# Transcript – Methods Clinic 2 – February 19, 2021

My fieldwork (obs

10:27:17     From  Guillermo Caballero : What is that piece called?

10:27:53     From  Guillermo Caballero : thanks!

10:28:08     From  Aarie Glas : Krause, Peter, Ora Szekely, Mia Bloom, Fotini Christia, Sarah Zukerman Daly, Chappell Lawson, Zoe Marks, Aidan Milliff, Kacie Miura, Richard Nielsen, William Reno, Emil Aslan Souleimanov, and Aliyu Zakayo (2021), "COVID-19 and Fieldwork: Challenges and Solutions" PS: Political Science and Politics. Frist View.

10:28:17     From  Aarie Glas : MacLean, Lauren M., Robin L. Turner, Nabila Rahman, and Jack Corbett (2020), "Disrupted Fieldwork: Navigating Innovation, Redesign, and Ethics during an Ongoing Pandemic," Qualitative and Multi-Method Research 18(2): 1-8.

10:29:36     From  Janelle Wong : We can also record and share this chat so if you have thoughts or resources, please feel free to share here!

10:34:03     From  Devon Cantwell : I'd love to hear about some of the considerations folks have about the ethics of digital fieldwork! I've heard a lot of folks wrestle with this because a lot of average people engage in a lot of online spaces with a very different understanding of privacy. For example, there was a lot of backlash about a recent study where someone analyzed panels and sessions at CrimCon without notifying anyone

10:34:35     From  Jacob Thomas : I have recently received pushback from a reviewer for not drawing upon participant- observational data for an interpretive piece (although note that this was an anthropology journal where "primary" ethnographic in-person field research is the default and remote-access data is often only considered a complement). In this case I successfully justified not drawing on any such data due to the hazards of COVID even though I did not think it was really necessary at all and that my data (artwork and recorded narratives from others interview) was novel, but I was wondering if you have any additional advice once we get to the publication stage how to justify that such data is not necessary for compelling interpretive conclusion?

10:35:32     From  Angelica Johansson : Thank you!

10:37:19     From  Misbah Hyder : Hello! Thanks for sharing your experiences. The data necessary for my project heavily relies on participant observation, rather than interviews. Can we discuss how we

can adapt under COVID conditions? Since I am studying a persecuted religious community, they purposely do not have a social media presence due to security concerns.

10:39:42    From  Aida Ramusovic : Are there any ethical rules made by the community about using online data?

10:40:42    From  Robin Harper : I'm curious about limiting harm. By having a video trail, I am increasing the linking of data to persons. My IRB sees no difference. That makes things easier for me but are there ways to mitigate any potential fo harm, beyond having cameras off (which definitely changes the interview experience) or deleting the recording?

10:50:32    From  Peregrine Schwartz-Shea : Erving Goffman's insight from years ago. Email me Mohamed if you need that citation. James C. Scott is also relevant theoretically.

10:52:43    From  Rosa Krewson : I think that distinction of "online personas" is important on social media.  I'm working on a project using Twitter data on Black Lives Matter and some of the most liked tweets or retweets do not come from leaders/organizers in the BLM organization.

10:55:28    From  Milli Lake :
https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1468794120985691

10:55:30    From  Adam Koon : I would also propose that even before Goffman, the move toward symbolic interactionism including George Herbert Mead's differentiation of "I" from "me" and Cooley's "looking glass self" are also helpful for thinking about social identity.

10:55:36    From  Milli Lake : Marnie Howlett ^^

10:55:41    From  Amalie Trangbaek : @Robin Harper. If you only need the sound, I have found that it works well for me to record online interviews using a dictaphone. I have bought a conference speaker to make sure the sound of the interview is of sufficient quality and a decent dictaphone. Works well for me(:

10:57:10    From  Aarie Glas : Citation I noted: Howlett, Marnie (2021), "Looking at the 'field' through a Zoom lens: Methodological reflections on conducting online research during a global pandemic," Qualitative Research.

10:57:47    From  Janek Sunga : Dr. Glass, what was the Lee Ann Fuji citation you just mentioned?

10:58:18    From  Jose Perez : ^^
https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0022343309353097

10:58:21    From  Aarie Glas : Fujii LA. Shades of truth and lies: Interpreting testimonies of war and violence. Journal of Peace Research. 2010;47(2):231-241.

10:58:32    From  Janek Sunga : thanks

10:58:34    From  Taleed El-Sabawi : I work with Persons who Use Drugs. I worry that my sample will be significantly different if I do online interviews--it will be limited to persons who have access to a phone etc. etc. I've thought of getting an ipad for the local syringe services program, but there is also no privacy. What have others who work with vulnerable populations done?

10:58:57    From  Michelle Weitzel : https://www.apsanet.org/Portals/54/diversity%20and%20inclusion%20prgms/Ethics/Final_Principles%20with%20Guidance%20with%20intro.pdf?ver=2020-04-20-211740-153

11:01:29    From  Milli Lake : Others likely know more than me on Aida's question, but I will plug the ARC bibliography, which has a bunch of resources on digital security and ethics around data protection, some of which apply to online research, which may be useful for certain questions: https://advancingconflictresearch.com/logisticssecurityrisk

11:02:40    From  Guillermo Caballero : Thank you for sharing this Milli, this is amazing

11:03:16    From  Lucy Maycox : Hello! If we have time to discuss I would love to take up Dr Glas on his offer to talk more about online interviewing. I've had to move a lot of interviews online for my doctoral research, and have been struggling with building rapport and trust online. Any tips on how to overcome this or successful online interviewing stories would be very welcome!

11:04:05    From  Ellie Frazier : ^^ I am in a similar position and would also appreciate hearing more about this.

11:04:09    From  Julia Radomski : ^ I second Lucy's request! Online interviewing has been a real challenge for me too.

11:06:24    From  Emily Wolff : Thank you! This (answer, plus Jacob's question) are really relevant for me too - I'm not impeded by not doing participant observation, but I am closed out of the archives due to Covid (except for 2 months).  But I am finding it possible to put forward critical arguments anyways, with predominantly secondary historical literature. I do wonder - am I doing historical research just completely wrong, if secondary literature appears sufficient for answering my questions? How

much am I missing by relying on someone else's curation of the historical record?

11:07:59    From  William Kelleher : Aarie: are all performances equally truthful?

Suppose you know intuitively that a person is dissembling?

11:08:03    From  Milli Lake : I am also going to need to leave, I am so sorry! But I wish I could stay and hear more on all of this.

11:08:23    From  Janelle Wong  to  Milli Lake(Direct Message) : OK, I will take you off the spotlight, Milli! Thank you!

11:08:49    From  Michelle Weitzel  to  Janelle Wong(Direct Message) : sorry, i realize now you were going to give me an inroad to speak! didn't mean to jump in.

11:09:02    From  Janelle Wong  to  Michelle Weitzel(Direct Message) : No, glad you did!

11:09:20    From  Janelle Wong  to  Michelle Weitzel(Direct Message) : We are like Zoom production managers : )

11:09:35    From  Taleed El-Sabawi : particularly if we work with populations that have housing instability

11:10:30    From  Michelle Weitzel  to  Janelle Wong(Direct Message) : 😊

11:11:26    From  Angelica Johansson : Sharing a blogpost I wrote reflecting on my first attempt of doing digital observation. Perhaps it will be of interest to someone: http://www.climate-loss-damage.eu/international-negotiations/on-doing-digital-ethnography/

11:12:09    From  Adam Koon : I have to run.  Thanks for an engaging conversation!

11:26:00    From  Michelle Weitzel : IMM Awards page: https://connect.apsanet.org/interpretationandmethod/awards/

11:26:18    From  Michelle Weitzel : https://connect.apsanet.org/interpretationandmethod/the-hayward-r-alker-best-student-paper-award/

11:26:27    From  Michelle Weitzel : https://mk0apsaconnectbvy6p6.kinstacdn.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/60/2020/12/Alker-Award-2021-announcement.pdf

11:26:35    From  Michelle Weitzel :
https://connect.apsanet.org/interpretationandmethod/the-charles-taylor-book-award/

11:26:40    From  Devon Cantwell : Apply for the Alker Award, grad students!

11:26:43    From  Carolyn Holmes : And we have last year's winner of the Alker Award among us! Congratulations Devon!

11:26:53    From  Michelle Weitzel : Members of the Hayward Alker awards committee for 2021 are Jeremy Menchlik, Tania Islas Weinstein, and myself.

11:27:02    From  Michelle Weitzel : Members of the 2021 awards committee are Lisa Wedeen, Juliet Williams, and Philip Ayoub.

11:27:23    From  Aida Ramusovic :
https://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9783030708764#aboutAuthors

11:27:30    From  Michelle Weitzel : Lahra Smith, Georgetown University

"Digital Fieldwork" webpage:

http://sigla.georgetown.domains/digitalfieldwork/

11:28:39    From  Michelle Weitzel : https://www.oberlin.edu/david-forrest

11:28:45    From  Aida Ramusovic : I just shared the link for the book the Group 6 discussed. I would be thrilled to stay in touch with the group members!