

## Qualitative Social Work: Research and Practice

### Invitation to contribute to a special issue on “Social Work and Anthropology: Traversing, Trading and Translating Across Boundaries.”

We invite papers for a special issue on “Social Work and Anthropology: Traversing, Trading and Translating Across Boundaries.”

In this issue, we explore diverse modes of exchange, translation, conflict, and collaboration between anthropology and social work. Anthropologists have long contributed to social work research and theory, particularly with respect to the profession’s engagement with cultural diversity and international interventions. At the same time, the field of social work has served as an important interlocutor for anthropologists as they grapple with the role of “intervention” or “engagement” in scholarship. In some traditions globally, the two fields differ in many ways and can be difficult to bring into conversation. In others, they have long been closely allied.

We seek papers that investigate critically the convergences and/or disjunctures that arise from attempts to facilitate fruitful exchange across this particular interdisciplinary border.

For example, we seek empirical and conceptual papers that:

- Traverse** the disciplinary and professional boundaries that divide these two fields
- Translate** between the different literatures, ideologies, and projects in each field,
- Trade** in ideas, questions, or insights that may be valued differently by each field, or
- Trouble** assumptions about where the boundaries between the two fields lie.

We aim to build a collection of papers that cover a broad range of anthropological and social work scholarship. We welcome papers that take up traditions of social work and anthropology from the Global South.

We welcome research on the broadest range of social work practices, including therapeutic interventions, case work, community organizing, social administration, and policy advocacy. The study of “social work” could include research on professional social workers, but could also include studies of activists, home care workers, social service agencies or other related fields.

Engagement with anthropology is also broadly conceived. We seek to include anthropological subfields such as biological anthropology, archaeology, linguistic anthropology, and socio-cultural anthropology. Note, however, that we do not take cultural anthropology to be synonymous with ethnography. Papers should look beyond the ethnography of social work to also think about how, for example, anthropological theories, research questions, or political quandaries intersect with social work concerns.

Articles should be no longer than 8500 words and in accordance with the guidelines and submission requirements for articles in Qualitative Social Work and should be submitted at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/qsw> by **February 15, 2020**. Please refer to the journal

guidelines and submission requirements for these articles (<http://qsw.sagepub.com>). Authors should include a brief statement at the head of the article indicating it is for this special issue. Also when submitting the article on SageTrack you will be asked if the article is for a special issue, and should check 'yes'. The usual review process will apply.

The journal is planned for publication early in 2021. Enquiries about this special issue can be directed to the guest editors or the journal editors. The guest editors are:

**Matthew Chin**, Fordham University, ([mchin17@fordham.edu](mailto:mchin17@fordham.edu) )

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