

The Ethnography Circle

Traditional and non-traditional ways of doing ethnography

Fifth Meeting 3rd March 2021, 1500 – 1630 GMT



Workshop on Shadowing and Accessing Elites with Dr Maja Korica (University of Warwick)



Organised with the support of IKON, PPI & Warwick ESRC Doctoral Training Centre

Business elites can be defined as “those in “pivotal positions... in command of the major hierarchies and organizations of modern society” (Mills, 2000[1956]: 4). Investigating them involves examining resources they control, positions this enables, and other forms of capital this facilitates. It means “studying power and inequality – from above” (Khan, 2012: 362). Such examinations are acutely timely, given growing societal inequalities and power disparities, yet remain relatively rare in our field. This is in part due to long-standing assumptions like ‘these people will never let us observe’ (see for instance Morrill, 1995: 232; Ortnor, 2010: 218), but also due to the dearth of practical guidance from those who have overcome such supposed obstacles to spend significant time with residents of boardrooms and c-suites. The session addresses this relative absence, by sharing reflections on challenges of access, relations in the field, researcher identities, opaqueness as a situated norm, and the management of subsequent representations.



Admission is free and open to students from other institutions

Dr Maja Korica is an Associate Professor of Organisation and Management within the Organisation and HRM (OHRM) group at Warwick Business School. She specialises in corporate governance, accountability and responsibility, as well as executive management and leadership in practice. As an interdisciplinary, qualitative researcher, her work is focused on understanding dynamics of complex and rarely seen organizational settings. This is particularly at the top of corporate hierarchies (i.e. boards of directors, chief executives), and where public or societal interest is involved.

[Link to online session and readings will be provided to registered participants](#)

For information and to register please contact: ethnography@wbs.ac.uk