Abstract:

This article traces methodological discussions of a multi-disciplinary team of researchers located in universities and community settings in Toronto, Ontario. The group designed and conducted a research project on the enforcement of labor standards in Ontario, Canada. Discussion of methodological possibilities often began with notes; that is, consensus on methodological approaches the team collectively rejected. Out of these discussions emerged suggestions and approaches through which we navigated dilemmas in research design. Three such knots are presented in this paper, specifically: (a) epistemological tensions around mixed methods and the politics of mixing; (b) the attempt to capture the relationships between research and its impact; and, (c) the need to develop interviews which both establish respondents as knowers, and simultaneously focus on that which is unsaid/normalized.