences of this nature can engender. Crucially, all three of the young men in this paper were not effectively helped to think through or resolve the traumatic experiences which had occurred in their lives. Indeed, their coping mechanisms were characteristically destructive violent behaviour and/or self-destructive substance misuse. This paper goes on to consider the impact that a custodial sentence might have on a young person who enters custody with their traumatic experiences unresolved. The paper concludes that more needs to be done to firstly identify those young people who have experienced trauma, and secondly, to help them to resolve their experiences. Although current assessment tools (such as the Comprehensive Health Assessment Tool) may go some way to better identifying those needing support, getting individuals to disclose their traumatic experiences in the first place may limit the efficacy of such tools.

Title: Regulation, Control and Punishment: Young People’s Experiences of Risk and ‘Justice’

Author(s): Siobhan McAlister & Nicola Carr

Abstract:

Drawing on the life histories of young people first interviewed in a juvenile justice centre in Northern Ireland, this paper examines the patterns of regulation, control and punishment in the narratives of marginalised youth. It outlines some of the structural and cultural factors that increase risk of contact with the formal criminal justice system (poverty, disadvantage, negative relations between communities, young people and the police, protest and rioting), alongside young people’s experiences of informal regulation and control within their communities. In doing so, it considers the contemporary risks experienced by some young people living in communities experiencing the outworkings of the legacies of conflict. The paper concludes by considering what can be learned about processes of exclusion and criminalisation from analysing ‘punitive encounters’ (Rios, 2011) in the life histories of marginalised young people.

Title: The effect of negative experiences on delinquent behavior in a hidden situation

Author(s): Gloria Hongyee Chan

Abstract:

This study examines the relationship between negative experiences, negative emotions, and delinquent behavior in a social withdrawal situation with young people. A total of 579 young people in a hidden situation participated in this study and quantitative analyses were utilized. Mean plots in

ANOVA showed that young people with a higher level of social withdrawal generally had less negative experiences, while those with a higher level of social withdrawal had more negative experiences, particularly negative relationships with other people. Correlation analysis revealed that negative experiences, negative emotions, social withdrawal behavior, and delinquent behavior were inter-correlated.

Mediation analyses showed that both negative emotions and higher levels of social withdrawal mediated the relationship between more negative experiences and a higher involvement in delinquent behavior, with negative emotions displaying a higher mediating effect than level of social withdrawal. These results reflect that the root of delinquent behavior is the negative experiences which arouse negative emotions, rather than the social withdrawal behavior itself.

Title: Fronting drugs – balancing trust and threats amidst opportunism

Author(s): Kim Møller & Sveinung Sandberg

Abstract:

Fronting illicit drugs is a common practice in illicit drug markets. Dealers may provide drugs up front on condition of deferred repayment. Young people looking to get started in the drug dealing business may accept to be fronted drugs when they cannot afford to pay for this investment in cash. This is a risky practice where inability to repay holds risks of violent retribution or further debts. In-depth interviews with 68 incarcerated drug dealers in Norway are used to examine credit in illegal markets. Participants cover a broad spectrum of drug offenses, from lower-level heroin dealers to large-scale cocaine traffickers. We find that creditors use both cooperative and adversarial strategies to increase compliance with initial verbal agreements. The creditor benefits from moving his product faster and the debtor benefits from the loan. However when the debtor defaults on repayment he faces a continuum of debt reorganization and liquidations strategies, under the threat of violence. The conditions attached to drug debt repayment may involve performing risky tasks in the drug economy and can have seriously detrimental consequences for young people.

2g: Politics & Resistance, room 2.2.30

Chair: Erik Hannerz

Title: Everyday activism in two contrasting sites in Estonia

Author(s): Airi-Alina Allaste

Abstract:

Recent trends indicate that conventional political participation is being replaced by new, more individualised forms of political sensibility. New theoretical approaches to the study of activism have broadened to include 'consumer' and 'lifestyle' politics, where the precise dividing line between the 'social' and 'political' is blurred. Activism is partly perceived to have transitioned into spheres of everyday activity that have previously not been considered 'political' in the conventional sense of the term. The Internet enables easy access to information and new forms of participation, and it also provides a space where everyday makers or active sub-politicians can be involved in both local and global issues. However, the question remains as to whether online activism complements other forms of participation or whether it is rather slactivism, which does not have much impact on offline activities.

The empirical data is based on material collected in the framework of the large-scale European project

'MYPLACE' (Memory, Youth, Political Legacy and Civic Engagement), funded from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme. An in-depth micro-level analysis is based on interviews with young people from Estonia. Initial findings indicate that different forms of participation through the Internet and other ways of everyday activism such as political consumerism, showing attitudes with petitions or participating in public meetings, are also determined by social context, awareness of particularities, as well as belief in the opportunity to exert political influence.

Title: Types of youth activism in selected localities of European countries

Author(s): Marti Taru

Abstract:

Youth socio-political activism is seen as an integral part of democracy as well as a method of socialisation young people. In recent decades, youth socio-political activism has become more varied than merely participation in electoral processes and (youth)-organisations. It includes now individualised participation, internet activities, community activism and other forms. Both perspectives – democratic involvement and socialisation – raise questions about how large share of young people is active, in what kind of activities are they involved and how is involvement in different activities correlated. These questions gain particular importance in the context of understanding activism of youth with immigrant and/or poor socio-economic backgrounds. The presentation focuses on establishing patterns and levels of the activism as well as size of groups among young people with different backgrounds. The analysis is based on survey data collected in project Myplace. The data contains a rich set of activism indicators which were collected in two ethno-culturally and socio-economically contrasting locations in 15 countries. For the analysis, only 10 locations with most marked differences are used. This design enables better understanding of the interplay between background and activism patterns. For establishing patterns of youth activism, cluster analysis is used. Comparison of activism types allows to draw conclusions about general and particular in patterns of activism across Europe.

Title: Politics as multiple processes: Perceptions among a sample of young activists in Sweden

Author(s): Anna-Britt Coe, Maria Wiklund, Margaretha Uttjek & Lennart Nygren

Abstract:

This paper presents findings from an exploratory study in Sweden with ten activist adolescents ages 17 and 19. The study aimed to explore how politically-engaged adolescents in a small municipality in northern Sweden understood their political action and how they perceived mental health issues affecting adolescents. Rather than starting with well-defined notions of these two topics, the study explored how youth themselves understood these topics. The research strategy employed Grounded Theory to collect and analyze qualitative data through a participatory workshop and individual interviews. In this paper, we present mainly the findings of the first theme. The Grounded Theory analysis resulted in four theoretical categories: moving from consciousness to action, moving from personal experience to shared goals, moving from social activities to political activities, and moving from single to multiple arenas. These categories demonstrate how youth understood consciousness, personal experiences, social activities and single arenas as important but insufficient to engender political action. Instead, political action required moving to action, shared goals, political activities and multiple arenas. In this sense, their political action consisted not of a single process, but rather of multiple processes. Moreover, the four processes were not linear but rather cyclical, reoccurring when new (deeper) stages of involvement and action emerged. However, despite complex understandings of political action, youth were constrained in their ability to fully develop their political action by state-centered definitions of politics and adult disinterest in youth demands. These findings will be further

analyzed in light of contemporary research on youth political participation.

Title: Russian young people narratives on the historical past in the intergenerational perspective

Author(s): Elena Omelchenko & Guzel Sabirova

Abstract:

The focus of this paper are the structures of the historical memory narratives of the three generations of urban families in St. Petersburg. The special attention is given to the ways the memory is transmitted from one generation to the other, as well to the topics which provoke conflicts and misunderstandings. This paper is based on the generational approach and discusses the ways the soviet past is situated. The empirical base of the paper are 31 biographical interviews, family archives. Altogether in the research participated 11 families. The data was gathered in spring 2014 as part of the international research project MYPLACE. The paper explores the narrative work of the young people and their parents on the construction of generational historical experience which often seems problematical. The generational identity is formed in the contradictory space of the competing discourses, of the individual and collective experiences, and of the symbolic fight for the right to represent own time. Despite this the historical memory narratives of the young people are still depending much on the stories of their parents. But parents grown up in the 70th are often perceive themselves as passive actors in the transmission of the family biography, because they are critical to the own experience in comparison to the generation of their parents who won the II World War. They don't present themselves as historical model for their children. Young people are critical to the ways the generational experience is constructed, they utilize the information they have and develop own strategies.

2h: Youth Work, room 2.2.36

Chair: Adrian Van Breda

Title: Risk and the Commodification of Young People – The Shaping of Young People's Risk Biographies Through Organisations and Practitioners

Author(s): Gavin Turnbull

Abstract:

Risk discourses have become a key part of theory and practice in young people's service across many Western countries over the past twenty years (Kemshall, 2008; Goldson, 2000). Young people are simultaneously described as 'at risk' and risky, 'permanent suspects' with the potential for committing crime, using drugs, being sexually promiscuous or generally under-performing in the socio-economic climate (Turnbull and Spence, 2011). The role of youth organisations and youth practitioners within this context is under-researched. This paper reports on a study which interviewed 29 youth practitioners across England, exploring perceptions of young people and risk, the prominence of 'risk' in the work, and how they and their organisations responded to young people in relation to risk. The research identifies a challenging context for the practitioner, who is faced with an externally constructed notion of the young person as at risk or risky, vulnerable and potentially dangerous. This is managed by the practitioner on an ongoing basis, often creating personal and professional tensions. In this context, 'risk' becomes malleable, with young people's relationship to risk being amplified or

attenuated on the basis of the practitioner's view of needs, resource allocations, contracts, targets, practitioner or organisational fears, risk management processes, and the desire to get the best for the young person. The paper explores the implications for young people and practitioners, and considers whether young people become commodified through organisational risk processes.

Title: Wendy, Peter and the Lost Boys – The meanings of gender in the service encounters of young people and staff

Author(s): Päivi Berg and Sanna Aaltonen

Abstract:

The presentation examines the meanings of gender in the interviews with young people and staff members of welfare services using J.M. Barrie's story of Peter Pan as a metaphorical frame. The data consists of interviews with staff (N=10, mainly female) of employment offices, social welfare offices and outreach youth work and their 18-29-year-old clients (10 female, 9 male) who are mainly not in employment, education or training and considered at risk of marginalization. The project examines service encounters between young people and officials aiming to produce analytical knowledge about how services meet the needs of young people and how they are heard in these services. The young people who are at risk of marginalization are considered living partly in Neverland, they have not grown up. The young people out of reach of services are referred to by the staff as "lost young people". Some staff members see young men in particular as poor creatures, unable to achieve without a girlfriend whose task is to keep and get these Peter Pans "on the right track" as Wendy does. "Lost Girls" are not in different position than "Lost Boys" but the concern of staff members is more focused on boys. Their assumption is that girls cope but boys need Wendys' in order to get on in life. Thus, joint effort of the female staff and nurturing girlfriends is needed is guiding "failing boys" to adulthood.

Title: What's so funny? Towards a user-perspective on professionals' use of humor in drug treatment targeting young people

Author(s): Ditte Andersen

Abstract:

Laughter, humor and fun are generally considered great desirables in our time. A popular notion states that laughter is the best medicine, and a stream of psychological research encourages treatment providers to use humor as a therapeutic tool. However, there is a remarkable lapse of research into user-perspectives on professionals' use of humor, especially when it comes to informal humor routines in everyday practice. Drawing on ethnographic data generated through fieldwork in two Danish drug treatment institutions for young people, this paper begins to address this gap. Analyzing concrete use of humor in naturally occurring, informal situations where professionals joke, use irony and tell funny stories, the paper suggests that professionals' use of humor - despite good intentions - can be problematic, and sometimes even offensive for clients. Furthermore, as the young people, who turn to drug treatment, are often in socially vulnerable positions and depending on the professionals, the paper illuminates how they may find their possibilities limited, when it comes to objecting in relation to the professionals' humor. Consequently, the paper concludes that professionals should handle humor with care rather than perceiving it as a safe and utterly benign addition to treatment practice, and that future research needs to address the challenges of exploring user-perspectives on professionals' use of humor within institutional settings characterized by markedly asymmetrical power relations.

Title: Unexpected online opportunities and risks: unsanctioned connections between young people and youth work practitioners on social network sites

Author(s): Liesl Conradie

Abstract:

Social network sites are online spaces that can be used for positive interaction between young people and youth work practitioners. The focus of this presentation however, is social network site interaction that falls outside the guidance of the local authority, through unsanctioned interaction through practitioners' personal but also work profiles. Twenty one practitioners and fourteen young people were interviewed, using a semi-structured interview guide. Boundary management and what this was perceived as by the different participants was one of the key themes that emerged through the research process. Young people wanted to interact with some practitioners through the practitioners' personal profiles but the majority of practitioners rather wanted to interact with young people through work profiles. Young people viewed and trusted these practitioners as friends and were willing to share their personal, but also socially intimate information with them. Most practitioners viewed their relationship with young people as a professional relationship and aimed to maintain their personal and professional boundaries. However, practitioners did not extend this same awareness to the boundaries of young people. This was further confirmed by the practice of client searching through a variety of profiles to access socially intimate information of young people. This created new risks but also opportunities to young people but also practitioners within a contemporary environment that neither young people nor practitioners had to deal with before. This presentation's focus is on the varied perspectives on boundaries as compounded by the nature of the relationship deemed to have developed between a young person and a practitioner. The impact of these unsanctioned relationships on youth work relationships are explored as a form of contemporary risks but also opportunities.

2i: Youth Culture & Subculture, room 2.2.49

Chair: Geoffrey Hunt

Title: "They're adults essentially so they need to learn themselves.": legal adult status as a barrier to the delivery of alcohol interventions within university settings.

Author(s): Rachel Brown

Abstract:

Heavy alcohol use, particularly binge drinking, is linked to multiple adverse health and behavioural outcomes among university students. Despite this high prevalence, delivery of alcohol awareness and safety interventions within higher education settings is sporadic and often lacking sustainability. The majority of those starting a first year undergraduate degree in the UK are over 18 and are legal adults, although are recognised as occupying a liminal space, with attainment of new legal rights and responsibilities, but without full social adult status and independence. This case study examined development of alcohol policy and practice at one UK university through interviews with key stakeholders, field visits and document analysis. Results indicate that staff conceptualisation of the adult status of students acts to deter the development of campus alcohol interventions. Staff attitudes towards alcohol work with students reflect ambiguity over appropriateness and acceptability of targeting alcohol messaging to a group engaging in a legal, and culturally acceptable, behaviour. However rationalisation for the current approach is challenged by aspects of organisational practice,

with provision of enhanced support, harm reduction practices and protection from consequences which are not afforded to non-student adults. Stakeholder understanding of duty of care towards students further reflect implicit acknowledgement of the liminal status of this group, in contradiction with the expectations associated with legal status. Although a high risk setting for heavy alcohol use, major limitations in current practice are evident in universities, with stakeholder conceptualisations of student adulthood creating a barrier to effective intervention.

Title: Young adults, social media alcohol marketing and the culture of intoxication in Aotearoa, New Zealand

Author(s): Christine Griffin, Antonia Lyons, Ian Goodwin, Tim McCreanor, Patricia Niland, Dee Acushla O'Carroll & Tuiloma Lina Samu

Abstract:

Growing social media use amongst under 25s has created a fundamental shift in marketing alcohol products to young people, attracting substantial investment from the drinks industry. Technological developments involved in digital marketing pose a substantial challenge for regulation across all western societies with a culture of intoxication amongst youth. We draw on material from a 3-year project in Aotearoa (New Zealand) to investigate how young people engage with social media alcohol marketing. The paper reviews the current range of social media alcohol marketing; examining how these integrate with young people's drinking practices and their social media use; and presenting qualitative data from our study on young people's views of online alcohol marketing. The project involved semi-structured discussions with 37 groups of over 150 Maori, Pasifika and Pakeha (ie. white, European) friends aged 18 to 25 by three researchers with relevant cultural backgrounds; 23 participants took part in individual interviews with online access to investigate their engagement with alcohol-related material online. Our participants were exposed to considerable alcohol-related marketing online in highly interactive forms and did not necessarily view online alcohol marketing as advertising. We consider the implications of this work for the regulation of alcohol marketing, which seldom engages with the challenges posed by social media marketing, especially the role of user-generated content and the use of social media marketing to infiltrate young people's social lives, reinforcing the culture of intoxication. The paper ends by discussing current projects related to the UK Centre for Tobacco and Alcohol Studies (www.utcas.ac.uk).

Title: Alcohol consumption and the norms of youth culture

Author(s): Mari-Liisa Parder

Abstract:

Alcohol plays an important role as a mediator of relationships in the socialisation process of young people. Current study was inspired by theories of practice which treat social practices embedded in culture and social actors as carriers of practice as an object of study. The main question is what meanings and tools from youth culture youngsters use and re-work to refuse from alcohol in parties and in other rituals of alcohol consumption. I do not assume that the culture is something pre-given but that constantly re-created by youngsters themselves. Interviews with the adolescents aged 12-17 have been used for collecting youngsters narratives about saying "no" to alcohol whether in a situation where themselves have wanted to say no (and have either succeeded or failed) or in a situation where they have witnessed someone else saying no to alcohol. These drinking stories help to understand, how adolescents interpret these kinds of experiences and also, what do they value or emphasize; what norms emerged from these narratives. Narrative analysis suggests that various strategies are used in order to say "no" to alcohol depending on what is considered to be most valuable norm to follow from disguising the non-drinking to finding justifications accepted by the

peers for non-drinking. The findings indicate that youth culture in Estonia imposes a single norm of alcohol consumption and does not leave individuals much room for manoeuvre. It can be inferred from the findings that in order to put off alcohol consumption, social practices need to be addressed.

Title: "Someone really needs to make a statement about the fact that it's okay to be sober like..." – Exploring the lived experience of sobriety within a culture of intoxication.

Author(s): Geraldine Hogan, Maria Lichrou & Deirdre O' Loughlin

Abstract:

This research investigates the lived experience of sobriety within a culture of intoxication. Taking Ireland as an appropriate case study, the research explores how young consumers aged between 18-30 years, negotiate a sense of place or space within a culture of excessive alcohol consumption. Utilising a non-probability purposeful sampling method, ten phenomenological interviews were conducted with consumers regarding their subjective experiences of intentional non-consumption of alcohol. The research draws theoretically on literature related to both anti-consumption and consumer resistance (Cherrier et al. 2011). The findings highlight a notable resistance to certain aspects of ritual practice (Nuttall and Tinson, 2011) and the ideology surrounding alcohol consumption, including dominant conceptualisations of what it means to be sociable within Irish society. The findings indicate that these consumers feel socially obliged to engage with this social scene and frequent alcohol dominated social spaces given the prevalence of alcohol consumption and the distinct lack of alcohol-free alternative social spaces. The findings also provide insight into the socially contested nature of sobriety within Irish society. A sense of abnormality surrounds sobriety within Irish society, particularly with regard to the youth cohort. Here we find that the perceptions of others, particularly the unknown other, represents a pertinent challenge to one's choice to abstain. This has important implications for those choosing abstinence as a means of expressing both ideological and behavioural based resistance. Here it is found that the counter ideologies surrounding the practice of sobriety may function to restrict the possibilities of utilising abstinence as a form of socio-cultural critique.

2j: Exclusion & Marginalisation, room 2.1.42

Chair: Peter Kelly

Title: Critical Moments: Structure and Agency in Times of Crisis

Author(s): Hannah King

Abstract:

Within this time of extended global crisis, marginalised young people are subjected to increasingly high risks, compounding their already heightened experiences of exclusion and inequality. For such young people, critical moments, often the result of the interplay between structure and agency, can be dramatic, traumatic and heavy with potential for disruption of the life course" (Shildrick and MacDonald, 2008, p. 52). A qualitative longitudinal research project used innovative biographic methods, including memory books, life-grids and case histories, to explore young people's lived experiences of educational exclusion in the UK. Critical moments played an important role in their stories of exclusion and identity construction. Building on Thomson et al.'s (2002) structure-agency continuum of critical moments, this paper considers the experiences of marginalised young people in a period of rapid social change. It argues that within the neoliberal context of the responsabilisation of young people (Phoenix and Kelly, 2013), the complex relationship between structure and agency is

further confused. Young people are expected to take responsibility for their individualised destinies at the same time that structural inequalities are magnifying. This is particularly difficult for marginalised and excluded young people.

Title: Street-Involved Young Women Against Structural Violence: A participatory action research (PAR)

Author(s): Catherine Flynn, Dominique Damant & Genevieve Lessard

Abstract:

This participatory action-research investigates how structural violence is experienced by a sample of street-involved young women (18 to 23 years old) from Quebec City. The project also studies their strategies to prevent, overcome and resist this kind of violence. Collective analysis with participants indicate that they experience structural violence in several settings such as child protective system, educational system, justice system, job market and housing. Another analysis was carried out using an intersectional feminist framework, inspired by Yuval-Davis' (2006) model of social division. It reveals two patterns of structural violence that occur at a representative, organizational and experiential level and that mutually reinforce each other in a cycle: Social exclusion and social control. Most of participant's strategies to overcome social exclusion and to fulfill their needs make them vulnerable to social control. Social control helps increase their financial difficulties and their fear of exclusion. These two patterns of structural violence also puts them at risk of sexual victimization. This workshop offers two art-based strategies developed by participants to prevent and overcome structural violence and insure their safety.

Title: Critical Literacy, Class Awareness, and Ordinary Teaching in Work-Oriented Contexts: Cases of Rural Youth Development

Author(s): Marta Albert

Abstract:

Secondary education reform in the United States is experiencing a "vocational" moment, with policies designed to elevate new forms of work-oriented education (Career and Technical Education, or CTE) proliferating alongside new academic mandates, accountability measures, and graduation requirements. Two reform priorities are evident: 1) Designing CTE programs around emerging areas of the economy rather than reputedly low-skill level economic sectors; 2) Fostering integrative teaching methods that embed academics in occupational contexts. Sustained attention to the impact of class on youth remains rare in the U.S. discourse, an unsettling absence in a field with a rich history of highlighting the voices and views of working-class youth to define and understand "new vocationalism" and its effects. Drawing from ethnographic studies of CTE in rural New York State communities, this paper examines cases of critical literacy practice arising from ordinary teaching, and implications for widening the discussion about secondary education reform and rural youths' futures. Among the cases featured will be a unit in an education course that positioned students to study inclusive teaching practices by interrogating and (re)constructing their own special education plans, and a health occupations class that engaged students in action research about community mental health provision to understand and critique theories of mental health development. It is useful to define these practices as ordinary and significant to illustrate how the growth of competence, criticality, and flexibility of rural youth can arise through typical practices and existing contexts, since rural schools must address myriad demands of reform with limited resources.

Title: Re-thinking Young People's Marginalisation: Agency and Structure after Neo-Liberalism

Author(s): Peter Kelly

Abstract:

This paper will seek to locate youth studies' diverse interests in young people's marginalisation in cultural, social, economic and political contexts that are global; that are characterised by increasing wealth and poverty, and a widening gap between them; by the remaking of the markers of marginalisation in which some forms appear to wane while new forms seem to emerge; by global ruptures that have been characterised as signaling a clash of civilisations, as witnessing the emergence of the Asian Century, as the 'end times' (Žižek 2010). The paper aims to open up spaces in which children and young people's marginalisation can be re-thought in ways that are productive for youth studies at the start of the 21st century. A point of departure will be Stuart Hall, Doreen Massey and Michael Rustin's (2013) *After Neo-Liberalism? The Kilburn Manifesto* in which they explore the challenges and opportunities for intellectual and political practice in the context of the renewed ascendancy of neo-Liberalism in a post-GFC environment of sovereign debt crises, austerity and the Great Recession. Drawing on these ideas, and Hall's direct association with the legacy of the Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies (CCCS) at Birmingham, together with the 'liquid' sociologies of Zygmunt Bauman, the governmentality theorists (Nikolas Rose) and Donna Haraway and Bruno Latour's work in STS I will argue that these contexts, and how we can understand them and their influence on young people's marginalisation, should provoke youth studies to re-think keywords (Lesko and Taulbert 2011) such as agency and structure.

3a: Transitions, room 2.0.30

Chair: Jeanette Østergaard

Title: 'Generation Boomerang' in Germany? Determinants of Returning to the Parental Home in Young Adulthood

Author(s): Anne Berngruber

Abstract:

In life course research leaving the parental home is counted as one of the central transition markers in the status passage from youth to adulthood. Leaving the parental home is not always a one-off event. It can be a reversible process, i.e. young adults can move out and return one or more times before residential independence becomes permanent and complete. The possibility of returning home can be understood as a familiar security net. The trend to a rising number of these so called "boomerang kids" has developed differently in particular cultural backgrounds. While this phenomenon and its determinants are a topic of continual attention in the USA and Canada, European research literature on this topic is relatively scarce.

The aim of the presentation is to show what factors determine the likelihood of a return to the parental home after leaving for the first time during young adulthood in Germany. How do social and economic transition markers and socio-demographic factors, e.g. gender, birth region or level of school graduation, play a role in the return to the parental home? The analysis is based on the survey "Growing Up in Germany: AID:A", conducted by the German Youth Institute. Data from young adults aged 18 to 32 years is used. The survey contains diverse information on the living situation of young people and their detachment from the parental home. Retrospective questions give information about different transition markers in this life decade. The results will be discussed in the context of recent comparative research.

Title: The role of parents in critical school-to-work transitions

Author(s): Tabea Schlimbach

Abstract:

The article addresses the key role of parents in young people's coping strategies in their transition to employment. Transitions from school to vocational training and employment are biographical key passages and crucial for social integration and future life paths of young people. Contemporary transitions are characterised by increased opportunities, but also by detours, protractions and fractures that carry the risk of exclusion. This situation challenges especially young people who stumble at the threshold to employment by dropping out of vocational training or going through NEET periods. In their efforts to cope with these crises in transition their social resources become important. While the key-role of parents as active or passive agents in youth transitions is not contested in youth studies there is little research dedicated to the interplay of individual coping strategies and parental support. The paper contributes to this debate by offering an empirically grounded analysis of the role of parents in broken school-to-work transitions in the perspective of young people's reflections and actions. The analysis is done on the basis of problem-centered interviews with school leavers in Germany collected over three waves in a large qualitative longitudinal study, and complementary interviews with a selection of parents. The paper focuses on the way, in which young people assess parental support and integrate this social resource in their strategies of dealing with critical school-to-work transitions. The longitudinal data allows the analysis of the dynamic and changeable role of parents in the transition.

Title: Returning home to Mum and Dad: A solution to contemporary 'risks'?

Author(s): Elyse Warner

Abstract:

In modern 'risk' society, young people have become increasingly responsible for determining their own biographies. For some, decreases in socially prescribed pathways has presented a host of previously unheralded opportunities; allowing them to freely move between study and work, take time to travel and experiment with multiple living arrangements. However, for others, such uncertainties mean insecurity and a loss of opportunity. Consequently, young adults, in their attempts to balance the demands of transitions in life, love and work, rely on the parental home as a safety net. Their access, both in terms of when they depart and whether they can return, is therefore of increasing importance to understanding how this generation copes as they develop into adults. This paper explores Australian families' experiences when a young person returns to the parental home after previously moving out. Through the use of qualitative interviews with related family members, the study offers insight into the ways returning to live with the family assists young people to navigate the complex challenges of modern transitions. At the same time, findings also reveal how offspring and parents have different interpretations when accepting the increased need for co-residence. Understanding experiences of home returning is important, not only because young people are navigating continued uncertainty surrounding finances, employment and housing markets but families are also under increasing pressure to shoulder responsibility for their outcomes. Findings will therefore interest those concerned with how young people and their families work together to devise creative solutions and overcome contemporary 'risks'.

Title: Quasi-adults. The management of dependencies in the residential trajectories of young people of the Basque Country.

Author(s): Diego Carbajo Padilla

Abstract:

The presentation addresses some results obtained from a recently finished thesis about the residential trajectories of young people in the Basque Country (Spain). Considering precariousness as a process —of precarization—, the theoretical-methodological apparatus employed has been developed on the basis of the sociologies of the individual. Thus, the residential trajectories of young people have been posed as a trial of individuation by which the actor is co-produced as an adult individual. From this framework, the socio-structural conditions determined by precarization, the residential culture and the residential strategies elaborated by young people mean that the definition of the —adult— individual in common usage and employed as a sociological category loses consistency. The residential trajectories and strategies that young people describe mean that the actor is presented more as a series of temporary arrangements, a mobilization of resources or a management of dependencies than as a centered, self-sustaining and independent individual. This makes it possible to argue that the prolongation of youth can be thought and interpreted sociologically in terms of the precarization of the contemporary adult individual. The concept of quasi-adult aims to capture the logics of action of an actor that is forced to act as a self-entrepreneur that unceasingly manages multiple dependencies in order to reach and maintain stability.

3b: Work, Welfare & Unemployment, room 2.0.36

Chair: Claus D. Hansen

Title: Who will do the dirty work in the humane society? Inequality and the growth of menial jobs

Author(s): Lukasz Albanski

Abstract:

Declining the traditional industries has meant that manufacturing employed fewer and fewer people than people in the financial industries, and these shifts have had profound social and educational outcomes. Universities are producing graduates in record numbers to feed the appetite of labor market. However, the recent bailing out of much of finance sector has hampered employment opportunities. While decent white collar jobs are exceptionally limited, there has been the huge rise in the menial jobs. Many graduates are engaged in the most elementary occupations. Then, if add rising youth unemployment it might be expected rightly that many more young adults will become either angry or depressed. The youth are confronting a world in which they may not make the kind of economic strides their parents did. Moreover, almost all will have been awarded university degree, worth by far less (in the terms and conditions of their employment) than that of their parents, if they too graduated from university. Rising costs and escalating debts to gain individual advantage through higher education degrees are likely to impoverish many young people and their families even further, in what becomes a path to graduate unemployment. The focus of this paper is on undermining education at the post-secondary level. It is discussed why (especially) the liberal arts education is losing ground and why it is being made a scapegoat for graduate unemployment. Does the Weber's "nightmare of an iron cage of rationalization" come into true and the contemporary university is in the service of the economic order with all the related technical requirements of machine production?

Title: Public Sector as an Employer of choice

Author(s): Irini Rigopoulou, John Kehagias & Niki Tsiami

Abstract:

As most European economies keep sliding down the recession scale, unemployment is reaching 50% (in southern countries) among youths and takes a dominant position in the EU Agenda. Although cuts hit both the private and the public sector employees, the Public Sector (PS) remains by far the largest employer.

This realization was the starting point of this study that involved 309 Greek youths who provided their views on the public sector as a possible employer. According to the findings, 63% of the participants state that they would choose to work for the public sector, either because of the lack of availability of positions in the private sector (62%), or because of appreciating the job security that the public sector offers (41%). It is quite disturbing that 97% do not relate their willingness to work for the public sector to the utilization and enhancement of their skills and only 24% see employment in the Public Sector as contribution to their country. The research hypothesis on the mediating role of prejudices on youths' willingness to work in the PS is confirmed, so is the moderating interactive effect of their own Self and Role- Identity as public servants, thus verifying our proposed model. The results of the particular study highlight obstacles as regard the implementation of EU public sector employability policy, raises issues related to the reputation of State as an employer, showing its negative image as an Employer of choice among youths.

Title: Youth occupational prestige and parental influence

Author(s): Víctor Montuenga & Inmaculada García-Mainar

Abstract:

This paper focuses on the occupational prestige of Spanish young workers (16-35 years old) and the relationship with that of their parents. A pooled-sample data (2007-2010) coming from a national representative data base, the Spanish Life Quality Survey at Work is employed. The article starts by describing how young workers distribute across occupations considering differences between men and women regarding the social prestige of occupations. A first important result is that women are not necessarily allocated into occupations with lower social status. We then analyse the association between the current occupational prestige of the young with those of their parents, and how parents' occupational prestige influence on the observed changes in occupation of the young. Using quantitative techniques such as the regression analysis, results obtained confirm that, aside educational level, parental occupational prestige is an important determinant in both current occupational prestige of the young, and labour mobility over time to improve occupational prestige.

Title: Dreams at work: experiences of work and future orientation among Danish youth

Author(s): Regine Grytnes & Claus D. Hansen

Abstract:

This paper investigates young people's aspirations regarding future education and job and explores how their own present job experiences as well as their parents' work experiences influence and guide their dreams and future orientation. The analysis is based on the West Jutland Cohort Study. From the questionnaires we know that to some extent young people are influenced by their parents' work experiences and that they to a very high degree strive to gain jobs that are meaningful to them and where good social relations can be achieved. Based on qualitative interviews with 21 of the participants in-depth description of their experiences of work at the age of 19 will be analyzed. The analysis focuses on how 'good work' is defined, on work relations/experiences in the family background and on how they envision their future aspirations to come into being. The analysis applies a biographic and descriptive approach which points to agentive and reflexive modes of approaching future work and life. Furthermore the paper will explore how this form of individualisation relates to more structural and collective aspects of their life, i.e. the class position of their parents. In examining these issues the paper draws on the debate about subjectivity and reflexivity (e.g. Furlong and Cartmel, 1997, Threadgold and Nilan, 2009, Threadgold, 2011) and discusses notions of class differences in reflexivity and how it is reflected in the biographical work of young adults.

3c: Education, room 2.1.18

Chair: Helene Snee

Title: Politically intended vulnerabilities: Chinese youth as target of ICT policies in education

Author(s): Barbara Schulte

Abstract:

Official policies, academic discussions and public debates frequently address the potential risks and dangers of the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) among children and youth. At the same time, however, digital policies in education create themselves new vulnerabilities for school children and youth that often go unnoticed as they occur within politically desired frameworks. This becomes particularly apparent in the Chinese case, where student users of ICT are envisioned as 'transparent subjects' whose 'brains and hearts' can be reached and occupied by the help of new technologies. The paper will discuss the political and moral-ideological ramifications of the 'digital student' in a society that is both subscribing to an authoritarian-framed governance and embracing new technologies. Drawing both on a critical analysis of policy/academic documents and on first results from fieldwork conducted in Beijing in 2014, I will argue that the use of ICT in seemingly unpolitical environments is deeply political, as it is intermeshed with underlying conceptions about what constitutes useful learners, healthy youth and ideal citizens. The Chinese case thus presents an example of how on the surface value-neutral technologies in education become politicized once they enter local contexts, with far-reaching consequences for children and youth who are to be socialized into these contexts.

Title: Liberal Arts Colleges: Obsolete or a Model for Education?

Author(s): Valerie Lehr

Abstract:

Colleges and universities in the United States are under pressure in public discourse to prove their worth; liberal arts colleges, both private and public, tend to come under particular scrutiny, not the least because they deliver an education that is expensive. In this paper, I draw on national data and the literature on youth and risk to argue that various risk factors come together to make these institutions more critical for democracy than ever before. Although we have greater possibilities for youth to exercise agency in their education, the combination of delayed maturity, a labor market that offers few opportunities, and the herculean efforts that poor young people need to take to be able to take advantage of the opportunities that exist for education make this unlikely for all but a very small minority. The result is a greater need for well-structured, challenging educational experiences. Additionally, the ability to contribute to dealing with the complex risks that society faces means that students need to develop multi-disciplinary perspectives and the ability to communicate across groups. Though there are challenges from our current society that liberal arts colleges need to recognize, they are also educational institutions that excel in providing opportunities for students to develop, including in many cases low-income students. The defunding and the critique of higher education in the United States, particularly the liberal arts, is contributing to making maturity even harder to achieve, thus threatening the development and citizenship abilities of youth.

Title: Young people, schools, digital cultures and the 'face to face'

Author(s): Sara Bragg

Abstract:

This paper explores young people's experiences in relation to schools as sites of 'digitalisation'. The unevenness of policy and practice in this respect is well documented (Hope, 2014; Selwyn, 2010). Utopian rhetoric about digital transformations, inflated risk discourses and the silencing of young people's perspectives contribute to creating a culture of confusion and anxiety about youth media cultures while schools' own routinized digital practices (eg in transforming students into measurable data) often escape critical scrutiny. This paper draws on a 'methodological innovation' project about young people's cultural worlds (2013-14), focusing specifically on 'micro-ethnographic' data gathered from researchers' experiences of shadowing young people at school to capture a 'day in their life' using photography, audio-recording and note-taking. The method reveals aspects of young people's everyday experience that are occluded or little understood, not only by parents but also educators and policy-makers. Issues explored include the changing rhythms of a young person's day, how time is governed and used to govern, how personalised multimedia can cut across and subvert the institutionalisation of time and space of schooling. The paper focuses particularly on the contradictory positions adopted by schools in relation to mediatisation, for instance banning students' digital technologies in the name of the 'face to face', whilst missing opportunities for connection and dialogue in the classroom. It argues that such micro / vernacular analysis also 'illuminates how policy is embedded in single incidents, lives and places' (Thomson, 2010), tracing the deleterious effects of English educational policies around school league tables on relationships and pedagogies in schools.

Title: Young people transcending in and out of global education

Author(s): Marta Moskal

Abstract:

The paper looks at international students mobility by exploring the role of mobility for education as an integrated part of individual life projects of young people from developing countries to the UK universities, and the uncertainties, hopes and ambitions for future social and economic opportunities linked to these projects. The paper discusses the findings from longitudinal study that investigates drivers and resources of peoples' international mobility and challenges they confront upon graduation in reinserting themselves into their own national communities. The case studies/ life stories analysed in the paper shows how young people seek to use the global education to build their social and professional careers in their home countries and how they make sense of their global experience. In broader sense the paper discusses in which extend international education in the UK universities contributes to the the human development in the sending areas. The paper draws on two contrasting concepts 'cosmopolitanism' which implies empowerment associated with acquiring global consciousness and citizenship, and 'precarious' which refers to vulnerability and people's exposure to a particular risk. In case of these international students the risk can be associated with transcending and investing into a foreign educational system and getting rewards after accomplishing education.

3d: Gender & Sexualities (Panel: Making men: Class, race and cultural taste in contemporary young masculinities.), room 2.1.30

Chair: Laura Harvey

Title: Neoliberalism, middle class masculinities and the maintenance of privilege through subcultural style

Author(s): Sumi Hollingworth

Abstract:

As young men and women transition through the precarious education and (un)employment landscape of neoliberal austerity Britain, they are burdened with expectations to become ever more enterprising, resilient and resourceful. This, coupled with the loss of traditional forms of masculinised industrial, manual occupation, has seen the return of discourses of a 'crisis of masculinity', and suggestions that the education and employment landscape is more amenable to young women. This paper engages with, and attempts to complicate, the idea of the 'neoliberal' 'enterprising' subject as a position more readily inhabited by (middle class) young women and girls. Through critical and close examination of two White middle class urban college-based youth subcultures, I explore the ways in which White middle class masculinities (as well as femininities) are identity performances well aligned with, and primed for, the neoliberal enterprising subject position. The paper draws on qualitative research exploring 'social mixing' in London schools. Through analysis of the 'Neeks,' I demonstrate their privileged racialised class position exemplified in feminised middle class taste practices. Through analysis of the 'Smokers,' rebellious subculture, I detail a particular crafted White middle class masculinity which balances urban cool with effortless academic achievement, bolstered by embodied aesthetic display. Fleshing out the neoliberal subject as racialised, as well as classed and gendered, I explore the contemporary enterprising subject as cosmopolitan and 'global', but illuminate ways in which this identity is acquisitive, acting as a further means to generate or extract value from a system which is, after all, zero sum.

Title: 'They said Tupac shouldn't be my role model': 'risky' masculinities, youth aspirations and celebrity culture

Author(s): Laura Harvey and Kim Allen

Abstract:

Celebrity culture occupies a contradictory space in contemporary political rhetoric, particularly in relation to young people's aspirations. While celebrities such as Olympic athletes appear as potential 'role models', celebrity culture is often derided as eroding ambition and encouraging the 'wrong' kinds of dreams, behaviours and desires. While celebrity culture is regularly cited in debates about the 'sexualisation' of girls, it also features in discussions about 'at risk boys', with Diane Abbot MP recently stating that young men were trapped by a 'Jay-Z model of hyper-masculine, hyper consumption'. Engaging with interview data from an ESRC-funded study of 'The role of celebrity in young people's classed and gendered aspirations', this paper considers how race, class and gender intersect to police the boundaries of aspirational selfhood. The research included group and individual interviews with young men and women (aged 14-17) in six schools in England; and textual case studies of celebrities' media representation. We draw in particular on interview data from 'imagination exercises' where we asked young people to imagine celebrities attending their school, exploring their views on the differences and similarities between celebrities and their own lives and imagined futures. We will explore how evaluations of cultural taste circulate in powerfully affective

ways in young people's engagement with celebrity culture, drawing boundaries around different forms of masculinities and gendered futures. In doing so we will argue that celebrity culture provides a rich lens through which to unpick the classed and racialised constructions of 'aspirational', 'authorized' and 'risky' masculinities within current times.

Title: Tom Troubling Masculinity: Transgressions of gender-appropriateness or reconfiguring traditional masculinity?

Author(s): Victoria Cann

Abstract:

In this paper I explore the nuanced performances of masculinity enacted by a 14-year-old named Tom, whom I met while undertaking a series of focus groups that examined youth taste cultures. Tom was an interesting participant as he complicated much of what I found to be the case with other male participants, and what hegemonic masculinity theory has contended for many years (see Connell, 1995). Rather than simply reproducing traditional forms of masculinity, or flatly rejecting them, Tom played with his masculinity and was not ostracised when doing so. Tom emphatically announced his preference for cultural texts that were routinely positioned by his peers as 'for girls' alongside more masculine taste articulations, and he often appeared proud of moments when he was 'shunned'. I explore the different strategies that allowed Tom to maintain a straight masculine identity despite his articulations being overwhelmingly against the 'norm'. I discuss how the 'rules' of gender-appropriate taste seem to apply differently in the case of Tom and attempt to make sense of why this is. Part of this sense-making involves examination of the role that Tom's Filipino heritage plays (in the overwhelmingly white context of Norfolk, Tom proudly asserted that he was 'the only Asian in the school'). I also consider his interest in basketball and his strong London accent. To achieve this, I draw on the work of Frosh, Phoenix and Pattman (2002) and discuss how his 'urbanness' allowed him to buy what McCormack (2012) calls 'immunity from stigma.'

Title: "Steroids, it's so much an Identity Thing!" Perceptions of Steroid Use, Risk and Masculine Body Image.

Author(s): Signe Ravn & Julia Coffey

Abstract:

This paper explores how taste and distaste, body image and masculinity play into young people's perceptions of risk related to steroid use. Data is drawn from a qualitative study on risk-taking among 52 Danish youths enrolled in high school or vocational training. A number of 'risky' practices such as drug use, fights, speeding etc. were discussed, however discussions around steroid use differed significantly from other discussions. Though few interviewees had used steroids, the large majority distanced themselves from the practice. Rather than relating only to physical 'risks', reasons for wanting to use steroids were related to a) perceiving the drug to be part of a broader lifestyle and identity that they are not interested in committing to or embodying and b) finding the body image, physicality and associations with steroid use 'fake', 'gross' and distasteful. We draw on recent developments in feminist sociological theory related to the gendered body as both a performance and process to understand steroid use as a practice through which the body and self is produced. More than a one-dimensional 'risky' practice, we argue that gendered and embodied identities are crucial to understanding the dynamics of steroid use.

3e: Youth Culture & Subculture (1), room 2.1.36

Chair: Sian Licoln

Title: Risky Behavior: Managing Risk and Resilience among Tertiary Students

Author(s): Charlotte Fabiansson

Abstract:

The paper explores university students' perception and understanding of personal and societal risks, whether real or perceived, and their resilience to manage those risks. The students' perception of personal and societal risks, including risks that they seek deliberately, are explored from Bourdieu's social and cultural capital discourse, from Beck's risk society discourse, as well as from Rose's and O'Malley's resilience discourses. The findings are based on an internet survey of 68 Australian university students. The students clearly differentiated between places and situations where they felt safe and places they assessed as risky. The home was seen as a secure place for most of the students, and they felt equally safe at their friends' places. Several places were seen as unsafe after dark, such as the city, some streets in suburbia and using public transport late at night. Deliberate risk taking activities nominated by the students included speeding, taking drugs, excessive alcohol drinking, and unsafe sex. They also sought more extreme risk laden activities, such as skydiving, base-jumping, and car racing. Personal risks from a longer perspective included an increasingly violent local environment, lack of employment prospects and financial uncertainty. Societal risks identified by the majority of the students were climate change and an increasingly environmentally unsustainable Australian society. The research demonstrates the breadth and depth of perceived and experienced personal and societal risks that the students consider relevant for their current and future situation.

Title: Being a Student in Serbia Today, or How to live instead of survive?

Author(s): Jelena Gajić, Tamara Ilic Petrovic & Radmila Zivkovic

Abstract:

Serbian society has been – and still is – passing very complex and vibrating changes in two decade period. The influences, motivators and triggers, different by their nature, power or origin, affect all demographic / psychographic segments of Serbian population. Youths seem to be driven in variety of directions, often conflicting, sometimes extreme, unpredictable or reversible. Raised under significant political changes and constant economic pressure, always in between western and eastern role models, nowadays Serbian university students have shaped their own "*lifestyle map*", relatively independent of predominant systems of value and, in some way, more rational and functional than their predecessors, including the *Significant Others!* While investigating their intimate and social habits, patterns of leisure time activities, things that activate their energy in most authentic way and areas of their deepest interest – using several research approaches and combination of advanced research tools – we were in position to understand their point of view as well as compare it with results of some similar studies which have been done in between 2000 and 2014, in Serbia, but in the region also.

Title: New Youth challenges: The price you pay to become late modern

Author(s): Sven Mørch

Abstract:

Youth as both a societal and individual phenomenon is a both objective and subjective construct. As such youth life changes according to both societal and individual developments. The late modern development especially from the 60ties and onwards changed youth from being a result of a normative institutional and authoritarian socialization and created a new youth in a deinstitutionalized world. Youth became 'recognized' and made responsible for their own decisions. They developed self-responsibility. Young people themselves had to find their own solution to both societal and individual challenges. The individualization process became an individual choice and made young people both knowledgeable and self-aware, but also it created serious challenges and risks for young people in managing their lives. Especially a 'relative de-individualization' created both social and individual problems. The latest changes to a neoliberal re-institutionalization has in many ways attacked this self-responsible expectation to and among young people. They still have to find out their own interests and engagement but at the same time they have to follow new institutional rules and develop a 'strategic self-management' to be able to integrate in new and demanding educational and productive structures. In this study 20 young people in 'gymnasium' was interviewed about their understanding of the changing societal demands and about their own 'strategic management'. The strategic management pointed to new social responsibility in youth life, and showed how 'figures and configurations' are constructed among the young people in their sensemaking and actualization of the 'new late modern' challenges.

Title: Barriers and enablers of youth as drivers of social change: University students' perspectives

Author(s): Bethany Alden-Rivers, Richard Hazenberg & Meanu Bajwa-Patel

Abstract:

As a progressive society, there is an expectation for young people to become the social leaders and innovators of tomorrow. Not only does this expectation imply an intergenerational 'passing of the baton' but also this scenario assumes that young people value social change and possess the self-efficacy that empowers them to ignite positive social change. Added to this is a fundamental assumption that social constructs will enable young people to work as change agents, rather than create hindrances. A complexity for higher education institutions is how to develop young people's capacities for social change given the inevitable variance in how much students value and believe they have the ability for 'changemaking'. This study explored university students' conceptions of social change and their perspectives on the tools and resources needed to engage in social changemaking. Three focus groups were held at the University of Northampton, which elicited students' (N=15) views on 1) their conceptions of social change and social innovation, 2) their perceptions of what enables young people to engage with social change and 3) their beliefs about the barriers that exist for young people in being or becoming change agents. Findings from this study will strengthen our understanding of how young people perceive their role in society. By illuminating the perceived barriers and enablers for youth in driving social change, higher education and public sector institutions will be in a stronger position from which to nurture this generation of 'changemakers'.

3f: Crime, Deviance & Criminal Justice, room 2.1.49

Chair: Thomas Søgaaard Friis

Title: Young Offenders, Spiritual Journeys and Criminal Desistance in Denmark and Scotland

Author(s): Ross Deuchar & Line Lerche Mørck

Abstract:

Previous research evidence has suggested that the process of desisting from crime is often stimulated through generative activities, and that faith-based programmes can stimulate such generativity (Cressey, 1955; Maruna, 2001; Giordano et al., 2008). This paper will share insights from a trans-Nordic European comparative study which sought to explore the extent to and ways in which a small sample of prison chaplains in Denmark and Scotland initiate opportunities to take young violent offenders on personal, spiritual and/or religious journeys and foster opportunities for generativity. Qualitative data was gathered in Scotland's largest young offenders' prison and in two remand prisons in Copenhagen. During visits to each prison, semi-structured interviews were conducted with young offenders and prison chaplains. Insights from the data suggest that pastors (both Christian and Islamic) provided personal, supportive mentorship and encouraged the young men to draw upon their own damaged pasts and see their own potential for growth and development within a moral framework (Giordano et al., 2008; Nurden, 2010). Inmates felt that their meetings with pastors provided them with a safe space where they felt listened to and respected. The paper will share insights into the spiritual journeys that inmates embarked upon, and the relationship between these journeys and their propensity towards criminal desistance.

Title: Major identity transformations - Movements beyond criminal life and the biker gang environment

Author(s): Line Lerche Mørck & Peter Hansen

Abstract:

The paper presents a social practice theoretical moment-movement methodology for studying major identity transformations, as continuity and change in conduct of life, conflictual processes of belonging, recognition, and struggles of marginalization in and across different contexts and communities. Empirically the paper illustrates these transitions and transformations with an empirical case of a young man, called Peter, changing his life conduct becoming less of a criminal member of the (biker) gang environment becoming more of a member of academia. The paper explore the action reasons of Peter, disturbances of Peters telos, which includes transformations into a more responsible young adult becoming ready to commit to family life. The paper explores new belongings, (lack of) meanings in and across contexts, such as educations, struggles with gang exit interventions, which produces severe double bind situations and (re)produce aggression, distrust and aversions for the established system. The moment-movement methodology is used to study significant moments in depth, including important moments of frustration, anger and passions on the way. Peter apply various social technologies such as audio and video logs, biographical documentaries and life story presentations to reflect identity change, which also becomes reflected part of the moment-movement research. The paper explore the struggles to move beyond marginal positions and how collective processes of recognition and reification might help about major personal changes, in the process of becoming more of something and less of other things.

Title: Lads to Lags: Adolescence to Adult Transitions in the Local Prison

Author(s): David Maguire

Abstract:

This paper will examine how male prisoners who have spent most of their early teenage and young adult years 'inside', negotiate adolescent to adult transitions on the landings of their 'local jail'. The paper draws on the empirical findings of my current doctoral research that explores the classed and gendered trajectories of thirty men in a 'local' prison in West Yorkshire in the UK. The bulk of the inmate population in this prison are taken from the UK's most impoverished communities, most of the men are from an area that is commonly referred to as Europe's biggest council estate. The first part of this paper will highlight how these respondents navigated their early masculine identities within the 'street cultures' of these estate environments. 'Buzz' crime or adrenaline based activities and violence were the primary and staple resources employed by these men to live up to idealised masculinities. Consequently, this early masculine investment disrupted conventional youth to adult transitions, many ended up excluded from mainstream learning and by their early teens most had begun their journeys of revolving door incarceration. With the absence of conventional pathways to adulthood the second section of this paper will focus on institutional transitions. It will look at how, for example, a shift in classification, change of location within the prison and/or an increase in privileges, such as the ability to buy tobacco or wear their own clothing were 'coming of age' indicators in the context of the prison. The paper will outline why 'making it' from a 'young prisoner' to an adult 'con' meant a different way of 'doing time' and 'doing masculinity'. This paper will conclude by evaluating how early fractures to conventional transitions and consequently negotiating "coming of age" on the prison landings plays a significant role in the continued cycle of incarceration and marginalisation.

Title: Changing risky pathways: Young peoples' perceptions about the impact of alcohol on their offending behaviour and the need for early interventions

Author(s): Alex Newbury

Abstract:

The paper considers whether current interventions relating to alcohol education in England & Wales are effective in providing both factual information and motivations to change for young people. It proposes creating a more tailored educational approach via early intervention taking into account gender differences and utilising the theory of planned behaviour and social norms approach to tackle 'binge drinking' and offending. The paper draws on findings from 55 semi-structured interviews with young offenders, and observations of 41 youth offender panels over an 18-month period taking place in two YOTs in the southeast of England. It explores to what extent the perception of correlation between drunkenness and offending asserted by a high number of the female offenders compares to the perceptions of the male offenders. The findings appear to demonstrate a greater willingness on the part of the female respondents to attribute their behaviour to 'binge drinking' and drunkenness, and, crucially, to express remorse for their resultant offending. This contrasts with the male offenders who tended to minimise the impact alcohol had on their offending, instead justifying their behaviour and attributing it to a range of issues unrelated to alcohol, such as settling a score, anger, or 'being in the wrong place at the wrong time'. Finally, the paper will suggest strategies for improving alcohol education within school settings to address some of the key findings drawn from this research in order to challenge risky pathways in relation to offending and drunkenness.

3g: Politics & Resistance, room 2.2.30

Chair: Ane Grubb

Title: A Relational Perspective of Youth Political Participation and “Resistance”

Author(s): Kristen Hackett

Abstract:

Researchers, policy makers and politicians have been concerned with low levels of youth political engagement (YPE) for nearly two decades. Though multiple perspectives on the issue have been proposed, trends persist. Here, I argue that the shortcomings of collective efforts to understand this phenomenon are due to limitations imposed by ideological blinders that accompany our hegemonic ideology, ‘Capitalist democracy’. In my analysis of virtually-collected political narratives of college students who attend an American urban four- year public university, I, through acknowledgement and deliberate effort, am able to reject these blinders. The use of a critical bifocal approach is instrumental in this endeavor in that it draws micro- and macro-level processes into tension with one another, refracting and reflecting information through and on the other. In contrast to previous studies, such an approach allows me to speak not only of YPE, but also, as it inherently takes the young people’s perspectives and critiques as legitimate, of the macro-level processes that characterize our present political economy. Said another way, this interpretation presents the opportunity for a unique, reflexive, and – as I conclude – needed de-layering of Capitalist democracy. In doing so, I am also able to illuminate the ways in which the deeper layers of that ideology, the values embedded in the construction and constriction of the realities of young people’s lives, become embodied by young people and enacted through their subjectivities in the world. In the end, I elaborate the intersection between the financialization of subjectivity and resistance.

Title: Contradictory tendencies of youth's political culture in Croatia: Unexpected anomalies or expected answer to social crisis?

Author(s): Anja Gvozdanović, Vlasta Ilišin & Dunja Potočnik

Abstract:

Successful democratic consolidation in post-socialist societies depends, among other things, on citizens' political culture, young generation included. Moreover, civic engagement of young people today and in the future is one of the guarantors of the existence and development of democratic order, which points to necessity of gaining the scientific insight into young people’s political culture. In this paper, political values, institutional trust and participation are used as relevant dimensions of civic political culture. The analysis is based on quantitative data collected in empirical studies of youth in Croatia (15-29 years old) carried through from 1999 to 2013 (N1=2000, N2=2000). Based on the longitudinal study results, a downward trend was identified regarding selected indicators of political culture in terms of accepting the liberal-democratic values, trust in social and political institutions, interest in politics and party preference while simultaneously participation in various types of organizations, especially political parties has increased. The research findings point to deepening of youth’s democratic deficit and their low level of democratic competence. The interpretation of established tendencies is situated in broader context of economic recession and social crisis influence with current trends being observed both as indicators and consequences of young people’s inadequate political socialization and political institutions’ and actors’ weaknesses during the transition and consolidation period.

Title: Young People's understandings of Contemporary Politics: Trust, Representation and Barriers to Participation

Author(s): Mark Ellison & Gary Pollock

Abstract:

Over the last twenty years voter turnout in elections at both national and European levels has fallen. This, together with a decline in the perception of political efficacy, has been argued to have resulted in a democratic deficit (Norris, 2011). Drawing on original data from fourteen European countries as part of the MYPLACE (Memory, Youth, Political Legacy and Civic Engagement) project we explore young people's understanding of contemporary politics. Our research demonstrates that, although explanations often demand an understanding of local issues, there are nevertheless strong regional patterns in evidence across Europe. In general, young people are interested in politics and political issues and regularly engage in non-electoral forms of participation and civic engagement. Young people tend to support democracy as a system, stating that voting and being politically active are the most effective forms of influencing politics, but for many young people they feel that the experience of their current political system is not working well for them. Barriers to participation are the perceived lack of interest politicians have in young people, low levels of trust in political institutions and high levels of cynicism towards politics, politicians and the political system. Arguably, these factors contribute to non-electoral political participation and civic engagement which does not translate into similar levels of engagement with formal politics and the political system.

Title: Is compulsory voting the solution to the young citizen-state disconnect?

Author(s): Matt Henn and Nick Foard

Abstract:

For the past three decades the policies of democracies acting within the context of advancing neoliberalism have placed young people's futures at risk. The faith placed by governments in financial markets eventually culminated in the economic crisis of 2008, and the ensuing austerity measures have resulted in uncertain futures for today's youth generation. Against this backdrop, while we have seen a rise in the level of their involvement in social activism, this has contrasted with a steady decline in youth electoral participation. Should this continue, we are likely to witness a deepening of existing generational social and economic inequalities; when elected to office, politicians in government will tend to pursue policies that favour older and other more voting-inclined-groups at the expense of younger and more non-voting-inclined groups. In this paper we consider whether the introduction of a system of compulsory voting for young people might arrest the decline in youth political engagement. We consider data collected in 2011 from a representative online national survey of 1,025 British 18 year olds and from fourteen online focus groups. Our findings reveal that although more young people would vote if compulsory voting were introduced, it is questionable whether or not this would mean that they would feel truly connected to the democratic process. Indeed, it may actually serve to deepen resentments and reinforce the young citizen-state disconnect.

3h: Youth Work (Panel: Organisational interventions with 'risky' young people: oh to be in England?), room 2.2.36

Chair: Rebecca Coles

Title: Using and abusing the arts with 'at-risk' groups

Author(s): Frances Howard

Abstract:

Young people at-risk of exclusion from mainstream education are often directed to alternative education programmes with a vocational content; THE arts are often used as part or all of these programmes as they are seen to encompass 'softer' skills. This paper surveys the policy literatures on arts programmes for 'at risk youth'. It focuses in particular on the Arts Award, a specific programme which claims to 'increase self-esteem, giving young people confidence to go on to further educational provision and improve relationships with parents and carers, by seeing their young people engaged in positive activities and celebrating achievements'. I use discourse analysis to interrogate the ways in which both the arts and young people are represented in these texts. The analysis raises a series of questions about the ways in which 'at risk youth' and 'arts' come together. What if some programmes, instead of benefitting young people, are simply putting the arts at-risk? When the arts content is diluted, lost amongst targets to achieve other goals such as numeracy and literacy, behaviour management and developing 'transferable skills, the value of the arts per se is forgotten. The participants risk negative experiences of instrumentalised arts programmes, which may prevent them from being life-long supporters of and/or participants in the arts. On the other hand, intensive arts focused programmes could counter-productively position young people as failing to live up to programme expectations to be imaginative and creative.

Title: Mapping risk in partnership work between visual arts organisations and youth organisations

Author(s): Nicola Sim

Abstract:

Working together across professional, disciplinary and organisational boundaries is an inherently risky process. Partnerships can develop in response to risk; they require partners to put things at risk, and they can be creatively invested in discourses of risk. This paper sets out to map sites of risk in a four-year programme called Circuit, which is led by Tate and involves galleries and museums throughout the UK, working in partnership with the youth sector to 'improve access and opportunities for harder to reach young people'. Like many learning initiatives in galleries, Circuit strives to be risk-taking in its collaborative activities. However while galleries frequently trade upon contemporary art's reputation for being daring and speculative, as institutions they typically constitute risk-averse public environments. Many youth organisations meanwhile, operate under precarious circumstances, and with young people who are regularly characterised as being vulnerable or volatile. These factors, alongside financial and bureaucratic pressures, mediate the youth sector's capacity for risk. Circuit partners put at stake resources, time, reputations and the experience of young people in order to co-construct alternative, inclusive spaces for interaction. By drawing upon data generated through multi-sited ethnographic fieldwork, and employing theories of space and place, this paper describes cartographies of risk in partnership work between youth and art organisations. The objective of this exercise is to unpick different conceptions of creative bravery, and to assess the readiness of art organisations to enable the participation of so-called 'risky' young people, while also fostering the conditions for transdisciplinary, experimental spaces of partnership.

Title: Hugs and behaviour points: alternative education approaches to 'risky youth'

Author(s): Pat Thomson and Jodie Pennacchia

Abstract:

In the UK, Alternative Education (AE) is officially defined as catering for 'risky' young people who 'do not cope' in regular schools. AE provides either reintegration into school, an alternate route to further education, training or work, or an experience complementary to schooling. This is clearly a disciplinary agenda; young people who cannot regulate themselves in 'normal' educational settings are referred to placements where different approaches are used to 'assist' them to become more adept at, and committed to, practices of self-management. We conducted 17 UK case studies of AE for secondary students in the compulsory years. We found that this AE shared a number of common characteristics, including: (1) heightened surveillance effected through small class sizes, restrictions on movement, and continuous record-keeping, and (2) more effective regulation via the use psychologically based techniques such as behaviour modification, behaviourism or talking therapy. However, we also saw the subordination of learning to a primary focus on managing 'behaviour problems'. Furthermore, within the full-time educational programmes on offer, Languages and Social Sciences were always the first to be abandoned to make way for vocational and recreational programmes. We discuss the implications of the therapeutic and anti-social-epistemic turn in AE and the subsequent sidelining of possibilities for young people to generate broader social understandings and critique. We propose that the combined therapeutic and anti-social-epistemic turn in AE re-constitutes 'riskiness' for young people living in contexts of high unemployment and poverty, the increasing criminalization of everyday life and escalating racialised and sexualized violence.

Title: Teaching risky young people about film: art, training, recreation and politicisation

Author(s): Rebecca Coles

Abstract:

The site now occupied by Broadway - Nottingham's art-house cinema - has seen much of the historical development of film education: it first appeared there in the 1950's in a Co-operative education centre orientated to recreation and self-betterment; the centre came to house a middle-class film society interested in enjoying meaningful film-art; and the cinema that united the two societies there in 1961 was funded by a British Film Institute attempting to nurture a critical popular culture. After Broadway opened in 1990, the mixed aims of art appreciation, recreation and politicisation lived on. The cinema worked with young people in school and community settings to spread the enjoyment and knowledge of art cinema and critical, political experience. It also engaged in vocationally orientated film-making training, funded to regenerate areas of high unemployment. This paper, on the basis of oral history interviews, archival research and ethnographic fieldwork, contrasts these historical modes of education with young people's contemporary experiences of film-making education. What they are offered today conjoins the recreational and the vocational - it is more strongly targeted at 'at risk' youth and framed as more entertaining than school and more relevant to the real world of work - but leaves aside the political. The paper explores the effects of this shift on young people's conceptions of what it means to think about and to make film.

3i: Youth Culture & Subculture (2), room 2.2.49

Chair: Lars Fynbo

Title: (Mis)Interpreting urban youth language

Author(s): Rob Drummond & Susan Dray

Abstract:

This paper will describe and explore the central role played by language in the construction, negotiation, and performance of urban youth identities in a British city. In doing so, it will challenge some widely held views concerning the 'put on' nature of urban teenage speech, before illustrating the practical application of such awareness in the context of employment. Narratives circulating recently in British politics and in the mainstream media have tended to stigmatise some young people, particularly in England's urban centres, as 'uneducated' or 'unemployable' because of how they speak. But is this understanding of the way they speak accurate? What do the young people themselves think about their language? This paper will present findings from an ethnographic sociolinguistic study being carried out in both mainstream and non-mainstream school contexts. It will provide examples of how particular features of speech can be strategically used in the maintenance of identity, and investigate the extent to which the young people are able to move towards a more 'standard' way of speaking when required. The evidence comes from ethnographic observation, audio recordings, and discussions with the young people themselves. It reveals that while most young people see the socially strategic need to change their language according to context, their skills (and motivations) in doing so are mixed. The paper explores these motivations with a view to offering insights into how best to tackle this very real aspect of (un)employability.

Title: "Extraordinary times, ordinary heroes": Israeli youth search for meaning

Author(s): Yaron Girsh

Abstract:

The rapid cultural, technological and economic changes sweeping across the 21st century affect youth more than ever as they grapple with the need to define their mature identity. The continuing instability of Israeli society makes it an excellent case for investigating the ways by which young people interpret unstable and risky realities. This research examines who are the heroes of Israeli Jewish adolescents, and what meanings they attach to these figures. The study is based on 44 semi-structured interviews with 132 Israeli students aged 15-18 from 12 high schools across Israel. The main results point to the adoption of mundane and immediate models of heroism. Interviewees chose family members and Israeli soldiers as their personal heroes significantly more often than any other option. This choice reflects the major role played by these social institutions in constructing ideas, values and models of the exemplary life. Individuals re-conceptualized the idea of the Hero into one which is more reflective of their immediate reality, models within the reach of their hands. Hanging on to 'safe institutions' echo's their need for the stable and familiar, compensating for their confessed loss of trust in institutions such as the media, politics or school. This perspective highlights the interpretive work of youth as social agents and how they experience and locate themselves in relation to key issues in their society in times of increasing uncertainty.

Title: Consuming more responsibly. Rethinking youth lifestyles during the period of transition to adulthood

Author(s): Geraldina Roberti

Abstract:

As social researchers have been highlighting for some time, contemporary society is becoming characterized by a widespread uncertainty and a progressive weakening of the prescriptive norms and meaning sources which in the past provided role models and reference values for young people. Younger generations today are having to cope with the global challenges in an economic climate which is particularly harsh, and without that protective safety net offered by modern societies during the latter half of the twentieth century. In order to investigate elements that mark the transition from youth to adulthood today, we carried out a qualitative research on a group of female University of L'Aquila students (Italy) living away from home. Such young adults represent a particularly interesting population for the study of youth practices, owing to their forthcoming/recent transition from dependent to independent status (Moore-Shay & Berchmans, 1996). Our main objective was to assess whether the changed living conditions of the students had modified their habits and lifestyles, with particular reference to values and consumption models. To this end, we realized a series of focus groups comprising students living away from home was set up, and subsequently more significant issues were examined by means of semi-structured interviews of selected focus groups participants. The most immediately evident feature to emerge concerned the students' ability to adopt more sober and responsible consumption behavior. This may be attributable in part to having to cope with the worsening economic crisis, but also to the fact that starting university had meant leaving their parents' home and, therefore, taking on social roles and responsibilities they had never previously experienced. In this sense, they found themselves forced to rethink their own lifestyle reducing purchases, or at least modifying some of previous purchase habits.

Title: Youth cultural participation of different ethnic groups in Belgium

Author(s): Sofie Beunen, Jessy Siongers & John Lievens

Abstract:

Since a significant part of the population in European countries has his roots in other (European or non-European) countries, research devoted to ethnicity gains more interest. Though lots of studies emphasize the positive effect of cultural participation for youth in different domains (such as educational achievements) and as means for social integration, analyses on cultural participation of different ethnic groups are scarce. A large scale survey held in 2013 in 84 secondary schools in Belgium (n=5086), includes 30,6% of respondents with a non-Belgian background. This dataset creates an excellent opportunity to examine differences in active (e.g. singing or acting) and/or receptive (e.g. visiting a museum or concert) cultural participation between Belgian and ethnic minority youth. A distinction will also be made between popular and more highbrow cultural activities. Results indicate significant differences in receptive participation, where youngsters with roots outside of Europa participate notably less. Besides a description of the differences in cultural participation, we will test different explanations for the lower participation of non-European immigrants. In a first step, we will investigate whether factors such as educational level, economic and cultural capital and parental cultural participation can account for the lower cultural participation of minority youth. Prior research has shown these variables to be related to youth cultural participation in general. In a second step, we will extensively test the acculturation hypothesis and explore if more acculturated minority youth are more similar in their participation to Belgian youth. Multilevel analysis will be used to test our hypotheses.

3j: Exclusion & Marginalisation, room 2.1.42

Chair: David Farrigua

Title: Experiencing Sex Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation as Homeless Young People: An Exploration of Risk Factors and Support Needs

Author(s): Kristine Hickle & Dominique Roe-Sepowitz

Abstract:

Research on the commercial sexual exploitation of young people indicates that running away from home and homelessness are salient risk factors (Hudson & Nandy, 2012; Greene, et al., 1999). However much remains unknown regarding prevalence, additional risk factors, and treatment needs of homeless, sex trafficked young people who forced or coerced into selling and/or trading sex, especially among male and sexual minority youth. This study investigated the prevalence of sex trafficking among homeless young people transitioning into adulthood and compared the life experiences and treatment needs of sex trafficked and non-sex trafficked young adults. A 24-item questionnaire was administered to 189 homeless young people (ages 18-25) receiving services from homeless programs in a large south-western city in the United States during July 2014. Approximately one quarter of participants reported a history of sex trafficking (n=26 males; n=25 females), with sexual minority young adults significantly more likely to report sex trafficking (n=33, 38.4%) relative to heterosexual young adults (n=23, 19.7%). A majority of sex trafficked participants (n=39; 61.9%) identified having a trafficker in the past, revealing a relationship that has received limited attention in research on homeless youth. Sex trafficked participants were also significantly more likely to report self-harming, suicide attempts, substance misuse, dating violence, sexual abuse, and medical and mental health problems. This study offers new insight into sex trafficking among homeless young people who report involvement in abusive relationships and described significantly greater health needs relative to non-sex trafficked peers. Recommendations for interventions and future research will be discussed.

Title: A Habitus of Instability: youth homelessness and instability

Author(s): Justin Barker

Abstract:

This research introduces the concept of a habitus of insecurity to account for the lives of homeless young people. It outlines how conditions of existence are internalised and how homeless young people come to expect and in turn recreate instability in their lives. This research addresses the internalisation and naturalisation of experiences of instability, insecurity and marginalisation and how people can come to subjectively aspire to what they are socialised to see as objectively probable or 'for the likes of them.' The research draws on ethnographic research and participant observation to examine the complex lives of homeless young people and how they are shaped by instability and insecurity inculcated before, during and after experiences of homelessness. This research highlights that people should not be defined merely by their experiences of homelessness or housing status, but by the complex array of conditions that shape their lives.

Title: Symbolic violence and the Olympic Games: low-income youth, social legacy commitments, and urban exclusion in Olympic host cities

Author(s): Jacqueline Kennelly

Abstract:

Drawing on a six year qualitative study on the impacts of the Olympic Games on low-income, homeless, and marginally housed youth in two Olympic host cities (Vancouver 2010 and London 2012), this paper explores the instances of 'symbolic violence' experienced by the youth and perpetuated by the institutional infrastructure associated with the Olympics. Following Pierre Bourdieu's use of the term, symbolic violence here refers to the manner in which the young people in this study turned dominant notions of what the desirable Olympic city looks and feels like into a sense of their own non-belonging within the city. Feeling pressured to be less visible, to defer their own needs for safety and security, and to perform particular forms of 'civil citizenship' in light of the arrival of thousands of tourist-spectators for the Games, youth in both cities reported a defiant mix of frustrated indignation and resigned acceptance that they did not 'fit' the image of the global Olympic city that organizers were trying to convey. The paper will argue that this social harm, difficult to measure yet real nonetheless, is an important though unintended legacy of the Olympic Games for the low-income, homeless, or marginally housed youth living in its shadows in Olympic host cities.

Title: Risky and At-Risk Homeless Youth

Author(s): Sue-Ann MacDonald

Abstract:

The goal of this presentation is to illuminate conceptualizations of risk among homeless youth. Risk in the context of the study that will be presented, encompassed all notions of risk, and was not limited to a narrow definition of perceived harm, but also embraced references of opportunities or chances taken. In this light, this study employed an ethnographic approach to better understand the worlds of homeless youth, relying on participant observation and informal interviewing methods. This ontological approach hoped to capture how youth conceptualize their personal power in estimating, managing, and avoiding or embracing risk. Coupling social constructionism with symbolic interactionism, this study explored participant's understandings of risk in the contexts in which they found and understood themselves. Participant's evolving identities greatly impacted their perceptions of risk and subsequently, their management strategies. Utilizing a longitudinal perspective (one to four years) and building relationships with participants allowed for an unfolding of their perspectives and their situated knowledges. One of the goals of this study was to disembodify grand socio-cultural theories of risk, such as: the risk society, cultural/symbolic, and governmentality approaches, to uncover their cogency for an identified "at-risk" group. Exploring youth's meanings of individual experiences of risk in an identified risk-laden group revealed the heterogeneity of their experiences and understandings. Indeed, this presentation argues that a sociology of risk has largely subsumed a sociology of victimization and deviance in regards to homeless youth. A sociology of risk rests on this binary of victimization and deviance to push for intervention and regulation (i.e. normalization) and endorses a "safety at all cost" approach, ignoring the wide array of youth's experiences. However, the insidious risk discourses that are so pervasive in the literature on homeless youth as well as in practices with them, are not deconstructed for the meanings that are imbued, and are presented in a de-contextualized, 'homo prudens', apolitical fashion; presented in a manner that seems indisputable, as they are nestled in expert logic. This study attempted to re-contextualize conceptualizations of risk by deconstructing such meanings and giving voice to the complexity of youth's experiences that are too frequently portrayed as homogenously victimizing or deviant.

Editors' Session 1: Precarity and precarious work, room 1.1.18

Chair: Robert MacDonald

Title: Explaining structural precarity: how welfare structures shape young people's precarity in university

Author(s): Lorenza Antonucci

Abstract: While the literature has emphasised the presence of a uniform pattern of precarity affecting young people's lives across countries and across socio-economic backgrounds (Standing, 2011: 417), this article clarifies the structural sources of precarity by exploring the case-study of young people in university.

This article proposes a middle-range theoretical framework informed by social policy theory in which individual experiences are analysed in relation to structural factors, namely the available welfare mixes (sources from the family, the state and the labour market) and their socio-economic backgrounds. Welfare sources are conceptualised as structures available to semi-dependent young people to cope with social risks in the context of a privatisation of social risk for young people in university across Europe. Through a comparison of the highly different 'welfare mixes' found in England, Italy and Sweden, the research clarifies the role of each source of welfare in limiting or enhancing insecurity among young people.

The study presents the findings of a comparative research involving 33 young people in England, Italy and Sweden. The research employed a mixed methodology strategy, combining a survey regarding the use of welfare sources with in-depth interviews. The study clarifies the different function of the three sources of welfare in managing social risks and demonstrates that the diffusion of precarity is directly linked to young people's increasing reliance on family and labour market sources.

Furthermore, the findings show precarity is not replacing the traditional socio-economic divisions, but it is reproduced through the existing social structures.

Title: Job insecurities of young women and men in Japan and Switzerland

Author(s): Christian Imdorf, Akio Inui, Mai Sugita & Laura Alexandra Helbling

Abstract:

Switzerland and Japan show relatively low youth unemployment rates despite the different education-work transition systems of the two countries. Whereas Switzerland is well known for its vocational education and training system (VET), general education dominates in Japan, where higher education graduation rates are accordingly higher compared to Switzerland.

However, school leavers face increasingly risky labour markets, which are additionally marked by high degrees of horizontal and vertical gender segregation in both countries. Whereas in Japan, the expansion of the secondary labour market has resulted in an increasing number of non-regular jobs, Switzerland faces a rise in structural unemployment among labour market entrants with VET certificates. Even though women rather than men are traditionally relegated to the secondary labour market in Japan, the latter are increasingly allocated to it. In both countries, young women have caught up with men when it comes to enrolment in higher education.

Against this background we ask if women and men are affected differently by recent employment insecurities, and how educational trajectories account for the employment risks and possible gender differences. Theoretically, we refer to the societal analysis approach to understand different education-work transition systems and how educational structures contribute to recent labour market insecurities in Japan and Switzerland. We use comparable youth panel data in our analysis (JP: Youth cohort study of Japan YCSJ; CH: Transitions from Education to Employment TREE). The findings

show remarkably different patterns of unstable employment among VET and university graduates due to the different transition systems in the two countries.

Title: Precarious work among young Danish employees - a permanent or transitory condition?

Author(s): Mette Lykke Nielsen & Johnny Dyreborg

Abstract: Background: In the debate book 'The Precariat - The new Dangerous Class' (2011) the British professor Guy Standing argues, that a new class is developing. He points out that a growing number of people worldwide are employed in flexible, unstable and short-term jobs with no future prospects. Several authors argue that 'precarious' work is an ambiguous concept that address' different types of uncertainty and vulnerability at the labor market. However, there is broad agreement that precarious work is a growing problem, and that it is highly prevalent among young employees.

Aim: The aim of this paper is to examine the discursive representations of precarious work among young employees 18-24 years of age, in the care sector, the metal industry and retail. We investigate whether precarious work is related to young employees in general, or whether specific categories of young employees become particularly vulnerable in this social and economic transformation.

Method and material: We analyze interview materials with 66 young people who are employed in the care sector, the metal industry and retail trade. We investigate how young employees position themselves in relation to uncertainty and vulnerability at work.

Conclusion: Precarious work is not a characteristic of young employees' work as such, but related to their position at the labor market and to the type of job they are employed in. While some are in transition, others are at risk of being trapped in precarious work.

Title: Hidden underemployment: the centrality of work for vulnerable young people

Author(s): Hannah Smithson & Gary Pollock

Abstract: Employment matters; work is 'positive for health, for income, for social status and for relationships. Employment is a core plank of independent living and for many people work is a key part of their identity' (Sayce, 2011: 17). The importance of work is evident globally as employment is often used as *the* marker for an individual's social class and social status; indeed, it is used, by some, as a framework by which to measure the social value of a person (Humber, 2013). Great significance is attached to an individual's capacity to engage in paid work, so much so, that failure to achieve and maintain the status of the 'employee' has severe social as well as material consequences. The experience of marginalised and vulnerable young people is generally captured through economic stratification, ethnicity and gender. This paper extends the concept of marginalised youth to focus on the disabled, children of migrants, young Roma, and young people who have been involved in the criminal justice system. As such, it provides an examination and analysis of the social, personal and psychological consequences of unemployment for these under-researched groups of young people. We identify gaps in knowledge and existing policies across Europe in areas relevant to early job insecurity and labour market exclusions.

Editors' Session 2: Drug and Alcohol Use, room 2.0.63

Chair: Tracy Shildrick

Title: "Skittles & Red Bull is my favourite flavour combination": the changing landscape of nicotine consumption amongst British teenagers

Author(s): Fiona Measham, Kate O'Brien and Gavin Turnbull

Abstract: The diversification of the tobacco, smoking and nicotine marketplace – with the emergence of electronic cigarettes and other vaporising systems for delivering nicotine and nicotine free flavoured products – has led to growing concerns about their potential appeal to young people. Against a backdrop of conventional cigarette smoking by young people falling to its lowest level in decades (Fuller and Hawkins, 2014) and an associated stigmatisation or denormalisation (Parker et al 1998), new smoking products appear to be increasingly popular with young people. This paper draws on a 6-month multi-method study conducted in north west England during 2014 that explored trends in smoking-related attitudes and behaviours by young people aged 14-25. This paper focuses on e-cigarette use and the extent to which (as has been argued by health professionals) a process of renormalisation is under way in relation to young people and smoking. Our findings reveal that smoking cessation was not the main reason for e-cigarette use but rather, the young people in this study were primarily attracted to e-cigarettes because of their flavours: both youth-oriented flavours, (such as Skittles) and adult-oriented flavours (such as alcoholic cocktails like 'sex on the beach'). A second appeal of e-cigarettes was the 'tricks' performed using the device, such as making vortices of sparkling vapour. Consequently, we argue that there are indicators of a growing acceptance or 'cultural accommodation' of e-cigarette use by some young people, potentially exacerbating tensions between smoking cessation and harm reduction lobbies.

Title: The Terrains of Youth Cultures in Drug Use and Distribution

Author(s): Geoffrey Hunt

Abstract: The aim of this paper is to explore the "terrains" of youth cultures and subcultures in the context of illicit drug use and distribution. In charting this path, we aim to highlight the ways in which notions of culture started as a central and principal organizing concept in the study of drug consumption but gradually the culture lens becomes reshaped, and the focus shifts on to subterranean qualities of drug consumption. While anthropologists had begun by documenting the ways in which particular drugs were part of indigenous belief systems in "other worlds," this focus gradually gives way to an emphasis on drug subcultures especially in the US and the UK. In tracing this development and its more recent re-focusing from sub-cultures to normalization, we note the extent to which youth has been at the centre of these developments. We ask what is it about youth cultures that links so closely to drug use. We also consider the movement of the subculture concept from the US to the UK and consider why more recent debates about subcultures, especially around issues of drug use, appear to have remained relatively unacknowledged within the US. In examining this process of conceptual migration, we began to consider why it was that the dissemination of theoretical ideas only went in one direction? Why have recent theoretical developments in studies of youth cultures, subcultures and drugs been largely ignored by US researchers?

Title: The (gendered) pathways into problematic youth drug use: An Australian case-study

Author(s): Kathryn Daley

Abstract: It has long been established that young people with problematic substance use commonly have backgrounds of considerable trauma and disadvantage (see for example, Spooner et al 2005). However, it remains less clear as to why trauma manifests as substance abuse. In order to understand this, I sought to answer the question of how some young people came to experience problematic substance use. I undertook 61 life-history interviews with young people (14-25 years) accessing drug treatment services in the Australian state of Victoria. In doing this, it was established that trauma was a significant factor, but it was not trauma alone that caused substance abuse. Rather, a critical factor for the young people in this study was the absence of support, care and security in which to recover from their trauma. Recent quantitative research on young people in Australian alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment has highlighted considerable gender differences in the presentations of clients accessing services (Kutin et al 2014; Daley & Kutin 2013). This work was important in identifying gender as an issue, but was unable to explain why gender shaped young people's pathway into problem drug use. Consistent with these other studies, the current study found that both young women and men had backgrounds of considerable trauma and disadvantage (child abuse and neglect, homelessness, early school-leaving, grief etc.) and that there were gender difference in understanding how this trauma led to substance abuse. I use this paper to offer an explanatory framework for understanding the role of gender in young people's pathways into problematic substance use.

Title: Intoxicating Stories

Author(s): Sébastien Tutenges & Sveinung Sandberg

Abstract: This paper is part of a wider study on storytelling among youth. The focus is on drinking stories told among young people from Denmark; but comments will also be made on other narrative genres, including drug stories and violent stories. The stories were recorded through ethnographic methods, including observation and in-depth interviews. The participants in the study generally placed high value on being able to recount personal drinking stories, which we here identify as stories that involve the act of alcohol consumption combined with one or several acts of transgression such as stripping or vomiting. The participants usually told the stories with amusement or pride. However, some stories were told in a critical tone and focused on negative experiences. The data suggest that many participants engaged in heavy drinking and drunken transgressions, in part because they wanted to get good stories out of it. Their drinking behaviour was subtly motivated, inspired and guided by the drinking stories that they heard from others, as well as the drinking stories that they themselves wanted to create.

Editors' Session 3: Transitions, room 25.01.53 (in the basement)

Chair: Andy Furlong

Title: Aspirations and Adaptations: young people's careers in the context of neoliberal policies

Author(s): Harriet Bradley

Abstract: A persistent theme in educational policy-making has been the need to raise aspirations, with the assumption that many working-class children and their parents are lacking in this respect. This aspirational deficiency is used to explain the lack of upward social mobility which has been highlighted in reports from the Social Mobility Commission. This is linked to the lower take-up of higher education by working-class youths. In contradiction to such contentions, evidence shows that people from privileged backgrounds who have attended independent schools are more likely to drop out of university and to obtain lower-class degrees. Similarly McDowell's research among working-class young men showed that they aspired to the same things as middle-class youths. This paper draws on data from qualitative research conducted in Bristol to contest the assumptions about aspirational deficits. Ordinary Lives revealed that working-class parents shared middle-class parents' concerns about their children's education and aspirations for their success, including university attendance. However, these aspirations might be foiled by lack of appropriate economic and cultural capital. Paired Peers followed a cohort of students through their degrees at a Russell Group and a post-92 university. The research found that working-class students performed as well as their middle-class peers academically, but lacked economic and social capital to carry out effective cv building, leading some to moderate their initial aspirations. The paper aims to show how choices are constrained not by low aspirations but by prevailing socio-economic conditions, which compel young people to moderate and adapt their views of future possibilities.

Title: From plans and choices to hopes and fears: Young people's strategies for coping with parallel conceptualizations of the future

Author(s): Julia Cook

Abstract: The contemporary future horizon has often been characterized in sociological work as a space crowded with risks and contingencies. This view has prompted a number of claims that young people conceptualize the future predominantly in terms of the choices and plans that they make to mitigate against such concerns. As an extension of this logic, a number of studies have suggested that young people conceptualize the long-term future extending beyond their own lives separately from their more immediate horizon of planning, an approach termed 'two-track thinking' (Leahy, Bowden & Threadgold 2010). This paper will discuss how young people may relate to the long-term and more immediate future concurrently, and by doing so will consider the points at which the strategies that young people use to cope with contingency in their own lives may intersect with the ways that they approach their fears, hopes and imaginings about the long-term future. The data for this paper is drawn from an on-going interview project in which young adults (aged 18-34) are asked to discuss their own futures, and a general idea of the future. The findings are presented as a typology of the approaches that young people use when engaging with both dimensions of the future, which is used to propose that the ways in which young adults both avoid and engage with the long-term future are often related to the strategies that they engage with when facing their own futures.

Title: NEET in disguise? The workings of rival narratives in troubled youth transitions

Author(s): Herwig Reiter & Tabea Schlimbach

Abstract: The article contributes to the differentiation of the research perspective on disadvantaged young people and the NEET status. On the basis of a qualitative longitudinal study about coping strategies of secondary school-leavers in school-to-work transitions in Germany the article discusses how NEET periods are reflected within biographical self-perceptions. We find that young people are well-aware of the problematic nature of the NEET status and show how they struggle to avoid and conceal the status of NEET and thus contribute to the institutionally suggested normalisation of biographical discontinuities. On the level of action they try to avoid or exit NEET periods by accepting precarious and de-qualifying activities. On the level of biographical reflection they use rival narratives to re-embed the NEET experience, to bypass it or avoid mentioning it altogether. We suggest calling this phenomenon 'NEET in disguise' and analytically distinguish several competing narratives that establish different selective perspectives on events, choices, and experiences.

Title: Imagining a future where society does not change: an exploration into young Sardinians' narratives

Author(s): Valentina Cuzzocrea

Abstract: Italian youth is commonly referred to as a 'voiceless generation', one that has 'no future'. This has motivated the setting up of a research project specifically devoted to empirically investigate what forms of capacity to imagine the future do, actually, exist. In order to capture anxieties and hopes, 340 18 year old Sardinian students were asked to imagine they were 90 and tell the story of their life in an essay. This paper develops one aspect which is being unfolded in a book on youth narratives of the future (Cuzzocrea & Isabella, in preparation): these tend to be stories about the self as transposed in the future, while society is represented as immobile and unchangeable. The corpus of elements which changes throughout one's life is made up of personal experiences and people to be met. Often, these are the same significant others from adolescent years, who will be met again in significant moments such as weddings and birth of the first son/daughter. Notably, there is no space devoted to discuss how society will change by effect of someone's action, neither of how the person who writes the essay may ever contribute to such a change. Overall, in our material the students appear agentic, but they are much more so in the private sphere, while the same agency does not show a transformative potential for society. The attempt to positive self construction does not involve hopes in one's capacity to construct a collective future beyond personal instances. We conclude with some reflections about how these narratives are tied to the specific socio economic context and an apparent lack of perspectives.

4a: Transitions (1), room 2.2.36

Chair: Richard Waller

Title: Reflexivity within Youth Transition

Author(s): Danielle White

Abstract:

This paper explores the concept of reflexivity in shaping young people's career decision making at age 16 years. It argues that current neo-liberal policy and ideology, prevalent in the UK context, has come to define reflexivity as a form of cultural capital which differentiates and pathologises those young people who show it and those who do not. Findings are reported from interviews with 13 young

people living in a socially disadvantaged area in the North West of England. These interviews utilised visual research and analysis methods to engage with the experiences of these young people as they made decisions regarding their future work and education. This data was analysed using a conceptual framework that incorporated Bourdieu's theory (1977) to explore the structural influences shaping career ideas that are typical for this group (i.e. 'field', 'habitus', 'social capital' and 'cultural capital'). This analysis highlighted evidence of reflexivity in some young people's decision making where this form of thinking was seen to be a tool in aspiring to achieve social mobility. The paper concludes that the form reflexivity takes is varied and as such, its capacity to mobilize agency and be transformative is defined by the context in which young people are located.

Title: "University social life is like being in a fishbowl - everything is magnified and the lines become blurred." Young Men's Accounts of 'Laddishness' and 'Riskiness' in the University Context.

Author(s): Sharon Elley

Abstract:

Considerable controversy surrounds young men's behaviour in what is termed an increased 'culture of laddism', sexism, harassment and violence as witnessed across UK university campuses (Phipps, 2012; 2014). Nationwide, these issues have fuelled media stories vilifying student sporting society's initiation rituals (Turner, 2014) and 'Violate a Fresher' promo nights (Collington, 2013). The NUS and EAW have called for campus-wide action with Student Unions banning 'inappropriate' laddish sexist behaviours and airing songs like 'Blurred Lines' (2013) for its misogynistic lyrics. Correspondingly, this paper presents the initial findings from a scoping research project (2015) with 40 higher education students, aged 19-26, from a UK Russell Group University in the North East of England. Ten 30 minute focus group discussions and activities mapped students' experiences of: 1) students' night-time cultures; 2) (un)safe campus spaces; 3) students' interactions, behaviours and networks; and, 4) students' knowledge of welfare provision and support. This paper acknowledges the very tangible socioeconomic and cultural inequalities between, and amongst, young men and women; but also suggests equally tackling how the university conducive context farms a microscopic-culture which inadvertently exacerbates student risk-taking and excessiveness. This includes the intensification of student interactions in response to 'doing studenthood'; the blurred boundaries of normative behaviour; and, the significance of 'clan-like' practices tested through initiation rituals and measurements of excessiveness. Against a conflicting backdrop of student welfare and safeguarding messages; the paper makes suggestions for positively harnessing students' risk-taking and pleasure-seeking behaviour to escape the long-term negative consequences of 'laddishness' and riskiness to students' futures.

Title: Young people's orientations to the future

Author(s): Dawn Lyon & Giulia Carabelli

Abstract:

An engagement with risk is an engagement with the future in the present. The thing (job, house, relationship, mood, achievement...) that is the focus of fear, hope, calculation or aspiration is already imagined into the future. At the same time, the image of the future – whether it is of full or limited possibility – is present in the ways transitions and trajectories are conceived. Mische argues for greater sociological attention to the 'imaginative horizons' in which the 'multiple plans and possibilities' of human action are envisaged, including 'the future images that inform social practices' (Mische, 2009: 696). Existing research in youth studies has tended to emphasise linear sequences, place the future in an artificial temporal and spatial suspension from the present, focus on the content

of imagined futures, and rely on narrative. This paper explores young people's present orientations towards the future. It is based on findings from Imagine Sheppey (2014), a collaborative, interdisciplinary and experimental project. We (two sociologists) worked with the artists Tea in a socio-economically disadvantaged location (the Isle of Sheppey in Kent) to engage young people in improvised performances and activities which might elicit present and future orientations in different linguistic and symbolic forms. In this paper we discuss the 'reach' and shape of imaginings, resources in the present for mobilising the future, achieving value, and the affective dimensions of imaginings. Imagine Sheppey is part of Imagine, a large AHRC/ESRC Connected Communities research project (grant no ES/K002686/1).

Title: L'avenir, c'est pour nous! – Trust, Hope and Orientation towards the Future among young University Graduates in Burkina Faso

Author(s): Maike Birzle

Abstract:

Based on extensive fieldwork in Ouagadougou, this paper aims to describe unpredictability in the lives of young university graduates in Burkina Faso. Through an analysis of interviews conducted with these graduates it will be shown that unpredictability is experienced as uncertainty which, in turn, can be usefully understood with reference to Niklas Luhmann's work on trust. Unlike young graduates in Europe, whose uncertainty is institutionally mediated through such mechanisms as insurance and welfare schemes, young graduates in Burkina Faso, especially those without strong family networks, are mostly left to their own devices. They continue to do minor jobs and must often postpone their plans for the future which consist mainly in securing employment, marrying and starting a family in order in their own account to become respectable members of the family. In spite of the uncertainty, they continue to nurture hope, a notion which seems to play a very important role when imagining the future. In my paper I want to focus on this notion by drawing on Luhmann's typology of trust to inquire into the ways in which young graduates in Burkina Faso deal with uncertainty in everyday life and are able to recover a form of agency that is not immediately visible from their accounts. In this regard I will supplementary focus on the protest movements of young Burkinabe which led to the downfall of the unpopular president Blaise Compaore in October 2014.

4b: Transitions (2), room 2.2.42

Chair: Dan Woodman

Title: Is the teenage brain really wired for risk and 'sub-optimal' decision-making?

Author(s): Howard Sercombe

Abstract:

Over the last decade, the propensity for young people to take risks has been a particular focus of neuroscientific inquiries into human development. Taking population-level data about teenagers' involvement in drinking, smoking, dangerous driving and unprotected sex as indicative, a consensus has developed about the association between risk-taking and the temporal disconnect in the development of reward-seeking and executive regions of the brain. On this account, adolescent risk-taking is a biological outcome of disconnects in brain development in the teenage years. But is this so? Are young people really so risk-prone? Can we really read off human behaviour from brain scans in this way? What kind of evidence is this? Professor Sercombe surveys epistemological,

epidemiological, evolutionary and archaeological evidence to challenge the assessment of adolescent behaviour and decision-making as 'sub-optimal', and the implication that the developmental schedule of the teenage brain is dysfunctional. He proposes a view of adolescent development as adaptive, and a focus on young people's capacities in the profile of the needs of the community as a whole.

Title: Youth entrepreneurship, individualisation and responsibility

Author(s): Clare Holdsworth & Marina Mendonça

Abstract:

Promoting youth entrepreneurship has become a crucial EU strategy in addressing high unemployment rates. Statistics have indicated that although young people show an interest in starting up ventures, there is a big gap between intentions and realisation. Furthermore, entrepreneurial intentions/activities vary across European countries. Existing research on the determinants of entrepreneurship has focused mainly on macro-economic and individual level factors. The analysis of entrepreneurship in cultural terms has remained elusive. This paper will present a theoretical framework for approaching entrepreneurship as a cultural practice. In particular it will consider how recent EU policy responses to youth unemployment and precarious working practices identify young people as the potential solution to these structural problems. In order to promote employment rates, the European Commission has developed several policy initiatives focused on maximizing young people's employability skills and integration in the labour market (e.g. Youth on the Move, Entrepreneurship 20200). Throughout these initiatives, youth entrepreneurship shows up as transversal and crucial strategy in addressing employment and economic growth. This paper will explore how attempts to promote youth entrepreneurship seek to bring about a cultural change that identifies young people as the main agents of responsibility for their own futures. This analysis of entrepreneurship and responsibility will draw on and extend recent debates about individualisation and choice in youth studies.

Title: Institutionalized Individualism: A Further Dimension to the Debate on Individualization

Author(s): Jalal M. Pour

Abstract:

In this paper I offer a contribution to the recent conceptual debate that has taken place in the pages of the Journal of Youth Studies regarding the understanding and use of Ulrich Beck's theory of individualization. Rather than furthering the war of quotations that has taken place under the premise of offering the 'correct' understanding, I make the case for a more nuanced reading of individualization with the hope of contributing to its conceptual development. In order to do so, building on themes raised by other writers in this debate, I first dispel the widely held notions that individualization is solely a subjective phenomenon and that it entails greater individual agency. In contrast, I demonstrate how far from entailing freedom from external forces, individualization actually acts to shape and constrain biographical trajectories in novel ways, and that rather than emerging from individual subjectivities it is actually the product of a societal process conforming to a general imperative. Secondly, this conceptual reconfiguration then leads to my underlying and central argument: that a key notion at the centre of Beck's work – the institutionalization of individualism under contemporary conditions – has largely been left out of discussion, and that when this is incorporated it changes the way in which individualization is understood. After elaborating on this reconfigured understanding, I then conclude the paper by underlining how this, thus far overlooked, institutional dimension is fundamental for furthering the conceptual debate on individualization; while also altering how researchers go about investigating process of contemporary individualization.

Title: Territorializing and deterritorializing post-16 progression through agency and critical literacy

Author(s): Valerie Farnsworth

Abstract:

We know that progression through compulsory education into tertiary education, training or work, is largely determined by prior attainment. However, this view on progression under-estimates the role of subjectivities and personal/situated narratives in the post-16 related decisions and investments a young person makes. The picture becomes more complex when we consider the ways these subjectivities and narratives, as well as prior attainment, are influenced by a host of people, practices and institutions which are unequally resourced and valued across society. Deleuze provides a conceptualisation of this complexity in his characterisation of the 'assemblage', and also suggests a set of processes (e.g. territorializing and deterritorializing) that suggest ways young people may be transgressing and resisting social structures and practices that support inequities in opportunity and precarity. The argument made in this paper is that if we break this confluence of influences down to the level of power relations, values, beliefs and narratives, then the mechanisms to counteract the cycle of inequality can be found in possibilities for agency and critical literacy. The paper will combine a Deleuzian framework with social practice theory and social learning theory to explain how this might work (or be working) to create social change. Three forms of agency, framed by Etienne Wenger-Trayner's concepts of alignment, engagement and imagination, and a particular view of critical literacy, drawing on Paolo Freire, are proposed with a view to characterising the types of counter actions and counter narratives needed to counter act the status quo determinants of who benefits.

4c: Youth Culture & Subculture (1), room 2.2.49

Chair: Sumi Hollingworth

Title: Editing the project of self: Sustained Facebook use and growing up online

Author(s): Sian Lincoln & Brady Robards

Abstract:

Now in operation for over a decade, Facebook comes to serve as a digital record of life for young people who have been using the site through key periods of transition. With significant parts of their social and cultural lives played out on the site, users are able to turn to these profiles – these texts of transition often documenting significant relationships, work lives, education, leisure, and loss – to reflect on how their use of Facebook has come to constitute a life narrative. Like reading old journals, the act of ‘scrolling back’ through a Facebook profile can be a nostalgic, challenging and risky experience whereby users are confronted with their younger selves and past experiences. In this paper, we report on preliminary findings from ongoing qualitative research into sustained use of Facebook by young people in their twenties in Australia and the UK. Here we focus on the ‘editing’ or re-ordering of narratives that our participants engage in while they scroll back through their years (5+) of disclosures – and the disclosures of others – that make up their Facebook Timelines. We present our analysis of the different arenas (for example intimacy, employment) that initiate a reflexive re-ordering of participant narratives. We argue that Facebook profiles represent a visual manifestation of Giddens’ (1991) reflexive project of the self, that serve not only to communicate a sense of self to others, but that also act as texts of personal reflection and of growing up.

Title: Online Doping

Author(s): Jesper Andreasson & Thomas Johansson

Abstract:

In Sweden, but also internationally, official regimes and public health organizations conduct fairly comprehensive anti-doping measures. As a consequence, numerous ‘new’ ways to learn about and access these types of drugs have emerged. Social media and different Internet forums, for example, have become part of a new self-help culture in which mainly young people anonymously can approach these substances, discuss their experiences of using them, and minimize the possibility of encounters with the police. What we see today is the development of new doping trajectories. This presentation is based on an ethnographical inspired research project that focuses on how the use of performance- and image-enhancing drugs (PED) is perceived and negotiated socially in the context of an Internet-mediated and online community called Flashback. The results of the study are in accordance with similar studies on Internet bodybuilding communities. That is, even though the community members to a certain degree are aware of the risks and health costs of this kind of physical regime, the gains of using PED clearly dominate the discussions. Adding to this research, the results also indicate that in the imaginary world of online bodybuilding a number of ideas about the ‘genetic max’, as well as the ultimate possibility of exceeding one’s limits, and creating something special and extra-ordinary, circulate. These stories confirm in many ways the legitimate mission of searching for the ultimate bodybuilding adventure, using different means and methods to transcend the limits of the self/body.

Title: Whose risk is it anyway? Negotiating access to multi- media and capability opportunities with young people in out of home care

Author(s): Cath Larkins & Joanne Westwood

Abstract:

Young people in out of home care in the UK risk poor employment opportunities, health outcomes, mental well-being and educational attainment. Distanced from family, and marginalised from social opportunities, these young people are frequently moved away from familiar people, places, and established networks.

The Reporters' Academy project was designed to address the risks that looked after young people face in terms of educational attainment and employability. They recruited looked after young people from 3 local authorities areas in England to participate in 10 sessions of multi – media training, developing skills in video and audio technologies ,project and time management, interpersonal communication and recognition of their own capabilities. Enrichment opportunities included; reporting on the Rugby World cup 2014; Commonwealth Games 2014 and a National Health Service conference.

The Reporters' Academy found pathways through the risk adverse cultures of local authorities' children's social services to engage young people. This paper reports on data gathered through critical reflective dialogue with the Reporters' Academy staff, non-participant observation of group activities and online surveys with stakeholders. The findings reveal complex layers of risk:

Fear of video making projects

Online availability of the films and recordings

Risk of sharing foster carer contact details

Concern about which young people could participate in the project

Young people's risky behaviour once involved

Young people's opportunities to overcome structural risks associated with being looked after were compromised by the layered constructions of risk imposed by local authorities. When provided with relevant information young people demonstrated capacity to negotiate risks themselves.

4d: Methods (panel: Research with/for/on young people's social and digital media practices), room 4.1.30

Chair: Natalie Hendry

Title: Why do you want to know? Class, stigma and reluctance in young women talking about selfies

Author(s): Jocelyn Murtell

Abstract:

This paper will explore the methodological and ethical issues that I encountered as a researcher working with young women aged 12-17 years regarding their practices of self-representation online, specifically self-portraits or the 'selfie'. As a researcher unfamiliar with the local area of Leeds in the United Kingdom, I approached three youth serving agencies that ran after-school groups where I volunteered and assisted with programming. As these programs were aimed at reaching underserved populations, many of the participants came from low-income families in neighbourhoods that have been labelled deprived. As the practice of the selfie had become popular I anticipated that young

women would be keen to share and discuss their own photographic practices with me. However, I found participants were reluctant to commit to an interview and at times hesitant to show and then speak in depth about their photos. As I moved on to interview an older cohort of young women that attend university and college in the same city there was a clear contrast in their eagerness to share and reflect on their own selfie practices. In this presentation I will attempt to consider reluctance in participants from marginalized communities to speak about their online self-presentation in relation to issues of social class, respectability and stigma (Skeggs, 1997). Further, I will consider the role that habitus plays in young women's visual 'literacy' (Schwarz, 2010), its effect on the presentation of self and the ways in which young women navigate the dominant and conflicting messages (McRobbie, 2007, Ringrose, 2013, Shields-Dobson, 2014) they receive about the value of their appearance and body.

Title: Knowing queer punx: reflexive understandings of research methods in DIY online spaces

Author(s): Megan Sharp

Abstract:

Using digital and social media to explore the (re)production of queer identities, this research focuses on the use of Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and Tumblr as tools for connectedness, visibility and creative self-making as part of a larger study within punk communities. Young queer women utilise and reconfigure these online spaces, alluding to the durability of a playful, subversive punk ethos in constituting challenges to the normative, thus reinforcing an embedded DIY approach to the construction of identity in punk scenes. As an exploration of the experiences of young women who exist within the intersection of queer and punk, this research unpacks strategies of resistance (Halberstam 2003) to marginalisation and the transformative capacity of creative self-making in traditionally male-dominated music spaces. Using social media as an object of study and exploring reflexive relationships between the insider and research methods, this paper discusses queer(ed) understandings of the position of researcher within academic scholarship and ethical considerations concerning methods of participant recruitment and analysis. In this case, the terrain of digital and social media in a methodological context can be considered through relationality of subject/object, privileged knowledge and knowledge distortion (Taylor 2012).

Title: Examining methodological practices: Locating young people's agency in digital media research

Author(s): Benjamin Hanckel & Natalie Hendry

Abstract:

The lifeworlds of young people involve a variety of on/offline practices. For marginalised young people the convergence of new information and communication technologies (ICTs) afford opportunities for identity development, social connection, and understanding the public spaces that marginalise them. However, how these practices are framed requires further attention. In this paper we consider the methodological concerns of two research projects, one based in Australia, and the second based regionally in Asia, that involve different methods (ethnographic action research and a mixed-methods digital case study) to examine marginalised young people's social and digital media practices. We reflect on how research negotiates issues of risk and safety and, using a queer lens, we consider how methodological practices can privilege young people's agency and subjectivity, to better understand the nuances of convergent new media practices. Using social media spaces as both an object of study, and practice that extends beyond the digital, we address the limitations of traditional methods and ethics guidelines to engage with convergent new media. These common concerns have implications for the development, implementation and sustainability of health and media

interventions. We conclude by providing a series of questions to assist researchers, and practitioners, working with marginalised young people and digital and social media.

Title: Youth in time – launching a longitudinal study on youth in Finland

Author(s): Sinikka Aapola-Kari

Abstract:

In this paper, the focus is on the methodological and ethical dimensions linked with starting a longitudinal research project with young people. The Finnish Youth Research Network is launching a relatively large qualitative follow-up study on school-leavers' life paths in 2015. The research participants' educational, relational and other transitions will be followed for at least ten years after they finish comprehensive school. It is a rare occasion to be able to launch such a research project, and there are many critical issues to consider regarding the research ethics and research methods. The goal is to include approximately hundred young people (born at the turn of the century), from different areas in Finland, with various backgrounds and resources. Participatory research methods will be applied in order to allow a more dialogic and reciprocal research process with the research participants. A critical question is how to engage the young people in a longitudinal project. In the research interviews, many subjects will be covered, including social and family relations, well-being, interests and values, critical life moments, and future plans regarding education, work and mobility. These themes will be recurring in data gathering rounds. The analysis will combine life-course analysis with other relevant approaches. The research project aims to produce long-term, holistic knowledge about young people's lives, which is useful not only to youth researchers but also to policy makers and professionals.

4e: Youth Work, room 4.1.36

Chair: Ditte Andersen

Title: Youth and social 'connect': A critique of two major institutional initiatives in youth work in India

Author(s): Kottu Sekhar

Abstract:

India is on the threshold of becoming the youngest nation by 2020 with a half of her 1.25 billion population under 25 years of age and those below 35 years constituting 65 per cent of it. Though this 'youth bulge' is often treated as 'demographic dividend' with positive consequences it brings to the fore a very important issue of young peoples' engagement with the community. In other words the participation of youth in community building process assumes importance in the wake of phenomenal rise in their population. Youth work, in this regard plays the role of an effective conduit to connect youth with the immediate milieu. In this back drop the paper critiques the role of two massive government run youth programmes –the National Service Scheme (NSS) for student youth and the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) for rural youth- in enabling the youth to intervene in the community and in the process empower themselves. The NSS involves its 3.2 million volunteers in community service through an array of programmes while the 5 million volunteers of the NYKS participate in the community through 2, 73,000 registered youth clubs. Operated by low cost structures both the programmes are the only ones of their kind in the world and are good examples of

youth work. The paper will analyze the structure, objectives and modus operandi of these programmes and examine their utility in facilitating an interface between youth and community and reducing risks or training the youth to negotiate transitions and risks.

Title: The Youth Contract – A Flawed Approach to Engaging the Hardest to Reach

Author(s): Sue Maguire

Abstract:

The Youth Contract was launched in England in 2012 to assist young people aged 16-24 years who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) through a payments-by-results (PbR) and 'black box' delivery model. This involves devolved management of the programme from government through a supply chain of providers, with their payments being triggered by the young people achieving positive outcomes. The performance of the Youth Contract, in terms of both the overall numbers of young people entering the programme and its success in delivering sustained positive outcomes has fallen well short of expectations. Furthermore, the wage-incentive element of the programme that offered employers a financial support to recruit a young person over the age of 18 year of age has now been withdrawn. This paper will explore the implementation of the Youth Contract for 16-and 17-year olds by the Department for Education (DfE). Drawing on the findings of the evaluation of the programme, it will identify the challenges and inherent contradictions in the design of the programme and assess the efficacy of adopting an approach incorporating outcomes-based payments for participation, and responsibility for managing the programme being devolved to private contractors. This is clearly at odds with the statutory responsibilities held by local authorities (LAs) to implement the Raising of the Participation Age (RPA), which includes identifying young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) and addressing their needs. Another concern will be the extent to which this delivery model offers 'value for money'.

Title: Youth workers engage “radicalized” young Dutch Muslims

Author(s): Sebastian Abdallah

Abstract:

“Radicalization” has in the Netherlands become a hot topic as young Muslim men in Europe make their way to Syria and Iraq to join armed struggles, ostensibly based on their religious convictions. In public debates “radicalization” has become an umbrella-term referring to Muslims militants, passive sympathizers, as well as possible future contributors to general dangers. Some researchers have adopted and reproduced this term as a social scientific concept, claiming to explain the “radicalization” phenomenon or “measuring” the success of “de-radicalization” initiatives. In some of these cases, researchers have hardly interacted with the “radicalized” young people. Their contributions end up obscuring more than they clarify. Conversely, my contribution will show that the behavior of “radicalized” young Muslims is not a unified phenomenon, but consists of complex and diverse paths of development, leading to varied possible outcomes. A preliminary scan shows “thrill seekers”, “naïve ideologists”, and “intelligent revolutionaries” as important categories, while some young people display characteristics of more than one of these categories. Furthermore, I will describe how some youth workers have developed sophisticated approaches to engage with these young people, yielding differing results, all of them quite unknown to the general public. Elements are “maintaining casual contact”, “standing beside them”, “exploring life opportunities”, and “challenging ideologies”. Certain political and media representatives influence public opinion toward a one-problem-one-solution approach. Realities are more complex and diverse and youth workers seem to have at least the start of a more adequate response, evolved from long term contact and experience.

Title: Youth policy stakeholders' perceptions about youth Participation In Estonian Youth Policy

Author(s): Tanja Dibou

Abstract:

Raising youth active participation in decision making process is the one's of main priority of many international and national agendas on youth. For instance, one of two overall objectives of the European Union Youth Strategy (2010-2018) is to encourage young people to be active citizens and participate in society. Comprehensive analysis of the present existing options of youth participation in youth policy offers a more effective way to understand youth ability to influence their own lives. A focus on the youth involvement in civil society brings to discuss about various forms from 'true' to 'false' forms of activism. Scholars in youth field identify that not every action of young people in society should be seen as the full of value. The objectives of the paper is to explore how and whether the state provide opportunities to youth participate in decision-making process of youth policy and how this process is organized in Estonia. Author have chosen for analysis Estonia, as example of Baltic states, where in youth policy it is possible to find at the same time EU approaches and post Soviet experience. The youth participation will be analyzed through a review of theoretical literature with providing some practical examples and empirical data from youth sector, using the Estonia states' documents, statistics, surveys and data from individual research (10 interviews and 1 focus group with experts from youth field) The main question for author is to explore whether youth opinions are taken into consideration by politicians.

4f: Crime, Deviance & Criminal Justice, room 5.0.28

Chair: Geoffrey Hunt

Title: Risk, Redemption, Resource? Re-thinking young fatherhood in custodial settings

Author(s): Linzi Ladlow

Abstract:

"If it wasn't for prison I wouldn't be a father. I would not be the dad I am today".

Young fathers living in disadvantaged circumstances are likely to face a raft of challenges in assuming a parenting role and identity. For those who have spent time in custody, these problems may be magnified. Having a criminal record may create cumulative problems in obtaining employment and housing, which can seriously impinge on their abilities to provide care. This in turn can exacerbate their popularly perceived 'feckless' identity, imprinting them, seemingly indelibly, on the margins of mainstream society and 'good' fatherhood. This paper draws on interview data from young custodial fathers and practitioners, gathered as part of the ESRC funded Following Young Fathers study. The paper is framed by policy debates concerning the redemption of marginalised young men, which provides a challenge to the axiom of young offenders as 'risky'. Our findings suggest that the fathering identities of young offenders may be forged anew through imaginative intervention programmes, particularly where these are followed through with sustained support during resettlement. Such policy responses can foster a more active and engaged caring role for young fathers that can act as a catalyst to curb re-offending, thereby enhancing their life chances and in turn, those of their children. Overall the paper invites reflection on the adequacy of the concepts of 'risk', 'redemption' and 'resource in relation to young offender fathers, and considers how these concepts might be reframed

when taking account of the agency of these young men, and the incremental changes that occur in their identities and practices as their lives unfold.

Title: Policing the Juvenile Delinquent. The Street as Pedagogical Object, Copenhagen 1930s as Case

Author(s): Christian Sandbjerg Hansen

Abstract:

This paper analyses the pedagogical relation between the category of “the juvenile offender” and the street or the neighborhood. This is done on the basis of police archives from the 1930s. Cases related to a growing working-class neighborhood in Copenhagen are chosen as empirical ground for an analysis of how the “juvenile offender” was constructed and how it became a pedagogical category to be “handled” and “intervened”. Special attention is given to the ways in which the street is governed and how signs of delinquency are constructed and given meaning through police practice and pedagogical work. This way the street is analyzed as a socio-symbolic battle-field intersecting pedagogical relations of identity, territory and state practice. In the final section, the empirical focus on (historical) time and space are related to the overall theoretical model of advanced urban marginality, territorial stigmatization and state transformation proposed by Loïc Wacquant.

Title: Patterns of Aggressive and Delinquent Behaviour among High Risk Youth in Urban Malaysia

Author(s): Haslinda Abdullah, Adriana Ortega & Nobaya Ahmad

Abstract:

Currently there is an alarming increase of youth involved in delinquency and criminal behaviour in urban and suburban areas of Malaysia. This paper aimed to measure the level of aggressive and delinquent behaviour, identify the most common delinquent behaviours, and examine the associations of aggressive and delinquent behaviour with demographic factors and individual characteristics among a sample of high risk Malaysian youth. The data used in this paper was obtained from a larger study designed to identify patterns of delinquent behaviour among teenagers and young people (15-40 years old). The data was obtained using focus groups discussions and self-administered questionnaires. The results indicate that although the sample consisted of high risk youth, participants scored low in delinquent behaviour and moderate in aggressive behaviour. The findings also show significant associations between delinquent behaviour levels with both age and ethnicity; but no significant associations with gender or religion. Results indicate that common perceptions about at-risk youth may run contrary to reality; despite being at-risk, the respondents displayed lower-than-expected levels of delinquency, and moderate aggressive behaviour. The findings emphasize the need for a more thorough approach toward understanding how identity crisis, emotional stress, boredom and key issues impact the way young Malaysians behave and interact within their communities. Studies conducted in the west suggest that preventive programs should include effective use of leisure time, along with programs that focus on soft skills development, values and moral education.

Title: That Joke Isn't Funny Anymore: The impact of Violent Youth Gangs discourses on the risk management of gang associated youth.

Author(s): Rob Ralphs and Karen Kent

Abstract:

In the last decade, as gang discourse and European gang research has grown exponentially, so too have the responses from practitioners and policy makers. Irrespective of differing juvenile justice systems regarding gang policies and interventions, European countries often turn to the United States for direction. In this paper, we look towards one specific area of policy development: the multi-agency risk management of young high-risk gang associates (those viewed as being 'at risk' as victims or 'posing a risk' of firearm related violence). We critically assess the evidence base and appropriateness of these US-influenced responses in light of recent claims made by the UK's governmental 'Advisor on Gang Warfare', US law and order enforcer Bill Bratton that: "*The firearm problem in England is almost laughable in the sense of how small it is.*" We draw on a combination of official statistics and qualitative case studies to argue that the realities of these risk management strategies are far from 'laughable' for those youths on the receiving end of these high-risk multi-agency responses. We conclude that rather than forming part of the solution, these policies often serve to further exclude already marginalised youth and perpetuate the cycle of deprivation, social exclusion and criminality within these gang affected communities.

4g: Youth Culture & Subculture (2), room 5.1.16

Chair: Ann-Karina Henriksen

Title: The Effects of Application Usage and Mediation: Strategies on Smartphone Addiction in Korean Adolescents

Author(s): Changho Lee & Sook-Jung Lee

Abstract:

Children's smartphone ownership has become prevalent in Korea, causing parents to express concern over their children's addictive use of smartphones. The present study examined the relationship between adolescents' application usage and smartphone addiction, and also explored effective mediation strategies to reduce adolescent smartphone addiction. Data from 1,580 Korean adolescents in grades seven to twelve were analyzed. The results suggest that restriction of a certain application rather than restriction of the smartphone use itself is a more appropriate approach to prevent addiction. In terms of mediation strategies, a limited service plan limiting adolescents' data use of smartphone rather than unlimited one was the only strategy negatively related to addiction. Technical restrictions and media education at school did not make an impact on addiction. On the other hand, parental restrictive strategy actually increased the likelihood of smartphone addiction in adolescents, except for middle school-aged girls. Suggestions for developing effective mediation strategies are discussed.

Title: Inequalities, youth and new technologies. A qualitative case study in Argentina.

Author(s): Marina Moguillansky

Abstract:

Today's young people tend to organize their daily lives and manage their identifications through the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs). However, in Latin America, the digital divide means that access and use of ICT are very differentiated by social origin. In recent years, Argentina and other Latin American countries have implemented 1-to-1 computer programs, thus distributing laptops to all students in public high schools, which have posed new questions for social research. How do these young people from different social origins use the computer and Internet for their own means? How do they appropriate these technologies? Are there new forms of social distinction in the specific technological skills that are being developed? We present a qualitative analysis of social and gender differences in the types of meaningful uses of the computer and internet, comparing the main trends in youth from popular and from middle class sectors in Argentina. The methodology of the study was based in qualitative interviews and a standardized enquiry. As a result, we show the ways in which typical technological trajectories seem to be approaching and thus diminishing the digital divide, but we also indicate the persistence of social and gender inequalities which intersect with the technological gaps producing new forms of distinction.

Title: Adolescents and cyber-harassment: Victims, aggressors and double involvement

Author(s): Filipa Pereira, Fábio Novo & Marlene Matos

Abstract:

Several studies evidence the co-occurrence of the victimization and the aggression on the cyber-world. However, the knowledge about what and how do adolescents explore these different roles are not unanimous. The present study examines the frequency of cyber-harassment among adolescents by exploring the prevalence of victimization, perpetration and double involvement. It also explores its dynamics, sense of fear and help seeking.

A sample of 627 of adolescents (12-16 years old) who attended state and private schools of Northern Portugal and Azores Island completed an online self-report questionnaire during class time. Findings indicated that more than half of adolescents play a role in persistent cyber-harassment, as victims, as aggressors or as both. Females were more likely than males to be victim and to be aggressor-victims. In contrast, males were more likely to be perpetrators. Fear was reported by 37% of those adolescents who experienced cyber-harassment and by close to 32% of those adolescents doubly involved. Further, adolescents who were aggressor-victims sought less help to an informal or formal source than victims only. We conclude that several Portuguese adolescents are highly involved in cyber-harassment, as victims, as aggressor or both. In contrast to conventional harassment, the aggressor-victims category emerged as the most common. It is time to further examination on each of the three categories of cyber-harassment involvement, as well to developing programs on net-education and e-safety aimed to adolescent Internet users in general, and to adolescents cyber-involved in particular.

Title: Lump in the Throat - New becomings for youth poets and practitioners

Author(s): Angela Gigliotti

Abstract:

This paper builds on contemporary critiques (Cahill 2008) of the often obligatory engagement of youth at risk through arts practice. Stepping aside from risk, I investigate potentials for creating a respectful environment for students to create and share their poetry. As the theme of the conference states, in the lives of youth, “risks are both creating structures of inequality and marginalization but also contribute positively to identity formation processes”. I analyze a poetry workshop method that builds identity formation and a trust between youth and practitioners. Drawing on contemporary work on inventive methods (Lury and Wakeford 2012) and Deleuze and research methodologies (Coleman and Ringrose 2013) the paper theorizes a youth poetry workshop used in a Juvenile Court and Community School district in California. Selected works from the two published anthologies and reflections from students and teachers will be shared as examples of remaking non-deficit, non-linear, affective and embodied narratives of self. The workshops utilize a multi-method approach to making poetry, beginning with listening to the spoken word and embodying the affects generated by spoken word, writing new work and sharing out. Part of this process of translation across performed and written contexts is managing, embodying and negotiating affect. The feelings generated, embodied, and translated through making poems are a tangible part of the atmosphere in the room. They are the lump in the throat. The visceral data of youth poetry workshops are the starting place for my analysis of non- deficit identity work facilitated through multi-modal poetry workshops.

4h: Education, room 7.0.18

Chair: Steven Roberts

Title: The weight of an uncertain future for the schooling experience of Brazilian high school students

Author(s): Carolina Esther Kotovicz Rolon

Abstract:

The Brazilian youth today has greater schooling opportunities due to the expansion of high school. This expansion is supposed to prepare youngsters, especially those from poorer backgrounds, to face the risks and the uncertainty of adult life. However, the perspective of adulthood differs among students: Brazilian higher education didn't grow at the same pace as the secondary education did, directing the majority of high school graduates to the labor market. This paper explores the weight of anticipated risks in the schooling experience of youngsters from contrasting social backgrounds. We compare how public and private high school students articulate the three dimensions of their schooling experience (Dubet, 1991) - strategy, integration and subjectivity - in constructing their plans for the future. Empirical data was drawn from 50 interviews with high school students of public and private schools in the Brazilian town of Curitiba. The preliminary results point to an unequal distribution in school resources available to students from private and public high schools to enable them to confront adulthood. All high school students interviewed wish to enter University and they all refuse to reduce their high school experience to a mere preparation for the entry exams. The primary difference lies in how confident they are to succeed. Private high school students feel certain to enter University so they emphasize the importance of the values learned at school for their adult

life. Whereas motivated public high school students invest in extra-school classes to make up for the deficiencies they observe in their education.

Title: “If you don’t make the cut then you’re out basically, I don’t think they offer anything, they don’t offer you another chance”. Unplanned and unsupported transitions from English secondary school after examination ‘failure’ at age 16.

Author(s): Susan Steward

Abstract:

The benchmark for educational success amongst young people in English secondary schools at age 16 is five ‘good’ GCSEs, nearly 60% of the state school population now achieve these. It is generally assumed that success at GCSE offers access to a range of educational and training options afterwards but institutions’ selection policies as well as patterns of take-up would indicate otherwise. In this paper I report on the educational transitions at age 16 of young people in a small English city in the mid-2000s. I make use of national datasets that provide social background data and track school careers across phases. However many young people are not in school after age 16 – they are in colleges, work-based programmes or they get a job – they and their transitions are ‘missing’ from these datasets. To better understand which 16 year olds are ‘missing’ and why, local life-history interviews were carried out with young adults who grew up in a disadvantaged area of the city. Their stories reveal a more complex picture of school transitions: that many were not ‘missing’ through choice but because their schools did not provide suitable courses or required higher grades than they had achieved. As a result the transitions of many into college or work were often hasty, unplanned and unsupported. The risks of ‘failure’ at age 16 were rarely made explicit to these young people – both the lack of second chances in schools themselves or the opportunities to return to formal education afterwards.

Title: Labouring to Learn: Reframing ‘Resistance’ amongst Tamil Youths in Singapore Schools

Author(s): Lavanya Ramesh

Abstract:

Many qualitative studies, through participant narratives, offer an in-depth understanding of how academic achievement remains elusive to minority youth, often presenting these youth as active agents negotiating their subordinate status and claiming the margins as an alternative centre through resistant strategies. This paper critiques the application of ‘resistance’ through the experiential lens of ethnic Tamil youth studying in neighbourhood schools in Singapore. Predictably, many of them found at the lower end of the academic track are third and fourth generation Singaporean Tamils from lower and working class backgrounds. Marginalization for these poorly performing Tamil youths is further compounded given the recent influx of skilled Indian migrants who have contributed to the upward shift in the educational and economic profile of Indians in Singapore. Using a biographical approach, an intensive account of the everyday lives of Singaporean Tamil boys and girls and the ways in which they make sense of their lived realities in the school, their families and the larger society is unpacked. Being disruptive during lessons; hanging out with friends along hallways or picking a fight in and out of school while seemingly oppositional to normative values of schooling, in fact reflects a complex cultural mechanism through which such identities and strategies of action are in themselves historically and structurally situated. For many of these youths, it is not resistance to learning but rather that the exigencies of their lived realities press for a laborious and costly cultural retooling necessary to get ahead, and get ahead well.

Title: Young people at the margins successfully engaging with education

Author(s): Helen Stokes

Abstract:

We are in a climate of increasing welfare restrictions where young people under the age of 30 need to be either 'earning or learning' to access income support. It is timely to think about some of these young people who through very difficult life circumstances struggle to maintain themselves in an educational setting. This paper aims to investigate: The role that educational settings can play in creating supportive environments for young people at the margins; and how these young people see their futures, hopes and aspirations. This paper draws on data from a series on longitudinal interviews with seven young people in metropolitan and regional areas in Victoria, Australia. The participants are aged from 13 to 16 years, both male and female. Up to three interviews were conducted with each participant over the course of a year to discuss their past, present, hopes and aspirations for the future and the support they needed to make these hopes a reality. For many of these young people there is a familiar story: initial school experiences had been ones of rejection; they have experienced long term socio and economic disadvantage; complex family relationships in which they are often the carer; and involvement with multiple agencies. Through engagement with a program they have been able to develop relationships with supportive educational professionals. While there have had setbacks the young people are working towards achieving success academically and socially. Through this they have been able to reimagine a future within the boundaries of the educational system.

4i: Politics & Resistance (panel: New Politics, New Media: an International Project), room 7.0.22

Chair: Judith Bessant

Title: Criminalising Youth Politics

Author(s): Judith Bessant

Abstract:

Youth studies has long been interested in the criminalisation of young people. This interest informed the work of successive iterations of critical youth studies from the Birmingham School to post-structuralists who traced how neo-conservative, 'third way' and neo-liberal policy regimes targeted young people. More recently governments have moved to criminalise certain political activities by young people. Two developments seem to have prompted this. One is the widespread use of digital technology that facilitated the creation new political spaces and political activism. This includes interventions by networks like 'Anonymous' and high-profile whistleblowing documenting illegal activities by western governments. In response governments declared a range of political activities like uploading certain political material, whistle-blowing, DNS Zone transfers, or Denial of Service Attack to be criminal. Secondly, states across the political spectrum are responding to the 'politicisation' or 'radicalisation of youth' as threats requiring criminalisation. I refer to the criminalisation of youthful dissent in Russia (eg, Pussy Riot), the Basque country (pro-independent activists), Egypt (Muslim Brotherhood), Australia (anti-fracking, anti-livestock export activists), Hong Kong (pro-democracy activists), and in Spain, Greece, France and Italy (anti-Austerity activists).I argue that recent moves to criminalise certain kinds of contemporary youth politics provides an

opportunity to inquire how the critical traditions in youth studies can best understand what is taking place and whether the criminalisation of young people's politics is desirable. I do this by drawing on the work of Schmitt (1974), Agamben (1999) and Mouffe (2007). I show how this line of inquiry controverts the conventional liberal preoccupation with order and consensus, offering an account of 'the political' which values the agonistic practice of politics for democratic practice. This foregrounds one question: in a context shaped by new politics and the criminalisation of youth politics what does such an account of 'the political' mean for the politics of youth studies?

Title: Young people and politics in Quebec: participation, protest, avoidance

Author(s): Nicole Gallant & Guillaume Tremblay-Boily

Abstract:

While traditional forms of political participation (especially voting) seem to be declining among youth in the Western world today, somewhat new ways of engaging politics are becoming more prevalent or visible. Among this diversity, three major recurring figures of how youth relate to politics emerge: participation, protest, and avoidance. Drawing mostly on a) 20 interviews with young activists about their political undertakings and b) 30 interviews with "ordinary" youth about their relationship to politics and their uses of Facebook, this paper will seek to characterise these three modes of engaging politics, drawing attention to their subcategories and to the ways in which they sometimes overlap. Indeed, youth's relationships to politics today are best understood as multidimensional configurations, taking into account a multiplicity of behaviors and practices. This diverse set of configurations can be portrayed along five major intersecting analytical lines:

- a) whether actions tend to be collective or solitary;
- b) scales of solidarity and senses of belonging;
- c) forms and uses of art and cultural productions or mash-ups;
- d) attitudes and practices regarding the use of new media to inform about political issues and to debate them;
- e) references to established ideologies and discourses.

This data will then be used to discuss three issues: the way social norms about political behavior shape young people's self-assessment regarding political engagement; the conditions of emergence of political engagement among marginalised youth; how these three figures of youth's relationship to politics contribute to shaping new forms of democracy.

Title: The problems and pleasures of resisting for young people in contemporary Britain

Author(s): Sarah Pickard

Abstract:

Young people in Britain have been involved in political protest regarding numerous issues during the 5 years of the Conservative---Liberal Democrat Coalition government (2010---2015). Concerns include cuts to the higher education budget, the rise in university tuition fees, environmental issues, as well as wider austerity policies and neoliberalism. Collective behaviour has taken varied forms, from peaceful protest to civil disobedience, including criminal damage. Resistance has been associated with a number of youth-led organisations and networks including the National Union of Students (NUS), Occupy London and Anonymous UK. The political resistance of young people in recent years has not been without its physical and legal risks. These include kettling and other policing methods, the photographing and filming of protestors, DNA fingerprinting, and prosecution entailing a criminal record due to tough new legislation. The risks and dangers involved in resistance appeal to some young protestors who enjoy the confrontation, commitment and collectivism that dissuade other young people from partaking in social movements. This has serious implications

concerning the right to protest and democracy itself is put at risk. The paper will analyse the risks involved in youth protests in contemporary Britain with reference to recent government legislation on social movements and antisocial behaviour, media coverage, and 30 semi-structured interviews I made with protestors. The paper will first explore the physical and legal risks associated with resistance and then it will discuss the attraction and repulsion for youth of the risks involved.

Title: New Politics, New Media: an International Project

Author(s): Judith Bessant and Rob Watts

Abstract:

If it is generally accepted many western democracies now face a 'crisis of democracy', then this concern implicates young people in a puzzling way. On the one hand it is claimed that young people under 30 have disengaged significantly from electoral politics. Yet it is also claimed that young people are more engaged politically than many other citizens, and that they are developing new kinds of politics and in many cases are using new media to do so. Either way it has been argued that the phenomenon of disengagement and/or new engagement can be explained variously by 'globalisation' the emergence of 'neo-liberal' polities in many western liberal states, or by events like the Recession of 2008-9 and subsequent Austerity regimes. This paper outlines the theoretical and research rationale for a systematic international research project designed to assess the credibility of the disengagement vs new engagement theses. Five sites have been selected (Australia, Spain, France, Canada and the United Kingdom) using criteria like important commonalities and differences in history and political culture. Using a mixed method approach (quantitative and survey based research, a multi-method Panel Study, critical case studies and ethnographic and on-line observations), the project is about establishing whether young people are engaging in new forms of politics in the various sites and if so how is this best described? It established whether there are there important differences or similarities across the five sites and what kinds of explanations best explain these patterns?

4j: Exclusion & Marginalisation, room 2.2.30

Chair: Ruth Patrick

Title: Making space with different tactics of masculinities - experiences of marginalization and belonging of immigrant background boys in Eastern Helsinki

Author(s): Tarja Tolonen

Abstract:

In this paper young people's relation to educational space and city space is explored from the perspective of everyday experiences of inclusion and exclusion. The research perspectives of this research rely on youth studies as well as studies on social class, gender and ethnicity. The specific research interests and questions are related to marginalization and belonging of young people in relation to Finnish society at large, but especially I focus on local space and groups and social relations. I focus especially on belonging and marginalization of young people in society through the everyday use of spaces: for example I will seek how social belonging (or expected belonging) to certain groups intertwine young people's use of school space and city space (see Fangen 2010). The primary data consists of 39 interviews of young people of 13-17 years with various backgrounds. In addition the data includes ethnographic observations, and discussions with adult population

(teachers, youth workers, a policeman, parents) met during the fieldwork. The data collection was made mainly in youth clubs in Helsinki and Kajaani and in a school in Helsinki, during 2008-09. The research project cooperated with two research projects: Young people's leisure time by Youth Research Network and with Material and cultural formation of family project by the University of Helsinki.

Title: We are all at risk, but some more than others: Youth Poverty and Labour Market Transitions in Europe

Author(s): Alba Lanau

Abstract:

School to work transitions are central for young people to achieve adult status. Having a job, and the income associated with it are key for achieving economic and personal independence. Furthermore, research has often linked youth trajectories into the labour market, and in particular youth unemployment and inactivity, with increased risk of disadvantage over the life cycle (e.g. Mood and Jonsson, 2012; Gregg and Tominey, 2004). Using longitudinal data from the EU-SILC for six European countries (Denmark, Belgium, France, the UK, Italy and Spain) this paper explores to what extent youth poverty, gender and social class shape early labour market trajectories. Rather than dividing young people in categories based on their current labour market positions, the paper makes use of the monthly information data available in the SILC datasets to construct labour market trajectories using sequence analysis. The findings echo previous research in Germany and the UK which has stated the persistent effect of individual background on early careers (Anyadike-Danes and McVicar, 2010; Schoon, 2010; Groh-Samberg and Voges, 2014). The paper also highlights the existence of substantive cross-national differences in the patterning of youth transitions. The results are linked to the debates regarding the individualisation of the life-course.

Title: Youth deprivation and exclusion in the UK, 1990-2012

Author(s): Eldin Fahmy

Abstract:

Drawing on data from the 2012 UK Poverty and Social Exclusion Survey (2012 PSE-UK), this paper examines the nature, extent and social distribution of youth deprivation and social exclusion amongst 16-29 year olds living in the UK. The 2012 PSE-UK is largest and most comprehensive survey on deprivation and social exclusion ever conducted in the UK and updates earlier comparable studies conducted in 1990 and 1999. These data advance our understanding of youth disadvantage in two important ways addressed in this paper. Firstly, by supplementing income data with direct measures of deprivation of living standards and exclusion from customary norms, they give us an insight into the extent and social profile of vulnerability amongst young people which extends far beyond relative low income measures. Secondly, by comparing data for 1990, 1999 and 2012 this paper also examines how the nature, extent and distribution of youth deprivation and social exclusion have changed over the 1990 to 2012 period in the UK. In doing so I seek to examine how the changing profile of vulnerability to youth disadvantage may reflect wider changes in the context of youth transitions.

Title: “Learning in a rich country: the normalisation of economic hardship and housing risk among apprentices in Australia”

Author(s): Andreas Cebulla

Abstract:

As the country enters its 25th consecutive year of economic growth, this paper reviews the living and housing conditions of apprentices and trainees in Australia. It draws on a bespoke survey of past and current learners in its Southern state, and group and one-to-one interviews with apprentices, trainees and youth workers, and a review of a government support programme, conducted in 2012 and 2013. The research encountered apprentices and trainees of all ages facing increased housing costs and experiencing an increased risk of homelessness in the course of their studies. These risks are elevated in rural and remote parts of the country because of added housing shortage and the greater costs of travel. Apprentices and trainees anticipate and, often effectively, manage these risks. In contrast, ‘institutional Australia’ appears evasive or at times acting oblivious to the socio-economic risks of these learners. Thus, on the one hand, private training institutions purposely select ‘low-risk/high-potential’ learners. On the other, the organisational cultures of state-supported organisations and federal sponsors of training programmes deflect responsiveness to learners’ economic and social problems to give way to guarding systemic integrity and internal risk management. The result is a normalisation of economic and housing risks among learners that accentuates existing inequities in Australia’s apprenticeship and traineeship system.

5a: Transitions, room 2.2.36

Chair: Jaqueline Kennelly

Title: Transitions from education to work - social exclusion or inclusion?

Author(s): Helena Helve

Abstract:

This paper is analyzing the transition process of young people from education to work relating to socioeconomic, institutional and policy structures. This paper is based on Finnish Work-Preca research on young people’s work transitions, values and future horizons. The in-depth narrative interviews, ethnographic observations and on-line survey data was gathered from 18 to 30 year old Finns (N= 709; Helve 2013). The attitude scales measured attitudes towards education, working life and society, and the future orientation and meaning of life. Basic socio-demographic data were also gathered. On-line survey data and ethnographically based case-study research provide complementary perspectives on the attitudes and values of young people during economic recession. The paper discusses about the value changes, life-styles and cultures of young people which affect the transitions to work in adolescence. It will reflect the findings of youth research from youth policy perspectives. The concepts of prolonged transition, future horizon, social exclusion and inclusion are discussed in a framework of social change and empirical comparative and longitudinal studies of young people.

Title: Education to work transitions of Indonesian rural youth

Author(s): Thijs Schut

Abstract:

On the East Indonesian island of Flores, a growing number of educated young people struggle in their transition from education to work. These young people have returned from their tertiary studies (in cities all around the country) to their native rural communities, and are confronted with a lack in appropriate entry-level jobs. During their troubled transitions, these young people rely on extended traditional social networks for their livelihoods. Often, these young people express ambivalence about life in their rural communities: though they feel connected to their cultural heritage, they also – by virtue of their education – have been exposed to modern ideas about progress and development and are therefore critical of what they call a ‘backward peasant mentality’. In this paper I discuss the implications of this ambivalence: how do educated young people in rural East Indonesia deal with life in their communities, and how do they affect existing traditional social networks? I argue that, due to their troubled transitions, educated young people remain young, which challenges the social reproduction of the networks these young people are dependent upon. This process is enhanced by their critical stance towards the socially enforced networks of mutual dependency. As job opportunities in the region continue to be scarce, current rural educated young people jeopardise the socio-economic safety nets for future generations experiencing similar troubled education-to-work transitions, and are thus potentially disturbing social stability.

Title: Precarious Transitions: How education shapes school leavers perceptions of work in austerity Scotland

Author(s): Sean Duffy

Abstract:

The ongoing economic crisis has seen Scotland suffer a marked decline in youth employment with 26.4% of 16-19 year olds experiencing unemployment in 2010/11, an increase from 17.9% in 2007/8 (Anderson & Dowling, 2012). This paper looks at perceptions of work among final year secondary school pupils in Glasgow in an attempt to highlight not only how this reality is affecting school leavers’ aspirations, but how it alters the way in which they perceive what work is. In seeking to understand what constitutes work for those rapidly approaching the reality of having to find their first job arguments will be made to reform formal education post adolescence to further reflect the needs of those least likely to benefit from continued education. Drawing on 300 responses to a detailed survey questionnaire this sociological study presents the first stages of a research project focusing on whether the contemporary definition of work passed on to young people via education serves to reinforce their social class position, thereby contributing to their relative failure to combat the negative side effects of economic austerity and bolstering a potential unwillingness to consider alternative work forms in post-industrial environments.

This work attempts to reconceptualise the ideas of Gorz (1999) in relation to the new economic climate born out of the global financial crisis and seeks to understand them in terms of youth and young adulthood within Scotland and the wider UK.

Title: Free, precarious and scammed. representations and expectations of social intergenerational mobility of Spanish youth

Author(s): Ana Martí, Mercedes Alcañiz & Vicent Querol

Abstract: The scourge of the economic crisis in Spain has led to a clear deterioration of employment opportunities for young people, heightening the unemployment rates and providing unstable and poor quality jobs for them. But in addition, it has brought to light the sharpening of a process begun before: the intergenerational downward social mobility. The aim of this communication is to show how young Spaniards discover and face this reality, by presenting the results of the analysis and interpretation of 25 in-depth interviews conducted in 2013. These are children and heirs of scarce and belated development of the Spanish welfare state, a young people who have been socialized into believing that improvements made by their parents were part of a process of no return progress, in a meritocratic but hedonist promise who has revealed illusory. They have been caught in a paradox. They have grown freer, in a more comfortable and tolerant world, with greater educational opportunities than their predecessors, and are doomed to an uncertain future. So few options are given to them, and furthermore they keep blamed for his alleged failure. While feeling cheated is widely spread, youth interpret their situation and react to it in different ways. The hardness of the economic crisis on the Spanish youth causes a double effect, subversive and, in turn, disciplinary.

5b: Youth Culture & Subculture (1), room 2.2.42

Chair: Sebatsiën Tutenges

Title: Curating Youth: Digital and Material Practices

Author(s): Liam Berriman

Abstract:

This paper explores the expanding range of digital and material practices of curation amongst contemporary youth. Recent studies have suggested that curation has emerged as a new form of media literacy for young people, particularly in the assembly and arrangement of multimedia content on social media platforms (Durrant et al., 2011; Potter, 2012). This paper examines curation not only as a set of skills of selection and arrangement, but also as a practice through which young people seek to map out and make sense of biographical transitions. Looking at a range of curatorial contemporary practices, from memory boxes to social media profiles, this paper explores how the compilation and arrangement of objects (such as school ties and digital photographs) might be seen as ways of marking and materialising time and of preserving significant sites of memory. The paper also looks at the ways in which curatorial practices are not only oriented towards the past, but also seek to secure value in the present and the future. The paper draws on ongoing empirical research into practices of documenting, archiving and curating accounts of young people's everyday lives.

Title: Mitigating risk and facilitating access to capabilities: An analysis of the design of a regional ICT intervention for queer youth in Asia

Author(s): Benjamin Hanckel

Abstract:

Queer young people face ongoing discourses that position same-sex attraction as ‘wrong’ or ‘negative,’ which in many places is codified in legislation, creating barriers to information and support. Whilst new information and communication technologies (ICTs) present opportunities to circumvent and challenge these barriers (Hillier et al, 2001; Hanckel and Morris, 2014) less is known about how risk is conceptualised and mitigated within the design and development of ICTs. This paper presents a preliminary analysis of one ICT intervention targeting queer young people in 8 cities across Asia. This study examines interviews with staff, content developers and related program documentation to explore the construction of this ICT-tool assemblage. Drawing on Sen’s (1989) Capability Approach and Herbst’s (1994) concept of ‘parallel public spheres’, I consider how the online space is designed to produce the affect of safety, and the measures undertaken to do so. The findings indicate that creating spaces of ‘trust’ permeates throughout the narratives of the development of the ICT tool. This has an impact on the coding and infrastructure supporting the tool, and the development of content and policies supporting its implementation. This creates space for the emergence of a ‘parallel public sphere’ that affords access to capabilities. Consequently, the tool aims to circumvent the geographically defined risks associated with collecting Internet data, whilst also connecting marginalized youth to online tools. These findings have implications for how we conceptualize risk in online spaces, and how ICT-based programs might mitigate risks that characterise the lived experiences of non-heterosexual youth.

Title: In my bubble, in my fight: Youth, disability and gaming engrossment

Author(s): David Wästerfors & Kristofer Hansson

Abstract:

The risks and possibilities of digital arenas have quickly become a standard topic in youth studies, but the point of departure is still mostly a “normal” body and mind, neglecting young people with disabilities. This paper explores how youth with physical or mental disabilities employ contemporary digital games and embed them into their everyday life. By the help of interviews with Swedish teenagers and young adults with various disabilities (e.g. muscle diseases, Cerebral Pares, Asperger’s syndrome) along with fieldnotes from their gaming sessions we explore and analyze their practical maneuvers, verbal accounts and biographical-narrative concerns in relation to commercial TV and computer games. The paper shows that these gamers strive to play “as everybody else” (and to neutralize others’ anti-gaming moral), but that physical or other problems related to their respective disabilities find their way into their gaming practices and motivate, provoke, complicate, distract or disturb them. Their disabilities constitute paths both into and around gaming engrossment, thereby making their gamer-game identifications extra multifaceted. The analysis also incorporates the participants’ direct demonstrations of gaming competence in interactions with the researchers.

Title: Youth, TV Fiction, and the Rediscovery of the Malay 'Local'

Author(s): Mohd Muzhafar Idrus & Ruzy Suliza Hashim

Abstract:

The escalation of Malay TV fiction series in recent years can be partly explained by television producers tailoring their products to match the patterns of audience's pleasure. Themes of love dominate the plots, and almost always the good is pitted against evil, rich against poor – ultimately the good always wins. The formula may be clichéd, but in a world where news of war, terrorism, diseases and conflicts often make the headlines, respite from the harsh realities of life can often be found in Malay TV fiction. We focus on three Malay television series, *Julia*, *On Dhia*, and *Adam & Hawa*, watched by over 11 million audiences in 2012-2013, to study how Malaysian youth relate to them. These series highlight the return to the imaginary 'good old days' that embraces Malay cultural identities. In their constant engagement with Western imposed modernization, the TV fiction set against the backdrop of globalization can encourage young people to regress, re-routing their ways to rediscover their 'local' that is often dismissed, neglected, or forgotten. Premised on this postcolonial perspective, we analyze responses of Malaysian youth, collected from personal narratives and focus group interviews. Drawing from theory of hybridity, we highlight how youth react to the reversion of Malay adat (customs) in *Julia*, *On Dhia*, and *Adam & Hawa*, useful for understanding of the (re)making of Malayness.

**5c: Gender & Sexualities (panel: Making a go of it? Considering Class, 'Race' and Masculinities in Negotiating Education, Labour Markets and Welfare Systems)
room 2.2.49**

Chair: Nicola Ingram

Title: 'I will respect anyone that respects me': Gender identities and work with young men

Author(s): Michael RM Ward, Brigit Featherstone, Martin Robb, Sandy Ruxton

Abstract:

The paper presents findings from The Open University 'Beyond Male Role Models' research study to provide a nuanced picture of the ways that gender identities and practices play out in welfare work with boys and young men who have been failed by the education system. The research is responding to increasing global anxiety about the position of boys and young men, manifested in concerns about educational underachievement, poor mental health, and involvement in offending and anti-social behaviour. One popular explanation for these poor outcomes, often articulated by politicians and the media, has been the absence of male role models from the lives of many troubled and troublesome young men. This has resulted in initiatives aimed at increasing male involvement in boys' lives and recruiting more men to work in education and welfare settings. However, this discourse is open to challenge for over-simplifying the ways in which young men learn gender identities, for overlooking the positive role of women in boys' development, and for failing to interrogate the kinds of masculinity that are being 'modelled' by those working with boys. This paper argues that the problem is more complex than one of simply involving more men in boys' care and welfare. Our study suggests that gender is often implicit rather than explicit in working practices and the personal transformations of young men seem to be centred on rejecting a certain kind of 'risky' masculinity and adopting an alternative 'safe' masculinity. The development of young masculine identities has to

be seen in the context of the class, ethnic, local and relational settings in which vulnerable young men are living.

Title: Man Ah Bad Man?: An Exploration of Gender & Generational Anxieties Among Afro-Caribbean Boys' in State Schools in London and New York

Author(s): Derron Wallace

Abstract:

On both sides of the Atlantic, popular narratives on Black boys in state schools are steeped in deficit perspectives. They attribute considerably greater attention to the purported 'failure' of Black boys than to their success. Though critiqued for the historical fixation on failure, contemporary works still fail to give due credit to intersectionality and Black boys' immigrant identities. Based on a cross-national ethnographic study, this paper explores how Afro-Caribbean boys construct, negotiate and perform their masculinities based on longstanding ethnic stereotypes. Drawing on twelve months of ethnographic observation and repeated semi-structured interviews with 16 boys (ages 14-16), this paper gives special attention to the complex cultural world's first and second-generation Afro-Caribbean boys in London and New York inhabit and the ways in which the reputations of their ethnic cultures shape their gender and generational identities in urban state schools. In addition to underscoring the heterogeneity of Afro-Caribbean masculinities and experiences, this paper examines and complicates practices of 'identity governance' between first and second-generation Afro-Caribbean boys. It points out the ways in which second-generation middle class Afro-Caribbean boys struggle for recognition among their peers in social contexts, but assert their resources and rewards as compensation for their 'cultural inauthenticity' and 'academic failure'. It also spotlights the strategies first-generation Afro-Caribbean boys employ to police, stabilize and sanitize Afro-Caribbean identities, including sexist name-calling, homophobic humour, and native-language literacy in classrooms.

Title: Black Bodies, White Universities: Black Men's' Negotiations of their Habitus at Elite UK Universities

Author(s): Constantino Dumangane

Abstract:

There is extensive research on the intersectionality of class, 'race' and gender in relation to British African Caribbean (BAC) men's experiences in post-1992 universities in the UK. However a dearth of research has explored BAC men's experiences attending elite UK universities. This presentation looks at how Black male students use their varying forms of capitals Bourdieu (economic, social, cultural, symbolic)(Bourdieu & Wacquant, 1992) in the educational 'poker game' of higher education. Elite BAC students' habitus are explored in relation to how they negotiate, moderate or resist adaptation and conformity when matriculating in the field of elite education. Concepts of bodily hexis (Bourdieu, 1977), masculinity and class identity (Ingram and Waller, 2014) and whiteness as property (Ahmed, 2007; Blair, 2008; Gillborn, 2008; Leonardo, 2002) are useful tools that were used to gain an understanding of how Black men's bodies are perceived and responded to by elite institutions and their predominantly white student bodies' habitus.

Title: White Young Men in the City: the shaping of the future elite

Author(s): Nicola Ingram & Richard Waller

Abstract:

This paper considers the educational trajectories and employment strategies of a cohort of working-class and middle-class male graduates attempting to make their way in elite financial and law sectors in the city of London. It traces their pathways through the three years of their undergraduate degrees and their experiences of transition in the first eighteen months post-graduation. We consider issues of gender and social class, and the development of identities in an employment sector which one participant described as 'reeking of masculinity'. We explore the development of 'elite' masculinities through upward social mobility for our working-class young men and through social reproduction/embedding for their middle-class counterparts, drawing upon aspects of lived experiences, tastes and practices. We aim to contribute to an understanding of how elite men are shaped within contemporary society, through university experiences and employment transitions. We highlight ongoing classed and gendered inequalities within an overall neo-liberal system which supports the development of elitist sensibilities and aspirations for competitive work in industries of questionable ethics and dubious practices. We argue that highly aspirational young men are particularly drawn to these industries as they valorize a hegemonic form of masculinity equating manhood with aggressively achieved financial success. This work draws on a small subset of participants within the Paired Peers project, a longitudinal qualitative study tracking 80 young people from different class backgrounds through and out of two different types of university in one English city.

5d: Methods, room 4.1.30

Chair: Kathrine Vitus

Title: Participatory approaches in action research: A case study of technology building in youth justice

Author(s): Ravinder Barn & Balbir Barn

Abstract:

By drawing upon an interdisciplinary study that employed participatory research methods to engage practitioners/managers and young people in the domain of youth justice, this paper outlines ethical and practical challenges in the building of social technology for use with socially excluded and marginalized groups. The primary aim of this study was to design, deploy and evaluate social technology that may help to promote better engagement between case workers and young people to help reduce recidivism, and support young people's transition towards social inclusion in society. A total of 107 practitioners/managers (n=64), and young people (n=43) contributed to the data collection via surveys, focus groups and 11 interviews. Through a process of co-design where end-users are involved as key contributors to social technological design, this paper seeks to make an important contribution to the area of participatory methodologies by arguing that whilst giving 'voice' to key stakeholders in the research process is crucial, there is a risk that competing voices may lead to tensions and unintended outcomes. The paper is contextualized within a Foucauldian perspective to examine significant concepts including power, authority and surveillance. Implications for youth justice policy and practice are considered. The authors conclude that marginalized youth and overstretched practitioners are better served when such social technology is perceived and adopted as a tool of empowerment within a framework of child welfare and child rights.

Title: When nothing is said - investigating the role silence in interviews with young risk-seekers

Author(s): Lars Fynbo & Tea Torbenfeldt Bengtsson

Abstract:

Qualitative researchers writing in the constructivist tradition often use failed, odd, or deviant interviews as examples of how qualitative data generation is a complex process that may sometimes move in unpredictable and uncontrollable directions. Despite this useful research into failed interviews, little analytic attention has been given to the significance of silence in qualitative interviewing or to the assumption that silence during an interview is something that causes the interview to fail. In this paper we challenge the assumption that silence always is problematic and should be avoided. Drawing on our own experiences of interviewing young risk-seekers we argue that paying attention to the unsaid, the pauses, the discomfort, and, in particular, to silence is highly productive both during the interview and in the subsequent analysis. We form the argument by analyzing three different types of silence: 1) Silence of the interviewee, 2) Silence of the interviewer, and 3) Silence of the interview. By registering silence and discussing its role, we show how silence influences and forms the construction of meaning in our interview situations. We conclude that silence influences the construction of meaning through creating a “timely space” with a relative set of possibilities and non-possibilities. Furthermore we conclude, that silence is a creative and sometimes very effective tool for constructivist researchers, and that silence thus contributes both methodologically and analytically to the practice of qualitative interviewing, in particular, when interviewing young people about actions related to social deviance and social stigma.

Title: Who Am I Today? Exploring Multiple Roles in Participant Action Research

Author(s): Emily Fowler

Abstract:

The ethical concerns regarding participant action research have been widely debated, as have the roles of young people as researchers. However, these discussions have not adequately addressed the very specific issues involved in researching one's own practice when adults and young people fill multiple and overlapping roles before, during, and after research projects. These roles are often contradictory, and the importance placed on each can vary throughout the course of a project. My paper addresses some of the tensions these overlapping roles create in participatory action research with young people, focusing on an ongoing research project based in a youth centre in the North West of England. Specifically, I examine relationships between young people, youth workers, and researchers in order to demonstrate where tensions arise, and how they might be ameliorated. I argue that the kinds of ethical dilemmas that occur in this situation are unique to youth and community work, and thus require heightened awareness on the part of any researchers undertaking participant action research in these fields.

5e: Youth Work, room 4.1.36

Chair: Sanna Aaltonen

Title: The construction of "Young unemployed" and "youth professionals" in the policy texts of YOUTH GUARANTEE in Finland

Author(s): Jaana Lähteenmaa

Abstract:

YOUTH GUARANTEE is the most important policy programme directed at young unemployed in Finland since 2013. It is the model encouraged heavily to be applied to all EU-countries (since the beginning of the year 2014) by the EU- commissary. The "Guarantee" has not worked in Finland without problems during the first two years, on the contrary. The reasons lie in the bad economic situation of Finland, in the organization of the labour services. These are the reasons for certain problems admitted by the Ministries and politicians in Finland, whose "darling-project" this Youth Guarantee is. But there are also problems in the programme itself. In this paper I analyse the presuppositions and logic of the programme through its policy papers, official justifications and its launching campaign (an advertisement – campaign.) I concentrate in the picture of young unemployed versus "adult professionals" in this text- material: especially, how the first and the latter ones are constructed as "actors" (agents.) The relevant axis in my analysis are the supposed passivity- activity; altruism- hedonism; collectivism – individualism of these two "actors." This investigation brings out interesting oppositions and paradoxes in the whole programme. The problems of the practices of Youth Guarantee can be partly due to these implicit peculiarities and contradictions of the programme itself.

Title: (Re)imagining Black Youth in Neoliberal Times

Author(s): Bianca J. Baldrige

Abstract:

Community-based after-school spaces are often recognized in political and educational discourse as institutions that "save" and "rescue" Black youth and other marginalized and disenfranchised youth. Such rhetoric perpetuates an ethos of pathology that diminishes the agency of both youth and their communities. This deficient framing disregards the assets that youth of color bring to educational spaces, thus ignoring their agency – and thereby limiting the ways they are imagined, engaged, and educated After school programs that reject a script steeped in deficiency have a difficult time securing funding opportunities and public acknowledgement. Given this context, the purpose of this paper is to examine how the common trend toward deficit framing is directly linked to the current neoliberal educational market, which incentivizes after school spaces to frame marginalized youth as socially, culturally, and intellectually deficient in order to successfully compete with charter schools for funding. Through ethnographic research with 20 youth workers at Educational Excellence, a college completion and youth development program, findings indicate that tensions arise as youth workers strive to reimagine Black youth in more humanizing ways despite pressures to frame them as broken and in need of fixing to compete for funding. Data also reveal deep tensions in youth workers' experiences as they critique neoliberal reforms that shape their work; yet, at the same time, they are forced to hold students to many of the markers of success defined by neoliberal reforms. These tensions result in youth workers downplaying the social, cultural, and emotional dimensions of their work.

Title: “What could possibly go wrong?” Changing perceptions of risk in Irish youth policy

Author(s): Maurice Devlin

Abstract:

In 1984 in Ireland the National Youth Policy Committee published its Final Report, which provided the basis for the country’s first national youth policy. Thirty years later, in the spring of 2014, the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People, “Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures”, was published. This paper will compare and contrast the two policy frameworks and explore the ways in which they reflect the changing circumstances of young people in the intervening years, and the changing discourses of youth in the fields of policy and politics during a period of social, economic and cultural transformation. In particular it will focus on changes in policy perceptions of “risk” among young people. Drawing critically on the ideas of Beck (1992) and Rose (1999, 2007) among others, the paper will suggest that the shifting definition of what it means for young people to be “at risk” reflects the tension between two contrasting developments in Irish society (and other societies like Ireland) over recent decades: on the one hand an increasing individualisation (both of young people’s lifestyles and of policy assumptions and responses, as seen for example in the growing emphasis on personal resilience as a solution to societal problems) and on the other a heightened awareness of the ways in which different groups of young people experience inequality and discrimination (for example young LGBT people, young asylum-seekers, ethnic minority young people) and of how this in itself constitutes a significant dimension of the risks with which they may be confronted.

Title: Young People and Crisis: The discursive construction of youth and risk in the Greek press

Author(s): Yannis Pechtelidis

Abstract:

The financial crisis and the social changes occurring over the last four years in Greece have led to extremely high rates of youth unemployment, and to a heightened sense of insecurity and risk, especially among young people. The labor market has become increasingly precarious, and work experiences are fragmented. In this context, it is often difficult for young people to identify an end point to transitions. This situation inaugurated a discursive struggle about the meaning and the prospects of dealing with it.

In my presentation I intend to analyze journalistic discourses about young people and their transitions from education to work, and their future role in society, in an era of deep recession, risk, insecurity and precarity. In particular, I am very concerned about the discursive construction of youth in the Greek press, and the correlations of the journalist discourse with other discourses, such as that of science and politics. My main aim is to critically illustrate the relationship among these discourses, and their consequences in the control, and government of youth towards particular ethico-political and financial ends. Additionally, I search for the possible transformations of the discourses about ‘youth at risk’ in an era of crisis, and consequently of the hegemonic governing model of youth. In so doing, I will draw from governmentality studies, sociology of youth, sociology of risk; and I will employ discourse analysis.

5f: Crime, Deviance & Criminal Justice, (panel: Bourdieu on the Block: Theorising Street Culture in a Global Context) room 5.0.28

Chair: Alistair Fraser

Title: Homologies of Habitus: Gangs, Scale and a Global Sociological Imagination

Author(s): Alistair Fraser

Abstract:

Across the globe, the phenomenon of youth gangs has become an important and sensitive public issue. In communities from Chicago to Hong Kong, Capetown to Glasgow, the real and perceived threat from highly visible, street-based groups of young people has come to dominate news headlines, policy guidelines and research agendas. In this context, an increasing level of research attention has focused on the issue of comparison – seeking out universalised definitions and methodologies in order to ascertain the scale of the global ‘gang’ phenomenon. In this paper, I argue that these approaches mask critical historical, cultural and structural differences between gangs in diverse geographical contexts, and that new theoretical lenses are required to capture the structural and cultural forces that shape these divergent trajectories. Drawing on fieldwork in Glasgow, Chicago and Hong Kong, I argue that a multi-level conceptualisation of street culture – incorporating micro, meso and macro levels of analysis – is a productive way to develop such an approach. By applying a scalar logic to habitus, field and capital, I argue that gang research can cultivate a global sociological imagination that is grounded yet comparative.

Title: Street Talk and Street Cred: The importance of stories for street capital

Author(s): Sveinung Sandberg & Jennifer Fleetwood

Abstract:

Pierre Bourdieu's work has increasingly gained interest among gang and youth researchers. While the framework offers many advantages, it has also been criticized for being too oriented towards the structural or objectivists aspects of social life, and for leaving little space for the constitutive role of language. Illustratively, in the tradition following Bourdieu there is a striking absence of such perspectives. We argue that it is crucial to include a narrative dimension to understand fields, habitus and cultural capital - or in this case - street capital. To do that we need give language a more constitutive role than what Bourdieu does, and include insights from both discourse and narrative analysis. There are three instances in which the importance of language for street capital are particularly evident. Firstly, an important part of street capital is having a repertoire of 'gangster stories' to tell and being able to tell them in a convincing way. Secondly, these stories need to be embodied in what can best be described as the 'narrative habitus' of the speaker. Finally, street capital is much about reputation, and this reputation is upheld by stories told by peers. When conceptualizing capital, habitus and field, it is therefore pivotal to include the narrative dimension. The stories individuals devoted to street culture tell are embedded in, and constituted by street capital, but they also uphold and constitute this form of capital.

Title: Taking Bourdieu to the streets: On the advantages of field theory for street capital studies

Author(s): Victor L. Shammass & Sveinung Sandberg

Abstract:

While Bourdieu's capital forms have enjoyed broad currency in a variety of social scientific research enterprises, capital has made a comparatively late arrival in criminology. As evidenced by recent work on street capital, street social capital, negative cultural capital, and related notions, scholars of criminality have started putting the capital forms to work. However, they have failed to reflect on the field as the arena for social action in differentiated societies and the site where capital is defined, distributed, and deployed. Drawing on interviews with 40 imprisoned drug dealers, we propose fusing the concept of street capital to the street field as the fount of offending behavior, the arena for competition between agents engaged in criminal offending, and as a distinct domain that relates to other social spheres and institutions. A fully-fledged concept of the street field orients studies towards several crucial dimensions of offending behavior: (i) the agonistic nature of relations between offenders who vie for positions and prizes (ii) the semi-porous boundaries between the street and society, (iii) the allure of crime as career ladder and generator of prestige, skill, and authority. Without a concept of the field, Bourdieusian criminology will be unable to take stock of the historical origins, present-day operation, and future trajectories of street capital. The concept of the field permits us to understand why persons begin to engage in crime and why they may remain committed to criminal offending.

Title: Conceptualizing Street Fields

Author(s): Jonathan Ilan

Abstract:

As scholars of crime are increasingly drawn towards Bourdieuan analyses to explain the workings of risky and violent street worlds, there has been a move towards deploying the classic concepts of field, habitus and capital. Indeed, the prefix 'street' has been attached to the variants of these phenomena that researchers encounter within the particular lifeworlds of socio-economically excluded youth. Less attention, however, has thus far attached to the nature of the 'street field' itself. It tends to be assumed that such fields exist as the arenas in which street individuals strive for advancement and fulfilment. It is clear, however, that socio-economic factors and cultural milieus vary locally, nationally and regionally. This paper will argue that it is necessary to better conceptualize notions of the street field to take account of such variation. This offers better scope to understand the varieties that exist within the criminal and lifestyle practices associated with disadvantaged urban youth internationally. Undoubtedly heterodox, such fields of social life nevertheless betray allegiances to particular mainstream orthodoxies: not least in terms of aggressive acquisitive capitalism and conspicuous consumption. It will thus be argued that specific configurations of socio-economic exclusion and cultural inclusion should be analysed to better articulate the variety of street fields that exist globally.

5g: Youth Culture & Subculture (2), room 5.1.16

Chair: Airi-Alina Allaste

Title: "Social alienating for 'safe space'? Social self-distinguishing and changing patterns of young adults" subcultural identity in Lithuania

Author(s): Reda Satuniene

Abstract:

The sense of security is crucial condition for healthy society development. Sense of security provides people with strong identity, moral values, and influences social and economic stability of society. Presentation thesis is focused on sub-activism of young people, belonging to sub-cultures. Main purpose of the thesis is to analyze constructing 'sense of security' within non formal youth subcultures in Lithuania, focusing on links of trust, creation of 'safe social environment', and constructing new forms of collective identity, and, possibly, fostering social change. Theory and methodology: Research is based on theory of interpretative ethnography, and qualitative research methodology. The research is based on the works of C. Geertz (2005 [1973]), J. A. Maxwell (1996), N. K. Denzin (1997, 2014), P. Alasuutari (1995), focused on emic perspective. Studies by J. Fornäs (1995), and S. Frith (1984) were used as a basis for theoretical framing of the object of sub-culture. In the paper I've tried to represent the viewpoint of sub-culture members, in order to reveal core ideas of ideological resistance and participation. Research data: In 2004-2009 there was conducted a qualitative research in techno/house and punk/hardcore subcultures (35 in depth interviews, participant observations, document analysis, etc.) in biggest cities of Lithuania. Research was continued while internship in university of Michigan (USA, MI) in 2011.

Title: Keeping it clean – Graffiti, urban space and the exploitation of a moral panic

Author(s): Erik Hannerz & Jacob Kimvall

Abstract:

Whereas subcultures such as punk, metal, hip-hop, skate, goth and emo have all been the target of moral panics in the past, the conditions that sparked these moral panics have since become banal and normalized, in line with Cohen's (1972) claim that moral panics per definition tend to be short-lived. The moral panic about subcultural graffiti in Sweden, however, has proved remarkably consistent. Three decades after its emergence in Scandinavia politicians, news editors, transit company representatives, and police officers still point to the immediate danger of graffiti writing, directly linking it to other established folk devils such as drug users, hell-bent vandals, gangs, and professional criminals (Kimvall 2012). Whereas the previous subcultural research has at length discussed the commercial exploitation of the subcultural, the authors point to the increasing commercial exploitation of the moral panic around graffiti, what Lemert (1952) called "deviance exploitation", as the foundation for the endurance of the moral panic. Drawing from an extensive and ongoing research on governmental attempts to combat illegal graffiti in Sweden, this paper deals with graffiti as mal placé both in relation to urban space and to romanticized conceptions of youth resistance, rendering it not only a suitable enemy for moral entrepreneurs but also a steady cash cow for surveillance firms and graffiti removal firms.

Title: Dispositions toward (ex) elective identity from youth and beyond: The case of former straightedge adherents

Author(s): Jason Torkelson

Abstract:

Issues pertaining to elective identity have occupied scholars of youth, and sociologists more generally, for generations. Yet, only scant attention has been paid to the fuller theoretical and empirical implications of relinquished identities. Ebaugh's charting "role exit" aside, where there is conceptual sensitivity to "ex-hood" in predominant identity theories, it remains somewhat obscured by the forward-looking "active" bent in both postmodern takes on reflexive consumption/ambivalence and modernist emphases on quests for identity entrenchment/authenticity across socially constructed time. While these respective orientations have long been situated within the life course in youth (sub)cultural studies where brands of "emphatic youthfulness" have distinguished numerous youth cultural forms, inquiry into the possible significance of relinquished youth identities and broader orientational shifts toward identity across adult transition have likewise somewhat lagged. Drawing on interviews with 44 individuals who once affiliated with straightedge—a clean living, mostly youth-based subculture based upon strict abstinence from intoxicants—I explore dispositional shifts, intersections, and complexities in identity orientation across the life course, the boundary of straightedge, and other sensibilities—youth or other—interviewees deem significant to their life histories. Findings show dispositional shifts toward identity best accessed from the standpoint of retrospection, and indicate certain relinquished youth-oriented identities may play a formative role in shaping the "meaning-context" through which later life experience is lodged. Here, more broadly, I extend Schutz's intentionality to the domain of narrative retrospection and sketch a research programme for phenomenological social scientific inquiry into ex-identity where accounting for the meanings unique to the time "after" identity can complement the present inclinations toward the "active" in understanding the role of identity in ordering subjective meaning-context.

Title: Dancing on what? The prevalence and nature of novel psychoactive substance use and other substance use trends amongst a sample of 2,139 UK night clubbers

Author(s): Rob Ralphs

Abstract:

In recent years, a consistent stream of news headlines and TV documentaries have firmly positioned the growth of novel psychoactive substances (NPS, or 'legal highs') as one of the key risks (both physical and mental) currently being faced by young people. This concern is largely driven by the identification of over 350 NPS in Europe since the establishment of European Monitoring Centre for Drug Dependency and Alcohol's (EMCDDA) Early Warning System in 2009. The findings presented here represent one of the largest ever insitu surveys of substance use in nightclubs in the UK, collected through a convenience sample of 2,139 clubbers (mean age = 22) attending six different club nights during 2012/2013 in the North of England. Given the increased proliferation and availability of NPS, and the supposition that clubbers are at the forefront of new substance use trends, it is reasonable to expect substantially higher levels of NPS use amongst the current generation of UK clubbers. However, the findings reveal a lower than anticipated level of NPS use. Counter-intuitively, the analysis also suggests that for this cohort, those who did report NPS use were not of the young, low-income demographic, but rather, professional occupational groups, and older female clubbers. The paper documents a range of significant changes in substance use trends, with specific attention drawn to changing polysubstance use. The paper concludes by outlining the health and policy implications of these changes.

5h: Education, room 7.0.18

Chair: Helen Stokes

**Title: Shocked to be an electrician, suited to being a tailor, any future in being a historian?
Ways of understanding young people's vocational aspirations**

Author(s): Judith Sligo

Abstract:

Two New Zealand studies were analysed to investigate the impact of vocational aspirations on adult occupations. Results from an 18 year cohort study suggest that having teenage vocational aspirations is important for occupational success as an adult. However, less than one fifth of the 858 participants in this study worked in the adult occupation that they had aspired to as teenagers. Data from an in-depth qualitative study were analysed in a range of ways to identify some of the reasons that many young people are unable to meet their vocational aspirations. Three different methods of analysis showed that unplanned events, gender and inequitable resources impacted on young people's vocational behaviour. The Chaos Theory of Careers was used to explain how chance and unplanned events such as health issues, family crises and not meeting course requirements influenced young people's vocational behaviour. Vocational aspirations and adult occupations were generally traditionally gendered, limiting the available occupations for both women and men. However, postfeminist analysis indicated that some young women faced the challenge of balancing success in both traditionally male and female domains. Narrative analysis suggested that the impact of limited access to economic, social and cultural resources also restricted vocational dreams. This research shows that many young New Zealanders continue to face challenges in meeting their vocational aspirations due to an inequitable social, economic and political climate.

Title: Chances and risks of being set on track after school – The case of German apprenticeship system

Author(s): Birgit Reissig & Jan Skrobanek

Abstract:

In Germany a system of segmented vocational qualification options has evolved over the last decades. These alternatives include company-based and school-based vocational training as well as option for partial qualification, work or low-threshold trainings. Despite this pluralisation of transition options an increasing number of young people struggle to get into those options after leaving school. They are just forced to so-called quick and dirty options (selling drugs, making private "internet business" etc.) to secure their daily economy. Thus, for most of the latter a yo-yo-carrier into the (labour) market starts after leaving school which seems to become (for most of them) a stable transition pattern over a long time. However, the question remains still unanswered which form of tracking is to be regarded as an opportunity or rather as risk factor in respect of labour market integration of young people entering it. Against that background our contribution aims – based on the German Youth Institute's "transition panel" about pathways upon the occupational integration of young people leaving Hauptschule – at further investigation of the functions of those alternatives with regard to the labour market integration over the course of time.

Title: Supporting youth transitions? Young adults and high school vocational education in Canada

Author(s): Marc Molgat

Abstract:

Over the past 15 years, government and key decision-makers in the fields of education and work in Canada have expressed important concerns about access to, success in and transitions to work from vocational education and training (VET) programs at the secondary level. Despite these concerns and the efforts made to reinvigorate technical education, a strong bias against the value of this type of training persists and a great many students encounter problems in completing their studies. Our paper presents the results of a research project that explored how young adults in these programs (aged 18 to 35, a third of all secondary level VET students in province of Quebec), deal with the personal, familial, relational, school and work challenges they encounter over their lives. From a critical life course perspective, we focus on how their transitions, leading into and within these programs, rely on various types of formal and informal support (government assistance, psychosocial intervention, career counselling, help from family and friends). The analysis relies on approximately 90 semi-structured interviews conducted in five vocational training centers in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario. Ultimately, the paper questions how VET is framed by key actors in the field and suggests that young people's transitions be more adequately supported throughout VET programs.

5i: Politics & Resistance, room 7.0.22

Chair: Ken Roberts

Title: What is the point of Internet activism? Discourses of politics among Internet activist: Estonian Pirate Party

Author(s): Peeter Vihma

Abstract:

This paper focuses on the role of the Internet in the political engagement among the activists from Estonian Pirate Party – social movement with an aim to found a party. Pirate Party is an Europe-wide political movement/political party that mobilizes young people into politics through the focus on IT related topics. On one hand, the Internet is seen as an especially effective means of reaching out to young people who do not wish to participate in the mainstream politics because they feel it is “top-down and adult-managed” and getting them involved offline. Others, on the other hand, see that Internet activism actually draws young people away from other types of more effective forms of activism offline. These two extremes could be united with help of concept ‘sub-activism’ which describes the new type of civic activism that is mediated by Internet but also encompasses various everyday activities of Pirate Party members. The aim of this paper is to analyse how sub-activism relates to other forms of “politics” and what kind of participation activist from this social movement regard as “political” and, respectively, what are the different discourses of “politics”? The empirical section of this paper is based on material collected in the framework of the large-scale European project MYPLACE. Empirical part is based on ethnographic fieldwork, analyses of online materials and 15 in-depth interviews with activists of Estonian Pirate Party. Initial findings indicate that among the members of Pirate Party online and offline participation are strongly connected and influence each other. The Internet can be seen both as the means of activism (organizing, rallying etc.) as well as the aims of activism (regulations concerning the Internet).

Title: Internet use and political practices: a quantitative analysis of Spanish young people

Author(s): Eva Espinar-Ruiz & María José González-Río

Abstract:

For a long time the press was the principal medium for political information. Later, radio and, especially, television were the media that fulfilled this informative role. Today, in the twenty-first century, the Internet and on-line social networks are becoming, not only the main source of political information, but also a scenario for new forms of political participation. These changes are especially relevant for young people. In this paper we have applied a secondary analysis to the data provided by the study 2,889 of the Spanish Center for Sociological Research. This specific study involved a survey applied to a national representative sample of young people (from 15 to 29 years old) and, although it was focused on collecting information about Internet use, several variables related to political participation were included. Considering these variables, our objective is to analyze if there is a correlation between young people's Internet use and their political practices. Specifically, the available information allow us to study three aspects: 1) the possible relation between political participation and the frequency of Internet use, 2) the relation between online and offline political participation, and 3) the existence of differences in online political participation with respect to sociodemographic variables. Among the results we can highlight the existence of a statistically significant relation between a higher frequency of Internet use and a greater online and offline political involvement.

Title: The “Facebook-Revolution”: How Arab youth uses social media for making politics

Author(s): Natalia Waechter

Abstract:

The recent Arab youth's rebellion offers valuable insights into new forms of online participation, alongside the role of youth culture, for political participation. For communicating their unease, for organizing protest and for mobilizing themselves young people utilize social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. Furthermore, youth culture, also communicated through social media, played an important role for acting out their vision of the world. In the presentation, I will question the label of a 'Facebook revolution' and investigate the role of social media and youth culture in the Arab spring. The research presented is part of the FP7 project "ARABTRANS – Political and social transformations in the Arab world" (2013-2016), funded by the European Commission. Our analysis shows that online social networks contributed to the cause of the protesters in various ways: as an organizing tool, as a news source and as a public arena for building a community of like-minded activists. As organizing tool social media played a powerful role in mobilizing protesters onto the streets and coordinating demonstrations. When there was a suppression of free press, social media became essential in getting news out of the country as well as in providing a rather independent news source of the current events. The activists also used it to articulate their political critique and to build a constituency and growing community around those ideas. Our analysis further shows how youth culture seems to be a perfect tool for reaching and mobilizing the young population, especially when distributed through social media.

Title: Children and Young People's participation in decision-making in the community: Place, Space and Voice

Author(s): (Deirdre Horgan &) Shirley Martin

Abstract:

Large numbers of children and young people participate in organised community activities, including youth, sports and recreational clubs. Some become involved in public life through engagement in decision-making fora in local youth organisations, public bodies and local and national youth councils. These activities demonstrate children and young people as active and engaged citizens who contribute to and shape community life in rich and diverse ways (Checkoway, 2003; Jans, 2004; Percy-Smith, 2010; Percy-Smith and Burns, 2012). There is growing recognition of the benefits of children's participation and initiatives to promote participation have proliferated over the last twenty years. However, children and young people are undervalued and often misunderstood in their own communities and often feel targeted and demonised in public, informal places and corralled by adult agendas in organised spaces (Weller, 2007). Furthermore, opportunities for meaningful participation in decisions that affect them and their communities are very limited (Theis, 2010; Kerrins, Fahey and Greene, 2011). This paper is based on the findings of an Irish Research Council funded study on children and young people's experiences of participating in decision-making in their home, school and community. It focuses on key aspects of the findings regarding community participation:

- Overall children and young people's opportunities for meaningful participation in decisions that affect them and their communities are limited (Theis, 2010; Kerrins, Fahey and Greene, 2011).
- Children and young people have positive experiences of participating in youth clubs and organisations, where their participation is encouraged and supported by 'adult allies' (Checkoway, 2011).

5j: Exclusion & Marginalisation, room 2.2.30

Chair: Ditte Andersen

Title: You can't be yourself because you can't share these things: otherness and exclusion in making sense of own place in the world. Insights from a UK qualitative study with young people in public care and alternative education

Author(s): Maria Kukhareva

Abstract:

Young people are often discussed in policy and practice in terms of their future life outcomes, rather than their current experiences. This is also true of young people who are described as 'at risk', 'vulnerable' and 'marginalised'. While planning support interventions to support future outcomes can be justified, the current, everyday experiences of these young people should not be overlooked in the process. In other words, it is vital to recognise young people as 'beings' rather than just 'becomings'. Based on a qualitative study, this paper explores experiences of nineteen young people in public care and in alternative education (in the UK), who had been exposed to multiple adversity early in life. Their vivid emotive narratives point to a deep sense of exclusion, loneliness and otherness - from peers and adults, and broader environment, which, in its turn, affects them at the level of identity formation. Although emotional health and wellbeing of vulnerable young people is a well-documented statistic, the in-depth qualitative data is still relatively thin on the ground. The study

captures the young people's turbulent interactions with the rest of the world through their stories, full of grown up sadness, self-blame and questioning. Understanding the impact of insecurity and adversity on the young people's identity and lived experience is crucial for policy makers and practitioners, across the fields of education, youth and social work. The paper contributes to the knowledge in this field by the young people's own interpretations of their interactions with people and systems in the centre of the discourse.

Title: Friendship as potential: young teenager's friendship in the context of societal inclusion

Author(s): Riikka Korkiamäki

Abstract:

School aged young people's friendships are remarkably neglected as a communal resource. While the importance of friends and peers to teenagers is widely acknowledged, peer relations are more often seen as a cause of risk behaviour rather than as a resource through which the risk could be prevented. In this paper I argue that young people's friendships could be perceived as a potential for preventing the risk of marginalization. The assumption is that friendship builds belonging and inclusion beyond personal relationships, i.e. at broader levels of community and society. The paper draws from interviews of Finnish young teenagers (12-15 yrs.) describing their everyday life. It locates the spaces and practices of friendship in the accounts of participants and compares those with the spaces and practices of communal/societal inclusion. As a result, a bridging potential is identified in the relationship between the intimate practices of friendship and a young person as a member of broader societal relations. The finding is discussed in the context of network theories that traditionally consider bonding relationships as a threat to broader-scale inclusion. It is suggested that young teenagers' friendships could be perceived as a potential for communal and societal inclusion and institutionally mobilized to promote wellbeing and prevent the risk of marginalization.

Title: Understanding social marginalisation through the narratives of Romanian Roma youth

Author(s): Florina Pop & Mihai-Bogdan Iovu

Abstract:

In the context of current debates about Roma integration, we examine the role of ethnic divisions and social capital in understanding the narratives of Roma youth living in a rural area in Romania. The aim of our research is to investigate adolescents' understanding of the processes of marginalization that influence their transition to adulthood, while accounting for both obstacles and resources that might influence this transition. We conducted in depth interviews with 20 Romanian Roma youth living in a rural area in the north-western part of Romania. Through adolescents' narratives we understand that their minority status is linked to issues of poverty and scarcity of resources. Adolescents identify several resources in the school setting such as teachers or school counsellors, but they also refer to inferiorization promoted by teachers and students and to difficulties they think they will experience in continuing their studies or pursuing a certain career. Family's support is described by adolescents as an important resource, often seen as a struggle for a higher social position that was unachievable for the parents. However, an awareness of the difficulty to cope with marginality is reflected in adolescents' perception of their parents' future talk.

This article argues that beyond data illustrating the low educational level and skills level of young Roma, the situation needs to be approached in a broader framework, which accounts for the impact of structural inequality and processes of differentiation which influence the ability to overcome disadvantage.

Title: Understanding the role of informal relationships and the creation of obligations in supporting young people transition into adulthood

Author(s): James Alexander

Abstract:

During the monthly Tenants Association meeting, after the local PSCO had given his update on crime on the estate, Janet, a 78 year old asked. "In your professional opinion as a PSCO, what can we as residents do for the young people to stop them getting into trouble." For the next twenty minutes a discussion occurred which progressed into a consensus of blaming 'the parents' for the state of the young people they see hanging around. Then I interjected "when you guys were growing up how many of you were supported or disciplined by your neighbours or those who loved locally," all 14 people at the meeting put up their hands, I followed up by asking "How many of you even know the names of the young people who you see hanging around outside.", no one could put up their hand. This paper explores how the support structure of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds now largely consists of immediate family, peers and paid for support services and the impact this is having on their understanding of obligations and their accumulation of social capital. The study goes further to analyse if the lack of suitable education, job prospects and lack of access to housing is affecting the impact that the ideological state apparatus on the lives of young people. The research forms part of a wider ethnographic project looking at the impacts of different forms of relationships on an inner city estate as part of a PhD programme.

6a: Transitions (1), room 2.2.42

Chair: Andy Furlong

Title: Transition between education and employment in a post-neoliberal Argentina

Author(s): Rene Bendit & Ana Miranda

Abstract:

The purpose of the paper is to contribute to the critical discussion, the notion of youth as transition between education and employment, emerging from the analysis of empirical, quantitative and qualitative material collected in Argentina during the post-neoliberal period between 2001 and 2013. Based on the arguments of Furlong (2009 and 2013) about the concepts which have accompanied the transition notion since the end of 1960s up to date and on the statements of Cuervo and Wyn (2014) that youth studies may gain more accuracy and depth where the notion of "belonging" is incorporated, those factors of "place" (Morrow, 2014) related to historical time and orientations of economic politics conditioning the transitions towards adulthood of young people living in Latin America shall be discussed. The paper shall be developed on the basis of the analysis of 30 biographical interviews carried out with young people who graduated from high school in 1999 and are currently 32 years old. The interviews gathered the whole process of transition between high school education and the employment world among different young people groups who experienced their youth during the end of one of the most important crisis that our country went through (2001) and who gradually grew up within an economic framework further away from the neoliberal model.

Title: A Mixed Methods Case Study: Understanding the Experience of Nebraska 4-H Participants Relative to their Transition and Adaption to College

Author(s): Jill S. Walahoski

Abstract:

Even if students graduate high school, unfortunately many are not equipped for the next stage (Pittman, 2010). Despite a student's ability to graduate high school and high aspirations for their post-secondary plans, they are ill prepared. In fact, only three in ten seniors are college ready and only four in ten are career ready (Pittman, 2010). This leads to alarmingly high drop-out rates, an inability to get jobs and ultimate economic hardships for many. To better understand the potential influence of one nonformal youth development organizations in preparing young people for their future, this mixed-methods case study examined the 4-H experience in one state where delivery of the program reaches one-third of the age-eligible youth. It sought to understand the readiness of their participants to successfully transition to post-secondary education and to describe the experience that influenced that readiness. The results of the quantitative analysis of the Student Adaptation to College Questionnaire found significant differences between the variable groups or with the influence of the engagement covariate in the clusters of attachment to college; personal and emotional adjustment, both psychological and physical; and social adjustment. The qualitative analysis discovered that staff and participants both credit the cumulative experience and opportunities to explore interests and potential career areas as influential in the preparing for the transition to college. Additionally, both groups recognize that 4-H results in skill development relevant to a successful transition to college. Ultimately, the findings indicate that the Nebraska 4-H experience positively contributes to the college readiness equation.

Title: Major life goals (and early life trajectories) among young adults in different social classes

Author(s): Claus D. Hansen & Jakob Skjøtt-Larsen

Abstract:

One major branch of youth studies focus on transitions from childhood and adolescence to adulthood for instance by examining educational trajectories, labour market participation and family formation. This makes educational attainment, occupation and marriage/parenthood important end points in the study of young adults growing up. The interest in these end points is shared by the literature on social mobility. The question is, however, whether this rather narrow focus on such 'hardcore' end points should be supplemented by the study of other important major life goals that young adults pursue? In a Bourdieuean framework, it would be natural to question whether the indicators of status (and thus of transitions into adulthood) that are self-evident from the point of view of the dominating class (i.e. education, income, health) need to be supplemented with alternative status indicators among members of the dominated classes? In this paper we examine which 'major life goals' young adults have and to what extent these life goals are distributed unequally among young adults from different social classes. Data from the West Jutland Cohort Study is analysed using multiple correspondence analysis and cluster techniques to identify subgroups of young adults (age 20-21) with different major life goals. The educational and labour market trajectories of the subgroups are subsequently compared in order to shed light on the possible differences in transitions into adulthood. Tentative results show that young adults from lower social classes are more oriented towards extrinsic life goals than their peers from a higher socioeconomic position.

Title: Opening up „la chance“ - Life-courses of University Graduates in Bamako, Mali

Author(s): Susann Ludwig

Abstract:

In 2009, about 77.000 students were inscribed at the University of Bamako. Even though they belong to the country's small educational elite, the unemployment rate amongst young academics is about seventy percent. They encounter severe difficulties finding a job that corresponds to their qualification or entering the labor market in general. University graduates in Bamako are working on the realization of their futures – some successfully, some not. So, what is it, to them, that makes the difference? It is the idea of “la chance” and their conviction that it is possible to open it up. University graduates in Mali create “la chance” (opportunities); they take “la chance” (chances), but they also simply have “la chance” (luck) or happen to have “la chance” (serendipity). It can be accessed and enforced by individual action, but it is also ambiguous and cannot be influenced, since it is believed to be God's. Points in time, when future suddenly materializes, are defined by “la chance”. This paper investigates “la chance” in university graduates life-courses as well as three construction sites, namely, education, networks and religion. It is argued that this preparation for “la chance” to come is crucial in dealing with uncertainty. The results presented are based on seven months of ethnographic fieldwork in Bamako and sixty biographical interviews conducted with university graduates (10 female, 20 male) from different fields of study. The data is furthermore substantiated by expert interviews and participant observation.

6b: Transitions (2), room 7.0.40

Chair: Kristoffer Vogt

Title: The role of migration in transiting from school to labour market: Formal and tacit skills

Author(s): Izabela Grabowska & Justyna Sarnowska

Abstract:

This paper brings the subject of migration into youth studies, and specifically in the subject of the transition from education to the (foreign) labour market. With free labour mobility in the European Union (EU), there are now more options for transitions into adulthood, including working abroad. This study uses both quantitative and qualitative empirical material to examine who these young people are that are opting for a first job abroad, how they make sequential transitions from education to the (foreign) labour market, and what the impact is of their first jobs abroad on their subsequent occupational paths after return, especially on their formal and tacit skills. This study seeks to understand both the profiles (quantitatively, using national representative surveys and dedicated to migration ethno-surveys) and actions (qualitatively- own studies) of mobile Polish youngsters transiting from, usually, Polish education to the foreign labour market as a case study. The research questions asked in this paper relate to: (1) who are the young mobile people from Poland having a first job abroad; and (2) how do they act in the foreign labour market following their ‘work initiation’ abroad; and (3) what are the outcomes of these actions after return to Poland, especially in relation to formal and tacit skills.

Title: Who is the mother? Exploring the meaning of grandparental support in young Swedish mothers' narratives

Author(s): Magdalena Sjöberg & Hanna Bertilsdotter Rosqvist

Abstract:

Young mothers are seen as insufficient mothers. The dominating deficit discourse emphasize the need of grandparental support to strengthen the young mothers maternal identity. In the same time a counter-hegemonic risk discourse points to the risk of grandmother taking on the maternal role. This paper explores ambivalent meanings of grandparental support in young Swedish mothers' narratives. How young Swedish mothers construct their motherhood within discourses of extended and nuclear family, as well as normative life course. Three repertoires were identified: inhibit, be-there-no-matter-what and responsibility. The last two are two-sided (hegemonic and counter-hegemonic). Mothers following their expected life course accessed the hegemonic side of the repertoires and achieved an untroubled subject position as "a mother", independent of grandparental support. Mothers breaking their expected life course accessed the counter-hegemonic side of the repertoires and achieved a troubled subject position, shifting from: sibling to her own child to co-parent and then to primary mother. In the case of young insufficient mothers, motherhood became "flowing", shifting between grandmother and the mother. The shifting roles of "main mother" conflict with the discourse of a stable attachment. The otherwise dominating discourse of biological motherhood "as the best for the child" is triumph by the discourse of insufficient motherhood.

Title: Theorising educational transitions

Author(s): Eugenia Katartzki & Geoff Hayward

Abstract:

The goal of the paper is to put forward an eclectic theorisation that draws upon Bourdieu and Bernstein in paying analytic attention to the material, pedagogical and epistemic dimensions of educational transitions. We locate transitions at the interface between institutional structures and cultures and social agents' resources and knowledges. We closely examine the multiplicity of social agents' experiences by attending to their everyday lives and the ways these are bounded by differential access to roles and resources possessed and mobilised in the making, unmaking and remaking of transitions. Further, we specifically explore the institutional habitus seen as encompassing the constellation of teaching and assessment practices, the diffuse communicative and relational ethos that prevails in certain educational institutions, shaped in the course of their organizational history and with reference to their projected future vision. In participating in these epistemic communities of practice, students dialogically develop their understanding and practical knowledge of how the educational field works, while they also locate themselves in the hierarchy of academic merit. To capture these aspects we propose a new metaphor- transitional friction-which we will argue provides a useful theoretical tool for thinking about and better understanding the dynamic and dialogical processes integral to transitions than the more static, structural and individualistic conceptions that have so far been advanced. We conclude with conceptualising educational transitions as materially and culturally embedded practices and as institutionally situated acts of negotiation taking shape in the interplay between social actors, institutions and knowledge.

Title: The choice vocabulary and transitions from school to work

Author(s): Kristoffer Chelsom Vogt

Abstract:

Based on C W Mills' concept of vocabularies of motive (1940) this article develops the concept of *the choice vocabulary*. Over recent decades, an emphasis on choice has influenced the understanding of number of areas of social life, not least education. Within sociology, in the wake of debates about individualization, there has been debate about different 'degrees of choice' and about unequal opportunities for choice etc. While these discussions have exposed the class bias of the choice vocabulary, there has been less attention to its historical specificity. Even in discussions of constrained choices etc, much seems hinged upon a presumption that choices and their degree of correspondence with *personal* preferences are the key factor in understanding transitions. In order to demonstrate the historical specificity of the choice vocabulary, and its shortcomings in terms of the sociological analysis of transitions, illustrative cases from two cohorts of men skilled in male-dominated manual occupations in Norway are presented. This cohort comparison, based on a postal survey and 28 biographical interviews, shows the close relation between the specific institutional contexts in which transitions take place, and the vocabulary with which they are subsequently associated. The closing discussion suggests that the choice vocabulary is related to an increased influence of Rational Choice Theory, and represents a challenge to a processual and contextualized understanding of school to work transitions

6c: Politics & Resistance, room 2.2.49

Chair: Julia Coffey

Title: "Just like in an airport" – An ethnographic study of young volunteers associating and engaging in new organisational forms

Author(s): Ane Grubb

Abstract:

Across western welfare states, civil society researchers observe that volunteers in general, and young volunteers in particular, engage in voluntary work in a more loose, reflexive and episodic way. While this might not in itself cause the equivalent societal stir as the more evidently risk related youth cultures, such as binge drinking among preteens, several scholars interpret these tendencies as an expression of individualism among the younger generations, and formulate sinister predictions about what the self- reflexive participation of the young volunteers might entail in terms of individualisation and greater differentiation between volunteers and in civil society. Without questioning the relevance of such concerns or the survey studies that form their empirical basis, this paper proposes a different methodological approach to understanding the ways of the young volunteers. Instead of starting with the individual, it argues for the fruitfulness of looking at the interdependence between certain institutional and organisational contexts and the ways of participating and interacting of the young volunteers. The paper first describes a methodological approach that combines ethnography and interview data to investigate how the organisational context might frame and institutionalise certain types of engagement. It then introduces the strategically selected case organisation that enables the empirical data production, and finally presents a preliminary finding: both the formal and material organisational context (the physical, digital and virtual settings of the organisation) seem to

institutionalize a delimited, short term and instrumental kind of volunteer participation, that is experienced as “meaningful” by the young volunteers.

Title: Friendship brought me into it, but commitment bought me into it: Exploring civic engagement among Asian American youth

Author(s): Amy Cheung

Abstract:

In the United States, Asian Americans have been largely ignored in studies of civic engagement, despite rapid growth of this demographic. Scholars point to the pervasiveness of both “model minority” (Park, 2008) and “perpetual foreigner” (Tuan, 2001) stereotypes that set Asian Americans outside the civic mainstream. For young Asian Americans circumscribed by such stereotypes, what do they see as the meaning and possibilities of civic engagement? In an exploratory study, I interviewed 14 Asian American adolescents (all 1st and 2nd generation immigrants) participating in a youth leadership program to inquire about their motivations for civic involvement, and the relationships they saw between their cultural background and choices in civic participation. Using a grounded theory approach, I found participants’ motivations for initial involvement and continuing civic engagement differed. Youth initially learned about civic engagement opportunities through their immediate family, and ethnic networks. Initial involvement was motivated by instrumental aims to “look good for college [applications]”, and desires to socialize with friends. Continued civic engagement, however, was motivated by a strong sense of “commitment” to peers in the civic group, and an enhanced efficacy with the development of civic skills including organizing others and group deliberation. Second generation participants were ambivalent about linking their specific personal cultural backgrounds to their choices in civic engagement, but 1st generation immigrants suggested they saw civic involvement as part of an acculturative process. This study contributes to greater understanding of pathways to support continued youth civic engagement, and the role of ethnicity and race in decision-making around civic participation.

Title: Factors contributing to Malaysian youth participation in volunteerism

Author(s): Jasmin Arif Shah, Siti Raba’ah Hamzah, Turiman Suandi, Ismi Arif Ismail, Azimi Hamzah

Abstract:

The purpose of the paper is to examine the factors contributing to Malaysian youth participation in volunteerism. This study uses a correlational study to investigate the predictor of youth participation in volunteerism. Data were collected from the respondents using personally administered questionnaires. All participants were informed the study was on voluntary basis. The participants were youths 15 to 25 years of age (M age = 22.8, SD = 5.65). To provide an adequate level of confidence in this study, the sample size was 335. The findings indicated positive relationships between participation and helping power motivation ($r = .760, p = .001$) intention ($r = .612, p = .001$) and charity values ($r = .535, p = .001$). The findings revealed that helping power motivation and intention appear to be more influential than other factors in the predictive analysis. As conclusion, young people are key agents for social change, and are providing the energy, creative ideas and determination to drive innovation and reform. The paper can help policy makers reflect and tend to focus their training efforts on the more practical aspects of day-to-day volunteering and the interpretation of leadership in youth development. There is a paucity of literature in relation to youth and volunteerism and this study contributes to the literature by identifying reason why youth engaging in volunteerism.

Title: Promoting Active Youth Citizenship: Hope and Reality in Thailand

Author(s): Krittinee Nuttavuthisit

Abstract:

Active citizenship is a major global movement. In Thailand, it has been perceived as the main solution to ongoing problems like corruption and inequality. However, the subject remains difficult to tackle due to the cultural constraints such as social hierarchy and dependence. Thus, the recent hope and effort is on promoting engagement among the youth who seemed to be more open to change. But what young people think and how they perceive their roles in the society must be explained. Initiated and sponsored by the Khon Thai Foundation, this research based on the national survey of 4000 respondents and 5 depth interviews reveals their needs to excel with good grades and top jobs. Moreover, the majority of respondents disclosed that they were guilty of corruption (e.g. cheating on exams, forging signatures for class attendance) which they did not see as totally or very wrong. Nevertheless, more than half wanted to see change and specifically demanded the country leaders to practice good governance with no corruption. When asked about their contribution, more than half mentioned passive roles such as not causing problems to others and being a good student, explaining that they are too young to make a difference. Results of this study raise further questions about how to promote active citizenship among the youth when they do not see themselves having such a role and responsibilities. The study contributes to the theory of active youth citizenship by extending beyond the general capacity building programs to reestablishing beliefs and values.

6d: Health, room 4.1.30

Chair: Howard Sercombe

Title: Emotional Well Being in Adolescence: Protective Factors and New Risks

Author(s): Fiona Brooks, K.Chester, N.Smeeton, J.Magnusson & E. Klemra

Abstract:

Over the last decade there has been a reported declining trend in the prevalence of health risk behaviours that have traditionally been associated with adolescence. Notably, the WHO Health Behaviour in School aged Children study (HBSC) has identified a decline across Northern Europe (including the UK) in regular alcohol consumption, smoking rates and violence among young people. This decline in health risk behaviours also appears to be occurring against a backdrop of increasingly poorer emotional well-being among young people, including behaviours linked to negative emotional well-being such as self harm. For example, just over one fifth (22%) of 15 year olds reported ever self harming and more than half of 15 year old girls in the England HBSC survey reported experiencing headache, irritability, sleeping difficulties, feeling low and nervous at least once a week. What remains unclear is the causes for these trends and in particular what protective health assets may operate to enhance young people's emotional well-being.

Drawing on the HBSC survey of 5, 000 young people aged 11,13, and 15 from the 2014 England data set this paper explores the social determinants of the rising trend in poorer emotional well-being. The paper will also provide an analysis and critical discussion of those protective health assets that may operate to enhance young people's emotional well-being, including the consideration of the interaction with the domains of the young person notably, family life, school, peers and neighbourhood.

Title: Suicidal behavior among adolescents in Slovakia: analysis of trends and patterns

Author(s): Michaela Kosticova, Capíková S., Mojzešová M.

Abstract:

Suicide is the third leading cause of death among adolescents in Slovakia, although the suicide rates are lower compare to the other population age groups. Even Slovakian adolescents have lower suicide rates than adolescents in the most other European countries and the rates have been still decreasing, suicidal behavior in this population group still remains a major public health problem in our country. Suicidal thoughts are the part of normal development process in youth, but special attention should be paid to suicide attempts and suicides, which are the result of low resilience of young individuals in coping with stressful life events. The problems in interpersonal relationships, mainly family conflicts, are the main motive of self-destructive behavior among youth in Slovakia. The increasing burden of mental disorders among young people, as the main predictor of their suicidal behavior, need to be also considered. The aim of the paper is to analyze the patterns and trends, as well as to identify the risk factors of suicidal behavior among adolescents in Slovakia using the data from international databases on causes of death and the data from national reporting system of suicides and suicide attempts. Such information is necessary to design effective national intervention and prevention strategies in this population group.

Title: Elements of Life Satisfaction among Young Adults in Serbia within the Context of Structural Risks

Author(s): Smiljka Tomanović, Dragan Stanojević and Milana Ljubičić

Abstract:

Recent sociological studies argue that employment and personal life have diverse effects as determinants of life satisfaction of young adults, particularly within the context of contemporary risks and insecurity. We have, therefore, decided to explore the three different aspects of general life satisfaction: satisfaction with personal (intimate) domain, satisfaction with family life, and satisfaction with occupation (professional domain), by using the survey data on 1600 young adults from Serbia. The analysis exposed that social variables (employment, education, housing autonomy and financial autonomy) and personal variables (partnership and parenthood) are in diverse manner related to the three domains of life satisfaction, as well as that their effects are different for young men and women. Taking into account particularities of social context in Serbia, we have introduced functional autonomy (decision making independent of parents) as mediating variable. The results uncover that functional autonomy has little influence on satisfaction with occupation, while social variables have strong effect, suggesting that agency in professional domain is significantly bounded by structural constraints. Converse effect of functional autonomy on personal and family satisfaction among young adults could display detraditionalization and individualization in those domains, particularly for young women. Regression models reveal divergent and gender specific relations of independent variables with three aspects of life satisfaction related to particular structural risks and cultural patterns in Serbia.

Title: Youth and firearms in Mexico: growing problems, uncertain solutions

Author(s): Guillermo Julian Gonzalez-Perez & Maria Guadalupe Vega-Lopez

Abstract:

This paper analyzes the trend of the firearms mortality rate in age group 15-24 years old in Mexico in last decade and explores perceptions and attitudes toward firearms of Mexican youth. Data for firearms mortality rate was obtained from official sources; trends of firearms mortality rate by age groups and gender between 2000 and 2012 were analyzed; furthermore, a semi-structured questionnaire was applied in 2013 to a sample of college students under 25 years old (n=650) from Guadalajara, the second largest city of Mexico. Findings show that mortality due to firearms was the leading cause of death among young people 15 to 24 years in 2012; in 2012 27% of firearm deaths (4,901 of 18,713) occurring in young aged 15 to 24 years; the firearms mortality rate has increased since 2000, especially among adolescents under 20 years. Furthermore, male firearm mortality rate is 15 times higher than female rates. In this violent context, 40% of college students personally knew a victim of firearms, almost 20% has shot a firearm, around 35% would like to own a gun for self-defense and a similar proportion consider necessary to have firearms at home to defend. Since high levels of violence in the country and the availability of firearms in the illegal market could lead young people to accept the use of firearms, is imperative to implement comprehensive policies -more jobs, more places in universities, more control on the possession of firearms- to reduce interpersonal violence and the use of firearms among Mexican youth.

6e: Work, Welfare & Unemployment, room 4.1.36

Chair: Carsten Yndigegn

Title: The lost generation: media political discourse around youth unemployment

Author(s): Sarah Hadfield, John Goodwin & Henrietta O'Connor

Abstract:

Drawing on data from our ESRC funded project 'The Making of the Precariat', this paper tracks the recent history and usage of the concept 'lost generation' in the context of youth unemployment debates. The paper offers an analysis of media and political discourses as presented in print media such as The Guardian and The Times and Parliamentary Hansard Records. From this we argue that a closer, and more critical, consideration of this term is required given that it has become a synonym for young people in a time of economic recession. Our analysis of Parliamentary Hansard Records suggests that the term the 'lost generation' has a specific meaning and is used to reflect specific themes in the context of economic recession. Likewise, from an analysis of newspapers from two previous economic recessions, 1980s and c2010s, it is apparent that the discourse relating to young people at these times are very similar regardless of the timing of the recession. Furthermore the analysis of media discourses, over two economic time periods, also highlights clear similarities in how youth are represented and are 'constructed' as a social policy concerns. We illustrate the paper with media realia and archived examples. We conclude by suggesting that while these discourses are dominant, and have 'real' implications for youth, synonyms such as 'lost generation' remain largely unquestioned.

Title: The shaping of career identity in transitions

Author(s): Cecilia Hok Man Wong

Abstract:

The emergence of a protean career era brings about a new set of rules to the new generation. While young people are less constrained by the organizational or occupational boundaries, they are subject to a new demand of self-directedness in career management. Career identity, in this new paradigm, is recognized as a resource and a competence for guiding, motivating and sustaining development. It is a self-concept that makes sense of work and aspiration and evolves with new experience. The school-to-work and work-role transitions are times when people undergo the most changes in career, thus stimulating the transformation of career identity. In order to examine the challenges and opportunities lied in these transitional periods, this paper employs a systematic review approach to identify both risk and protective factors from literature. A multi-layered framework depicting the influences is devised to assist policy makers, youth workers, human resources practitioners and young people to comprehend the shaping of career identity.

Title: Stability? Security? What's do these mean to young people? Young Employment dispositions in Argentina and France

Author(s): María Eugenia Longo

Abstract:

Since the 1980s, several researchers have taken on the question of the risk differentiation of employment careers. Identified in developed countries such as France, differentiation was also observed in less regulated and unstable social contexts such as Argentinean one. Differentiation has a part of singularisation linked to choices of actors that can be understood by analyzing symbolic factors with their practical effects on the orientation of young people life course. This paper sets out the relevance of analyzing « employment dispositions » - an element apparently individual - to observe social regulations and their effects on young people careers. This notion shows variety and multiplicity of criteria of young people decisions about work and jobs in any country. It allows to analyse trends on young people interests within different contexts, like “stability disposition” among French young people and “security disposition” among Argentinean young people. Moreover, it highlights paradoxes on labor market and policies by country regarding how social system contribute to reduce or increase labor risks on young people employment careers. The data was drawn from two similar qualitative longitudinal studies, which followed during twelve years 89 young women and men in France and during six years 83 young women and men in Argentina. These young people had initially between 16 and 20 years and graduated from different types of educations, associated in any country to different social class.

Title: Facing the aftermaths of the financial crisis - an unforeseen social challenge

Author(s): Carsten Yndigegn

Abstract:

The financial crisis came suddenly and unexpected for Danish youth, and replaced life expectations created in years of economic boom with economic insecurity and risk of unemployment, not least for highly educated young people. The aim of the paper is to analyse young people's interpretation of the crisis and their life prospects, and their responses (perception of societal ideals of welfare and democracy, evaluation of party politics, and decision of becoming politically active). The analysis will

address the differentiation of how young people are affected by, evaluate and respond to the crisis. It will demonstrate how differently young people are affected by and respond to the crisis. While their affectedness cannot be determined socio-economically, their interpretations and responses are corresponding with political positions. However, such positions take new shapes. Contemporary youth is successor of the post-materialist generation. Its societal experience has been coined in a period where neoliberal thinking has been predominant in practical political thinking and accompanied by slogans of economic necessity and the end of grand narratives. This characterises how young people respond to the crisis. Although a Scandinavian welfare state model still moulds the perception of a just society, neoliberal discourses superpose such perceptions and struggle for hegemony. This change can be found in young people's interpretations and action strategies. The risk that has been introduced by the crisis is interpreted as an individual risk, and given individual. The paper is based on research in the MYPLACE project. Data consist of 60 qualitative interviews among young Danes.

6f: Youth Culture & Subculture (1), room 5.0.28

Chair: Jakob Demant

Title: Peng-gwo and Oranges: researching youth leisure in Scotland and Hong Kong

Author(s): Lisa Whittaker & Leona LI Ngai Ling

Abstract:

This paper presents new qualitative research about youth leisure in two culturally diverse research sites. (Re)Imagining Youth: A Comparative Study of Youth Leisure and Social Change in Scotland & Hong Kong builds on Pearl Jephcott's landmark sociological research, in Scotland (Time of One's Own, 1967) and Hong Kong (Jephcott, 1971). Our study seeks to build from Jephcott's work with cross-cultural comparison being a key feature of the research design. We are able to examine continuity and change in youth experiences over time and between places and to examine youth leisure in contexts of political instability and change (the 'Umbrella Revolution' in HK and the Scottish Independence Referendum). This paper will reflect on some of the theoretical, conceptual and methodological challenges of the research: of comparing Peng-gwo and Oranges. For instance, although we attempted to use the same ethnographic methods in each site (observations, interviews, focus groups, walking interviews, photography) their success varied, reflecting differing cultural traditions and social practices. We will reflect on our experiences conducting comparative, cross-cultural research with young people in the Global South and the Global North.

Title: Im/mobile Youth: Leisure Frontiers in the Wireless City

Author(s): Susan Anusas Batchelor & Alistair Fraser

Abstract:

In recent years, the 'global' question has become central to debate in youth studies. For some, processes of globalisation have created increased homogeneity of culture in geographically diverse communities; for others, the effects of globalisation are both heterogeneous and unpredictable, as global and local cultures conflict and merge. At the same time, however, the globalisation of 'mobile' technology has opened up corridors of dialogue and interaction between disparate cultures and communities in ways that are both emergent and inchoate. Drawing on qualitative data from an

ambitious comparative study of youth leisure in Glasgow and Hong Kong (funded by the ESRC-RGC Bilateral Fund) this paper seek to develop three key concepts which seek to capture this new patterning of youth leisure in a global context: im/mobility, which seeks to describe the stratified nature of contemporary youth mobilities; leisure frontiers, which emphasises the emergent nature of time-space configurations in online and offline leisure; and wireless city, which examines the spatial relationship between real and virtual leisure-space. Through this conceptual development, the paper will seek out the unique intersections of youth, class and space in the digital era.

Title: The rise of well-behaved teenagers during the financial crises in Denmark. Relationships with economic capacity and outgoing activities with friends

Author(s): Karen Margrethe Dahl, Mai Heide Ottosen & Anne Toft Hansen

Abstract:

Unlike the situation in many other European countries, Danish young people have not faced the same dramatic increases in unemployment- and poverty rates during the recession, starting in 2008. The terms of life or possibly more the expectations of life, however, have changed also for Danish young people. Compared with earlier cohorts, young people hence seem to be more preoccupied by competition, less by hedonism and seem to take fewer risks regarding drugs and crime. This article focuses on 15-year olds' drugs- and crime risks and links (part of) the decrease in risk behavior to economic changes which can again be linked to the recession. Based on two waves of the panel dataset 'Children and young people in Denmark' (1000 and 1700 15-year old teenagers), we show how 15-year old teenagers in 2013 expose themselves to fewer risks of drugs and crime than 15-year olds did in 2009. In parallel with this development, we observe a decrease in young people's social activities with friends in the public space and a decrease in young people's economic capacity, two factors that are also statistically related with risk behavior in both 2009 and 2013. We conclude that the decrease in risk behavior can partly be linked to a decrease in young people's economic capacity, caused by fewer job opportunities for teenagers during the recession.

Title: The influence of neighborhood characteristics on parents' perceptions toward adolescents' structured and unstructured leisure time

Author(s): Annelore Van der Eecken, Lieve Bradt & Ilse Derluyn

Abstract:

Participation in organised youth activities is believed to bring substantial (developmental) benefits for young people, such as stimulating initiative and civic engagement, preventing school dropout and unemployment. As a consequence, there is an increasing interest – from both researchers and policy makers – in identifying and/or developing strategies to get young people, especially young people with a lower socio-economic status, into organised youth activities. These studies tend to focus on youth outcomes or the characteristics of structured youth activities. In this debate parents seem to be somehow missing. Whereas characteristics of parents (such as educational level or occupational status) are included as proxy for the socioeconomic status of young people or as an independent variable (e.g. responsiveness) enhancing/hindering young people's participation, few studies have paid attention on the perspectives of parents on their children's leisure time participation. More research on this topic is, however imperative as previous research has shown that parents have an important influence on their children's lifeworlds and affect their children's leisure. This study therefore aims to gain insight into parental perceptions of their children's leisure time activity. We will report on the findings of a survey conducted with 1,921 parents of young people from the second and third grade of secondary schools (14-18 years old) in Flanders, the Dutch-speaking part of

Belgium. Linear regressions models uncovered that different aspects of parent's perceptions are related to particular neighborhood characteristics, and that socio-demographic factors, like gender, educational level, job status and family structure, accounted for several differences in parents' perceptions.

6g: Youth Culture & Subculture (2), room 5.1.16

Chair: Steven Threadgold

Title: Substance Use among Adolescents: The Reproduction of Social Classes or the Product of Individualized Lifestyles?

Author(s): Jan Skrobanek

Abstract:

Against the background of ongoing controversy about the individualization thesis, the paper focuses on contrasting social class and lifestyle. On the one hand, referring to Bourdieu (1983), substance use among young people could be understood as a pattern of social inequality related to social class and capital. On the other hand, referring to Schulze (1992) and Beck (1983), this assumption in youth research has been criticized for several decades. The critics have argued that substance use among young people is a product of differentiated or individualized lifestyles rather than of young people's access to economic, cultural, and social capital. Beyond this theoretical discussion, there is an absence of empirical research backing up these conflicting assumptions. The precise relationship between young people's capital resources, lifestyle and substance use therefore remains unclear. Thus the general aim of the study is to analyse the relationship between access to economic, cultural, and social capital, lifestyle and substance use among 15- to 23-year old adolescents in Switzerland. The analysis is based on data which originates from a survey conducted among adolescents attending senior classes in 2011/2012 in the Canton of Zurich (Switzerland/representative sample). Overall, the findings do not support the interpretation of substance use as class-based. Judging from the findings, the wide spectrum of substance use seems rather more associated with a highly individualized lifestyle focused adolescents' leisure behaviour.

Title: Present Dislikes and Future Trajectories: Class, Youth Styles and Emotions

Author(s): Roger Martínez

Abstract:

One of the reasons why the study of youth culture and styles has only partially understood the way class permeates youth cultures is that it has largely neglected, both theoretically and methodologically, young people's dislikes. Both the subcultural interest in particular styles, and the post-subcultural focus on fluidity and fragmentation, put at the centre of the analysis young people's identifications with what they 'like', and only marginally focus on what they 'dislike' – exceptions of this would be, for instance, Blackmann (1995), Thornton (1995) or Pilkington (2002). Paying attention to the 'dislikes', it will be argued, it is the best road to go beyond young people's 'reflexive' experience of both youth styles and social position and to grasp its relational and socially structured character. This paper theoretically explores the importance of a Bourdieusian relational approach to youth styles which, through the focus on dislikes rather than on identifications, puts at the centre of the analysis the emotions and feelings linked to social position (resentment, indignation, disaffection, coolness, authenticity, pride) and social trajectory (optimism, uncertainty, cynicism, security, risk,

fatalism, confidence, trust). By analysing the homological relationship between young people's most significant dislikes (in taste in music, disposition towards the school or transgression, dress, etc.), it will be contended, a better understanding of the way young people make sense of, but also produce, their place and their trajectories through their social world will be achieved.

Title: The Role of Social Types in Young People's Lives

Author(s): Elias le Grand

Abstract:

This paper addresses the concept of social type in contemporary youth studies. In contrast to concepts such as subculture, scene and tribe, the concept has been virtually ignored in this field. It is argued, however, that social types play an important role in the formation of social identity. The concept can therefore provide a useful analytical frame for interpreting young people's life. The paper reviews earlier conceptions of social type, such as 'the metropolitan type', 'the stranger', 'the taxi-dancer' and 'the folk devil'. These are critiqued for having either under-theorising the concept or reducing the existence of social types to structural forces. Functionalist interpretations of social types as consensual concepts that 'solve' structural contradictions are also critiqued. Reformulating the concept in a cultural sociological direction, it is argued that the emergence, transformation and decline of particular social types is not only tied to structural processes, but also bound up with the construction and circulation of symbolic meanings, which are partly irreducible to social forces. Moreover, it is argued that the formation of social types entails processes of typification where an individual is classified as a 'type' of person, i.e. belonging to a group or category of individuals associated with certain characteristics. This classification is dialectical in so far as it involves a simultaneous interplay between public image and self-image. The case of 'the hipster' as a social type is used to explore some of the arguments being made in the paper.

Title: Exclusion and creative applications in lifestyle sports

Author(s): Anni Rannikko, Päivi Harinen, Jussi Ronkainen & Pasi Torvinen

Abstract:

Lifestyle sports, such as skateboarding and parkour, are created and maintained through global youth cultural representations, which are disseminated by consciousness industry. The world of lifestyle sports attracts young people due to its images of sociality, joy, speedy movement, urban exoticism, social distinction from mainstream, and subcultural secrets not open to everyone. In this paper, we ask who actually can take part in the cultural world of lifestyle sports. What kinds of structural attributes connected with individuals restrict certain young people's participation in this captivating world? Moreover, what kind of compensatory applications exclusion creates, and in which kind of contexts these are possible? The research material consists of qualitative and quantitative data collected among different lifestyle sport practitioners in Finland and Serbia. Seeking answers for these questions brings researchers back to classical sociological background variables and their intersections: gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability and residential area. Moreover, in life style sports these categorisations are linked with skills and subcultural capital, which are central in exclusive and inclusive practices in lifestyle sports communities. Despite of inclusive principles lifestyle sports practitioners emphasise, the ideal practitioner visible in the representations of lifestyle sports is based on hegemonic masculinity, whiteness, strength, ability and urban culture. Regardless of exclusive practices, one can find sport-related creativity also among young people with fewer possibilities to practice lifestyle sports: wheelchair parkour, adaptive snowboarding, skateboarding in a barn or new lifestyle sports groups for women are examples of how the sports reality of young people aims at catching current youth cultural trends. These applications are,

however, often marginal in relation to mainstream of each sport as they all have their prefixes which distinct them from the 'authentic counterpart'.

6h: Methods (Panel: Methodological challenges in conducting qualitative longitudinal studies with "vulnerable groups" of young people), room 7.0.18

Chair: Jeanette Østergaard

Title: An ethical balance? Using visual methods to understand life course events amongst young people (formerly) in care?

Author(s): Elisabeth Backe-Hansen, Janet Boddy & Jeanette Østergaard

Abstract:

The aim of this paper is to discuss ethical issues in applying visual methods in qualitative longitudinal studies. The paper is based on a large scale cross-national (Norway Denmark and, England) mixed methods project examining, first, why some care leavers end up doing well as young adults and, second, what "doing well" means to these young women and men with majority and minority backgrounds. The project focuses on young people's sense of belonging, including their experience of continuities and discontinuities, in making their transition to young adulthood. The research embeds a qualitative longitudinal approach, which includes asking young people to take photographs of events, objects, places or relationships to which they attribute specific meanings. Using a photo-voice approach carries numerous strengths, including the facilitation of reflections other than the ones brought forward in dialogue only; the active role that the interviewees are assigned; and the potential for interviewees in a longitudinal study to look back at photos taken previously as a prompt for reflection on change over time. However, it also carries with it ethical concerns that may be particularly acute for young people who live – or have lived – in care (for example in relation to the anonymity of participants and other people and places that they photograph). These concerns foreground the tensions between rights to protection and participation in ethical research practice with young people from "vulnerable groups". In the paper we will discuss these challenges and dilemmas based on the first wave of interviews with three different age groups of young people (16-17; 23-24 and 28-29 years-olds).

Title: Giving control to young people: the use they make of our tools

Author(s): H el ene Join-Lambert

Abstract:

This paper will focus on a methodological experimentation which was part of the ELTA project, which was funded under the FP7-Marie Curie IEF actions and conducted at the University of Sussex together with Janet Boddy and Rachel Thomson, from September 2013 till August 2014. This research examined the everyday lives of 16 young people in care in France and England, interviewing them three times over a period of six to twelve weeks, as well as nine of their carers. The aim was first, to capture their experiences of everyday, how it relates to future plans, and how it is embedded in different national contexts, and second, to experience methods for a follow-up longitudinal research in different countries. Consultation interviews with older young people who had experienced care, were used to discuss the intended methods of data-collection. These were designed to give young people a maximum of control over the context (time, place) and the contents (topics) of the

interviews. The methods included drawing maps of places which are important in their everyday life, taking the interviewer for a guided walk, making pictures with a digital camera which was given to them, and talking about the pictures at the next interviews. Some did exactly as expected, but others did it quite differently. This presentation will discuss the way young people engaged with these tasks and how we can interpret the use they made of these methodological tools.

Title: Challenges in a follow-up study with young people from foster children

Author(s): Daniela Reimer

Abstract:

The aim of this paper is to discuss challenges in qualitative longitudinal research with young people who had been in foster care, thus representing a particular vulnerable group. The paper is based on a German longitudinal project which studies trajectories of young people from foster care. The first wave interviews took place with young people between 18 and 25 from 2007 – 2011. Back then, interviewers conducted biographical interviews with these young people. At that point of time some were still in foster care, others had just passed their transition to independent living. The second wave (starting in 2014) consists of narrative follow up interviews. The interviewees are today between 25 – 32 years old. Challenges arise in finding the young adults again and motivating them for interviews, especially in cases in which the past years were not successful from the interviewees' point of view, as well as in bringing participants to the previous interview and asking them talk about their past experiences. But challenges arise also in the analysis of the collected data: conducting a qualitative longitudinal study means there is a lot of data material, and it is essential to develop appropriate instruments for a reliable analysis. In the paper I will discuss the methodological and analytic challenges arising from the second wave of interviews and show how the research team has aimed to respond, but also present open questions, especially concerning the analysis.

Title: Keeping you close at a distance. Ethical challenges when studying vulnerable young people through time

Author(s): Anne-Kirstine Mølholt & Tea Torbenfeldt Bengtsson

Abstract:

To fully integrate ethics into research with vulnerable young people is an ongoing challenge that cannot be solved through predefined rules or fixed standards. In this paper we address a specific ethical challenge of establishing a trust with informants through a longer duration of time in order to do follow-up interviews. While we as researchers want to establish a good relationship to obtain as much and as useful information as possible the young informants may seek a more mutual relation, like that of friendship, counseling or mentorship. This dilemma of "closeness and distance" showed to be relevant in two separate studies with vulnerable young people but in different ways. Drawing on cases from each study we demonstrate the ethical predicaments of establishing both closeness and distance to vulnerable young people who have been placed in out-of-home care during their childhoods and adulthoods. Through the cases it is analyzed how both the context of the interview situation and the young informant's general life situation defines what is ethically acceptable. Furthermore, the analysis demonstrates that what is ethically acceptable is often blurred and un-clear depending on the concrete situation. While the blurriness of what is ethically acceptable could lead to suggestions for well-defined ethical standards, we argue that the best and most ethical way to deal with the blurriness is to recognize it and actively address it as both a practical and an academic challenge.

6i: Youth Work, room 7.0.22

Chair: David Wästerfors

Title: Global Youth Work Pre-service Training: An historical and current comparison

Author(s): Jennifer Brooker

Abstract:

Totalling one quarter of the world's total population, the largest youth cohort in human history all face similar issues and concerns in their daily lives although with varying levels of success (Goldin 2014, Mission Australia 2014, The Commonwealth 2013). The importance of training youth workers to ensure they are effective in the workplace means that they must be aware of the current and emerging issues of their clientele, who can range in age from 0 – 34 years depending on where they live. Workers with a clear understanding of what is important to young people will ensure they are effective in their careers and successful on behalf of the clients. Mapping youth work practice around the world as part of my doctoral studies, has highlighted the similarities and differences in current pre-service qualifications currently on offer for the training of youth workers. Variations in subject focus, length and placement of practicum requirements, policy frameworks, the age range of clients and whether formal pre-service training is necessary to gain employment in the youth sector for a particular country affects the validity of a work force necessary for the safety and ongoing support of children, adolescents and young adults around the world. This paper will look at the similarities and differences evident in pre-service training around the world and how we can support youth workers to do their job to the best of their ability no matter where they live and work.

Title: Coherent Triads in Swedish Youth Care

Author(s): Goran Basic

Abstract:

Previous collaboration research shows that problems and conflicts sometimes arise as a part of collaboration. Researchers have highlighted the importance of narratives, but have not focused on narratives about successful cooperation. This article tries to fill this gap by analyzing stories of successful cooperation, even if it unfolds during shorter interaction sequences. The aim is to analyze how and when the actors within youth care portray successful cooperation, and which discursive patterns are involved in the construction of this phenomenon. The empirical basis for this study is formed by 147 recorded interviews with institution-placed youths, their parents, and different occupational categories within the social services and the Swedish National Board of Institutional Care. The personal interactive aspect of cooperation among actors in youth care is important to the success of a collaboration. This aspect also appears to have significance for producing and reproducing joint collaboration identities. However, joint collaboration identities and the coherence triad can limit the sphere of cooperation to the youth care entities: the juvenile (or his/her parents) is left out.

Title: Youth work – challenges and contradictions

Author(s): Vibe Larsen & Üzeyir Tireli

Abstract:

Our ongoing research project shows that youth workers frequently find that young people growing up in disadvantaged neighborhoods are in a vulnerable position and unable to participate in the environments where there are some opportunities and resources. Thus, they describe the goal of the youth work often as supporting young people's social and academic skills and their participation in communities.

The goal has however some difficulties and dilemmas in our case. Firstly, the young people in the youth club already have a network and enough social relations before they even arrive. New relations and friendships that are facilitated by the youth club and the youth workers happen therefore rarely. In this context, the young people understand the youth club and its function in a completely different way than the staff, as a community center or meeting place for their already established communities. Secondly, the way the youth club works with its goal on supporting the young people's social networks and participation is paradoxical since it seems that the club implicitly accept and reproduce the prevailing social distinctions and hierarchies in the Danish society. Either the youth club puts unofficial and unspoken limits for young people with different ethnic background, other than Danish, or the youth club does not attempt to build communities across ethnic and cultural boundaries. Networks and social relations thereby is contained within the (ethnic and cultural) existing communities. According to R. Putnam is the bridging capital (beside the bonding capital) is an important element in the change of bad conditions. However the youth club, against its intentions, does not ensure real participation and change for young people because the club is not sufficiently aware of the importance of the relationships formed outside a narrow circle of people. Based on an ongoing research project on *social relationships among youths and the significance of these relationships to participation in education*, we will present our findings concerning the relationship between the youth club and the question of broader understanding of education and participation.

Title: Children First, Offenders Second positive youth justice

Author(s): Stephen Case

Abstract:

The Children First, Offenders Second (CFOS) model evolves contemporary youth justice beyond its contemporary risk focus and promotes a principled, progressive and practical approach to the treatment of children in the Youth Justice System. The measurement, assessment and amelioration of the risk children present to themselves and others underpins and drives contemporary youth justice processes in the UK and internationally. However, the utility of the risk paradigm has been overstated, it is insufficient in its evidence-base and it is incapable of sustaining the faith placed in it as the guiding principle for animating youth justice practice. Nevertheless, there is at present no consensus about what approach to youth justice should or can replace risk as the driver of policy and practice. This paper outlines the CFOS model – a modern, economic-normative paradigm founded on central guiding principles for positive youth justice practice – child-friendly and child-appropriate rights-focused treatment, diversion, inclusionary prevention, participation and engagement, legitimacy, the promotion of positive behaviour and outcomes, evidence-based partnership, systems management and the responsabilisation of adults. Therefore, CFOS constitutes a blueprint for a distinctive, principled, progressive approach to working with children; one that can be adopted and adapted by local authority areas throughout England and Wales, and by other nation states across the UK, Europe and beyond. The evolution, trajectory and practical realisation of a CFOS in Wales will be discussed and animated with evidence from a twenty-year programme of associated reflective research.

6j: Exclusion & Marginalisation, room 7.0.28

Chair: Tarja Tolonen

Title: Family life, sexuality and otherness – Young people with immigrant background negotiating gender and sexuality in family context

Author(s): Marja Peltola

Abstract:

In the culturally diverse European societies of today, young people interpret and organize their family and intimate relations in manifold ways. Still, these remain socially controlled areas that carry normative ideas on the “respectable” ways to organize such relations, while the norms and control are also continuously contested. The gendered, classed and ethnicized nature of the norms concerning family life and intimate relations has been discussed largely (Skeggs 1997, 2004; Reay et al. 2007; Peltola 2014). In public discussions, there is a tendency to attach assumptions of special risks to families with immigrant or minority backgrounds. Questions of gender, sexuality and (in)equality are central in these assumptions – images of “suffocated” minority girls are repeated in the worried discourses of the media, implicitly drawing hierarchical lines between “the equal Western families” and “the unequal non-Western families”. It is often the young people in the families, who are positioned in the center of these debates. In my presentation, I focus on one hand on what kinds of negotiations young people with immigrant backgrounds in Finland engage in with their parents, concerning the themes of gender and sexuality, and on the other hand, how they position themselves vis-à-vis the public discourses on gender (in)equality and immigrant families. Theoretically, I draw from theorizations on intersectionality of social differences; methodologically, I draw from interview and ethnographic data, gathered with families with immigrant backgrounds in the metropolitan area of Helsinki, Finland. The data includes interviews with both young people of various ages and their parents.

Title: Structural, cultural and identificational assimilation processes in young migrants in Flanders: dimensions going hand in hand?

Author(s): Floor Verhaeghe, Lieve Bradt & Ilse Derluyn

Abstract:

Brubaker (2001) proposed a renewed version of the criticized concept of assimilation: it should be seen as a concept with several dimensions, instead of a complete “absorption” of migrants into the dominant population. This presentation will explore whether we find evidence for this approach of assimilation in young migrants in Belgium, investigating the structural dimension of assimilation (i.e. education), the cultural (language), and the identificational dimension. Secondly, another changing conceptualization of assimilation is investigated, namely that assimilation takes place over generations rather than in an individual migrant only. Therefore, the dimensions of assimilation in young migrants in ‘first’ (newcomers), ‘second’ (migrant parents) and ‘third’ (migrant grandparents) generations and in non-migrants are explored via a survey with 1,589 youngsters (age 16 to 22). Results show that, despite changes over generations, ‘third generations’ are still overrepresented in lower educational trajectories, and more often have to repeat a class. On a cultural level, ‘third generations’ self-estimated language skills become almost equal to those of non-migrants. Identificationally, again despite changes over generations, migrants identify themselves significantly less as an inhabitant of Belgium, Flanders and the city they live in. To conclude, we find differences between the dimensions of assimilation, and they are differently evolving across “generations”. We

argue that it is alarming that even in the 'third generation', there seems to be little "assimilation" on the structural level, even though these adolescents consider their language skills as almost similar to non-migrant youngsters. This might indicate that there are still important barriers in society that prevent young migrants from equal participation.

Title: Goodbye to Innocence: The Almajiri Child Labour Phenomenon in Northern Nigeria

Author(s): Mashood Omotosho

Abstract:

Child labour is a major social problem in most countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. It is estimated that over 23.6 million child labourers are in Africa and a high proportion of the children are found in the West African sub-region. It is estimated that there are millions of child labourers in Northern Nigeria and that the Almajiri phenomenon has become a common and disturbing occurrence in that part of the country. The word Almajiri is derived from the Arabic word "Al-muhajirin" which means immigrant, but in Nigeria, Almajiri is any child or adult who begs for assistance in the streets, or from house to house; very poor, homeless, lives off the streets-cum-urban slums, jobless, hopeless and looks abandoned or is abandoned. The Almajiri system has suffered considerable cultural and religious abuse and exploitation by the still largely feudal system in Northern Nigeria. 'Almajirism' has therefore become one of the worst forms of child labour and destitution in Northern Nigeria. This paper therefore investigates the Almajiri child labour phenomenon in Northern Nigeria and its effects on the overall development of the affected children and the role of non-governmental organisations in the mitigation of the plight of Almajiri children. Arising from the plight of youths in Northern Nigeria, the paper proffers suggestions/recommendations aimed at addressing effectively, the Almajiris phenomenon in the country.

Title: Domestic Sex Trafficking of Youth: Primitive Accumulation, Shadow Economics, and Finance Capitalism

Author(s): Jamie Magnusson

Abstract:

This paper is based on a community based participatory action research project involving youth who have been trafficked in the domestic sex industry in Toronto, Canada. Working from transcribed focus group and one-on-one interviews, I argue that the illicit trade in human sex trafficking is a lucrative source of primitive accumulation leveraging the intensification of precarity among youth, primarily young women and trans-youth, but also gay and gay-for-pay young men. The rapid expansion of the shadow finance sector and its global integration into regulated finance sectors significantly enables processes by which illicit capital associated with brutal, misogynist primitive accumulation becomes licit capital. These processes reveal the need for more in-depth analyses of how illegal strategies of primitive accumulation based on racialized gender violence such as sex trafficking come together as part of the organizational logic of "a planet of ghettos and a regime of global apartheid" (Federicci, 2012, but see also e.g., Bhattacharyya, 2005; Davis, 2006;). Particularly in the era of financialized capitalism, much more attention must be given to primitive accumulation through illegal economies and their dialectical/constitutive relation to formal economies. Increasingly excluded from formal economies, youth are nevertheless hyper-exploited through highly organized and globally integrated primitive accumulation strategies constituting illegal economies within urban landscapes.

7a: Transitions, room 2.2.42

Chair: Alan France

Title: Young fathers' transition to adulthood: support and interventions

Author(s): Laura Davies

Abstract:

The ESRC Following Young Fathers study (2012-2015) has developed understandings of the experiences and support needs of young men who become fathers before the age of 25. The paper will present findings from the project which resonate with several of the conference themes. As young people, the fathers in the study are negotiating their transition into adulthood whilst simultaneously developing new identities as fathers. Their fatherhood is often challenged by structural difficulties including access to employment, education and training as well as the need to secure housing for themselves and their children. Managing couple and family relationships also arises as a key issue in these young men's lives. The paper presents the perspectives of young fathers on these issues via their experiences of a variety of professional interventions, in both the statutory and third sector. The analysis is built around the different ways in which these interventions are experienced, ranging from high quality support, to surveillance and exclusion. This empirical evidence is contextualised through an analysis of policy and practice developments in relation to young fathers during and since the time of the New Labour government. In the concluding section of the paper, the extent to which policy and practice responses resonate with the lived experiences of these young men as they enter and attempt to establish and sustain a fathering role and identity is considered.

Title: Spanish Young women transitions: The Meritocratic model crisis

Author(s): Francesca Salvà-Mut & Elena Quintana-Murci

Abstract:

This paper is part of a broader study, funded by Spanish Ministry (National Plan for R&D&I), which explores the paths of transition to adult life of an initial group of young Spaniards enrolled in the compulsory education system until 16 years of age. The main aim of the analysis is to ascertain the processes of transition from education into working life. In this study we use the biographical method, analysing and describing young women pathways during 10 years since they finished compulsory education with or without any educational credential. The sample is conformed for 23 young women aged 26-28 years old with different educational level, social background, nationality and who have followed different patterns of transition to adulthood. We found five models of transition into working life taking into account different variables such as gender, social origin, level of education, attitudes (individual choices) and assuming a non-androcentric view and a global vision of work. All of these variables framed in a macrosocial context. In this paper we will compare two of these five models of transition to adult life. Those women with a low educational level (ISCED-2) who still believe in the meritocratic model and decide to return to university as a way to move up in social scale and those young women with a high level of studies (ISCED 5-6) who just finish studies and nowadays they are facing the reality of Spanish Labour market and the influence of economic crisis.

Title: Risky young mothering? Exploring young motherhood in relation to dominating discourses of good motherhood in Sweden

Author(s): Magdalena Sjöberg

Abstract:

Young mothers' transition from adolescent to motherhood is fast, skipping their youthful womanhood project of traveling, education and partying. How do young mothers understand their own motherhood in relation to competing ideals of youth and motherhood? In this paper I will explore how young mothers position themselves in relation to three discourses: "traditional good motherhood", "modern gender equal motherhood" versus "youthful motherhood". The discourse analysis is based on pre- and post-delivery interviews with 16 Swedish mothers (age 16-24). Within a discourse of traditional good motherhood the interviewees focused on a spotless household and intensive motherhood. Within a discourse of modern gender equal motherhood the interviewees focused on work/studies and importance of the father's involvement. Within a discourse of youthful motherhood interviewees argued against conceptions of biological age as a measurement for being perceived as a responsible good mother, adulthood was produced as a measure of maturity (or social age) rather than a biological age. Also focus lied on positioning as a "good teen" (popular, parties and having friends) vs. being a "bad teen" (lonely and unpopular). Mothers seen as "normal" in their local contexts accessed positions within the hegemonic discourses of traditional good mother and modern equal mother. Mothers seen as "too young" in their local context related to both the traditional good mother discourse but positioned themselves within a youthful motherhood. Regardless of local context, it was important for all mothers to be perceived both as a good (enough) mother and as a good teenager.

Title: Gender (in) equality and youth policy in the 'Great Recession'

Author(s): Alan France

Abstract:

There is a growing consensus within youth sociology that the 'Great Recession' has had a major impact on young people's everyday lives. 'Economic crisis', has increased the 'creative destruction' of capitalism bringing high levels of youth unemployment and 'precarious' work. Young people around the globe have also had to extend their time in education as a way of trying to maximise their future opportunities. As a result we have seen a major restructuring and reconfiguration of 'school to work' relationship and the transitional routes into adulthood for the young. Governments around the world have responded by developing 'policies of austerity' which aim to reduce public spending and increase personal responsibility. This paper examines the impact of the 'Great Recession' on gender equality. There is growing evidence that the gender 'gap' has been increasing amongst the young suggesting that 'crisis' and 'austerity' is re-enforcing gender divisions rather than tackling them. This paper will examine a number of international examples of youth policies from across the 'OECD developed economies' to identify the types of strategies being used by national governments. It will also explore the impacts that such strategies are having on gender (in) equality.

7b: Politics & Resistance, room 2.2.49

Chair: Rob MacDonald

Title: Youth and the Arab Spring: Misread by the international community

Author(s): Kenneth Roberts

Abstract:

This paper sets the 2011 uprisings (in all of which young people were strongly represented) in their country contexts: the 'demographic surge' throughout the region, which was accompanied by youth migration into cities and increased enrolments in higher education, all amid job deficits in which higher education graduates had become the group at greatest risk of unemployment. Meanwhile, huge sections of the populations in all age groups remained rooted in traditional ways of life, especially in rural areas, in which gender divisions remained strong, and rates of female labour force participation remained very low. In both rural and urban areas, in the years preceding 2011, most employment was 'informal'. The trigger that ignited the Arab Spring was sustained demonstrations in Tunisia, which led to the flight of President Ben Ali whose security forces had become unreliable. This signalled throughout the Arab world that change was possible. But to what? Young people's circumstances alone do not provide a causal explanation of the events of 2011. The actors' orientations need to be added. Survey evidence from the preceding years permits the development of plausible hypotheses explaining how and why the Arab Spring erupted, spread, and led to different outcomes in different countries, none of which, as yet, bear much resemblance to the demonstrators' aims.

Title: Symbolic Divisions & Everyday Life in Latin American Cities: Youth Political Subjectivity in Venezuela

Author(s): Darcie Vandegrift

Abstract:

Latin America as a place is shaped by identity challenges of rapid urbanization in a global metropole, as well as struggles against imperialism, uneven democratic inclusion, heightened but particular rhetorics of class, university students as political protagonists, and high levels of economic inequality. How do Venezuelan young adults articulate themselves as political subjects? This paper examines how young adults deploy talk about values and social processes to evaluate Venezuelan politics given the particularities of Latin America. How do young people view citizenship and political participation given these particularities of space and place? In interviews, young adults evaluate rhetorics and policies using themes like "neutrality," "forgiveness," "educational qualifications," "inclusion," and "creating equality," designating the symbolic boundaries they use to judge themselves and others. Amidst widespread political polarization, young adults search for common ground and future alternatives. Unlike highly polarized media sources, many youth consider the critiques presented by opponents to assess the moral legitimacy of their own perspectives. Young adults desire a citizenship of belonging and inclusion; they ask probing questions about the legitimate holders of power within the nation. Most interview participants value redistribution and cultural sovereignty (emphasized by *chavismo*) as well as the need for alternatives and reconciliation (rhetoric used by *opositor*, or anti-Chávez). Furthermore, political action is not found solely in the spectacular, even though they protest in the streets and participation in government initiatives. Instead, it is found in the ordinary activities of going to school, interacting online with friends, and the experiences producing and consuming film, music and television.

Title: White riot and gangsta nationalism on Cronulla Beach

Author(s): Amelia Johns

Abstract:

In 2005, white surfer youth from Cronulla, Australia, covered themselves in national insignia (flags, tattoos) and rioted against the presence of Lebanese youth on 'their' beach. The event gained worldwide media attention and prompted academics to explain the violence as an effect of 'moral panics' which conflated Lebanese gangs and terrorism into one image of 'risk', provoking community unrest, expressions of racism and violence toward Muslim 'others'. What was missing from this analysis however was an exploration of how shifts in mainstream tolerance for some 'others' intersected and interacted with situated, relational and contingent dynamics and practices of youth identity in Cronulla¹. In this paper I apply theories of risk to consider how globalising influences (migration flows, cultural diversity) which provoke feelings of uncertainty, loss of identity and belonging for 'locals' in certain times and places, produce 'new' grammars of nationalism and racism. By 'new' I draw upon Beck's understanding that awareness of the loss of the nation as a unified subject and bounded space under globalising conditions, has produced 'subpolitical' expressions of nationalism that are more performative, heterogeneous, and appeal to increasingly limited claims, meaning that they do not tend to produce mass mobilisation. Drawing upon the findings of my doctoral research, comprising interviews with 26 Cronulla youth, this paper will highlight this ambivalence to identify the riot as an unstable formation, where the Australian flag, the beach and whiteness itself was co-opted into a much more contingent and subcultural formation than hitherto explained— a finding highlighted by locals who compared the wearing of the flag in Cronulla to 'gang colours'.

Title: Social Navigation in Uncertain Contexts: youth agency and post-amnesty politics in Nigeria's Oil Delta

Author(s): Akin Iwilade

Abstract:

This paper explores the social navigation of highly constraining contexts by young people. It argues that even though disempowerment remains a very critical part of the reality of youth, the innovative ways in which they are often able to express individual agency and navigate what Vigh (2006) referred to as difficult social terrains is central to understanding the politics of youth as well as its democratizing potential. Using the post Amnesty period, from 2009 onwards, in Nigeria's oil rich but volatile Niger Delta region, the paper explores the manipulation of clientilistic networks by supposedly disempowered youth and demonstrates that a fixation on narratives of the 'Big-Man' (Bayart 2005, Utas 2012) to explain governance projects in the post-colony tells a very incomplete story of politics and the interactions of power that mediate it. The paper uses the life stories of a number of young men involved in the armed insurgencies that gripped the region between 2003 and 2009 to show the potential for client agency within a patrimonial setting often framed by violence and resistance. By tracing the way these young men have inserted themselves into social networks and have manipulated patrons in their bid to access opportunities, the paper argues that to account for the infrastructures of violence in the region, it is critical to focus not so much on the incentives of patrons but rather on that of clients who manipulate the very fact of their marginality, thereby instrumentalizing violence.

7c: Youth Work, room 4.1.30

Chair: Haslinda Binti Hj Abdullah

Title: Social participation of children from low-income families: How much evidence can we find?

Author(s): Juliane Achatz

Abstract:

Economic deprivation among children and adolescents is an important policy issue in Germany, as children face a higher risk of living in relative poverty than adults. A growing body of literature shows, that the experience of poverty during childhood and youth is not only related to material deprivation but to social deprivation and school deprivation as well. While some empirical studies show disadvantages of poor children regarding social participation, other studies point out that low-income parents nevertheless manage it to enable their children to take part, for example, in school and leisure activities. This paper investigates whether there is a gap between low-income children and youth and more affluent groups in terms of their opportunities to participate in social activities with peers, like school trips, organized sports or cultural activities. The empirical analysis explores to what extent social participation of youth is affected by the family's financial restrictions and to what extent it is associated with the parent's aspirations, reflected by parent's educational level and leisure activities. Results and policy implications will be discussed against the background of the implementation of "Education and Inclusion Subsidies" for low-income children in Germany. The analysis is based on representative micro-level data from the most recent wave of the German Panel Study "Labor Market and Social Security" (PASS). It is a novel dataset in the field of labor market, welfare state and poverty research in Germany, providing comprehensive information on the income and living conditions of different types of households.

Title: What 'counts': Youth, engagement and changing rural places

Author(s): Tanya Brann-Barrett

Abstract:

This paper examines ideas rural youth hold about what 'counts' as community engagement and their perceptions regarding their own degree of involvement. Drawing from a multi-year ethnographic study in Atlantic Canada and informed by Pierre Bourdieu's notion of symbolic violence, findings suggest that many rural youth embody conceptions of engagement marked by formalized practices historically valued in their working-class region. Yet, as they and their communities navigate the impact of socioeconomic global changes, young people suggest that their capacity and/or desire to fulfil these engagement expectations are limited. Furthermore, youth who 'help-out' neighbours or seek multiple jobs to make ends meet describe these practices as 'what we are supposed to do', not engagement—even though such activities have critical bearing on the sustainability of rural places. Some youth also sense that whether they stay or leave the region, their community contributions may be ill-perceived—staying indicates a lack of ambition and ability while leaving is community abandonment. Subsequently, many young people describe themselves as uninvolved—inadvertently perpetuating youth disengagement rhetoric. Their 'disengagement', however, is questionable given what they they do and how they critically think about their community. I argue that narrowly conceived ideas of engagement, rural places, and youth that fail to reflect contemporary

circumstances create breeding spaces for symbolic violence; harming youth and their rural communities through a failure to acknowledge and address localized needs and strengths and social, economic and cultural circumstances young people bring to their rural communities.

Title: Reducing Conflict and Aggressive Behaviors among Youth: A Preliminary Study for Developing of a Goal-Based Intervention for Urban Middle School Children

Author(s): Brian Gilchrist, Maldonado, G., Gilchrist, S., Dewberry, T.

Abstract:

The correlation between aggressive and conflict behaviors and negative health outcomes has been well established in the literature. There is empirical evidence that suggests that school performance may be a predictor of aggressive behavior in middle school aged youth (Campbell, 2010). Goal setting has been used in various populations to address a broad range of health determinants including career striving, academic achievement, and depression (Zychinski, 2012; Creed, 2013; Yan, 2014). Although there is some evidence that supports the use of goal setting as a strategy to improve academic outcomes among adolescents (Taing, 2013; Dishon-berkovits, 2014)), less is known regarding the pathway in which goal setting and academic achievement might affect aggressive and conflict behaviors among youth. Purpose: The purpose of the study was to investigate the relationship between adolescent goals, school related factors, conflict behaviors and aggressive behaviors. Methods: A convenience sample (n=491) of urban middle school youth was recruited to complete the survey. Parametric correlation analysis was conducted to assess bivariate relationships. Results: Having high goals was positively correlated with school attitude, school importance, school belonging, and helping attitude. School importance, school belonging, and helping attitude were negatively correlated with conflict behaviors and conflict behaviors were positively correlated with aggressive behaviors. Discussion: A preliminary intervention logic model was developed based on the study. Goal setting as an intervention strategy may be effective in reducing conflict and aggressive behaviors among adolescents. Further research will include mediator and moderator analysis and path analysis to uncover the layers of these relationships.

Title: Overcoming at-risk circumstances of a-socialness and anti-socialness confronted by young people: A critical social capital perspective

Author(s): Victor Wong & Sharon Leung

Abstract:

Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) are categorized in Hong Kong as non-engaged youths (NEY), who are considered at risk of failing to make a transition to the world of work and adulthood. Nevertheless, subsumed under the NEY label are different groups of young people characterized by heterogeneity particularly with regard to behavioral and relational dimensions. Youth confronted with acute social withdrawal or a-socialness and thus being deprived of any social capital are those who largely seclude themselves at home and reject most forms of contact with others for a protracted period of time. Unlike their asocial counterparts, at-risk or street youths susceptible to or engaged in anti-social behavior enjoy a much wider social network, which is, however, prone to developing 'negative' social capital not favorable for promoting pro-social behavior or achieving successful transition outcomes. Informed by a critical perspective of social capital, which places an emphasis on youth agency, and qualitative interviews with 24 youth clients and 15 social workers, this paper discusses and compares the experience of these two groups of NEY in building and mobilizing social capital for overcoming at-risk circumstances, whether in the form of a-socialness or anti-socialness, and developing a positive identity. It is argued that a flexible and tailored-made approach to working with youth visibly or invisibly disengaged from the mainstream

society has to take into consideration spatial and relational dimensions of intervention on one hand, and the strength and agency of young people on the other hand.

7d: Health, room 4.1.36

Chair: Adam Fletcher

Title: Condoms? Yes! Sex? No! Morals, judgments and the provision of quality sexual and reproductive health care for adolescents in South Africa.

Author(s): Alexandra Müller & Kelley Moulton

Abstract:

South Africa's legal framework on sexual and reproductive health (SRH) care for teenagers is complex. On the one hand, the law protects their right to make decisions regarding reproduction and access health care– e.g. giving girls of any age the right to terminate a pregnancy, and allowing adolescents to consent to confidential medical treatment and receive contraception from age 12. On the other hand, the Sexual Offences Act sets the age of consent to sex at 16 years, and requires mandatory reporting of sexual activity for teenagers. These complex, contradictory obligations mean that nurses, doctors and counsellors are expected to provide health care, support and counsel teenagers about their choices, but also report and enforce certain aspects of the law. Health care workers providing this care must therefore make judgments about inherently moral issues: should teenagers be having sex, and what services should they receive? Based on in-depth interviews at 28 health care facilities, and data from workshops on the 'conflict of laws,' the paper uses the theoretical framework of street level bureaucracy to understand barriers to nurses providing SRH health care for teenagers, and the implication that this has for adolescents' rights, sexual behaviour and health. The paper argues that nurses' adaptation of the law is a response to significant structural constraints, moral discomfort, and poorly understood law – all taken against disciplinary and ethical framework that emphasizes quality, responsive patient care. The result is uneven implementation that undermines SRH information, access to services, and ultimately increases risks for teens.

Title: Space for play? Exploring young female's perceptions of their environment in relation to physical activity behaviour – a qualitative study

Author(s): Felicity Hayball, Alison Kirk, Paul McCrorie & Anne Ellaway

Abstract:

In Scotland, less than 11% of young females achieve the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity (PA) per day. Time spent outdoors is associated with higher levels of PA in children. Knowledge of young female's environmental perceptions in relation to PA may help us to understand how to create an environment that supports higher levels of PA participation in this population. Methods: Participants were all female (n=8) aged 10-12 years from Glasgow. We combined novel and traditional methods by giving the girls disposable cameras and sketchbooks for seven days to document their environment through photographs and/or drawings. Focus groups then followed to discuss their pictures in depth. We implemented a concurrent inductive and deductive content analysis on the data. Drawings and photographs were analysed based on location and subject matter. Results: Pictorial data revealed primarily negative views of the environment, with a noticeable absence of perceived positive environmental features. Litter and graffiti appeared multiple times in

drawings. Many participants drew features related to safety, such as a desire to place mirrors to see round corners. Text that accompanied the drawings illustrated a need for equipment that facilitated play. Conclusions: Age appropriate features may help to promote PA in young females. Cleanliness, aesthetics and overall safety were the environmental elements noticed when spending time outdoors. Local area authorities, urban planners and policy makers may look to improve these features as a means of promoting time outdoors and therefore potentially physical activity participation in this group of the population.

Title: Neoliberalism vs. intersectionality: Rectifying young women's invisibility in public policy

Author(s): Leah Levac

Abstract:

A recent feminist intersectional systematic scoping review of the impacts of changing public policies and services on women across Canada reveals a paucity of research focused on the impacts of provincial public policies on young women (Levac & Worts, under review). In that article, we drew on the work of Gonick (2006) and Ilcan et al. (2007) to suggest that this is partly the result of grand neoliberal policy narratives that serve to either erase or individualize difference, effectively rendering young women invisible. Young women's invisibility is problematic given that they continue to face significant issues related to violence, education, employment, mental health, and physical health (Girls Action Foundation et al., 2013).

In this paper, I use feminist intersectionality (García Bedolla, 2007; Morris & Bunjun, 2007) to suggest that the retrenchment of neoliberalism not only "renders women as active agents who are responsible for solving problems in an individualized manner" (Ilcan et al., 2007, p. 75), but also serves to erase the the fact that young women's experiences with public services are impacted by class, immigrant status, Aboriginal status, sexual orientation, or any other number and combination of identities and social positions. I also suggest that neoliberalism undermines the importance of public policies in young women's lives. Then, relying not only on feminist intersectionality but also on considerations of young women's preferences for political participation (see for example Hooghe & Stolle, 2004), I consider ways that policy reforms are, or should be, procedurally and substantively accounting for young women's diverse identities and social positions.

7e: Youth Culture & Subculture, room 5.0.28

Chair: Susan O'Neill

Title: 'Uno aprende a querer su tierra' – 'one learns to love their land': A Sense of Belonging and its Relation to Social Mobility Aspirations

Author(s): Sonja Marzi

Abstract:

This paper explores the interrelation between young Colombians' aspirations and their social spaces of their everyday lives. It seeks to increase an understanding of how young Colombians, aged 15-22, in Cartagena de Indias, relate to their social spaces and places and in particular how a 'sense of belonging' supports or constraints the young Cartagenians' aspiration development as well as their strategies to navigate themselves towards their desired futures. Cartagena is described as a city of contrasts, especially between 'rich' and 'poor' neighbourhoods, and unequal opportunities due to its highly stratified society and long history of slavery and colonialism. I will present cases of young Cartageneros, from my fieldwork, who live in different marginalised neighbourhoods of the city and illustrate on their examples how a 'sense of belonging' is influencing the young Cartagenians' aspirations and their behaviour towards achieving them in positive and negative ways. Theoretically the paper draws on the 'capacity to aspire' (Appadurai, 2004) and concepts of belonging that can be understood in relational terms but also in place attachment (May, 2011, Relph, 1976). I combine this notion of a 'sense of belonging' with a Bourdieusian perspective and the concept of habitus to explore how a 'sense of belonging' is developed and influencing young people's aspirations. This novel approach generates insights by exploring the role of a highly stratified social environment with its neighbourhood influences in shaping young people's aspirations and the way they navigate towards them.

Title: Use of social media in Ghana: exploring risks and benefits to young people

Author(s): Michael A. Tagoe

Abstract:

The rapid growth of social media web sites has brought lots of benefits to young people in developed and developing countries. Social media web sites have provided young people the opportunity to interact with their peers and make new friends in other countries through Facebook, MySpace, and Twitter. Through video sites such as YouTube and blogs, young people have access to entertainment and educational resources. In spite of these benefits, there are huge risks which the young people face as they use these social networking sites. These include addiction to sites, access to sexually explicit content, bullying and abuse, prostitution and exposure to the activities of pedophiles. Some of the young people who have been abuse through the social media web sites suffer irreparable emotional and psychological traumas. Although, use of social media web sites have increased among the youth in Ghana, very little research has been conducted to determine the extent of risks that young people face. This article explores the risks that young people face as the use the social media web sites. Mixed method research will be used as the main research design. Both quantitative and qualitative data will be collected. Univariate, bivariate and exploratory factor analysis will be used to analyse quantitative data, while thematic analysis will be used to analyse qualitative data. The outcome of the research will promote more contribution towards finding solutions to the risks faced by young people.

Title: Youth music cultures and identities in a digital age: An interview study of young people's sense of connectedness

Author(s): Susan O'Neill

Abstract:

Youth music cultures and digital media have become inextricably linked in many forms of youth artistic creation, sharing, and expression. Diverse socio-cultural and linguistic contexts emerge from these activities, which take place outside of school walls through braided, blended, and blurred forms of music and digital media engagement. Youth music cultures include both perceptual worlds (place-time) and cultural worlds (space-time) and include the music activities, material resources and relationships, and the interactions that emerge across physical and virtual life spaces and places. Drawing on Gadamer's (1960/1998) hermeneutic phenomenology and Dimitriadis' (2009) notion of performing identity and performing culture, (2000), notions of identity and youth music cultures were explored through in-depth interviews with 93 Canadian youth aged 11-18 years. Analysis focused on young people's subjective experience or phenomenology of connectedness (or lack thereof) in their everyday musical lives and hermeneutic conceptions of meaning making that tied their sense of musical selves to "collective life" with others. Findings indicate a paradox of participation that is shaping youth digital culture into a form of meshwork where young people focus intentionally and intensely on the process of creation, experimentation, and innovation in ways that "open up" possibilities for making personally meaningful connections. Discussion will focus on key affordances and constraints on young people's digitally mediated sense of identities and the contact zones that are replete with multifaceted opportunities for transformative engagement, self-organization, and social innovation.

7f: Gender & Sexualities, room 5.1.16

Chair: Sinnikka Aapola-Kari

Title: Sexism among Flemish youngsters. Differences in sexist attitudes according to sex, age and education

Author(s): Lauren Vandenbossche

Abstract:

Over the past decades the position of women in society has improved with regards to their access to education, politics and the labor market. Despite these changes persistent inequalities remain. Stereotypes are thought to play a key role in how this persistence comes about. In this paper we engage with the literature that holds that in current western societies, which represent themselves as 'tolerant', stereotypes manifest themselves in a less blatant (or 'benevolent') form. Benevolent stereotypes have a positive undertone but still subordinate women the same way as blatant hostile sexism does. An example of a benevolent assertion is 'No one knows how to take care of a child as a mother does'. Such statements don't arouse feelings of being submitted, but still confine women to limited options regarding their personal and professional life. Do young people in particular hold (benevolent) stereotypical attitudes toward women? Using Glick and Fiske's benevolent and hostile sexism scales we try to determine how widespread sexism is among young people in Flanders, and how this varies according to sex, age and education. We relied on data from the most recent Flemish Youth-monitor which surveys young people between 14 and 30 years old (N:3116). Our results show that hostile sexism is most prevalent among boys in vocational education, typified by a macho culture,

and that benevolent sexism towards women is most common among girls in vocational education. They might derive a sense of self-worth from their feminine looks or from a potential mothering role. Education thus strongly influences young people's sexist attitudes and this effect seems to persist throughout their adult years. In the conclusion we elaborate on the implications of our findings.

Title: 'Young people, pornography and negotiations with notions of risk and harm

Author(s): Sanna Spisak

Abstract:

Consumption of pornography is one of the recurring causes of concern in public discussions on teens and digital media. This paper investigates the phenomena behind the the public discussion by examining the cultural position of pornography in the lives of Finnish adolescents. I will examine three different material pools collected between 2012–2013 that consists of all together 3228 questions sent by Finnish adolescents with respect to sex, sexuality and sexual health. My research has a full ethical 1 clearance and it has been approved by the local ethics committees. The paper presentation asks how the Finnish teenagers experience and make sense of pornography. I'm going to demonstrate that while educators', experts' and parents' risk agenda is focused largely on pornography *per se*, young people themselves are using porn to negotiate notions of normality, sexual attraction and orientation and gender identification.

Contrary to seeing pornography solely as something that will cause harm and trauma for the minors, Finnish adolescents describe porn being a potential learning experience connected to sexuality.

Title: Sexualised girls: Narratives of the safeguarded?

Author(s): Lara Pizycki

Abstract:

The sexualisation of girls and young women in the United Kingdom has received significant media attention, as well as being the subject of several high-profile policy reviews; however research specific to the experiences of girls and young women with child protection involvement in the United Kingdom at present does not exist. This notable near-absence of research relative to the lives and experiences of girls and young women under the purview of local authority children's services for whom 'sexual risk' has been identified as a cause for concern calls into question the validity and foundational basis for existing safeguarding practice and intervention. In the absence of an evidence base upon which to formulate interventions that inform social work practice with this population, these girls and young women may not be receiving adequate provision. The objective of this research is to utilise narrative inquiry to cultivate a working knowledge of the life, experiences, and circumstances of girls and young women who have come under the purview of local authority children's services in the United Kingdom, and for whom 'sexual risk' has been identified as a cause for concern. This presentation will explore the ethical tensions that issues of sexualisation raise for social work practitioners, and will consider an evidence base upon which to navigate these tensions.

Title: Teenage girls and (re)production of age in Modern Russia

Author(s): Yana Krupets & Nadya Nartova

Abstract:

Theoretical and empirical understanding of "age" in contemporary sociological debate focuses mainly on the ends of the life course continuum - maturity / old age and childhood / adolescence - as isolated cultural and social spaces with their own logics of living. Chronologically defined youth is almost invisible in sociological research, as it fully corresponds to the cultural imperative of the "cult of youth" and is not experiencing difficulties with bodily legitimacy. However, empirical observations in Russia show that "chronological" youth does not guarantee cultural legitimacy: anti-aging industry is starting to target younger age groups, offering both "treatment" and "prevention" of aging for "chronologically" younger women. At the same time, there is a shift of "adult" body practices (eyebrow shaping, wearing heels, etc.) to the earlier chronological periods of life - youth / girlhood. Thus, chronological youth becomes a space of problematization of "biological" age and its social meanings. Adolescent girls are involved in "working at" their age, defining desired identifications of age, investing in body and expecting social benefits. In frame of the presentation we will review the construction of the age by "chronologically young" girls (15-20). Basing on 20 qualitative interviews we will provide analysis of "chronological youth" as a space for construction, definition and redefinition of the age and its body incarnations and representations in a modern Russian culture.

7g: Education, room 7.0.18

Chair: Steven Roberts

Title: To the margins: Securitisation, racialization and the business of education

Author(s): Christy Kulz

Abstract:

This paper examines how English schools are adopting increasingly punitive law and order approaches to discipline young people, often leading to the premature and unnecessary criminalisation of students. In order to explore how this heightened securitisation impacts differently on students according to their gender, ethnicity and class, the paper will draw on research based across London with the parents of children who have been permanently excluded from school, as well as fieldwork within an acclaimed secondary school. While the hugely disproportionate permanent exclusion of ethnic minorities, boys and working-class students and the devastating effects it has on students' lives has been well documented (Parsons 2009; Carlile 2013), this paper explores how England's centralised, de-regulated, results-driven education system is pushing already potentially disadvantaged students further to its margins. Despite recent moral panics surrounding the potential radicalisation of young Asian men, the bodies of black boys of Afro-Caribbean and African descent remain a persistent site of focus and disciplinary attention in schools. Punitive approaches drawing on raced, classed and gendered visions (re)produce black boys as possessing inherently dangerous, hyper-sexual, criminal masculinities (Lawrence 1982; Mac an Ghail 1988; Arnett Ferguson 2001; Puwar, 2005). This paper shows how older folk devils have not disappeared (Hall et al, 1978), but are being overlaid by new forms of racialization and criminalisation.

Title: Measuring different dimensions of truant behavior: a typological approach

Author(s): Gil Keppens

Abstract:

Truancy is often cited as a complex and multifactorial phenomenon. However, studies researching truancy are often limited to conceptualize truancy based on the frequency of the absence, which results in comparing characteristics of regular absentees with characteristics of non-truants. The purpose of the present study is to provide important insights into the conceptual understanding of truant behavior by exploring different types of truants. To examine different types of truants we used latent profile analysis, based on a representative sample of 4189 youngsters in secondary education in Flanders (the Dutch-speaking part of Belgium). 6 key indicators were employed to identify latent classes: the period of the absence, the parental awareness of the child's absence, the location of the absence, individual versus group absence, pre-planned versus on the moment absence, and the intention of the absence. Three classes of truant youth were identified: 'homestayers', 'traditional truants', and 'condoned social truants'. In addition, multinomial regression analysis revealed social differences between the three types of truant youth. Our findings suggest that truant youth are a heterogeneous group, which can be categorized in different types that have specific social characteristics. In the discussion we demonstrate how studying different types of truants can be important for understanding how truant behavior can be identified and prevented.

Title: Assembling and Performing Educational Transitions - A study from Zurich, Switzerland

Author(s): Itta Bauer

Abstract:

Many young people are struggling to find their identity and their place in a complex world. Especially young people with educational aspirations have to pass competitive selecting procedures, which will set the course for their educational and professional careers. Consequently, educational selection may be considered as the time-space in which youths experience "risk" in all its negative and positive facets.

Drawing on a study of educational transitions from primary education to Gymnasium in Switzerland, I discuss two aspects in detail in my paper. First, I use the concept of assemblages in order to reflect on the different histories, logics, antagonisms and procedural routines of the selection process. Schools are understood in this context as institutional materializations that legitimize and give form to selective higher education systems. Secondly, I concentrate on the performative quality of educational transitions involving human as well as non-human agents. Drawing on a case study of a first year-class at a Gymnasium in Zurich, I show what risk implies and does to new students, teachers and the school, respectively. What I intend to illustrate in particular are the interactions between im-/material challenges, school routines and the personal geographies of young students in this competitive environment. Finally, the benefits of conceptualizing educational transitions as assemblages and performings are contrasted to a more subject-centred perspective.

Title: Alluriarniq: Youth Perspectives on High School Education in Nunavut

Author(s): Alexander McAuley and Fiona Walton

Abstract:

Although formal education has been available in the small, isolated, predominantly Inuit communities of Canada's Nunavut Territory since the 1950s, secondary education was not accessible outside residential schools in major centres until the mid-1980s. Establishing secondary schools in small communities over the next decade significantly increased student retention; nevertheless, at about thirty per cent, the high school graduation rate among Nunavut youth remains the lowest in Canada. As well as a reflection on a colonial legacy and the immense socio-cultural upheaval of the past sixty years, this is a major impediment to Nunavut's efforts to establish and maintain itself as an autonomous territory since its creation in 1999.

Based on research conducted in collaboration with Inuit colleagues by southern Canadian scholars with extensive education experience in Nunavut, this paper synthesizes data from two studies. The first is a case study of a day in the life of two Nunavut secondary students in two schools with Inuit principals who have made significant efforts to engage the community and integrate Inuit culture into secondary schooling. The second is based on video interviews with Inuit youth about their secondary school experiences. What emerges is a rich portrait of the lives behind the statistics, of struggles and challenges but also of determination and hope.

7h: Youth Work, room 7.0.22

Chair: Anne-Kirstine Mølholt

Title: Young people leaving residential care in South Africa: Risk and resilience at 12 and 24 months after leaving care

Author(s): Adrian D. van Breda

Abstract:

The vulnerability of care-leavers – those young people transitioning out of residential care – has been increasingly recognised by researchers internationally. Within the context of the widespread vulnerability of contemporary youth, those who enter and subsequently transition out of care are regarded as among the most vulnerable. This situation appears to be no less true in South Africa, though little research has been conducted on care-leavers. An important aspect of care-leaving research is tracking young people as they transition out of care and into young adulthood. This paper presents data on the first longitudinal study on care-leaving in South Africa. Seventeen young men who were about to leave the care of Girls & Boys Town South Africa at the end of 2012 were enrolled into the study and completed a battery of assessments of their individual, relational and community resilience. These men were followed up 12 and 24 months after leaving care, where they were assessed on a range of outcome variables, including accommodation, NEET, finances, drug and alcohol use, and well-being. The shifts in outcomes from 12 to 24 months are discussed, and the contribution of resilience towards positive transitional outcomes highlighted.

Title: My life? Re-conceptualizing critical moments in the life of a care leaver

Author(s): Emma Davidson & Lisa Whittaker

Abstract:

Policy discussions of youth transitions have, in recent years, come to be associated with narratives of hopeful expectations, aspirations and positive destinations. However, it is through the notion of 'critical moments', with a focus on more contingent, unexpected or challenging life events, that we can better understand how young people come to imagine their futures. The findings in this paper are derived from a qualitative study involving 21 in-depth biographical interviews with young adults who grew up in care. Participants reflected on their experience growing up and discussed their hopes and fears for the future, with attention to how the character of critical moments, and their responses to them, synthesised individual choice and decision-making within social structures. Choice, chance and opportunity in their biographies were found to interact with wider social processes, and were implicated in, and framed by, broader patterns of exclusion. The most significant conclusion relates to the nature and frequency of critical moments in young care leavers' lives. The conceptualisation of critical moments as momentary ruptures or turning-points scantily described these young people's social worlds. Their narratives were defined by turmoil, chaos and unpredictability, with critical moments happening so frequently they became the everyday. Despite examples of positive outcomes, overall choice, control and agency for these young people was both limited and limiting. The paper concludes by arguing for greater attention to how youth transitions are shaped through 'critical moments' and the role professions can play in enabling young people to mediate and mitigate their affects.

Title: The Higher Education Experiences of Young People Leaving Public Care

Author(s): Alex Hudson

Abstract:

Young people leaving care often face an accelerated and compressed transition to adulthood. Care leavers are over-represented on all measures of social disadvantage and are at increased risk of social exclusion. Furthermore, care experienced young people are disproportionately underrepresented in social and cultural capital enhancing activities such as engaging in Higher Education. The presumed transmission of social and cultural capital from families and support networks, in the form of values and practices, poses an interesting question considering young people leaving care can often lack strong familial bonds, positive relationships and stable support networks. Some young people who have left care show high levels of resilience which can contribute to successful transition to adulthood, as well as being more likely to experience positive long term outcomes. Therefore, at present, developing a resilience framework in studying the process of leaving care is now recognised as warranting particular attention. This paper uses a theoretical framework which integrates social and cultural capital with resilience in order to examine the experiences of care leavers accessing and engaging in higher education. The policy context is also considered. High profile campaigns and recent government initiatives such as the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000, the Care Matters agenda, and 'Staying Put' all aim to improve service provision and long term outcomes for young people leaving care. However, with wider structural and economic reform comes pressure on central and local government to fund services. How this will affect care leavers and future service provision is unknown.

7i: Place & Space (Panel: Young People and a Sense of Place), room 7.0.28

Chair: David Farrugia

Title: An Aesthetical Sense of Place? – How Signifiers of Style Become Attached to Place

Author(s): Jakob Demant & Signe Ravn

Abstract:

In the 'global villages' of contemporary Western consumer societies, style and subcultures are often argued to be 'democratized' and hence no longer closely connected to social class, ethnicity, gender or geographical location. While not necessarily irrelevant, these structural components are said to have lost their explanatory power. Instead, following the 'post-subcultures' tradition, style and subcultural identities are viewed as based on lifestyle choices and taste cultures (e.g., Miles, Maffesoli). According to theories of postmodernity (e.g., Baudrillard, Jameson and Featherstone), aesthetics becomes a reality in itself, without a stable connection to its former signifiers. However, when turning to our empirical case in question, this approach appears as inadequate. Thus, based on a focus group study conducted in rural and provincial areas of Denmark, this paper discusses style-based youth cultures in relation to place. Drawing on a relational concept of space, in the paper we pose the question of why the young people from provincial areas of Denmark do not partake to a greater extent in the production of place through their style. The paper is based on 10 focus groups with 16-19-year-olds. The interviews were moderated with a photo-elicitation vignette consisting of pictures of different youth 'figures' or styles. We find that even though these provincial youth (cognitively) know most 'figures', they are reluctant to use (some of) them. The cognitive understanding of styles is as such disconnected from their embodied use of styles. We conclude by suggesting that theories of style and youth cultures include concepts of embodiment and place in order to understand how youth cultures become attached to discourses of the place.

Title: Class Figures and a Sense of One's Place

Author(s): Steven Threadgold

Abstract:

As Wacquant points out, social agents are 'suffering beings collectively engaged in embodied activities staged inside circles of shared commitments'. In an affective atmosphere where class is denied yet inequality widens, the promise of the middle class 'good life' through hard work and education is increasingly precarious if not impossible. Class anxieties expressed as a sense of loss and injustice abound. Drawing on Bourdieu's relational sociology, Wacquant's recent defence and development of the notion of habitus, and affect theory, this paper will work towards an understanding of how institutions and economies; systems of categorisations and positions; embodied subjectivities and dispositions work symbiotically to make mental constructs into material realities. 'Figures' such as hipster, bogan or chav are drivers of an economy of affect that 'make class'. This paper discusses how class figures make the 'thinkable sayable', where 'class racism' remains permissible as long as it is elicited through symbols, moral and values. Hipster and bogan provide a sense of one's place in social space.

Title: Approaching young migrants' career aspirations from a translocal perspective

Author(s): Sara Landolt

Abstract:

Scholars doing research in the field of school-to-work transitions with a focus on young international migrants call for a broadening of the thinking about youth transitions since immigrant youth are likely to be affected by the resettlement experiences and / or transnational lives (e.g. Taylor & Krahn 2013, Tse & Waters, 2013). At the same time, researchers in the field of youth studies call for taking space and emplacement more serious when investigating young people's identity constructions and their feelings of belonging (e.g. Cuervo, Wyn 2012, 2014, Farrugia et al. 2014). The paper engages with these debates by examining experiences of transitions after compulsory school of young people who migrated to Switzerland between the ages of 13 to 15. It applies a relational approach to space, which understands space as a product of practices, trajectories and interrelations and simultaneously acknowledges embedded dimensions of space (Massey 2005). More specific, it draws on translocality as a way of bringing embedded dimensions of transnational lives to fruitfully interact with deterritorialized dimensions of transnational lives (Brickell & Data 2011). The paper is based on in-depth interviews with young people who migrated to Switzerland between the ages of 13 to 15; an age when they usually are in their last years of compulsory school. At the time of the interview they all had been living in Switzerland for at least two years. It argues that such an approach helps to better capture the complex arrangements those young migrants are part of while navigating through the world of school-to-work /further education transitions.

Title: Rural Young People and Space: Affective Topologies

Author(s): David Farrugia

Abstract:

This paper explores the affective, non-representational dimensions of rural young people's relationship with space. Dominant contemporary approaches to the relationship between young people and rural spaces focus primarily on representational images or discursive constructions which contribute to the symbolic demarcation of 'the urban' and 'the rural'. However, these approaches ignore what non-representational theories have argued is the affective, co-constitutive relationship between space and the body. The paper draws on affective perspectives on space and the body to show how embodied dispositions are constructed through 'entanglements' of bodies and spaces produced in practices, as well as how spatio-temporalities are produced as embodied sensations. Drawing on qualitative data gathered from young people in rural Victoria, the paper describes entanglements between young bodies and rural spaces which create embodied dispositions as spatial limits to where a body can feel comfortable. These dispositions create sensations of comfort or unease, as well as embodied relationships of proximity and rhythmic tempo which resonate differently in different body-space entanglements. The paper concludes by highlighting the non-representational dimensions of youth and the rural, discussing their implications for understand how young people approach and navigate their lives.

Special Session: Discover Society, room 7.0.40

Chair: Lorenza Antonucci. Discover Society, Editorial Board

Discover Society is an on-line magazine of the British Sociological Association and the Social Policy Association. Discover Society is looking for contributions for a special issue on young people in Europe to be published on-line in May 2015 (<http://www.discoversociety.org/>). "Discover Society" am currently collecting possible ideas for 'blog posts' (very short contributions of around 800 words) from conference participants who have an interest in communicating widely their evidences, participating to the debate on youth issues in Europe, commenting on youth issues and youth policies or disseminating the results of their current/forthcoming research.