The Sociology of Human Rights

Special Issue Call for Papers
Deadline for submissions: 31 July 2011

This special issue, to be published in October 2012, addresses human rights as a crucial theme for contemporary sociology globally. The concept of human rights has become pervasive. Whether endorsed or criticised, it poses a challenge to which sociology must respond.

Contributions should address any aspect of human rights in any specific or general context worldwide, while also engaging with sociological research in a sustained way.

Possible themes include:
- New sociological research on human rights contraventions
- Human rights activism and activist sociology
- Relationships and gulfs between human rights ideals and lived experiences
- Civil, political, economic, social, cultural and ‘solidarity’ (environment, development, peace) rights
- Human rights law, norms, institutions, regimes, discourses and practices
- Equality and human rights in the United Kingdom, Europe and globally
- Human rights, citizenship, social policy and welfare; human rights and education
- Sociology’s relationship to normative human rights theories
- Human rights and multiple social inequalities: raciality, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, religion, disability, age, migration, national minorities
- The sociology of human rights in the shadow of war and conflict
- Human rights, cosmopolitanism, colonialism, imperialism and militarism
- The sociology of genocide and gross human rights violations
- Human rights, social movements and non-governmental organisations
- Meanings and practices of development, especially in the global South
- Human rights, subjectivity and experiences of entitlement and agency
- Classical and contemporary social theory, the human and rights, from Marx; post-structuralism and governmentalities; Agamben’s states of exception
- Methodologies, methods and ethics in research on human rights
- Political repression, torture and exploitation

The special issue will be edited by the BSA Sociology of Rights Study Group
Convenors:
Patricia Hynes (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children); Michele Lamb (Roehampton University); Damien Short (Institute of Commonwealth Studies) and Matthew Waites (University of Glasgow).
The editors welcome contributions engaged with sociology from early career and established academics, and from those engaged with sociology but working in other disciplines or outside academia (such as human rights activists and practitioners).

**Submission details:**
Deadline for submissions: 31 July 2011 (full papers)
Word limit: 7000 words
Queries: matthew.waites@glasgow.ac.uk
Submissions will be accepted via http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/soc

Full submission instructions are available on this site on the ‘Instructions and Forms’ page. Please read these in full well before submitting your manuscript.

All manuscripts will be subject to the normal referee process, but potential authors are welcome to discuss their ideas in advance with the editors.