



Contemporary Societies in Motion

Pioneering qualitative research methods
in the study of deviance and social control

**‘Contemporary Societies in Motion’
virtual conference**

27-28 of May 2021, Athens, Greece

Abstracts Book

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we are excited to welcome you to join us virtually on 27-28 of May 2021.

<https://e-keme.gr/en/contemporary-societies-in-motion/#home>

New dynamics of change within the context of so-called ‘liquid’ modernity have impacted many aspects of social life – including deviance, crime, and social control. Concurrently, disciplines from a wide range of fields including criminology, anthropology, sociology, political sciences, development studies, media studies, and many more, have adapted to these shifts – and have often done so by developing new methods to reveal, interpret and understand both their obvious and hidden aspects. Unsurprisingly, a great many methodological and epistemological issues have been raised by these adaptations, triggering considerable academic debate. Such discussion, for instance, concerns how we may study new forms of crime and deviance – as well as new responses to them. In addition, the changing terms of researchers’ engagement, the risks, and ethics of doing research on deviance, and its formal and/or informal regulation, have provoked serious reflection– suggesting reflexivity concerning our own work, as well as the research methods we use (including ethnography, visual, and participatory forms), is of paramount importance – and requires further development.

Further, the COVID-19 pandemic has created new challenges for science, society, and policy. Under pandemic circumstances, it is important to ensure that scientific activities will continue their course of bringing freshness to our creativity and thinking. Therefore, the Organizing Committee has decided to switch our original conference schedule to an online environment in order to ensure the safe participation of all speakers and attendees – and to comply with global recommendations related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The National Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), the National Center for Social Research (EKKE), the Center for the Study of Crime (CSC), and the ESC Working Group on Qualitative Research Methodologies and Epistemologies are pleased to invite you to a joint online conference titled “**Contemporary societies in motion: pioneering qualitative research methods in the study of deviance and social control**”.

Keynote speakers:

[Paul Rock, Emeritus Professor, Department of Sociology, LSE](#)

Paul Rock studied at the London School of Economics and the University of Oxford and is now Emeritus Professor of Sociology at the London School of Economics. He has been a visiting scholar at the Ministry of the Solicitor General of Canada and a visiting professor at a number of universities in North America, including Princeton University and the University of Pennsylvania. Most recently, he has been a recurrent visiting professor at the University of Macau. He has also been a visiting fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences in Palo Alto, the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center, and the Regulatory Institutions Network at the Australian National University. He is a fellow of the British Academy and the Royal Society of Arts. His published work has focused chiefly on the evolution of criminal justice policies in Canada and England and Wales, particularly for victims of crime, and on developments in criminological theory. His latest publications have been the first two volumes of the official history of criminal justice in England and Wales in the latter half of the twentieth century.

[Rita Faria, Assistant Professor School of Criminology of the Law Faculty, University of Porto](#)

Rita Faria is currently Assistant Professor of Criminology at the School of Criminology – Faculty of Law of the University of Porto, and a founding member of the International Research Center on Crime, Justice, and Security. She holds a Ph.D. in Criminology, a Master in Sociology, and a Degree in Law. She has been teaching at the Undergraduate and Master in Criminology, as well in Doctoral Schools and research seminars in other European universities, such as the University of Ghent (Belgium) or Erasmus University (The Netherlands). Rita is co-chair of the European Society of Criminology Working Group on Qualitative Research Methodologies and Epistemologies (WG-QRME), and a board member of the European working group on Organizational Crime (EUROC). Her research interests include occupational, white-collar crime, and elite crime, as well as environmental crime. In her research, she has been specializing in the use of qualitative methods in Criminology. Most of all, she has been studying research misconduct for the last 12 years and has published and presented widely on the topic. She is currently a member of the Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Law of the University of Porto, as well as a member of the Ethics and Responsible Conduct Committee of i3S, a Portuguese conglomerate on research and innovation in the health system, and of the Ethics Committee of Barcelona's Guardia Urbana.

[Michael Mills, Lecturer in Criminology, Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research, University of Kent](#)

Michael Mills has been working as a Lecturer in Criminology in the School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research since 2016, teaching across all stages of the undergraduate criminology programmes and on the MA in Criminology. He is also the Common Studies Sessions Co-ordinator for the MA in Criminology programme. Michael studied for an undergraduate degree in Criminology and Sociology at Kent, winning the School's Canterbury Campus Prize for Best Criminology Dissertation. He continued his studies at Kent and received a distinction for a Masters in Methods of Social Research and completed a Ph.D. in Criminology that focused on the American phenomenon of

‘Doomsday’ prepping (titled ‘Witness to the American Apocalypse? A Study of 21st Century ‘Doomsday’ Prepping’). Research interests: Michael’s research interests centre on American ‘Doomsday’ prepping. Prepping is a primarily American practice undertaken by individuals and small groups who develop survival skills and store food, water, and weapons for the purpose of surviving future crisis or social collapse. His work engages with a lack of scholarly knowledge on prepping, which has resulted in this phenomenon being understood through media-driven stereotypes and theories of older survivalist activity. Such understandings suggest that prepping is apocalyptic, millenarian, politically extreme, and typically emerges from anti-Semitic, anti-government, radical religious, and White Supremacist movements on the outermost fringes of American culture. His work offers a counter to this narrative, demonstrating that in many ways – including politically – prepping has evolved to become a much more mainstream phenomenon than many outsiders imagine. The research has involved ethnographic and survey-based studies involving hundreds of American preppers, and attendance at prominent prepping conventions, and has been ongoing since 2014. Outside of Michael’s work on prepping, his research interests more broadly address themes around cultural criminology, political extremism, American political and right-wing culture, late modernity, risk, and graffiti writing.

Plenary sessions:

Nicolas Demertzis, Professor, Sociology Department, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, President, Greek National Center for Social Research

George Pleios, Professor and Director of the Laboratory for Social Research in Mass Media at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Joanna Tsiganou, Director of Research, The Greek National Center for Social Research

The working language is English.

There will not be any official interpretation into other languages.

Congress Time: The event is scheduled according to the local time in Athens, Greece (GMT+03:00) Please check here for the time in your area: <https://time.is/CET>.

Online Conference will be held on Zoom platform.

Required equipment: Any microphone and internet connection suitable for a web conference, running on any computer, phone, or tablet.

After the Conference, all participants will receive an official Certificate of Attendance.

Scientific Committee:

The European Society of Criminology (ESC)

Working Group on Qualitative Research Methodologies and Epistemologies (WG-QRME)

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NCUA)

Department of Communication and Media Studies

National Centre for Social Research (EKKE)

Center for the Study of Crime (CSC -KE.M.E.)

Organizing Committee:

- **The Center for the Study of Crime (CSC -- KE.M.E.):** Evi Androulaki, Anastasia Chalkia, Dionysios Chionis, Tonia Kastrinaki, Martha Lempesi & Fotios Spyropoulos
Webpage: <https://e-keme.gr/en/contemporary-societies-in-motion/>
- **The European Society of Criminology (ESC) Working Group on Qualitative Research Methodologies and Epistemologies (WG-QRME)**
Webpage: <https://www.esc-eurocrim.org/index.php/activities/working-groups/66-qualitative-research-methodologies-and-epistemologies-wg-qrme>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wgqrme> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/QrmeWg>

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Programme Summary

Thursday 27/5/21		
<i>Time</i> <i>All hours are in Greek time zone GMT+3</i>	Type	Title
10:00-11:00	Welcome Opening Session	Nicolas Demertzis, George Pleios, Joanna Tsiganou
11:00-12:00	Session 1	Doing research on the (inter)net
12:00-13:00	Keynote 1	Paul Rock: "How it all began"
13:00-13:30	Keynote 2	Rita Faria: "Seeing the forest or the trees: on the need of building communities of qualitative researchers"
13:30-14:30	Panel 1	Qualitative Methodologies in Criminology
14:30-15:00	Lunch Break	
15:00-16:00	Session 2	Between borders and barriers: narrations and discourses
16:00-17:00	Session 3	Changing paradigms of qualitative research methods
17:00-18:00	Session 4	Multiple (mixed) methods in approaching deviance and social control
18:00-19:00	Panel 2	Doing ethnographic border regime research in both ends of the mobility-control continuum
19:00-20:00	Session 5	Studying emotions, seductions and harms in crime and punishment
20:00-21:00	Session 6	The Covid-19 Pandemic and Social Science (Qualitative) Research: Challenges and difficulties

Friday 28/5/21		
<i>Time</i>	Type	Title
09:00-10:00	Session 7	Differing perspectives in criminology
10:00-11:00	Panel 3	Misinformation and fake news in a "contemporary society in motion" – Interdisciplinary research approach and suggestions at the University of West Attica (Greece)
11:00-11:30	Keynote 3	Michael Mills: "The Right Kind of Stranger: Reflections from the Field of Prepper Culture"
11:30-12:30	Session 8	Narrations of the controllers and the controlled
12:30-13:30	Session 9	Participatory (action) research approaches
13:30-14:30	Session 10	Multiple (mixed) methods in approaching deviance and social control 2
14:30-15:00	Lunch Break	
15:00-18:00	Workshop	Digital methods in the research about deviance: between qualitative and big data analytics
18:00-19:00	Session 11	Visual and kinesics approaches in criminology
19:00-20:00	Panel 4	The pandemic Covid 19: Legal, Medical, Health and Sociological Outcomes
20:00-20:30	Closing remarks	

Programme Sessions & Abstracts

Thursday 27 May 2021

All hours are in Greek time zone – GMT+3

10:00-11:00 > **Welcome - Opening Session**

Nicolas Demertzis, Professor, Sociology Department, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, President of Greek National Center for Social Research

George Pleios, Professor, Director of Laboratory for Social Research in Mass Media at National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Joanna Tsiganou, Director of Research, The Greek National Center for Social Research “Historical criminology and the Study of Deviance and Social Control”: Contemporary societies are indeed in motion the same way they have always been from times immemorial. Contemporary studies on issues of social control and social change, however, tend to avoid placing our relevant understandings on the historical dimension. On the contrary, much criminological writing tends to generalize about “society”, deviance and social control on the basis of contemporary experience alone, usually squeezing individuals into rigid categories, lacking any sense of place or time, or discussing penal transformations “in the act” without much reference to long term processes. This is particularly obvious in the Greek case, where more studies of criminological interest have been produced by historians than by criminologists and sociologists of deviance. I tend to discuss, therefore, the merits of historical criminology in both, substance and method depicting as a case study the emergence of the initial penal law in this country in the 19th century while society still in revolution and its respective transformation. By means of this particular example I intend to show the importance of history as well as of histories (stories, official and unofficial narrations, produced through memoirs, archives and official documentation) not only in shaping collective conscience but also in articulating the rights and wrongs in the definition of accepted or deviating behavior and its respective control. I have been convinced throughout my research experience that through narratives as the above one may provide not only useful understandings of social experiences and processes but also important raw materials for comparative criminology and sociology of deviance and its control.

11:00-12:00 > **Session 1: Doing Research on the (inter)net**

Chair: Fotios Spyropoulos, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of West Attica, Centre for the Study of Crime

Presentation 1

Cybercrime in Greece: A Research in Press Releases of the Hellenic Police Cybercrime Division (2014-2017)

Nikolaos Gavalakis, University of Patras

In Greece, there is no systematic research that provides evidence on cybercrime. Unlike in the United Kingdom and the United States, for example, in Greece there is no body, private or public, dealing with the issue on a scientific research level. As a result, no one knows how much cybercrime there is in Greece, what kind, at what frequencies, by what perpetrators, and involving which victims. This deprives the development of an effective anti-cybercrime policy at both the level of prevention and of repression.

This research attempts, as far as possible, to fill this gap. The primary source is the press releases of the Cybercrime Division of the Hellenic Police. Press releases: a) have validity, since they are issued by an official body; b) contain a plethora of data such as type of cybercrime, gender, age, nationality, and number of perpetrators and victims, the modus operandi, and the space (virtual and real) it takes place; and c) are free online. Furthermore, the use of press releases as research sources is not foreign to social research, nor to cybercrime research. The plethora of information contained in the press releases does not exist separately in each and every one of them. The majority of the releases does not contain all the information. However, each one refers - at least - to a certain cybercrime, a specific perpetrator, and the means by which the cybercrime was committed.

This article presents data resulting from the analysis of press releases concerning the extent of cybercrime and its evolution over time for the period 2014-2017. The fluctuation between the types of cybercrimes over these years is particularly important since it reveals the most announced cybercrimes, and thus the more serious, at least from the Cybercrime Division's perspective.

The evidence is compared with actual police data on cybercrime, as provided for this research by the Cybercrime Division in 2016. Actual data for the remaining years were not provided due to either technical reasons (2014, 2015) or refusal (2017). The comparison of the cybercrimes of the two sources, after accounting for methodological issues (e.g., different typologies), reveals both a more accurate picture of cybercrime in Greece and a more grounded base to confront it. The study also highlights the need for further in-depth research on actual data through the collaboration of all stakeholders, public and private.

Presentation 2

Online fake news and disinformation criminal treatment – Survey outcome in Greece – Quantitative and qualitative analysis

Fotios Spyropoulos, Centre for the Study of Crime, University of West Attica

The problem of “fake news” and “hoaxes” has dominated in recent years the field of news, politics, economy, safety and security as dissemination of false information can intensively affect and mislead public discourse and public opinion. The widespread use of internet and social media platforms can substantially intensify these effects which often include public fear and insecurity. Misinformation, malinformation and disinformation have also been blamed for affecting election results in multiple countries and since then there have been efforts to tackle the phenomenon both on national and international level.

The presentation will focus on the outcome of a survey that is being conducted at the moment in Greece. The views of Internet and social media users will be presented. Quantitative and qualitative analysis of the outcome of the survey will be held, in terms of de lege frenda approach. Special matters such as the tightening of sentences in case of financial profit or harm will be examined. Also, the challenges that have arisen for criminal law will be approached, in combination to the potential usefulness of non-legal modalities of regulation and crime prevention, especially situational and social measures of prevention and the possibility of combining an array of methods to achieve better results on national and international level for the prevention of hoaxes.

[Project funded by the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (HFRI) and the General Secretariat for Research and Innovation (GSRI), under grant agreement No 80529].

Presentation 3

Qualitative Research of Deviance Online and Online Deviance: Field Notes from Reddit and Discord Communities

Maryja Šupa, Vilnius University

Vytautas Kaktinas, Vilnius University

Based on our experience researching online communities on Reddit and Discord, we will outline the similarities and differences between the two platforms to compare the conceptual, methodological and ethical challenges faced by researchers and the potential solutions.

We will focus in particular on the following points:

- 1) The differences between research approaches when studying (offline forms of) deviance online, on one hand, and online deviance as a research object in its own right on the other.
- 2) The benefits and limitations of using content analysis as a sole data collection method in online research, the utility of collecting and analysing multiple content formats, and the linguistic challenges to understanding online interactions.
- 3) The utility of situational ethics to solve at-hand dilemmas during online field research.

During COVID-19 lockdowns, online communities may also offer unique insights into the challenges and state of social relationships as they temporarily shift gears to online-only or online-dominant communication. While this is not a topic we have specifically researched, we will propose a few suggestions about the utility of online community research during the pandemic.

Presentation 4

Marx's quasi-criminological satire and current challenges for cybersecurity

Dimitris Kilakos, Dpt. of Informatics and Computer Engineering, University of West Attica

While Marx's short satirical essay “Apologist Conception of the Productivity of all Professions” (Marx, 1963: 387-388) is an insightful polemic against vulgar economic conceptions that put forth the idea that 'all labor is productive', it has also been discussed from a criminological perspective – at least, as it has been noted, “it was frequently quoted when criminologists were less bashful about drawing on Marx” (Tierney, 2013: 51). However, since “rereading Marx in the age of digital capitalism” (Fuchs, 2019) becomes a field of growing interest for social studies nowadays, then why not to revisit the discussion on crime espoused by the aforementioned Marx's short essay in order to draw insights for current concerns? This paper is an attempt to contribute to this direction, by focusing on one aspect of this multifaceted issue.

It has been argued, by drawing on Marx, that crime control has been a motor for technological innovation throughout history (Bowling et al., 2008). While the continuing 'war against crime' undoubtedly calls forth new techniques of investigation, surveillance, control etc, it might be exaggerating to argue for the centrality of crime in the development of new technological devices and machinery (Taylor et al., 1973: 212). I attempt to shed new light on this discussion, with regard to cybercrimes/cybersecurity and the respective technologies, by drawing on findings from social studies of technology.

Thus, I reflect on Marx's irony in his quasi-criminological passage, by which not only he cauterizes the contemporary apologists of capital, who justify all its manifestations by means of a theory of needs (Camatte, 1988: 85) - a discussion of current interest in terms of the so-called '4th industrial revolution' - but also teases those who see society as morally divided between ‘upright’ and ‘depraved’ citizens, the former depending for their livelihood on the criminal classes (Hirst, 1972), which arguably is the case for 'ethical hacking'.

Such a discussion may offer a refreshing perspective on questions that marked the development of qualitative research in criminology, in an attempt to proffer an understanding of crime and deviance that transcends the typology ascribed to them by the criminal law and the legal system due to their inherently limited scope. In this paper, I shortly discuss such possible merits with regard to the discussion on a) interpretive challenges to the functionalist approach b) analyses on how crime is produced, in terms of "norms in use" instead of the Durkheimian understanding of social norms as "faits sociaux" (Churchill, 1971: p.184) and c) judging the deviant's behavior in moral terms and the corresponding the issue of "moral indifference" with regard to deviant subcultures and their relations with institutions of social control (Meuser & Lösscher, 2002)

12:00-13:00 > **Keynote 1: How it all began**

Paul Rock, Emeritus Professor, Department of Sociology, LSE

We are all too prone to forget and then misrepresent our past. Qualitative methods are so vital to our discipline that it may be worth our while revisiting how they were first pieced together, largely in the work of the Sociology Department of the University of Chicago at the beginning of the 20th Century, and then progressively elaborated in the decades that followed as symbolic interactionism and its successor approaches. What is perhaps pivotal to the stance was the argument that the processes that shape deviance and crime are deeply implicated in the workings of language, identity and the moral career, and that they are almost formally indistinguishable from those that shape any other phenomena in everyday life.

13:00-13:30 > **Keynote 2: Seeing the forest or the trees: on the need of building communities of qualitative researchers**

Rita Faria, Assistant Professor School of Criminology of the Law Faculty, University of Porto

Doing empirical criminological research or, more broadly, researching crime, victims, and crime control related topics are challenging in many ways, some of which have to do with the particularities of such topics. But added challenges come from the fact that, even in these hyper-connected times, Criminology is not evenly developed in all parts of the world and, as such, its epistemological status as an independent science may be contested. This, in turn, impacts methods and methodologies chosen to study crime related topics and, particularly, when one wishes to innovate in the usages of qualitative methods. The talk will address specific challenges arising when conducting qualitative criminological research in geographic locations or institutional settings where Criminology is a contested area, a more recent addition to the range of recognized social sciences, or a less funded domain. It will also appeal to the need of building communities of qualitative researchers devoted to crime and crime control related topics, so that researchers feeling isolated due to epistemological national traditions and institutional particularities have the possibility to grow and contribute to the development of the field, as well as to learn about and use innovative methodologies.

13:30-14:30

> Panel 1: Qualitative Methodologies in Criminology

*Ioannis Papadopoulos, Institute of Criminal Justice Studies, University of Portsmouth**Rita Faria, School of Criminology, University of Porto**Olga Petintseva, Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy, Ghent University**Michael Mills, School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research, University of Kent*

The panel will present the work and initiatives conducted by the Working Group on Qualitative Research Methodologies and Epistemologies (WG-QRME) hosted by the European Society of Criminology. The WG-QRME is dedicated to providing space and opportunities for researchers using qualitative methodologies when studying crime and crime related topics, such as deviance, crime control, harms, and victimisation. Qualitative methodologies and epistemologies, while allowing complex, relational and in-depth analysis of several topics of research, pose specific challenges to researchers collecting and analysing data, such as gaining and maintaining access to participants, inquiring socially deprived and vulnerable groups, inquiring organisations and elite or powerful groups, use of innovative methods, ethical considerations on the participants' and the researchers' well-being. Moreover, the issues of quality control, action-research, social utility and its potential use to critically inform policies, demand that researchers in Criminology come together, exchange, and cooperate to develop and advance qualitative methodologies and epistemologies for robust criminological inquiry, especially with the ongoing global pandemics. The thematic panel will present the goals of the WG-QRME, as well as some of the work conducted by its chairs. Ioannis Papadopoulos will be discussing the use of interpretative phenomenology in migration studies and how qualitative research allowed him to examine the criminalisation of unaccompanied migrant minors through detention processes. Michael Mills will discuss his use of ethnography (and, in particular, the issue of access to the field) in research on the far-right American subculture of 'doomsday' prepping. Olga Petintseva and Rita Faria will discuss reflexivity in research and argue in favor of creating spaces and mechanisms to foster a community of researchers developing shared reflexivity throughout the research process.

14:30-15:00

LUNCH BREAK

15:00-16:00

> Session 2: Between borders and barriers: narrations and discourses

Chair: Georgios Papanicolaou, Assistant Professor, Teesside University**Presentation 1**

Environmental Harm and Environmental Victimization, an Incomplete Story

Pelagia Papanikolaou, Ministry of Justice

The last few years we witness a rise in the social concern, in Greece and internationally, around the strategies that reduce the harmful effects of environmental pollution and the illegitimate/illegal management of waste. Particularly in Greece this is also due to the numerous convictions that the Greek State has faced by the European Court. Undoubtedly, environmental pollution and degradation comprise, only a few, of the most serious forms of environmental harm. This taking into account, my

goal is to present the social aspects of the environmental harm, however, from the side of the victim and the aspects the victim can get under the conditions to which it is exposed and due to the precise environmental degradation, it has to manage. In this term, I am going to explain, deeply, the main features of environmental victimization, in order to illustrate the reasons why this, as a modern field of study, is important to be considered as a further challenge for reconsideration. The focal point of my presentation is to shift the concern from the offender or the actor, that violates the law, to the victim that sustains the results of the environmental criminal offences. Additionally, I am going to describe the limitations, I skipped, during my PhD research on the field due to the perception of the environment as an intrinsic legal value.

The main questions I will try to raise, are:

Who is/are the victim(s) of environmental crimes?

How can the environmental victimization be researched?

What methodological tools can be used in order a social phenomenon, such the one of environmental victimization, to be researched?

What are the social and demographical characteristics of the severely vulnerable (to the environmental harm and its effects) areas?

Which areas concentrate the larger amounts of environmental offences / misconducts in Greece?

What are the types and characteristics of the environmental harm and how is the victimization of the environment being assumed?

For the above I will use and present data from the content analysis that is included in my PhD dissertation. They were gathered in the time period 2009-2014, they refer to 399 cases and they were processed by the EYEP. Finally, by discussing the phenomena in Greece and the main conclusions that can be derived thereof, I will make some propositions concerning a.o.'s environmental policies, environmental crime prevention and victims rehabilitation.

Presentation 2

Looking through the bars: methodological challenges and dilemmas in prison research

*Ioannis Petsas, Department of Social and Education Policy, University of Peloponnese
Kalliopi Orfanaki, Second Chance School of Korydallos Prison*

Academic research in places of confinement come across specific peculiarities, resulting in the difficulty of accessing this specific social field. The consequence of this difficulty is the quantification of social research and the limited number of ethnographic studies conducted in places of detention, even though there is an increasing trend in numbers of people who are being detained.

Prison is a vivid place, a meeting point of social relations in which the control of the cases produced at the level of analysis should be take place at the level of the dialectic of space and community. We refer mainly to research on-the-spot where the prison population consists the research subjects, although it is not representative sample of the "universe of crime". However, we consider that the prisoner as a research subject can be a primary source of basic criminological data. Firstly, because via the narrative reconstructions that individuals produce during imprisonment, the researcher can identify the specific logics that characterize their biographies and the structural parameters that frame them. Secondly, by reconstructing their life transitions, prisoners try to make consistency in predictions and facts, and in this way, the researcher can gain a more insightful understanding of how research subjects address these transitions from incarceration to their life prior to their imprisonment.

In the context of this paper, the discussion focuses on the notion that on-site prison research is not only a "professional" way of collecting data, but also a social process that aims to highlight the definitions of the reality of "criminals". At the same time, conducting ethnographic research on places of confinement provides the researcher with the opportunity of engaging in the "gloomy" reality that characterizes these specific places and offers him the chance of visibility in an intensive and "private" context, which is being offered for the production of theory.

As ethnography is the most basic form of social research that highlights the way people perceive their world, its application to places of detention seems crucial especially in the context of research that aims at bridging the gap between correlation and explanation via the understanding of meanings. In this context, the subject of this paper is the elaboration of questions concerning epistemological issues and the relation between ethnographic research and the prison's social space. In particular, the following issues will be examined:

1. The specificity of field of research – prison as a place and as a practice
2. The prisoner as a research subject
3. The timeliness of the research
4. The role and skills that a researcher should possess
5. Ethical and social dilemmas.

Presentation 3

The Governance of security in Greece. The rise of 'new' partnerships in crime control
Erifyli Bakirli, Metropolitan College

Crime control in 'liquid' modernity has become 'multi-agent' and this may be explained theoretically through the concept of 'governance'. States focus, lately, on decision making for plans of action (described as steering) and leave service delivery (described as rowing) to other partnerships coming from the private sector and community. State-centered conception of crime control has been challenged for several reasons (such as the globalization of criminality, the 'marketization' of public security, etc.). Under these circumstances, a growing pluralization of security governance is evident, since 'the myth of the sovereign state' has been brought down by a number of security watchdogs. In fact, security governance entails a shift from the narrow concept of 'police' to the wider concept of 'policing' and this is of primary concern to the present study. Thus, 'hollowed-out' state concede some 'peripheral' security duties to the commercial sector (such as private security companies), leaving 'core' functions in the 'hands' of state police. Furthermore, civil society plays a vital role in policing and public safety through specific 'responsibilization strategies'. Even though, these trends are not brand new (private security companies and community policing programs already exist for a few decades now) the rise of the 'mass private property' (such as shopping malls, amusement parks, leisure centers, training campuses, large residential complexes of houses and offices/'gated communities', etc.) has revitalized the interest for 'new' security partnerships in policing. Finally, modern governance of security in Greece is presented through the qualitative research that was conducted by the author during her PhD dissertation.

Presentation 4

The perceptions and "meanings" police officers give to the crime of rape, a qualitative investigation
Georgia Boziou, Panteion University

The role of first responding police officers who manage rape investigations proves to be crucial but has not been studied in detailed. The purpose of this research is to examine the perceptions and the "meanings" police officers give to the crime of rape. In particular, it examines the interpretation of the term "rape" given by police officers and its identification with the terms of the institutional framework. It also examines whether the perceptions and representations affect the investigation of a rape case in association with the criminal act, the victim and the offender.

The subject was approached through qualitative research. The tool selected and used for the collection of data was through personal interviews of 20 police officers, both male and female, who work or had worked in Security Departments of the Prefecture of Attica. Upon completion of the recorded interviews, these were transcribed into written form in order to proceed to the analysis of the data gathered. The method used to examine the subject was "thematic content analysis".

The results of the research show that most participants are influenced by the role assigned to them by the Police Academy and feel, to a large extent, that although they do not have the necessary knowledge and skills to manage the “protagonists” of a crime episode, they feel that they are efficient in their work as they apply the standard procedures. Most respondents identify "rape" with its legal definition. They also believe that any person can be a victim of rape and that the offender of this crime could be anyone. Additionally, the offence can take place anywhere as long as it is an isolated area. Furthermore, most officers consider police training to be particularly important for the crime of rape, but the findings of this research also shows that education and experience are similarly important in eliminating social stereotypes and broadening the attitudes and perceptions of police officers while investigating rape cases.

16:00-17:00 > **Session 3: Changing paradigms of qualitative research methods**

Chair: Evdoxia Fasoula, Forensic Document Examiner-Freelancer

Presentation 1

The Street Art Project: a social - legal and visual approach of the Athenian Street Art movement

Konstantina-Maria Konstantinou, Centre for the Study of Crime (CSC)

Evdoxia Z. Fasoula, Centre for the Study of Crime (CSC)

Angeliki F. Giannaki, Centre for the Study of Crime (CSC)

The “Street Art Project” has been active since February 2018 and is being conducted under the auspices of the Crime Study Centre (CSC). The Project consists of two parts; the first part focuses on the interpretive theoretical background of the Street Art movement, while the second part examines ‘Street Art Photography’, that is, a series of pilot research methods adopted toward the purpose of collecting images of Street Art works displayed in Athens. These methods include photography in combination with direct and indirect observation, as well as the examination of the relationship between verbal and visual representations of Street Art in digital city press. Within the ‘Street Art Project’, the emergent concept and role of photography in social research was demonstrated by the interdisciplinary approaches implemented by the Project’s research team, who utilised the visual material collected through this method in their socio-legal and visual analyses.

More specifically, studying Street Art from the perspective of the Greek criminal provisions on property damage in a strictly doctrinal manner would not have been fruitful in view of the distinct character of Street Art in comparison to Graffiti. Therefore, a socio-legal approach was deployed with the purpose of capturing the essence and nuances of the phenomenon under examination. In particular, in order to determine whether Street Art constitutes the offence of property damage, a doctrinal method and a case law analysis were combined with the use of visual material, namely photos of works of Street Art in juxtaposition with photos of Graffiti pieces.

As far as the photographic analysis of Street Art pieces is concerned, basic methodological principles of visual sociology and forensic photography were used, as they are used in the field of forensic document examination. In the first case, we studied the mechanisms of visual representation and the two-way relationships that are developed between the image of the piece and society, fueling its social meaning, its acceptance or rejection. In the second case, the photographic approach aimed at highlighting the graphic media and the urban surfaces used, the use of the surrounding area (including previous pieces on the same surface), the styles of painting and lettering, and individual details of the wall engraving, associated with the identity and personality of Street Art and Graffiti artists.

Presentation 2

Developing new paradigms in qualitative research: continuities, ruptures, provocations and opportunities

Maria Papantoniou-Frangouli, 'The Qualitative Report' Journal

The beginnings of qualitative field research are to be traced in the first decades of the 20th century, with the Chicago school of sociology. Following a period of almost complete dominance of quantitative positivist research in social sciences, qualitative research resurged in the late sixties. Grounded theory, in the frame of sociology, can be considered as the transitional methodology from quantitative to qualitative and as an effort to systematize qualitative research, while, however, remaining bound to the naturalistic and the modernist paradigm. One decade later qualitative research expands beyond sociology, is appropriated and further developed by different disciplines, develops original approaches and methods of data collection and analysis and becomes an accepted and established paradigm and methodology. In contrast to quantitative research which is monolithic in its epistemological and ontological allegiances, subscribing to positivism and objectivism, qualitative research does not have a hard core, is

diverse, multi-faced, inclined to new affiliations with emerging philosophies.

Over the years qualitative research gradually distanced itself from the modernist paradigm. At first interpretivism, constructionism, critical theory, post structuralism replaced objectivism and representationalism. In the following a diversity of paradigms or perspectives have been developed, some of them under the impact of post-modern philosophical currents, which radicalized research and its epistemological and ontological underpinnings. Among them transformative inquiry, post-modern feminism, queer methodologies, neo-pragmatism, neo-materialism, post-humanism, post-colonial studies, post qualitative research. The list is inexhaustible.

The paradigms in qualitative research do not follow the Kuhnian 'paradigm shift', as new paradigms are not to replace the previous ones. Furthermore, following Kuhn this time, new paradigms are not to be considered as superior. Post-modernity being characterized by multiplicity, relativism and uncertainty, allows for different paradigms to co-exist, to overlap, to inform each other, to appear in various flexible and adaptable versions. Among the paradigms that are becoming influential, certain transversal characteristics are to be identified, such as perspectivism, becoming, non-linearity, reflexivity, de-centred subject, decentering of the researcher, discourse, resurgence of the ethical dimension (axiology) mainly as solidarity with the marginalized.

In this paper I will present the new paradigms, in reference to the established major paradigms in qualitative research, as well as in reference to their conceptual underpinnings and philosophical influences. In discussing the new paradigms, I will refer to their impact on and relevance to criminology and delinquency research.

Presentation 3

Female police officers' stories and experiences

Ioanna Rotziokou, Hellenic Police Headquarters

During my presentation I will present the results of my survey for the female police officer in the Hellenic Police Organization. This is a survey based on the qualitative analysis of interviews that I have taken from female police officers.

Especially, in the context of my postgraduate studies, I conducted a diploma survey so as to study the role of police women in the Hellenic Police Organization, and especially their role from their point of view. Thus, I interviewed female police officers. According to my results and in combination with the theoretical material I came to some interesting conclusions: such as what the reasons that make a woman to become a police officer are or how a woman is treated by her colleagues when she enters to

the police environment (for example, if she is confronted with prejudices and stereotypes about the social roles of the two sexes, etc.)

Presentation 4

"Not All that Glitters is Gold": An Exploratory Research on the Meanings of Crime in Italian Trap Culture

Cosimo Sidoti, Universiteit Utrecht

The current research explores the meanings of violence, drugs, and gang and mafia affiliations within the Italian trap culture based on a virtual ethnography, an ethnographic content analysis and online semi-structured interviews with 57 respondents among trap singers, producers and followers. These methods have been carried out entirely on Instagram where the Italian trap culture mainly creates, disseminates, and consumes their contents that serve as an expressive purpose in terms of reputation building, but also shed lights on the instrumental use of crime in the era of trap-postmodernity. The Italian trap culture is often criminalised by moral entrepreneurs getting confused on the authenticity of the reality and virtuality towards the self-portray of artists as extreme criminals in songs and Instagram. This research has demonstrated that the processes of criminalisation underlying the Italian trap culture reinforce the criminal behaviours and attitudes of the members of such culture which are actually shown to be entertaining and carnivalesque performances to entrepreneurially attract the audience and achieve the Italian trap dream consisting of monetary success and fame. The pursue of this dream has given ambition and excitement for many young people in Italy to conduct a consumeristic and luxurious lifestyle, but at the same time, the excessive individualism - at the core of the structure of feelings of the Italian trap culture - resulting from climbing the trap ladder has revealed deep-seated feelings of sadness and loneliness spread among the whole culture that belie within the meanings of gang and mafia affiliations, and specific uses of new drugs. The current study thus contributes to the cultural criminology research from Italy, and the growing body of literature on youth (sub)-cultures and their relationship with new media.

17:00-18:00

>Session 4: Multiple (mixed) methods in approaching deviance and social control

Chair: Dionysios Chionis, Center for the Study of Crime

Presentation 1

Business Crime in Greece – a mixed methods approach.

Ioanna Charalampous, The Hellenic Open University

In current times, with business as the focal point of society in which economic strain is prevalent, it is important to be able to investigate the dysfunction and deviance that can arise as a result, since their effects will be felt in all aspects of modern social life.

Upon this assumption, the current research investigates the influence of business crime, with a specific focus on the offenses committed by businesses against their workforce over employment legislation. This research is delimited to companies of the third sector of the economy, commerce, and financial services in particular.

Entrepreneurship, business practice, employment legislation, the regulatory system and economic strain and crisis are all examined in order to investigate the phenomenon in Greece. The fieldwork follows a mixed methodology approach. It consists of secondary statistical analysis of reports from the relevant regulatory offices and qualitative interviews with four target groups: employees who are

victims of business crime at the workplace, inspectors, trade union members and business managers and owners. The analysis follows a macro-meso-micro focus of analysis in order to provide a spherical illustration of all factors influencing deviance. Power imbalances within the capitalist system of production influencing social structures and imbalances in relevant relations of agency agents and the state, community and society are significant analytical elements of business deviance. Unpaid enforced overtime and illegal employment constitute the two prevailing offences and create a work environment of insecurity and informality. Structural factors like state-promoted entrepreneurship, changes in legislation, decreased collectivity and economic strain play an important role as do low reporting and conviction rates. The role of the state is a key element linking the levels of analysis and its further functions are instrumental in shaping legislation, systems of control, and perceptions of harm and impact of crime. Additionally, the state can act as a facilitator to deviance by participation in criminality for profit. The conclusions of this study can enhance an interest in business crime, modern criminological research in Greece and can additionally inform policy and practice.

Presentation 2

Illicit tobacco trade in Greece as a manifestation of organised crime

Dionysios Chionis, Center for the Study of Crime

The paper presentation is based on the Greek national report (part of an in-depth study of European countries) regarding the study on financing of organised crime activities in EU “The Financing of Organised Crime”, carried out in the context of the FINOCA Project, DG HOME of the European Commission.

The study refers to the in-depth research of the tobacco black market in Greece, its structure and key actors, and explores the financing and the financial management of illicit tobacco trade as a manifestation of organised crime. Since 2008 during the era of economic crisis, there is a significant surge in tobacco smuggling. National borders generally do not constrain criminal organisations involved in tobacco smuggling, as the latter often create partnerships within and outside the EU either with individuals or with other networks. On several occasions, their main and sole purpose is illegal tobacco smuggling. They appear to be increasingly involved in the illegal market. The study concludes that, due to the increase of this transnational criminal phenomenon, the policy measures to tackle the tobacco smuggling must be oriented towards transnational cooperation.

The overall methodological approach of the study includes relevant official data collection, A desk review of relevant literature and face-to-face in-depth semi structured interviews with law-enforcement and other experts (Police Officers, Deputy Public Prosecutor, Civil servants in Financial and Economic Crime Unit & Customs Office, Directors of tobacco company) as well as analysis of ‘cold cases’. A semi structured interviews protocol has been used for all interviewees containing specific modules for the different types of interviewees. All questions were open, and interviews lasted about 2 hours, depending on the talkativeness of the interviewees. Some of them answered several sections of the questionnaire, while others answered only specific sections or questions.

In the course of the study an in-depth research was conducted, a collection and an assessment of selected court decisions of those that refer to tobacco smuggling was done. Moreover, the study includes a bibliography of resources on this subject as well as articles, reports of Hellenic Police and European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), researches and presentations of important people involved in fighting against tobacco smuggling were reviewed.

Presentation 3

The use of qualitative methodology in criminological research: The example of high-level corruption practices in the health sector in Greece

Eirini Stamouli, Democritus University of Thrace

Margarita Gasparinatou, Democritus University of Thrace

Christos Kouroutzas, Democritus University of Thrace

The paper focuses on the phenomenon of high-level corruption in the health sector in Greece and constitutes a part of an ongoing post-doctoral research project. The health sector in Greece is considered as one of the most vulnerable sectors with high levels of corruption and appears to be particularly problematic in the provision of health services and in medical supplies procurement processes carried out by public hospitals. Specifically, the corruption practices' typology is mainly found in four areas: a) The procurement procedures of goods, services, equipment; b) The conformity certification system of the distributed products (medicines and medical products); (c) The distribution processes and networks of products and (d) The close relationships between the public and the private sector. The latter are formed either through practices of attracting corporate clients from the medical field, or through "underground agreements" between public and private sector representatives at the decision-making stage through various forms of bribery and trading of influence. Furthermore, it examines whether the relationship of dependence between the public and the private sector reinforces the phenomenon of high corruption, through an informal system of "pressure", "threats", artificially causing shortages, etc., in the field of donations, supplies, of exports etc. The question that arises is whether these phenomena are occasional ones or if they are more systemic and constitute an integral part of the reproduction of power structures within the existing economic and political nexus. In this context, the symbiotic relationship between legality and illegality in the field of corruption with an emphasis on the health sector is considered, as well as the "grey zones" of law and the lack-luster formal social control apparatuses. In order to explore the causes, social processes, institutional or informal practices and mechanisms that favor "high-level" corruption, an interdisciplinary approach is required. The research has been based on the theoretical context of Critical Criminology, by using qualitative methods. The paper attempts to highlight the contribution of qualitative methods and in particular the tool of interview, as it allows the researchers to observe the phenomenon of corruption in depth through the perceptions of the participants. Furthermore, the paper focuses on the technical difficulties of conducting interviews during the pandemic, the challenges of conducting interviews via e-platforms, as well as the difficulties of approaching the interviewees coming from sensitive areas (administrative control authorities, judicial authorities, doctors, executives in hospitals, private sector executives (pharmaceutical companies, biotech companies), members of parliament and government).

Presentation 4

Multiple (mixed) qualitative methods: the case of customers in brothels

Elena Savva, Panteion University

The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate why the multimodal qualitative approach is useful for the analysis of hard-to-reach objects of study. In the case of the study of customers in brothels, it was necessary to use a multimethodological approach, on the one hand, because customers choose to keep their action secret. On the other hand, there was a significant bibliographic gap in the Greek literature that we had to handle with. Also due to the lack of scientific data on the subject, the confirmation of the qualitative data extracted by one method should be verified by others. So firstly, in-depth interviews were conducted using the "method of snowball", which is suitable for hard-to-reach target groups, such as customers of sexual services. More specifically, a "multifocal snowball method" was used, in order to avoid, as much as possible, the disadvantages of this method, such as focusing on a specific age group etc. In-depth interviews have been the mainstay of research, because the main

question of the survey was “why” a person makes use of sex services. At the same time, a field research was conducted in places offering all sorts of sexual services. The reason for this parallel research was to have a complete picture of the experience of being a customer. Also, it was considered significant to take a closer look at the transactions, the conversations, the relationships, the smells and the “scenery” of the porn market in Greece. A second parallel survey was conducted on the internet and more specifically on online profiles of customers, sex workers and websites for sexual services. Online research was deemed necessary to highlight the customer's online environment which constantly challenges him to “consume” sex services. The new element offered by this method of research, is the direct study of the interaction between customers and sex workers and the development of a new form of digital sex services. Another innovative element provided by this type of research, is the additional monitoring of the profiles of the interviewing customers on social networks and the parallel comparison with the image that the customers tried to project during the research. In conclusion, the multimethodological approach helped to confirm the data of the main research (in-depth interviews of clients), to better communicate with the interviewee but also to understand the hitherto unknown customer-sex worker relationship.

18:00-19:00 > **Panel 2: Doing ethnographic border regime research in both ends of the mobility-control continuum**

Coordinator: Dimitris Parsanoglou, Assistant Professor, University of the Aegean

The proposed panel focuses on border regime analysis with specific emphasis on the actors who are involved in both sides of the mobility-control continuum. Critical border studies, within and beyond the border regime perspective, have highlighted through different empirical contributions the significance of mobility both as a social movement *per se*, and as an act of resistance against increasing control and restriction. However, despite the acknowledgement of the interactions between mobility and control, namely in the sense of a continuous antagonism, agency is most often granted to the actors of mobility; while control is implied as a solid, quasi-impermeable set of rules and predefined practices following state and supra-state – in the case of the EU – declared strategies.

This panel attempts to overcome this partial perspective and to highlight contradictions that arise all along the mobility-control continuum. Our point of departure is the “refugee crisis” in the South-Eastern EU border-zone and our material stems from specific spatio-temporal contexts / case studies: the perceptions and contradictions among different actors that enact in one way or another, at different levels (local, national and supra-national) and of different character (authoritarian, humanitarian and operational) sovereignty; the infrastructure of control as it has been exemplified in new forms of governance, such as the hotspots; the verification of the thesis that acknowledges and conceives migration as a social movement through the construction of spaces of solidarity; and the latest developments and configurations of border regime(s) as they are demonstrated in exceptional border zones, i.e. in Cyprus, and shaped within the new “crisis” linked to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Traveling from Athens to Chios and to Cyprus, from 2015 to 2021 and (re)visiting actions and reactions, intentions and inventions of people on the move and people designated to prevent or channel this move, we will present our findings and our reflections on the challenges that occur within this field of enquiry.

Presentation 1

Doing sovereignty in times of crisis: an ethnographic approach to the act(or)s of control

Dimitris Parsanoglou, University of The Aegean

Vassilis S. Tsianos, Kiel University of Applied Sciences

In this paper we examine the reconfigurations of the (EU)ropean border regime as they have been deployed in the paradigmatic case of Greece. Both state sovereignty and multi-level governance in Greece have been accompanied by increasing IO/NGO/CSO presence and solidarity initiatives in unprecedented intensity. Particularly since the beginning of the ‘refugee crisis’ in the spring of 2015, multiple new actors have been playing a substantial role throughout the country wherever emergency conditions occurred. The paper examines to what extent state sovereignty and civil society have been repositioned through the involvement of these actors in the management of the “refugee crisis”.

More precisely, we reflect upon the theoretical and political implications of the so-called “refugee crisis” both in terms of governance and sovereignty. Our analysis is based on legal and administrative developments that occurred or were reinforced within the “refugee crisis”. We attempt to demonstrate, through empirical research focusing on different relevant stakeholders, pre-existing and emerging internal contradictions between different actors who have been dealing with refugees. In other words, we try to capture the contingent character of new geographies of control that occurred with the establishment of the ‘hotspot approach’, in correlation with the shifts in state sovereignty as it has been repositioned through the active involvement of non-state actors – from non-governmental organisations to international organisations and EU agencies – in the refugee/migration management. Finally, the new challenges that appear in the post-crisis period, i.e., the question of social integration of refugees, will be discussed in the light of relevant political initiatives and measures undertaken during the last three years.

More precisely, one of the main questions that we came across during our field research, was to examine whether the “refugee crisis” has an impact on state sovereignty, more particularly on the *acts of sovereignty*, if we could think in terms of Isin and Nielsen (2008) with regard to “state agency”. Or using the logic of Yasemin Soysal (1994), but seeing from the perspective of the state, we want to see how sovereignty is challenged or even undermined by developments closely linked to core state operations. Here, apart from the international interventions, mainly within EU instances including Turkey, one can find processes of reformulating and reconfiguring mechanisms of adjustment and readiness towards the new facets of the European border regime as it has been challenged by refugees and migrants. In other words, sovereignty has been brilliantly challenged when we see how policies and procedures have been practically implemented in Greece.

Presentation 2

The dubious infrastructure of control: ethnographic notes from a hotspot

Bernd Kasperek, Georg-August University of Goettingen

One of the pivotal infrastructures that the ›refugee crisis‹, i.e., the temporary victory of mobility over control, has brought forth in the South and South-East of the European Union are the so called hotspot centres. Particularly in Greece, these infrastructures started out, in early 2016, as registration centres, but soon degenerated into ad-hoc detention infrastructures following the EU-Turkey-Statement in March 2016. To this end, the hotspots in Greece constitute an intensive zone of the Europeanisation of migration and border policies, where competing rationalities, technologies and practices encounter migration and mobility in highly localised setting. Based on our ethnographic research in the hotspot Vial on Chios island in early Summer 2016, I reconstruct these different dynamics and developments

in order to show how control is emerging out of a set of heterogeneous practices and strategies that are in constant flux and adjustment.

Presentation 3

Building spaces of solidarity: participatory action research with refugees.

Olga Lafazani, Harokopio University

Against the detention centres and the hotspots, against social and spatial exclusion of the refugees, different housing projects have been developed by grassroots solidarity movements in Athens and in other cities of Greece. City Plaza was an abandoned hotel since 2010 that was squatted in April 2016 by different collectives in order to provide housing for the refugees. During its operation it was hosting 400 refugees providing also food, medical care, and school. Through the City Plaza project not only rights from the state or other authorities were claimed but more importantly rights for the people who were deprived of proper housing, of the rights to medical care and education were produced/enacted. At the same time, City Plaza functioned as a centre of struggle for the freedom of movement and the right to stay for all refugees in Greece.

In this paper, apart from presenting the project, emphasis will be put on the internal processes of self-organisation within the Plaza and on the multiple difficulties and challenges, conflicts and negotiations of such a project.

Presentation 4

Researching border regime(s) during the pandemic: evidence from Cyprus

Nicos Trimikliniotis, University of Nicosia

This paper examines the methodological-epistemological issues relating to the study of the relations between the mobile commons in the context of states of exception pertaining to border regimes. It examines how struggles are very much connected to digital materialities in that resistance to the regimes of exception and derogation of rights in the eastern Mediterranean has been transformed during the pandemic crisis as conditions have become harsher and more desperate. This paper analyses how to study the contested and contradictory consequences of pandemic-related restrictions to mobility rights in the eastern Mediterranean, i.e., the Cyprus-Greece-Turkey triangle. In particular, I examine the border regime processes in the de facto divided Cyprus, where I conducted ethnographic research in two different locations: the ‘illegalisation’ of refugees in urban city centre of Nicosia and at the rural area of the Nicosia district near the village of Astromeritis. This is conditioned by a duality. On the one hand, we observe the emergence and (re)establishment of old and new states of exception, surveillance regimes and derogations of rights, as the states involved in the south-eastern EU frontier have unleashed new waves of pushbacks, incarcerations, de facto imprisonment, deportations and the generation of an even more hostile environment in their territories. In opposition to these practices, there is an intensification of new and old forms of solidarity aiming to counter these restrictions and violations of rights, with the collective praxis of migrants and locals who are (re)generating socialities and commons. The methodological and empirical issues pertaining to the most valid and appropriate manner to capture these moments, contextualise and appreciated their significance in a manner that allows us to extract conclusions that allow move beyond the particularities of case studies.

19:00-20:00

> **Session 5: Studying emotions, seductions and harms in crime and punishment**

Chair: Aikaterina Soulou, Aix-Marseille University

Presentation 1

Between sanctity and real life: Child Sexual Abuse in the Catholic Church in Spain

Marc Barcells, Open University of Catalonia

The study of child sexual abuse within the Catholic Church is receiving more attention from criminological research as time goes by. The present research has the objective to assess the perception of clergymen about child sexual abuse in Catalonia (Spain). More specifically, this research aims to find out the existence of elements that allow us to find anomie within the Catholic Church, an ecclesiastic subculture conducive to abuses or a discourse linked to rationalizations and neutralization techniques of the perpetrators' criminal responsibility. Primary data drawn from twenty-one interviews with diocesan priests and members of religious congregations reveal issues regarding the impact of child sexual abuse in clergymen the plurality of sensitivities existing in the institution and the evolution that has occurred in recent years when dealing with this offense; the existence of a discourse tending to idealization; the presence of neutralization techniques; or the existence of an institutionalized and persistent anomie within the Catholic Church. This research recognizes that the problem of child sexual abuse is related not only to individual risk factors, to factors of opportunity or to aspects related to the selection or training of clergy, but also to deeper institutional aspects.

Presentation 2

The importance of a restorative dialogue for victims and offenders of political violence in contemporary societies

Aikaterina Soulou, Aix-Marseille University

Terrorism is a contested notion for which there is no unanimously accepted legal definition. However, one of its sine qua non conditions is the intention to have profound harmful consequences beyond the victim or the immediate target; the use of "blind" violence and the "objectification" of the victims in order to communicate a "message" of political connotation to the whole society (political violence). The perpetrators of political violence are often inundated with anger due to their feelings of injustice, exclusion, and oppression. Paradoxically, what they seek are acceptance and social solidarity. A highly punitive and security policy against terrorism and political violence is inevitable and necessary. However, such a repressive policy unaccompanied by societal and psychological responses often reinforces the sense of injustice and risks fueling feelings of insecurity at the individual and collective level.

Dimitris Koufontinas is a Greek prisoner convicted and imprisoned 18 years ago for political violence and engagement in the "17 November" terrorist organization. He started a hunger strike on 8 January 2021, in protest against the worsening of his living conditions in prison and his deprivation of recognized rights. In Mr. Koufontinas' case, the "repressive mentality" persists even many years after conviction and his imprisonment and actually threatens his life. Are there other, more humane ways to deal with political violence in contemporary societies, beyond a strictly punitive one? Could the propositions of the restorative justice movement have a role to play in such cases?

In fact, restorative justice is based on the encounter between victims and offenders and, mostly, on their painful and honest dialogue. This dialogue goes beyond the compensatory/monetary negotiated settlement of the case. It encourages the victims' empowerment and the offenders' active accountability

on many levels (symbolic, material, emotional, etc.). The purpose of this presentation is to present what a restorative, dialogue-based approach can offer to both the victims and the offenders of political violence. To better understand the originality and the particularity of a restorative dialogue, the concept of "parrhesia", which has been used by Michel Foucault to study the relationship between the subject and the truth, is of extreme relevance. Besides, real examples of a restorative approach of political violence in Europe will be provided, confirming that this approach can have benefits for the victims and the offenders of such cases as well as for the wider civil society.

Presentation 3

Restorative Justice in Sexual Violence Cases: The Approach of Narrative Victimology

Athanasia Triantou, Faculty of Law, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Restorative Justice is considered to be a new paradigm in Criminology. It has often been stated that the criminal phenomenon contains three elements: a) the law, b) the offense and c) the sanction(s). Such approaches tend to ignore another vital element of it: the victim. Traditional criminal justice approaches usually focus on the offender and the litigation process, a fact which raises the following question: Does it act in favor of victims of sexual crimes, or could Restorative Justice be an alternative solution in such cases?

Narrative Victimology is highly related to Restorative Justice, as the victim's voice is heard, and could lead to a better understanding of the experienced harm. This paper aims at examining the connection between narratives and the harm caused by acts of sexual violence, via the study of Restorative Justice methods and techniques, as well as to answer to the following question: Could Narrative Victimology consist an innovative approach in sexual crimes?

Presentation 4

Detection of deficiencies in the prevention of online child sexual abuse: Interviews with convicts

Virginia Soldino, University of Valencia

The use of qualitative research methods in Criminology allows an in-depth analysis of risk factors for criminal behavior that are difficult to quantify. One of the challenges in the therapeutic approach of individuals engaging in online sexual offending is the possibility of implementing secondary prevention plans. However, the stigma associated with sexual offenders reduces the likelihood that these individuals will seek professional help prior to arrest. The objective of this study was to explore the experiences of Child Sexual Exploitation Material (CSEM) users in voluntary access to psychological services, prior to their arrest, in order to detect those difficulties / deficiencies and possibilities for improvement in the available secondary prevention services. The starting hypotheses were: (1) a scarce frequency in the voluntary search for professional help; (2) a poor preventive approach for this group. For this study, a conceptual content analysis was carried out (Carley, 1993) on verbatim transcripts of 13 semi-structured interviews with individuals convicted of CSEM offenses. Five main topics were detected: (1) previous positive experiences; (2) secrecy and stigma; (3) difficulties in access and adherence to psychological treatment; (4) lack of specialization of the professionals; and (5) psycho-social problems related to the offense. While the richness of the data allowed for greater depth in the level of analysis, we acknowledge the limited generalizability of small-scale research. Within this context, however, this study offers a starting point on which to create and restructure secondary prevention programs for online child sexual abuse. In this case, the experience of those people who have committed a crime allows us to detect what could have been done better, in order to prevent future victimization.

Chair: Anastasia Chalkia, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Presentation 1

Greek Lived Experiences of Covid-19 Crisis: The meaning making of a pandemic.

Athanasia Chalari, University of Northampton

Eirini Koutantou, University of Essex

This article utilises relevant sociological literature on the concept of crisis, in order to provide a description, understanding, and explanation of the ways meaning making is ascribed to covid-19, through lived experiences of the pandemic during the April 2020 lockdowns. For this endeavour to be accomplished, 46 in-depth interviews have been conducted with Greek participants residing in 14 different countries. Participants' lived experiences of covid-19 have been analysed within two different and rather opposing frameworks of crisis: negative and fearful, as well as, positive and optimistic. This article concludes by proposing that lived experiences of covid-19 are shaped through collective meaning making of fear and unsettlement as well as hope and adaptation. The determinant factor that may explain why different participants experience covid-19 in such distinct manners may be that of reflexivity as allowing and enabling the emergence of resilience and adaptation as coping strategies during such challenging and adverse circumstances.

Presentation 2

Disenchanted the 'Pandemic' through the experience of three generations of women in Greece

Anastasia Chalkia, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Martha Lempesi, Center for the Study of Crime

Joanna Tsiganou, The Greek National Center for Social Research

The strict incarceration ('quarantine') imposed during the first wave of coronavirus pandemic in Greece, in the Spring 2020, as a means of effectively confronting the spread of the pandemic was an unprecedented and unique experience with varying and multiple consequences in both: the individual and social lives. Our proposed paper presents some preliminary findings of the qualitative research conducted on three generations of adult women in Greece, by means of semi-structured interviews. Our analysis focuses on how people –and in our case women of three different age cohorts– have experienced the quarantine and its tangible dimensions of social isolation at homes and social distancing.

The speech of women highlights - per generation - the particular dimensions of the restriction of free movement, the violent disruption of life, and the (re) invention of the self in dystopian conditions. Furthermore, the new dimension of "the house" is reflected as a place 'enclosed' within an equally enclosed, existing, and constructed event, that of the pandemic, where both experience and communication are constantly de-socialized and denationalized. It is important to address on why such developments are occurring.

Presentation 3

Reflecting on the pros and cons of conducting online interviews during the COVID 19 Global Pandemic

Gabriella Borges, Faculty of Law of University of Porto

Ana Guerreiro, Faculty of Law of University of Porto

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) emerged in Wuhan, China, in November 2019, and quickly has grown into a global threat. In the beginning of 2020 was declared as a global pandemic with lockdowns being imposed by States all over the world. Portugal was no exception, and since March 2020, we have been facing consequently, emergency measures and on and off phases of lockdowns for long periods of time. This pandemic situation, which will have a long-lasting impact on our world, ended up having a huge impact in scientific research developed by academics worldwide. When researchers were forced to work remotely from home and new online communication platforms gained more users and varied purposes of use, we, as Ph.D. researchers, felt obliged to weigh in the pros and cons of using such platforms in order to continue collecting data for the research projects. Although conducting qualitative research on sensitive topics such as in criminology, per se, already raises a considerable number of concerns due to the “first, do no harm” principle (e.g., procedural ethics and ethics in practice; researched’s confidentiality and voluntary; specialized preparation and training of researchers; researcher’s transparency and honesty; research’s validity and reliability, etc.), those concerns were magnified in the context of COVID-19. For us, personally, there were a lot of doubts and indecisions in if we should continue our data collection, because we were conducting face-to-face interviews and the idea of conducting online interviews raised a number ethical concerns. In fact, we were not so sure that we would be able to guarantee research principles such as security, informed consent, confidentiality, and preservation of the integrity and rights of the subjects by conducting online interviews as we could do in face-to-face interviews. Above all, we wanted to make sure that it was clear and indisputable the relevance and pertinence of continuing data collection, in that period of time or if it was better to pause the research. No situation justifies unethical, unreliable, and non-actionable data collection exercises; thus, it was not in a light way that we decided to continue our research and conduct the interviews online.

With this presentation we aim to expose and problematize the ethical and practical challenges of conducting empirical research in COVID-19 era and, particular online interviews, using communication platforms such as Zoom. Ultimately, we aim to demonstrate how using online methods in scientific research could be more prolific than unproductive.

Presentation 4

The pandemic as an “alibi” for social control and increased surveillance

Manos Savvakis, University of the Aegean

Since the beginning of the pandemic both on a global and European scale, the everyday lives and routines of citizens have dramatically changed. More particularly, in Greece a number of social and individual – taken for granted - rights (i.e., friendly gatherings, face-to-face encounters, personal and family travel, domestic and public meetings, celebrations, strikes, street protest, religious ceremonies etc.) have been institutionally and substantially restricted. The appeal to the pandemic and the apotheosis of individual responsibility has offered the state authority ever-increasing powers of surveillance and social control, involving administrative and criminal penalties (i.e., fines, courts, etc.). The transformation of a major health issue into a matter of domestic public order and national security and the political management of the pandemic poses new challenges and research questions for the social sciences. The purpose of the contribution is to address particular areas of potential empirical qualitative research (i.e., health, education, work, everyday relationships, face to face encounters, family bonds, etc.) and to reflect on the potential social consequences of such an ongoing project of social control and increased surveillance/monitoring.

Friday 28 May 2021

09:00-10:00

> Session 7: Differing perspectives in criminology

Chair: Martha Lempesi, Center for the Study of Crime

Presentation 1

A farewell to the lone hero researcher: Team research and writing

Sveinung Sandberg, University of Oslo

Lucero Ibarra Rojas, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas

The social sciences have long celebrated the lone hero researcher. Doing and writing up research in solitude has been the key to academic success and institutional promotions. However, the social sciences have increasingly moved towards more collaborative ways of doing research, and co-authorship has become more common. In this study, we summarize and discuss the pros and cons of working in teams when doing qualitative research. Drawing upon our own experiences, we argue for a radical approach to team research and co-authorship, which we describe as team writing. Most importantly, we suggest opening up to include stakeholders and community partners, thus challenging the borders between researchers and those researched. This answers some of the critique of power inequality, representativity and lack of diversity in contemporary academic research. We also believe that team research, and writing, can make research more multifaceted, reflexive, and thus better.

Presentation 2

Autoethnography - Connecting research and life

Tina Törrönen, Freedom Gate Greece

Subject of research: I selected as the subject the phenomenon of codependency of adult children of alcoholics' which I regard highly interesting, and which also involves me personally. Another criterion was that I through this study wish to introduce the phenomenon of codependency also to a larger scientific public, researchers and practitioners.

Problem statement: This assignment was particularly challenging for an undergraduate student as we hadn't gained any practical skills in conducting qualitative research. The knowledge gained in different courses was solely theoretic.

Choice of research methodology: First, I chose the methodology of in-depth interview but due to a number of difficulties, I soon realized that this particular methodology could not be used. While continuing the search for an appropriate way to conduct my research, I came across the methodology of autoethnography. Especially impressing was the argument of Jackson (in Bochner and Ellis, 1992: 80) on which basis I made my decision: "In the personal narrative, we [the researchers] make ourselves experimental subjects and use our experiences as basic research data".

Research question and argument: The research question in this study was whether "I am what I am because of my childhood trauma"? Or with other words: "Did I become codependent due to my father's alcoholism"?

The research argument on the other hand was whether "will I be able to prove this using the autoethnographic methodology?"

Research design and process: As no clear methodological pathway for conducting research using autoethnography could be found in the literature, I had to consume a huge amount of time on searching

and reading relevant literature, but it was very beneficial as through studying I gained useful knowledge and skills for future research.

Following some guidelines found in the bibliography (mostly Chang and Humphreys) I managed to develop a data collection system through which I then was able to analyze and make my conclusions. Conclusion: Consequently, the adult children of alcoholics' have a very poor self-image and, as adults, often find it impossible to have satisfactory relationships. By constantly pleasing and searching for the approval of others, and by placing the needs of others before their own, they may grow so accustomed to living with a dysfunctional person and seek codependent relationships. Many lose themselves in their relationship with others and sometimes find themselves attracted to alcoholics or to persons with antisocial behaviors. They are generally attracted to those who are emotionally unavailable (e.g. sociopaths, delinquents).

Results: I was able to answer both the research question and argument using this methodology.

Presentation 3

Destabilizing meanings of the Rule of Law, Liberty, Equality and Democracy. Refugees from Syria discourse of abstract notions and ideals

Martha Lempesi, Center for the Study of Crime

Anastasia Chalkia, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Joanna Tsiganou, The Greek National Center for Social Research

In our proposed paper, based on qualitative research examining refugees' from Syria ideas and meanings on important western type ideal notions such as the Rule of Law, Liberty, Equality and Democracy, an important discourse is revealed which indicates certain significant aspects of the conceptual destabilization of relevant meanings attributed to the above ideals by migrant social actors living in two different socio-cultural environments; the environment of their country of origin and the environment of their host country. Also, some aspects of the destabilization mechanism are revealed. The data provided are based on qualitative research conducted through in-depth interviews during the second semester of 2019 on the Syrian refugee population living in Athens. In particular, we tried to understand perceptions and experiences about the above-abstracted notions that are considered universal and shape the core parts of human life, which, however, have been articulated either by westernizer reformers or the 'gatekeepers' of the West. In terms of methodology, in order to be able to decipher certain deeply embedded aspects of behavior living into contemporary societies in motion, we have decided to adopt qualitative techniques in order not only to interpret interviews' content on the issues in question but also to address reflexively the question on how privileged and (non)privileged roles and social positions interact and may influence the interview process and content, the expected 'revelations' and the meaning of highly abstracted notions transferred through research participants in motion.

Presentation 4

Stroking reflexivity into practice: how to become a reflexive researcher

Gabriella Borges, Faculty of Law of University of Porto

Reflexivity is closely linked to the ethical practice of research and can be particularly useful in the work field in which research ethics committees are not available. Reflectivity in research is an active and continuous process of critical reflection both on the type of knowledge produced from the research and on how this knowledge is generated, which saturates all stages of research. Based on this, reflexivity is not necessarily focused only on the production of knowledge in research, but also on the research process as a whole. Therefore, the adoption of a reflexive research process means a continuous process of scrutiny and critical interpretation on the research methods and data and in relation to the researcher, the researched and the context of the research, which are the substrate of the ethical

dimensions of research practice. By adopting a posture of reflexivity, the researcher becomes aware of both questions related to knowledge creation and to ethical questions in research. Such state of awareness leads to the conscious consideration of a number of formal ethical positions and the adoption of a specific ethical posture. It also makes the researcher more alert to situations where the theoretical position may not be the best way to defend the interests of its participants. Thus, in conducting research, a researcher that is reflective will be in a better situation to be aware of the ethically significant moments as they arise and will have a foundation for answering in a way that is likely to be ethically suitable even in unexpected circumstances.

This presentation aims to expose that reflexivity should be considered as a way of ensuring not only rigorous research practices but also ethical research practices. It aims to demonstrate that reflexivity has an important role in compelling the researcher to study and to reflect on the fundamental guiding principles that are the base of the integrity of research. Ultimately, this presentation aims to explore the meaning of being a reflexive researcher, which implies recognizing and being sensitized to the micro-dimensions of research practice (e.g., being alert and prepared for the proper ways to deal with ethical tensions; being careful while interpreting the researched meanings; protecting the self and the Other) and to the macro-dimensions of research practice (objectivity, validity, and reliability of the research).

10:00-11:00 > **Panel 3: Misinformation and fake news in a “contemporary society in motion”– Interdisciplinary research approach and suggestions at the University of West Attica (Greece)**

Coordinator: Charalambos Patrikakis, Professor at the Dept of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, University of West Attica

Misinformation and fake news constitute a major problem of contemporary societies, intensified by the internet technology options. University of West Attica (Greece) hosts 3 research projects on good practices of internet use fake news prevention and treatment and stopping the “infodemic” of misinformation. All three projects are complementary, with each one project holding a different point of scientific view. The scientific coordinators of the research projects “EUNOMIA”, “Educability” and “Criminal and criminological treatment of hoaxes” present their research outcomes and talk on how modern societies should adapt to technology evolution and be protected from disinformation effects.

Presentation 1

Criminal and criminological treatment of hoaxes – De lege ferenda challenges through an interdisciplinary approach according to the survey outcome of the project

Fotios Spyropoulos, University of West Attica

The fake news problem needs an interdisciplinary approach. In these terms, the project survey which is being conducted till now is valuable, as its outcome is related to the transformation of the legal treatment of disinformation, taking into account the correlation of scientific views and practices. So, the sample’s view on the challenges that have arisen for criminal law, in combination to the potential usefulness of non-legal modalities of regulation and crime prevention will be presented, trying to show situational and social measures of prevention and the possibility of combining an array of methods to achieve better results on national and international level for the prevention of hoaxes.

[Project funded by the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (HFRI) and the General Secretariat for Research and Innovation (GSRI), under grant agreement No 80529].

Presentation 2

Developing Information Hygiene habits as an antidote to Misinformation: The EUNOMIA project toolkit

Charalambos Patrikakis, University of West Attica

Information Hygiene is the practice of following daily routines that reduce the risk of acting upon and sharing misinformation to one's network. EUNOMIA is a social media platform with added tools that help people develop such information habits and protect each other against misinformation.

EUNOMIA is developing the first social media environment designed to prioritize trust over likes. Powered by Mastodon (the biggest decentralized social network) and supported by a unique peer-to-peer and blockchain infrastructure, it is fully decentralised and disintermediated. Its open-source tools help the user quickly and confidently assess the trustworthiness of information shared through EUNOMIA without relying on any third-party expert or social media platform to do it for them.

EUNOMIA tools allow users to track the provenance of information and changes over time, along with other indicators of trustworthiness. EUNOMIA also nudges users to assess trustworthiness on the basis of human decisions supported by AI-generated contextual information. By facilitating immediate assessment of social media content trustworthiness, it supports and encourages the sharing of trustworthy content.

Therefore, EUNOMIA is an excellent example of micro co-regulation, as is its use of blockchain technology in establishing the integrity of the data sharing. Unlike the current scenario applied to centralized social media such as Twitter or Facebook, who take on the role of selectively tagging what is credible or not, EUNOMIA powered social media players can remain neutral platforms allowing their users to take ownership of their content and its trustworthiness. (<https://eunomia.social>).

Presentation 3

Media and Information Literacy in EDUCABILITY Project: training the trainers, educators and librarians

Dimitrios Kouis, University of West Attica

Foteini Efthymiou, University of West Attica

EDUCABILITY Project aspires to be a conceptually, strategically, technologically and educationally pioneering endeavor in answering specific urgent demands of the current Information and Knowledge Society. Its main objectives are: (a) development of an online, freely available Information Literacy Training Package – ILTP, (b) training of educators and librarians, in the core skills of Information Literacy, as a horizontal goal and in new literacies as vertical goals, (c) convergence in terms of strategy, expertise and infrastructure in Information Literacy initiatives, at a transnational level among Greece, Cyprus, Spain and Serbia.

UNIWA research team is in charge of developing a Media and Information Literacy (MIL) training package for educators and librarians. The specific target group is placed at the center of promoting the above literacy to today's Information & Knowledge Society. The training package will be based on recent research trends about MIL, a literacy that UNESCO defines as “a combination of knowledge,

attitudes, skills, and practices required to access, analyse, evaluate, use, produce, and communicate information and knowledge in creative, legal and ethical ways that respect human rights”.

MIL training package will offer to educators and librarians a set of competencies, such as “evaluating, using and producing information and media content” and “understanding freedom and ethics of information and media”, to meaningfully support their communities, in various educational environments (formal, informal, non-formal), and in real-life settings regarding work, social and environmental activity, active citizenship, Mass Media and personal life goals. (<https://iml.alis.uniwa.gr/projects/>, <https://educability.cut.ac.cy/>).

11:00-11:30 > **Keynote 3: The Right Kind of Stranger: Reflections from the Field of Prepper Culture**

Michael Mills: Lecturer in Criminology, Social Policy, Sociology, and Social Research, University of Kent

This talk addresses a decade-long cultural criminological project of researching the oft-mocked, yet recently growing, American subculture of ‘doomsday’ preppers (made of up individuals preparing to survive major social collapse). It particularly addresses the practical challenges of accessing a stigmatized field like prepping culture using ethnography – drawing attention to the ways, in this case, that a combination of ideas drawn from cultural and narrative criminology, as well as awareness of stark cultural difference between the researcher and participants, have been crucial to entering this guarded and secretive subculture.

11:30-12:30 > **Session 8: Narrations of the controllers and the controlled**

Chair: Nikolaos Koulouris, Assistant Professor, Democritus University of Thrace

Presentation 1

The Evolution of Protests in the African American Communities: Learning from the Past and Imagining the Future

Manos Karousos, Center for the Study of Crime

Historically, the African American communities in various states protested and marched against injustices. For example, the Red Summer, as it is known, in 1919 led to a race riot between black and white communities resulting to numerous victims – especially from the first racial group. The Detroit race riots in 1943, the Montgomery Bus boycott in 1955, the rise of the Black Panther Party in 1966 were some of the most notable acts from the African Americans against systemic racism and violence. Thus, the assassinations of cultural icons such as Martin Luther King Jr and Malcolm X tested the tolerance of the black communities. For many years there was a belief that African American organizations were invincible until the death of Trayvon Martin and the formation of the Black Lives Matter movement. From that period and so on there is a shift in protests especially mass and multiple protests while the turning point in black communities was the George Floyd murder and its aftermath. Mass protests reflect organization, mobilization and coordination that is intentional and deeply political. All the above can lead to a global motion in societies. New age protesters and revolutionaries

were given the torch from the previous generations and they are trying to advance the struggle. While the old model had failed, they do not seek to follow a reformistic path but a more radical one, and they have all the necessary tools to achieve it. Surprisingly, we notice a social turmoil in almost each country and a huge will for change. Thus, there is a growing need of replacement of the old and conservative. People tend to challenge the social norms more often than in the past. They do not necessarily follow a particular ideology, with strict limits. The formation of a collective ideology and the rejection of the individuality are the new key factors when we are referring to the social struggle.

On the other hand, there are many queries which could arise such as why was the revolution not successfully completed? Which are the changes that we have seen in protests on black communities during all these years? Are there any social and societal transformations through protests? Additionally, every young generation blames the previous for past failures, but they tend to follow the same footsteps. Is today's young generation capable of a counteraction? To answer the above queries, it will be used the historical approach by studying documents. To be more specific, the qualitative approach based on the use of primary (photographs, journals, recordings etc.) and mainly secondary sources (textbooks, articles etc.) would be the dominant research method. Thus, it will be showcased what it means to think historically, observe, and evaluate how these protests evolved during all these years and take some valuable lessons for current and future protests.

Presentation 2

(Re)drafting research on the treatment of sex offenders' prison experiences and social reintegration prospects in the pandemic period

Anna Kasapoglou, Democritus University of Thrace

Dimitrios-Lazaros Koros, Democritus University of Thrace

Nikolaos Koulouris, Democritus University of Thrace

The paper aims to present the impact of the restrictive measures taken in Greece since March 2020 to prevent the spread of the pandemic in prisons on an ongoing research which is co-financed by Greece and the European Union (European Social Funds- ESF) through the Operational Programme “Human Resources Development, Education and Lifelong Learning 2014-2020” in the context of the project “*Prisoners for sexual offences: Custodial regime, prison experience and reintegration interventions*” (MIS 5050213). The research concerns the experience of imprisonment and the social reintegration prospects of pretrial and convicted prisoners for sexual offences. The adoption of such measures and their implementation during the Covid-19 period affected seriously prison research planning and methodologies. Researchers were obliged to redraft their methods and techniques, in their effort to avoid the delays of authorities to respond to their applications and grant the permissions needed to conduct research meeting and interviewing prisoners and prison staff in custodial institutions. The change the field of the research as well as the target group (looking for released, ex-prisoners who refer to social reintegration services) and to use alternative methods of contact and interviewing are explained and documented, while additional research ethics issues and concerns raised are discussed. The paper focuses on the use of new technologies and online research methods and the challenges generated thereof. More specifically, emphasis is put on the difficulties met in the procedure regarding the researchers' access to custodial institutions where pre-trial or convicted offenders for sexual offences are detained and their subsequent decision to address a request to social reintegration institutions and bodies working with released ex-prisoners.

The research is taking place during the Covid-19 restrictive measures and thus the paper will present both the conditions of the field research and the technological means employed. The use of a mixed method approach will be analysed and a focus on new methodological ways of approaching and

interviewing the participants will be presented, in terms of conducting a qualitative research based on interviews and data collection. Finally, the paper will conclude with the inherent restrictions and further opportunities of qualitative research methods.

Presentation 3

Official narratives of juvenile delinquency in Greece under historical perspectives

Fotini Milioni, Epanodos

In this paper, two studies concerning juvenile delinquents and their treatment in the last century will be discussed. The first study concerns Papagos Girls' Reformatory which was in operation between 1937 and 1997 and hosted girls up to the age of 18. Through the study of the personal narratives of minors as they are recorded in the surviving archival documents held at the General State Archives, the individual characteristics of the juvenile prisoners' of the reformatories are highlighted, as well as the institutional and social context of that era.

The second study entitled "Juvenile offenders in Greece: 1924-1974" investigates juvenile delinquent behavior in Greece during the fifty years 1924-1974, both in terms of its evolution and the characteristics of juvenile offenders. The specific period was selected, since the year 1924 saw the birth of the Second Greek Republic for the newly established Greek state after the Turkish occupation. It was from that year's data, even if incomplete, when the systematic publication of the statistics of Criminological Statistics by the General Statistical Service of Greece of the Ministry of National Economy began. Any previous efforts have been isolated and piecemeal. In 1974, with the collapse of the military dictatorship, the Post-independence and the Third Hellenic Republic were born, the longest period of democracy and political stability in the modern Greek state to date.

The criticality and the problems of the examined period of time, historically and practically, can hardly be disputed. Faced with multiple 'confrontations', both internal and external, during this period of time, Greece is struggling on the one hand to stabilise its borders and its constitution, and on the other hand to organise itself as a State. However, the difficulties encountered in finding, using and interpreting the data on juvenile delinquency were many and varied. The discontinuation of the publication of Crime Statistics for long periods of time, the different editions each time, the constant changes in the recording of data and its continuous reforms, result in difficult and uncertain comparisons and conclusions.

The analysis of the data of the above-mentioned studies implicitly leads us to the conclusion that the manifestation of delinquent behavior on the part of minors is, on one hand a diachronic phenomenon which requires a thorough criminological investigation and, on the other hand, a multifaceted phenomenon entailing interventions in various areas.

Presentation 4

Social and educational inclusion of foreign students. The city of Kranidi

Marianna Gkourou, Greek Forensic Society

Inclusive education is essentially an innovative philosophy that aims to change the functions of the school and remove the separation of children into different special structures. The result will be that all children, without exception, have the right to attend the school in their neighborhood and to participate socially and educationally in school life, regardless of their particularities or difficulties. Inclusion is a philosophy related to recognizing the rights of all children. In practice, however, its denaturation is accompanied by difficulties that are linked both to the functioning of schools and to

society at large. The purpose of this qualitative research is to examine the extent to which the social and educational inclusion of foreign students in Greek schools is achieved through investigating the case of the Kranidi region of Argolida. To collect the research data, 16 semi-structured interviews with parents of foreign students and 16 semi-structured interviews with teachers serving public schools in Kranidi were conducted. The analysis of the data revealed that both the social and educational inclusion of foreign pupils outside and within primary and secondary education schools is to a small extent achieved. It should be noted that the responses of teachers and parents did not differ substantially. The results of the research highlighted the main issues the difficulties of social integration of foreign students within and outside the school context, as well as the difficulties they face at the academic level. However, there are some factors, such as the individual characteristics of the students, that influence the degree of inclusion and determine whether or not it is successful. In addition, the length of time a foreign student stays in our country and the support he or she receives is critical to its success. It is worth noting that educational inclusion is a key factor for social success and vice versa.

12:30-13:30

> Session 9: Participatory (action) research approaches

Chair: Joanna Tsiganou, Director of Research, The Greek National Center for Social Research

Presentation 1

Towards the Anatomy of Prison Language: The Greek Inmates Case

Ioanna Asanakidi, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Aggeliki Kardara, Center for the Study of Crime / National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Each of the various communities of practice (CoP) seems to have their own developed jargon. The language of the imprisoned reflects a quite similar impulse. Its efficacy to the imprisoned - and the criminals in general - lies in its function as a means of communication but also as a vital means of integration into the large groups and subgroups formed within prison. With data collected from questionnaires to 130 inmates including 30 juvenile delinquents at Avlonas Detention Center as well as 30 women and 70 men from Korydallos prison respectively, an alternative ethnographic study of prison language was developed in Greece in 2005. Apart from the meetings which were conducted in total isolation with inmate responders, a diverse methodological approach including both questionnaires and observation was employed. The sample of the 70 aforementioned prisoners was deeper investigated in the course of 10 sequential, individual structured interviews. The longitudinal study and on-spot investigation provided significant results reflecting on various areas of concern such as prison language usage, formation, functions, purposes, context and more. One of the most significant conclusions reflects prison language or else slang, as a multidimensional, complex concept which could hardly be defined with accuracy on a purely linguistic level. Furthermore, its symbolic function encodes and externalises views, attitudes and perceptions of the life of the imprisoned, allowing for their integration within the enclosed groups and subgroups. It is therefore one of the most critical means of survival for detainees in the closed, restrictive and unrelenting environment of the prison. The special language of communication code used by the incarcerated population can be further divided into two large branches: the hard cryptographic slang used solely by prisoners inside and outside prison in order to operate their illegal activities, and the slang used to a larger extent within the closed and restrictive context of the prison, even in front of the correction officers for imitation but also for communication, as a getaway in their attempt to reduce the pains of imprisonment. Besides, the passage of time could be a key factor to unlock new traits or to ascertain the main role of language as a predominant component inside but also outside the penitentiary. Thus, subsequent to the original research, an in-depth analysis was repeated in 2018, in an attempt to determine the special linguistic

code of communication of the enclosed population from a philosophical, criminological, psychological, literary and linguistic point of view. At Onesimos Association for the Assistance of Prisoners, a sample of 50 parolees was examined with relevant questionnaires, following a series of 12 structured interviews. The study provides fruitful evidence to the challenges of investigating the evolutionary process of prison language which may have a ripple effect not only on the micro-community within prison, but also on the international sphere of sociolinguistic and forensic linguistic research, with focus on the interpretation of prison language overtime.

Presentation 2

Children constructing their daily life in the city – exploring non colonized epistemologies

Maria Kouloumpi, University of West Attica

Recent discourses within the field of health sciences, sociology, psychology, anthropology, political sciences and occupational science are critically commenting on the dominance of colonial theories, assessments, interventions, outcome measures and models of practice informed by western neoliberal assumptions and values around how we construct our lives within our modern societies and how we develop our ideas about issues of normality and deviation.

Within occupational science, which is the study of human occupations, doings and social practices, children are considered as occupational beings that their actions are regulated by social institutions, geographical spaces, political, economic and cultural contexts.

This presentation will discuss epistemological and ethical concerns around the design of a qualitative study that aims to explore how children are constructing their daily life within the context of a Greek city, using participatory research methodologies. According to social constructionism, city and childhood are considered to be social establishments, sensitive to power imbalances and an arena where children are regulated by adults in various ways, while they are experiencing exclusions from public spaces and social practices.

Discussions around children subjectivity, agency and normalization will be generated. By exploring the agentic nature of childhood within the city daily life and positioning children as subjects constructing their own everyday actions and daily life, their significance is expected to be elevated in the city development agenda.

Athens' city urges for an institutional shift through, primarily, raising awareness of childhood manifestations and children actions/doings and experiences within its establishments and, consequently by valuing children participation, ideas and right to citizenship.

This study is part of the fulfillment of a PhD degree in the Centre of Applied Social Science of Queen Margaret University (Division of Occupational Therapy and Art Therapies).

Presentation 3

Approach to the profile of African women potential victims of trafficking in the southern Spanish border: methodological notes

Bertha Veronica Prado Manrique, University of Malaga

Jacqueline Carvalho Da Silva, University of Malaga

Secondary prevention of trafficking in persons requires criminological research to better understand its dynamics, as well as the characteristics of its victims and potential victims. In this context, the ÖDOS program, implemented in Andalusia (Spain), is configured as a pioneering resource that hosts sub-Saharan women. These women arrive on the Spanish coast accompanied by minors and / or pregnant and gather a series of indicators of potential victims of trafficking. The aim of this presentation is to show the usefulness of analyzing the interviews carried out within the framework of this program through qualitative content analysis. This methodological strategy made it possible to

identify, for example, the characteristics of the family environment of these women in the country of origin, as well as the reasons and features of their migratory journey or the most frequent routes to reach Spain. The analysis of these findings contributes to a better design of Spanish policies for the secondary prevention of human trafficking and confirms the need for further research in this regard.

Presentation 4

Rape as a gender weapon of male domination. Case studies at the Grevena Detention Center

Andromachi Bouna, University of Aegean

Efstratios Papanis, University of Aegean

Rape is a highly complex and multiple interpreted phenomenon of violent aggression and is the research object in research approaches in various fields of knowledge. The power relations between the two sexes are extended on the basis of a model based on the complete control of the female body, which is considered the property and, consequently, an asset of the male family members. Sexual violence is a distinct form of violence that differs from all others in that the gender body plays a leading role. The concept of the body is a cultural, historical, linguistic and social construct, rather than it is strictly of nature, as it has provided each culture with the material basis to construct its imaginary significations, and, thus, to build political systems, systems of exploitation and power relations. The main feature of rape, which makes it different from other forms of violence, is the male rapist's conviction that he did not commit violence against the woman, since the male pleasure in the power-property relationship has been almost self-evident and able to eliminate violence to the extent that it gives a sense of legitimacy in practice. The present study was conducted at the Grevena Detention Center in Greece, after a relevant entry permit had been granted by the Ministry of Civil Protection, where three men convicted of rape were interviewed. The first rapist has been sentenced to 19 years for raping a minor for bribery. The second has been sentenced to life in prison for raping his 3 minor children, and the third has been convicted of raping and murdering a woman and is awaiting for his case to go to appeal court. The results of the research show that the concept of rape in all three cases is different from the common belief that rape has much more to do with the imposition, control and display of force, while the act itself is more the means to the rapists, who have pointed out the role of the female body, thus trying to justify their actions with the victims' unconscious consent. Of the three different cases of rape that have been studied, it appears that the forms of male domination that give birth to rape do not take the same form in all social formations and in all kinds of social institutions, but have special features in each specific socio-cultural environment, while they penetrate their individual consciousness with different intensity.

13:30-14:30

> Session 10: Multiple (mixed) methods in approaching deviance and social control 2

Chair: Sofia Vidali, Professor, Panteion University

Presentation 1

Relations of difference in the Memoranda discourse: A discourse analysis of government and opposition leaders.

Michalis Tastsoglou, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

This analysis aims to describe what is assumed or what is not said in the political speeches that were expressed in parliamentary voting dates during the Memoranda era (2010-2018) in Greece. Whether something is said or not is a matter of power relations, since such a decision delineates what is socially

acceptable, while it subjugates the signified in a secondary or an implicit level. Therefore, the research scrutinizes relevant discourses under the scope of discourse analysis. Discourse analysis is a qualitative method that attempts to interpret the discourse of specific subjects in a suspicious manner in order to extract hidden or background meanings. Discourse analysis reveals the power relations that dictate consequent behaviors, as well as the salience of explicit ideological products. Whilst a discourse analysis could pose a wide bunch of relevant questions, the research under suggestion conscripts the question of what relations of difference are described in those political speeches that are going to be examined. Relations of difference is a term that regards relations described in a discourse, which imply a kind of inequality between institutions, persons, policies etc. A discourse- among other features- consists of such differences, which do always have effects to social structures. A common feature of relations of difference is to present the subject's interests as positive and rationale, while other ideas or suggestions are undermined as negative or are not referred in the text. The last sentence reminds us the juncture between relations of difference and social control as social practice. In 2010, the Greek parliament voted for the first Memorandum of Understanding. Two more followed in 2012 and 2015. However, the mitigation of crisis was delayed and, finally, even when the Greek state came out of this adventure, the country's GDP was reduced from 331 billion US dollars in 2009 to 228 billion US dollars in 2018. Hence, the research examines 32 political speeches that took place in eight different voting dates. Three of them concern Memorandum of Understanding voting dates, while the rest of them concern voting for Medium-term budgetary frameworks. The 32 speeches come from a prime minister, a minister of Economics, a leader of opposition, and a leader of a smaller party per each of the aforementioned dates. The results will be classified according to the subject's identity into left and right discourses, as well as governmental and oppositional.

Presentation 2

Revealing Post-truth Politics biases in social control and opinion manipulation related to deviant acts

Vaia Papanikolaou, University of Thessaly

Yiannis Roussakis, University of Thessaly

Panagiotis Tzionas, International Hellenic University

Revealing biases and assumptions hidden within Post-Truth Politics is a tedious task, since these are interwoven within the fabric of culture and civilization. They may be rooted in superstition, metaphysics, existential anxiety etc. When intentionally used for opinion manipulation or social control, aiming to keep individuals bound to conventional standards and formalized mechanisms, they are hard to detect and thus, to restore an inherent system of meaning based on facts. Post-truth politics may attack and offend the status quo and sometimes they entail violence or cruelty. They may deceive people, as served by the media, and frequently they appeal to sentimentality, banality or kitsch. They thrive under Postmodernism that has shaped a different contemporary society, full of uncertainty, instability, ambiguity and contradiction in what is now perceived as 'Liquid modernity', lacking coherent form or structure.

A multidisciplinary qualitative approach is proposed to reveal, interpret and understand such aspects of Post-truth politics related to deviant acts. In the proposed research the principles of Phenomenology, Cultural Evolution and Art are combined and integrated in a novel, three-layer, conceptual framework for qualitative analysis, as follows: in the first layer, Phenomenology principles determine intentionality in perception, with all its biases and assumptions reflected in deviant act narrations and discourses; the next layer, Cultural Evolution sheds light to these biases and assumptions by associating the new dynamics of change to the variety of preconceptions, cognitive biases and ethics of humanity through the ages; the third layer, Art, supporting beauty, form and structure, provides its tools to further scrutinize post-truth politics, as presented by the media. Thematic Analysis is used for identifying, analyzing and reporting patterns (themes) within data, in all layers.

A case study on Post-truth politics involving an incident of violent confrontation of a group of squatters (claiming they represent several socially excluded groups, in motion between occupied public places in different cities) with the heads of a Greek University, is analyzed by the proposed framework, based on facts and visual information collected through the media, for all actors involved (Universities Rectors' Association, Ministry of Citizen Protection, squatter's representatives). Hidden intentions for all parties are revealed, as also are their false and vague conceptions of causality. Deviance, power dynamics and social inequalities come into play. After removing major assumptions and biases using the proposed methodology, we conclude that communication and understanding are the only way to restore harmony and equilibrium, against manipulation and control.

Presentation 3

Exploiting the case study in research journalism

Maria-Panagiota Moraiti, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

My presentation has as its objective, the use of a case study as a research tool in research and analysis of a case that has broadly interested the media, as I view it to present quite a few advantages. First and foremost, the case study favors the multifaceted and broad examination and analysis of a case. In addition, it allows the in-depth investigation of a case through journalistic sources and archives that shed light through all possible fact angles. Since it is an investigative tool based on gathering and organizing data through the above-mentioned sources, the researcher may analyze the data through a more critical scope. Although, at first glance a case study resembles a quality methodology, it might be used as a quantitative method as well, by complementing the quality data with numerical data.

The analysis of a case that occupies the media, brings into spotlight its social extensions as it correlates directly with its socio-economic conditions. However, extra caution and attention is needed while gathering and analyzing the data to maintain and ascertain their objectivity. The researcher should study thoroughly all the data based on their content and come to accurate and safe conclusions. The huge amount of journalistic material ensures a variety of data. However, the huge amount of data is hardly manageable, so it requires constant review. At a time where there is an abundance of information and easy access in almost everything, the researcher must be extra cautious to ensure the credibility of the research. To conclude, an aspect of the subject worth mentioning is the involvement of people in sensitive social groups. The words and expressions used must not stigmatize or marginalize these people or the groups they belong to. In such cases, the researcher, like journalists, must double their attention.

Presentation 4

Challenging Social Norms; Female Fighters in the Greek Civil War.

Angeliki Petridou, International Hellenic University

The present research addresses the gendered dimension of the Greek civil war through analyzing the experiences and choices of female fighters in the Democratic Army of Greece (DAG). The study examines female memory and lived experience; social and collective commonalities are present, as well as changes in gender relations and shifts in women's social roles. A perspective of power imbalances between men and women is also showcased, along with domestication after the end of the war. The basic sources of the research are twelve interviews that I conducted with women who actively participated as armed fighters in the DGA during the Greek civil war.

More specifically, the study discusses how the women's politicization before the civil war and their armed participation in the war, are the turning points that expanded their horizons beyond their domestic worlds. Women are presented with the chance to act against gender stereotyping and masculinities and challenge the existing social norms and folkways. The formation of their political

identity is mainly created as a result of the leftist political actions of their male relatives, which indicates an active gendered hierarchy within the family. The armed participation of the women in the war allows them to deviate from their traditionally acceptable roles and grow dynamic elements of politicization and emancipation. During their time as fighters, they break free from their social defined roles. Some of them describe a sense of gender equality in the DGA while others deal with the depreciation or negativism of their fellow male comrades. Sexual relations, marriages, pregnancies, cases of rape and sexual assaults are also described by the women of the study. Yet, the dynamic elements they cultivate during the war do not actually follow them when they leave Greece as political refugees. Upon arriving in the Soviet Union and the former People's Republics, most of the women express a first resistance to marriage. But the anticipated new identity is not assimilated, and the abolition of gender segregation is not forwarded in the political area or in everyday life. Women return to their traditional gender roles as housewives and mothers and their identification with domesticity and motherhood as part of their 'nature' restricts them to the private sphere. The gendered perspective of this study highlights where the different poles of power lie, who and what moves them.

14:30-15:00

LUNCH BREAK

15:00-18:00

> Workshop: Digital methods in the research about deviance: between qualitative and big data analytics

Yannis Skarpelos, Professor, Dept. of Communication, Media and Culture, Panteion University
Elena Roinioti, Postdoctoral Researcher, Panteion University

A 3-hour workshop on methods for analyzing big data from a qualitative (and unavoidably some quantitative) point of view. A digital methods workshop in three parts: content analysis of videos, distant viewing of thousands of images in the analysis of visual culture, and natural language processing of social media content. The methods and techniques displayed may be used in a wide spectrum of disciplines and subjects. In this workshop we will focus on videos, photos and tweets related to the Capitol Riots that took place on January 6, 2021 in Washington DC. The data were obtained from several sources such as Instagram, Twitter and the Parler, a social network used by pro-Trump rioters and alt-right supporters.

Yannis Skarpelos (1hour lecture): Distant viewing of big visual corpora

The first part will be dedicated to Distant Viewing of big visual corpora, explaining the theoretical background of such an endeavor as well as the technique used upon 2,427 images collected from Instagram. Distant viewing is a parallel to the concept of 'distant reading', developed by digital Humanities in order to computationally analyze big literary corpora whilst following a tradition in large-scale literary history developed two centuries ago (Underwood, 2017). According to Underwood the concept of distant reading "underlines the macroscopic scale of recent literary-historical experiments, without narrowly specifying theoretical presuppositions, methods, or objects of analysis". In the same vein, a recent understanding of distant viewing describes it as "a methodological and theoretical framework for studying large collections of visual material (...) making explicit the interpretive nature of extracting semantic metadata from images" (Arnold & Tilton, 2019). We will develop the basic ideas behind the concept of distant viewing, the possible outcomes for academic

research, and showcase an exemplar analysis of the images collected from Instagram to provide some possible explanations.

Elina Roinioti (1hour lecture): Analysing user-generated videos from Capitol Riots: Methodology notes on video data analysis

The second part will focus on the uses of video analysis and video elicitation techniques. During the Capitol Riots social networks like Parler, were flooded with video footage from protestors, outside and inside the Capitol. In the context of visual sociology, these videos will be reframed as critical documentation regarding the social practices, settings and symbols that framed the events of January 6th, 2021. Our goal is to discuss the potential and constraints of repurposing user-generated videos and the methodological steps from sampling to transcribing and coding video data. Video elicitation, as a qualitative research method that uses video as a mean of “narrativization of identity” (Holiday, 2000) through practices of reflexive-ethnography, will provide extra methodological tools for participants.

Yannis Skarpelos (1 hour lecture): Natural Language Processing of Social Media Content

The third part will turn to the analysis of linguistic content, and the use of computational tools for natural language processing, involving modeling the topics to be found in the tweets posted during the day the riots took place, and measuring their emotional content. Natural Language Processing (in short NLP) has been developed by computational linguistics in order to understand big linguistic corpora. While akin to distant reading, when confronting social media content, the method has to answer to different challenges. Topic modeling allows for mapping topics discussed by social media users, while sentiment analysis allows for understanding their emotional charge. We will develop the basic ideas behind those two methods and experiment with the corpus of tweets.

Aim: The aim of the workshop is to present a spectrum of tools and methods to be used in social sciences, as well as to show their interoperability in the context of designing a single research.

18:00-19:00 > Session 11: Visual and kinesics approaches in criminology

Chair: Dimitris Akrivos, Lecturer in Media Law, University of Essex

Presentation 1

A popular criminology of video games in the COVID-19 era: exploring crime, justice and pandemics in 'The Last of Us' franchise

Dimitris Akrivos, University of Essex

Mainstream academic criminology has largely examined video games through a narrow ‘media effects’ frame which, drawing on ‘signal crimes’ like Stefan Pakeerah’s murder in the UK or the Columbine High School shooting in the USA, over-emphasises the alleged causal link between virtual and real-life violence and the consequent risks for susceptible young people. Apart from often relying on questionable research methods and inconclusive evidence, this ‘media violence’ perspective is also problematic because it overlooks the cultural criminological value of video games which, due to the participatory nature of the medium, require a more active and higher emotional engagement than other ‘ready-to-consume’ popular cultural products like films, TV shows or comic books. The current paper argues that nowadays and especially in the COVID-19 era, which saw a phenomenal increase in video game sales during regional and national lockdowns, criminological enquiry needs to pay closer attention to the phenomenological experience of playing video games and assess the latter’s potential to influence gamers’ understanding of crime-and-justice-related issues. Building on Rafter’s (2007)

'popular criminology' framework which stresses popular culture's power to shed light on emotions of crime, punishment and social control that the putatively neutral academic criminology has not always been able to capture, the study looks at how the interaction with themes of crime, justice and victimhood in video games can reinforce or challenge prevalent explanations of and responses to criminal behaviour. Adopting a case study design, the research uses a combination of ethnographic content analysis and autoethnography to explore the dominant themes of gender-based violence, the victim-perpetrator cycle, retributive justice and redemptive suffering in Naughty Dog's best-selling post-apocalyptic 'The Last of Us' franchise. The study also suggests that such immersive post-apocalyptic narratives involving the outbreak of a mutated fungus infection acquire an additional connotative meaning in the context of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, giving players the opportunity to work through their social anxieties in a postmodern high-risk world where the future becomes increasingly uncertain.

Presentation 2

Gender Representations in Digital Games: The Case of League of Legends

Ioanna Kourou, National Centre for Social Research

The proposed paper focuses on gender representations in digital games. Through a case study, of the Multiplayer Online Battle Arena game titled League of Legends the paper examines certain digital 'portraits' of deviance and social control in both male and female digital representations within the above game. Due to the fact that digital games transmit messages and values of the society to participants - mainly youths - just like traditional games and toys, they contribute to the socialization process. In this way digital games influence peoples' perceptions of the gender roles, representing also conduct, appearance and abilities roles, conduct and meaning frames, as well as building mechanisms of social control. Traditionally, digital games are considered as a boyish activity and girls have been considered as the "outsiders" in the gaming process. That is, on the one hand, girls tend to refrain from those games while on the other the female gender representations promote female "portraits" in a stereotypical manner primarily as sex objects and passive or controlled in the exercise of violence. The male "portraits" on the other hand reproduce the patriarchal power structure in that they project "images" of manhood virility, physical strength and aggressiveness suitable to battle fighting. The League of Legends game has been examined through a number of hypotheses evolving around the issues of whether digital portraits promote any images of male and female deviance as well as control mechanisms and their respective characteristics. The case study has been conducted by means of digital ethnographic research and an interpretive approach is employed to understand the collected data.

Presentation 3

Cultural Topography of the Domestic Violence Against Women in Greek Media: A Visual Approach

Christina Botsou, Panteion University

The present paper wishes to contribute to the critical understanding of the visual representations of domestic violence in printed media in Greece, affecting multiple aspects of social life. The cultural topography that is described here corresponds to the image of the cultural identity of the victim and the offender as well as the depiction of the act of domestic abuse against women. The paper is based on qualitative research on visual representations of domestic violence through the daily press. Since research is still in progress, the present paper is based on newspaper clippings that were selected by sampling through the case study of a single newspaper. The material under investigation is covering the whole period of the last decade. This period is chosen as an example of a period during which Greece is undergoing multiple and successive crises; economic, refugee and sanitary.

From the beginnings of Visual Culture Studies in the 70s, to modern Visual Sociology today, the present paper aims to examine the visual aspects of identity, culture and ideology, that encourage connections to the science of sociology. Furthermore, the research focuses on the examination of the methodological and epistemological issues that rise from the study of the image as text. A primary issue that rises from the research, to be further analyzed, is the extensive usage of evaluative adjectives accompanied with the repetition of corresponding images. On second note, the present paper attempts to describe the multiple mediations of the interpretation of visual language and the transitions between virtual and textual representation. Another feature of traditional media that will be punctuated is the emancipatory function of visual sociology on the subjects, allowing them to perceive and define the experience of certain facets of social life. Finally, a finding of the study of the greek printed media, that will be explored, is the concept of violence against women as a result of cultural learning.

Presentation 4

Narrative shaping: The depiction of women victims of domestic violence via images in online newspaper articles

Dimitra Kalampaliki, National Centre for Social Research

The period before and after the first lockdown in Greece is examined in the context of researching representations, beliefs, and stereotypes surrounding domestic violence against women, through online Greek newspapers, as part of a wider research project. During the hygiene crisis due to Covid-19, an intensified news coverage and discussion about the phenomenon of domestic violence and its outbreak amid the pandemic, was underlined. The number of publications increased unprecedentedly, offering a variety of representations.

The proposed paper focuses on the images that depict women victims in these publications. The aim of this paper is targeted on the connection of the images with victimhood, the construction, and the perpetuation of stereotypical representations of victims, as well as the and the socio-political context that emerges.

In light of the above, an attempt is made to approach the issue in the context of cultural criminology, focusing on victimological and visual aspects. Cultural criminology and cultural victimology underline «the powerful presence of the visual in informing public consciousness about victimhood». The shared meanings to the public, the narratives of victimhood and the latent process of that construction lay in the core of these interdisciplinary studies. Furthermore, visual criminology focuses on the ways in which visual objects interact with crime inventing and (re)shaping one another, by casting light upon the power of images in shaping public understandings and social constructions of crime.

The methodological approach is “reading” these images as text, combined with the findings of the content analysis. In conclusion, the analysis of the images in this research discusses the various narratives shaping women victims of domestic violence. As the present project is in progress, an attempt will be made to further expand the meaning of the representations, focusing on the construction of the victim of domestic violence.

19:00-20:00

> Panel 4: The pandemic Covid 19: Legal, Medical, Health and Sociological Outcomes

Coordinator: Manos Savvakis, Associate Professor, University of the Aegean

The table aims to conceptualize certain legal, medical, psychological and sociological aspects of the pandemic Covid-19 mainly based on qualitative and mix methods approaches. Using primary and secondary sources from a variety of areas and databases, the contributions problematize some of the politics of mandatory isolation, restrictions and prohibitions imposed during the quarantine period (March 2020-April 2021). They, subsequently, propose concrete alternative and critical suggestions regarding human rights, policing, political economy, primary care, mental health, primary public care, social needs and individual responsibility.

Presentation 1

A Critical synthesis of mental health outcomes due to pandemic COVID-19 at the global landscape
Anastasia Zissi, University of the Aegean

This talk aims at presenting a critical review synthesis, at the global landscape, of the primary studies evaluating the mental health implications in regard to public health measures used for preventing nationwide the transmission of COVID-19, quarantine and isolation. The scientific community brought its attention on evaluating the impact of these two preventive measures on people's different life domains.

Critical review synthesis is a rigorous process that targets at identifying the best possible information related to the topic and critically appraised. This type of research process is expected to contribute in informing central evidence-based decision-making and in developing new outcomes, measures and concepts to capture new types of phenomena.

A range of different databases were searched that allowed us to improve access to knowledge that due to emergency conditions is possibly disseminated through special issues and editions. By screening and selection of the literature, an analysis will be conducted covering the characteristics of the study populations and conditions for quarantine and isolation, mental health outcomes together with the methodologies employed.

Presentation 2

The political economy of the COVID-19 epidemic in Greece
Elias Kondilis, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

The COVID-19 pandemic is the most severe public health threat that the world has faced over the last one hundred years, posing enormous challenges on health systems and social institutions. The aim of this paper is to review and critically analyze the development of the COVID-19 epidemic in Greece and assess the policy responses for its management from a public health perspective. The paper follows a mixed-methods, case study approach. Policy documents and secondary data from multiple official sources were collected, analysed and triangulated, addressing our research questions.

Our analysis identifies three major failures in the management of the COVID-19 epidemic in the country. The deficiencies of public epidemiological surveillance combined with the focus of public authorities on individual rather than social responsibility, led to the unsuccessful control of the epidemic despite the over-utilisation of horizontal social isolation measures by public health authorities. Prioritization of corporate profits over comprehensive protective measures in workplaces

and among vulnerable population groups, is mostly related to the increase of socioeconomic health inequalities during the epidemic in the country.

Finally, privatization and austerity of public healthcare services explain their inability to meet the demand for COVID-19 treatment and the serious disruptions in the provision of essential services to non-COVID-19 patients, both combinedly leading to the significant increase of excess mortality in Greece during the epidemic. The observed failures question the neoclassical epidemic response paradigm and highlight the need for immediate investment on public health systems, in order to effectively address the current and future public health threats and emergencies.

Presentation 3

Pandemic, Technology, and the Law: Between Public Interest and Social Need

Dimitrios Kivotidis, University of East London

In most countries the measures to deal with the pandemic were introduced through executive law-making mechanisms, which form part of the ‘law of necessity’ or ‘emergency law’. The legal positivist response to these measures accepts their proportionality and constitutionality because of their temporariness. Additionally, the technocratic legitimacy of the measures is almost unanimously accepted. We aim to show that the contradiction between health and economy, or, more accurately, between the social need for health and the partiality of economic interests, determines the scientificity of the different policy responses to the pandemic.

In order to do so, the measures will be examined as a unity of (emergency) form and (politico-economic) content. The argument is that the scientific response to the pandemic is overdetermined by politico-economic prioritisations. The politico-economic content of these measures ultimately determines their emergency form, which serves to naturalise the system’s response to the pandemic and the developing economic crisis, by making all measures appear as ‘technical’ and self-evident, as well as promoting the general interest. The depoliticising function of the emergency form means that the role of capital in rendering public health systems incapacitated through decades of underfunding and privatisation is ignored.

The above points will also serve as basis for examining the contradiction between partiality of interest and absoluteness of social need. The ‘general interest’, a central concept in emergency legislation, provides justification for the expansion of practices that rely on technological development, such as teleworking and telemedicine, on the occasion of the pandemic. Nevertheless, a close analysis of these practices reveals the partiality of economic incentives and profit-making as the constant and underlying cause for this expansion. ‘

General interest’ will be examined as a *contradictio in terminis* due to the partiality of interest and will lead to an examination of a further contradiction, between the potentiality and actuality of the use of technology. The contradiction between the potential benefits of teleworking, telemedicine, etc. and the actual uses and effects of such practices will be measured against the concept of social need. The absolute and universal character of social need, determined by the level of development of productive forces, can form the basis for a comprehensive critique of the unity of form and content of the bourgeois state and law’s response to the pandemic.

20:00-20:30

CLOSING REMARKS

SPEAKERS (alphabetical order)

NAME	Title	Affiliation
<i>AKRIVOS DIMITRIS</i>	Doctor	University of Essex
<i>ANDROULAKI EVANGELIA</i>	PhD Candidate	University of West Attica
<i>ASANAKIDI IOANNA</i>		National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
<i>BAKIRLI ERIFYLI</i>	Doctor	Metropolitan College
<i>BALCELLS MARC</i>	Professor	Open University of Catalonia
<i>BORGES GABRIELA</i>	Doctor	Faculty of Law of University of Porto
<i>BOTSOU CHRISTINA</i>		Panteion University
<i>BOUNA ANDROMACHI</i>	Doctor	University of Aegean
<i>BOZIOU GEORGIA</i>		Panteion University
<i>CHALARI ATHANASIA</i>	Doctor	University of Northampton
<i>CHALKIA ANASTASIA</i>	Doctor	National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
<i>CHARALAMPOUS IOANNA</i>	Doctor	The Hellenic Open University
<i>CHIONIS DIONYSIOS</i>	Chair	Center for the Study of Crime
<i>DA SILVA JACQUELINE CARVALHO</i>	Doctor	University of Malaga
<i>DEMERTZIS NICOLAS</i>	Professor	National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
<i>EFTHYMIΟΥ FOTEINI</i>	Lab. Staff	University of West Attica
<i>FARIA RITA</i>	Assistant Professor	University of Porto
<i>FASOULA EVDOXIA</i>	Doctor	Centre for the Study of Crime
<i>GASPARINATOU MARGARITA</i>	Assistant Professor	Democritus University of Thrace
<i>GAVALAKIS NIKOLAOS</i>	Doctor	University of Patras
<i>GIANNAKI ANGELIKI</i>	Researcher	Centre for the Study of Crime
<i>GKOUROU MARIANNA</i>	Sociologist	Greek Forensic Society
<i>GUERREIRO ANA</i>	Doctor	Faculty of Law of University of Porto
<i>KAKTINAS VYTAUTAS</i>	Doctor	Vilnius University
<i>KALAMPALIKI DIMITRA</i>	Researcher	National Centre for Social Research
<i>KARAGIANNIS NIKOLAOS</i>		University of West Attica
<i>KARAGIANNOPOULOS VASILEIOS</i>	Reader in cybercrime and cybersecurity	University of Portsmouth
<i>KARDARA AGGELIKI</i>	Doctor	CSC/National and Kapodistrian Univ. of Athens
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<i>KASAPOGLOU ANNA</i>	Doctor	Democritus University of Thrace
<i>KASPAREK BERND</i>	Researcher	University of Goettingen
<i>KILAKOS DIMITRIS</i>	Doctor	University of West Attica, University of Koinka
<i>KIVOTIDIS DIMITRIOS</i>	Doctor	University of East London
<i>KOBOTHREKAS ARISTOTELIS</i>		University of West Attica
<i>KONDILIS ELIAS</i>	Associate Professor	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
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<i>KOUIΣ DIMITRIOS</i>	Associate Professor	University of West Attica
<i>KOULOUMPI MARIA</i>	Doctor	University of West Attica
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<i>MILIONI FOTINI</i>	Doctor	EPANODOS
<i>MILLS MICHAEL</i>	Doctor	University of Kent
<i>MORAITI MARIA-PANAGIOTA</i>		Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
<i>ORFANAKI KALLIOPI</i>	Doctor	Second Chance School of Korydallos Prison
<i>PAPADOPOULOS IOANNIS</i>	Doctor	University of Portsmouth
<i>PAPANIKOLAOU GEORGIOS</i>	Assistant Professor	Teesside University
<i>PAPANIKOLAOU PELAGIA</i>	Doctor	Ministry of Justice
<i>PAPANIKOLAOU VAIA</i>	PhD Candidate	University of Thessaly
<i>PAPANIS EFSTRATIOS</i>	Assistant Professor	University of Aegean
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<i>TRIMIKLINIOTIS NICOS</i>	Professor	University of Nicosia
<i>TSIANOS VASSILIS</i>	Professor	Kiel University of Applied Sciences
<i>TSIGANOU JOANNA</i>	Director of Research	The Greek National Center for Social Research
<i>TZIONAS PANAGIOTIS</i>	Professor	University of Thessaly
<i>VIDALI SOFIA</i>	Professor	Panteion University
<i>ZISSI ANASTASIA</i>	Assistant Professor	University of the Aegean