



CFP: BSA Social Aspects of Death, Dying and Bereavement Study Group Annual Symposium

Friday 13 November 2015, London

Methodology: Researching Death, Dying and Bereavement

Drawing on discussions from previous events where people have shared their personal experiences, this year's DDB symposium will focus on **conducting research** in the field of dying studies. We invite papers that will encourage the audience to learn and reflect on any of the following areas:

- **Using research methods** - including innovative methods (e.g. visual and sensory methods); mixed method studies; the use of quantitative approaches to research; and auto-ethnography
- **Boundaries of research** - such as what is regarded as a death and dying study (or not), and how these vary according to discipline; role(s) of the researcher and the researched; and the use of the 'd' word
- **Emotion(al) work** - for example raising questions about whether researchers can grieve for their participants, and/or memorialise/ remember them; how researchers manage sudden death; the impact of bereavement on the researcher
- **Reflexivity** - such as what this actually means in practice; how this can benefit/limit research findings; and issues of credibility
- **Identity** - including that of the researcher and research participants
- **Cultural context** - including different understandings of death, dying and bereavement and how these might impact on doing cross-cultural/comparative research
- **Research ethics** - including gate-keeping; the perceived vulnerability of people in receipt of end of life care services; intrusion; issues of confidentiality; capacity and consent
- **Political context** - such as funding (lack of?) for research on end of life care services/ issues
- **The power of medicine** - such as the challenges of conducting research on death, dying and bereavement in a medical/clinical environment

Abstracts of up to 250 words are to be submitted by **5pm Monday 14th September 2015** to BSADDB@gmail.com. Presentations will be 20 minutes long with additional time for questions.

The symposium will be held on **Friday 13th November 2015** at the BSA meeting room at Imperial Wharf, London. More details about the study group can be found here: <http://www.britisoc.co.uk/specialisms/DDB.aspx>

PLEASE NOTE: We are also organising a special issue for the journal *Mortality* on the theme of doing research. There will be a separate call for papers for the special issue and we would encourage people interested in the symposium to consider submitting a paper to the special issue. More details to follow in late 2015.

For more information, contact BSADDB@gmail.com