

## **The Centre for Narrative Research in the Social Sciences**

### **Seminar Programme in Centre for Narrative Research 2001-02**

All seminars are from 1.00 to 2.00 and will be held in Room N230, Brooker Building, Barking Campus, University of East London.

October 1st - Ella O'Dwyer - **'Movement and split: Language and the battle for history'**

Ella O' Dwyer is a Republican ex-prisoner who has served almost fourteen years in prisons in England and Ireland. She was arrested in 1985 and charged with conspiracy to cause explosions in England. She was convicted and sentenced to life in prison and was released in 1998 under the terms of The Good Friday Agreement. Nine years of that sentence were served between Brixton and Durham jails, a period during which she gained an M.A. from Durham University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Ulster. Her doctoral dissertation, *The linguistics of power and the structuration of meaning, focussed on discourse, narrative, and the modern novel*, and is soon to be published as a book.

November 6th - Valerie Walkerdine - **'New visible fictions of femininity.'**

This talk will be at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Room 5, Keppel Street, 6.30-8.30.

Valerie Walkerdine is Foundation Professor of Critical Psychology at the University of Western Sydney Nepean. Previously, she was Professor of Psychology in the Department of Media and Communication Studies at Goldsmiths College, London. She is the author of a number of books, including *Daddy's Girl*, *Growing Up Girl* (with Helen Lucey and June Melody), and, with Lisa Blackman, *Poststructuralism, psychology and the media and Mass hysteria: Critical psychology and media studies*.

This talk will explore the production of gendered life narratives through the medium of the video diary. Drawing on work undertaken by Maria Pini and Walkerdine, it will examine the diaries as new visible fictions of femininity, examining how the diaries perform femininity. The paper will also look at gaps and silences in the narratives. By relating the video diary data to interview data from the same young women and by thinking about the practices of recording (what is spoken about, what is not, when the camera is switched on, when it is switched off) it will explore debates about depth and surface in discursive and narrative work.

November 19th - Barbara Einhorn - **'Nation, landscape and identity in narratives of exile and return'**

Barbara Einhorn is Director of Women's Studies at the University of Sussex. She is the author of many works on East-Central Europe, including *Cinderella goes to the market: Citizenship, gender and women's movements in East Central Europe* (Virago 1993). Her paper will be based on oral testimonies and written narratives of German Jewish Marxist women who were driven out of their homeland by German fascism, yet returned after the end of World War II, dedicated to the building of a socialist society.

December 10th - Laura Miller - **'Race and rape: Portrayals of inter-racial sex in fascist ideology.'**

Laura Miller completed her doctoral dissertation, "Ideological Themes of Eugenics and Gender in Contemporary British Fascism: A Discursive Analysis," with Prof. Michael Billig at Loughborough University. Having lectured for two years in the Department of Human Relations at UeL, she is currently Research Fellow in the Department of Media and Communications at Goldsmiths College, London, where she is researching the "fictions of autonomous selfhood" in lifestyle magazines.

February 11th - Marion Smith - **Sentimental bonds: Three girls talk about bullying**

Marion Smith is a Research Fellow at Keele University. The work she will discuss is part of an ESRC-funded project "Moral education and the cultures of punishment: A study of children's discourse." Her previous work has been on the communicative value of words used to describe pain and suffering, and the role of language in experiences involving pain.

March 4th - Geoff Cooper - **Locating the mobile**

Geoff Cooper is Senior Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Surrey. His research interests are in Science and Technology Studies, and in Social Theory. He is currently leading a project 'The socio-technical shaping of mobile multimedia communications', which will be the basis for a co-authored book to be published by Berg.

April 1st - Candy Yates - **'I am not Spartacus.' Michael Douglas, rivalrous masculinity and narratives of male jealousy in popular film'**

Candida Yates is a lecturer in Psychosocial studies at UEL Her research interests lie in the field of gendered subjectivities and cultural change and she is completing a doctoral thesis on the formations of jealous masculinities in Hollywood film and late modernity. She is a member of the Psychoanalytic studies journal editorial team and has also published in the field more broadly.

April 29th - Pippa Dell - **The games boys play: Stories of adolescent masculinity**

Pippa Dell is a Principal Lecturer in the Psychology Department at the University of East London, where she teaches critical social psychology. Her research is informed by feminist post-structuralist theories and has focused on such topics as women's experience of hysterectomy, domestic violence and sexuality.

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