

Family, Gender and Sexuality

Seminar

LGBT-Parent Families and Research Methods to Study Intimacy and Personal Relationships

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Discussant

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Room B3

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Using qualitative multiple methods can open up new insights on intergenerational relationships and the experience and meanings of parenthood and childhood in LGBT-parent families. Here I will introduce how combining traditional qualitative research methods (such as the semi-structured interview) with new approaches (such as participatory techniques involving diaries and visual methods) can generate rich and multidimensional data on the intersecting dimensions of family relationships. Through this combination of techniques, it is possible to map the emotional geography of households and facilitate children's equal participation in family research. I will draw on a range of empirical data from three research projects to demonstrate the analytical rewards that are offered through creativity in research design - *Perverting Motherhood? Sexuality and Lesbian Parenthood; Behind Closed Doors: Sexuality and Intimacy in Families; Enduring Love? Couple Relationships in the 21st Century.*

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