

Newsletter



Issue 4
July 2018

Welcome to the third edition of the ESA RN5 newsletter. In this newsletter we would like to point out recent and upcoming events, share a fair amount of recent publications by our prolific network members, as well as news on projects and teaching related to the sociology of consumption.

Upcoming events

ESA 2019 – EUROPE AND BEYOND: BOUNDARIES, BARRIERS AND BELONGING

14th Conference of the European Sociological Association
20-23 August 2019, Manchester / UK



ESA 2019 Conference Agenda online!

The programme for the 14th ESA conference in Manchester features 700+ sessions.

Browse the [Conference Programme on ConfTool](#).

You can:

search for KEYWORDS (“Brexit”, “digital” etc.) and names

browse the list of AUTHORS (click on ‘Authors’ in the yellow navigation bar)

FILTER for specific Research Networks / Streams / Plenaries (where it says ‘Filter by Track or Type of Session’)

click on the (+) symbol for sessions you would like to attend (visible only when you are logged in to your ConfTool account) – this adds sessions to ‘MY AGENDA’ through which you can prepare your conference attendance and create your own programme!

HELP: You cannot find your own presentation or name?

The conference agenda is constantly updated. Enjoy finding your preferred sessions!

The papers submitted to RN05 are all assigned to sessions. Please note that we also have joint sessions with RN09 and RN24.

You are also very welcome to the **Business Meeting** of RN05, on Thursday August 22, at 7.30 p.m. Location: BS.G.34.

There will be the election of some new board members, among other interesting and important issues. A great opportunity for networking and hearing about our future plans, such as the interim meeting 2020!

New Sociology of Consumption Study Group: Calls for Expressions of Support – British Sociological Association

We are a group of scholars seeking expressions of support for a new BSA Sociology of Consumption Study Group, which will advance research on consumption from sociological perspectives. The Study Group will provide a productive and supportive network through which researchers working on matters relating to consumption, consumers and consumer culture can meet to present research findings and engage in dialogue and debate. The group will involve regional and national events from 2019 onwards.

Sociology of consumption is a diverse field and has, in recent years, included particular attention to inequalities, identity and diversity; ethical and sustainable consumption; and ‘deviant’ consumption, as well as theoretical and conceptual advances in understandings of consumer behaviour and consumption practices. The Study Group will provide a forum for addressing these substantive and theoretical issues and will aim to support the work of Postgraduate Researchers and Early Career Researchers as well as established academics working in this area.

Please contact any of the Co-Convenors to express interest in the Study Group by 4th January 2019. The Co-Convenors will be Dr Irmak Karademir-Hazir (ihazir@brookes.ac.uk; Oxford Brookes University), Dr Emma Casey (emma.h.casey@northumbria.ac.uk; Northumbria University) and Dr Thomas Thurnell-Read and Dr Adrian Leguina (a.leguina@lboro.ac.uk and t.thurnell-read@lboro.ac.uk; both Loughborough University).

Launch Event of BSA Consumption Study Group London, UK. November 29, 2019

We are delighted to share with you the call for papers for the launch event for the new BSA Consumption Study Group. The event, "Rethinking Consumption", will take place at the BSA Meeting Room at Imperial Wharf in London on 29th November 2019 and we have two excellent keynote speakers confirmed - Prof Gerda Reith (Glasgow University) and Prof Lydia Martens (Keele University). Please see the attached flyer for further details of the event and the process for submitting an abstract for consideration. Further details relating to registration for speakers and non-presenting attendees will be circulate near to the date.

Invitation To Conference: Grandparenting. Intergenerational Relations In Consumer Society Aalborg, Denmark. September 6, 2019, from 9:30-18:00

Even though grandparents play an important role in many families and even though grandparents spend considerable time, energy and money on their grandchildren, little is known about contemporary grandparent/grandchild

relations. It is well-documented that grandparents with active contact to their grandchildren live longer, and that children with active contact to their grandparents become more sociable, but still these intergenerational relations have not really caught academic interest in any depth.

Contemporary grandparents' and grandchildren's relations are immersed in consumption practices, and consumption is seen as an important lens to study these relations. Grandparent/grandchild togetherness is important for society, for practitioners working with intergenerational relationships and for researchers in topics related to family.

In a one-day conference grandparents' and grandchildren's relationship in contemporary consumer society is on the agenda. The conference is aimed at academics, practitioners in non-profit work, public or political organizations and the corporate sector working with grandparents and grandchildren in some capacity or other.

More info at <https://www.en.hum.aau.dk/events/view/invitation-to-conference--grandparenting.-intergenerational-relations-in-consumer-society.cid384535>

Call for papers

Textbook on sustainable consumption teaching in higher education

We are a team of scholars working in the field of sustainable consumption, putting together a textbook for teaching - complementary to Lucie Middlemiss' new book - with a focus on creative and innovative approaches.

Did you attend the short talks on teaching the sociology of consumption at the RN5 midterm meeting in Copenhagen? Do you have ideas or approaches you want to share on how you teach, in relation to consumption and sustainability? We are seeking teaching examples for the second part of an edited book and invite you to share yours via a short survey at the link below.

It should only take 10 minutes to complete and, if chosen, then we will be in touch for further details and invite you to be a co-contributor to the book (although there is no commitment to this if you would rather not).

You can find the link here:

<https://forms.gle/n7K2iEjdM9awqsuw8> and have until August 15 to complete the survey.

We look forward to hearing from you and finding out about the innovative teaching that goes on around the topic of sustainable consumption!

For further information, please contact marlyne.sahakian@unige.ch. - Marlyne Sahakian, Jen Dyer, Daniel Fischer and Gill Seyfang

Recent Publications

Articles and Book Chapters

Balsiger P, J. Lorenzini and M. Sahakian. How Do Ordinary Swiss People Represent and Engage with Environmental Issues? Grappling with Cultural

Repertoires. Sociological Perspectives.

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0731121419855986#>

Belk R., M.Eckhardt G., Bardhi F.,

The hybrid nature of online facilitated offline sharing (in) Handbook of the Sharing Economy (ed.), London, Edward Elgar Publishing

Corvo P. in Food waste and Quality of life, in A. Bianco, P. Conigliaro, M. Gnaldi (editors), Italian studies on Quality of Life, Springer, Heidelberg, pp. 233-242.

Corvo P. with M. Fontefrancesco, Sustainable Gastronomic Tourism, in S.K. Dixit (editor), The Routledge Handbook of Gastronomic Tourism, Routledge, London, pp.209-216.

Corvo P. , Food Sovereignty and the Right of Farmers, in W.L. Filho, A.M. Azul, L. Brandli, P.G. Özuyar (editors), T. Wall, Zero Hunger, Springer, pp.1-8.

Corvo P. with R. Matacena, The New ‘online’ alternative food networks as a socio-technical innovation in the local food economy: Two cases from Milan in A. Scupola, L. Fuglsang (editors), Services, Experiences and Innovation. Integrating and Extending Research, Edward Elgar Publishing, Cheltenham Glos, pp. 301-315.

Laamanen, M. and Wahlen, S. (forthcoming) The sharing economy and lifestyle movements (in) Handbook of the Sharing Economy (ed.), London, Edward Elgar Publishing

Weingartner, Sebastian; Rössel, Jörg (2019): Changing dimensions of cultural consumption? Social space and space of lifestyles in Switzerland from 1976 to 2013. Poetics, 74: 101345

Weingartner, Sebastian (2019): Multiple paths to the opera? The social structure of decision processes in cultural consumption [German]. Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie, 75 (1): 53-79

Weingartner, Sebastian; Rössel, Jörg (2019): Changing dimensions of cultural consumption? Social space and space of lifestyles in Switzerland from 1976 to 2013. Poetics, 74: 101345

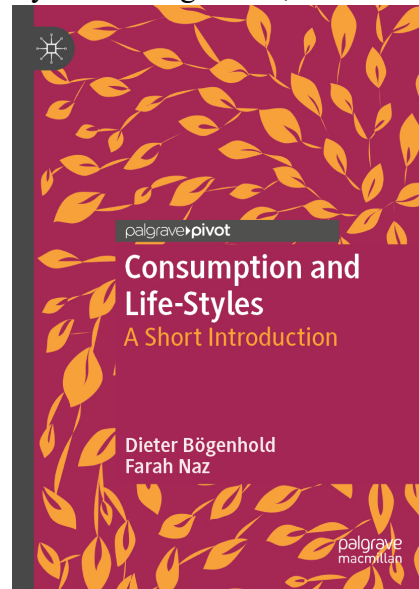
Weingartner, Sebastian (2019): Multiple paths to the opera? The social structure of decision processes in cultural consumption [German]. Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie, 75 (1): 53-79

Welch, D. and Southerton, D. (2019) “After Paris: Transitions for Sustainable Consumption” Sustainability: Science, Practice and Policy. 15 (1): 31-44

Monograph

Consumption and Life-Styles

By Dieter Bögenhold, Farah Naz



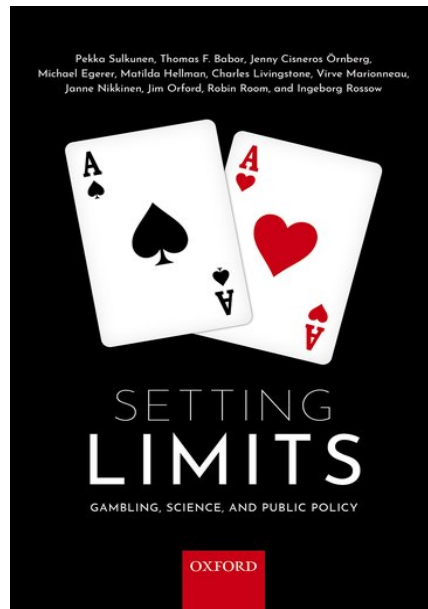
This book takes an interdisciplinary approach to the world of consumption, covering different topics and including sociological, economic and marketing aspects. The term ‘consumption’ is vague and even in academic disciplines the term is used in a variety of ways. Consumption research asks how earnings and spending are related to each other. More generally, consumption research investigates how people, social classes or societies realize their consumption practices. The question of how consistent preference structures are due to changing empirical backgrounds of time, space and related culture is frequently asked. Which context variables (historical

time, geographical framework, cultural background) specify the practice of consumption and in which way do attributes such as age, gender, class, occupation and life-style have their own impacts on the way in which consumption is realised? This book will be of interest to researchers working in economics, sociology, marketing, aesthetics and design, anthropology and communication studies.

<https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030062026>

Setting Limits - Gambling, Science and Public Policy

By Pekka Sulkunen, Thomas F. Babor, Jenny Cisneros Ornberg, Michael Egerer, Matilda Hellman, Charles Livingstone, Virve Marionneau, Janne Nikkinen, Jim Orford, Robin Room, and Ingeborg Rossow



Commercial gambling has developed into a mass consumption industry on a global scale. It is a significant source of profits but also a way of collecting money from players to public budgets and beneficiaries, mostly civil society organizations that produce services in sports, culture, social work and health care. Besides the risk of addiction, gambling engenders several kinds of harm to individuals, their environments, and society at large. Most of this harm is related to money. The greatest part comes from vulnerable and poor populations that are themselves in need of help and support.

Using a public interest framework, this book discusses policies that will minimize

the individual and collective harms. It starts reviews the historical background of modern gambling, describes its transformation into a global industry, maps out the burden of harm from the activity, and examines the factors that have an impact on that burden. Accessible scientific evidence is reviewed to evaluate the effectiveness of regulation. Excessive spending can be reduced, but this affects the total amount of money collected by the game operators. Game features, venue characteristics, and spending limits can be and are regulated, but not always in the public interest. Responsible gambling policies often serve instead the money collecting aims. Internet gambling is a challenge, but efficient methods to regulate it exist.

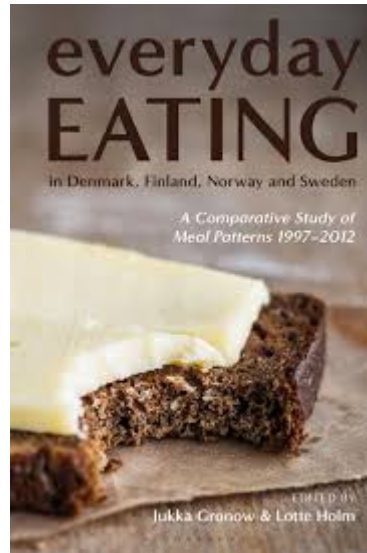
The main obstacle to successful regulation lies in the epidemiological facts presented in this book. Preventing gambling-related harm is not possible without limiting the overall volume of the activity, because problem users bring in the largest share of the money to the trade.

Treatment and support services for problem gamblers and their environments are important, but cannot solve the problem. Priority should be given to their accessibility rather than the comparative efficiency of different treatment methods.

Everyday Eating in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden A Comparative Study of Meal Patterns 1997-2012

by Jukka Gronow & Lotte Holm

"This book is a must-read for researchers and students working in the sociology of food. Eating is treated as a social phenomenon in its own right, and the book covers all of the key issues. The cutting-edge, theoretically informed analyses of eating in modern everyday lives are based upon solid and systematic empirical comparison, not only across the different Nordic



countries, but also across time." Bente Halkier, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

"Important and insightful, benefiting from a rare opportunity to conduct a re-study of eating habits and routines, this book provides a detailed and systematic comparative picture of continuity and change in eating practice across the Nordic countries. It is a study with wide substantive and methodological significance for the sociology of food and eating." Alan Warde, University of Manchester, UK

The chapters in this volume concentrate on the mundane and ordinary eating practices of the everyday, showing how these are linked to change in modern society. The contributors present a collection of systematic empirical results from a unique study based on representative samples of four Nordic populations - Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden - conducted at two time points, 15 years apart. The results of this unprecedented longitudinal survey leads the contributors to question many commonly held beliefs about the presumed and feared collapse of the traditional eating habits, family meals, and regular meal patterns. As the social organization of eating is in many ways related to developments in other social institutions such as family, education, and work, chapters provide interesting insights into contemporary society, with key topics selected for scrutiny including gender, food types, diet and health, and cooking practices. Additionally, the chapters highlight changes in the gendering of food practices and signs of increasing informality around meals.

Call for reviews and contributions

Call for contributions - Textbook on *sustainable consumption teaching in higher education*.

We are a team of scholars working in the field of sustainable consumption, putting together a textbook for teaching - complementary to Lucie Middlemiss' new book - with a focus on creative and innovative approaches. Did you attend the short talks on teaching the sociology of consumption at the RN5 midterm meeting in Copenhagen? Do you have ideas or approaches you want to share on how you teach, in relation to consumption and sustainability? We are seeking teaching examples for the second part of an edited book and invite you to share yours via a short survey at the link below. It should only take 10 minutes to complete and, if chosen, then we will be in touch for further details and invite you to be a co-contributor to the book (although there is no commitment to this if you would rather not). You can find the link here: <https://forms.gle/n7K2iEjdM9awqsuw8> and have until August 15 to complete the survey.

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- Marlyne Sahakian, Jen Dyer, Daniel Fischer and Gill Seyfang

Sciences Po is recruiting an assistant professor (tenure track) in sociology with a focus on market techniques

CSO aims to strengthen its research on the sociology of market techniques (marketing, publicity, sales, merchandising, mediaplanning ...), through a critical analysis of the theories, instruments, knowledge forms and effects of these techniques; and via an exploration of the academic disciplines, professional spaces and markets associated with these techniques – along with their evolution since their inception during the inter-war period. More information at

http://www.cso.edu/fiche_actu.asp?langue=en&actu_id=2366

Opportunities

Vacancy for an assistant or associate professor Consumption and Healthy Lifestyles at Wageningen University, the Netherlands.

<https://www.wur.nl/en/vacancy/AssistantAssociate-Professor-Consumption-and-Healthy-Lifestyles-tenure-track.htm>

The Professorship for Food Sociology (Dr. Stefan Wahlen), **Institute for Consumer Studies, Faculty of Agriculture, Nutrition and Environmental Management**, invites applications for a part-time position of 75% of the full-time equivalent being available as of November 1st, 2019 as a **Researcher**

<http://www.inst.uni-giessen.de/stellenmarkt/pdf/stelle0012102.pdf>

About ESA RN5

The research network addresses consumption in its social, cultural, symbolic, economic, political and material dimensions. It welcomes theoretical, methodological and empirical contributions to the study of consumption in a large range of areas: sustainability, political consumption, fashion, food and eating, tourism, culture, bodies, technology etc. In doing so, it intersects with other sociological fields, such as economic sociology, sociology of health, the family, gender, age and generations, the study of space and cities, or social stratification. Thereby the research network contributes to societal debates on contested and challenged aspects of consumption and assists in advancing associated policy measures and societal developments.

*Follow us on
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Twitter
@esa_rn5soccons*



See you at our conference in Manchester next summer!

On behalf of the RN5 Board Members:

Terhi-Anna Wilska, Coordinator, Finland, University of Jyväskylä
Arne Dulsrud, Co-coordinator, Norway, SIFO - Consumption Research
Norway Stefan Wahlen, Co-coordinator, the Netherlands, Wageningen
University

Emma Casey, United Kingdom, Northumbria University

Piergiorgio Degli Esposti, Italy, University of Bologna

Adrian Leguina Ruzzi, United Kingdom, Loughborough University

Marlyne Sahakian, Switzerland, University of Geneva

Marie Plessz, France, French National Institute for Agricultural Research

Luke Yates, United Kingdom, University of Manchester

<https://www.europeansociology.org/research-networks/rn05-sociology-consumption>