



University of
Western Sydney

CENTRE FOR
CULTURAL RESEARCH

CCR Seminar Series 2010

Mona Livholts

(Associate Professor, Mid Sweden University)

Gender, Space and the Telephone

Date

October 28, 2010

Time

3pm - 4:30pm

Venue

Gallery
Female Orphan School
Building EZ
Parramatta Campus
([view map](#))

RSVP

Ruth Harrison
r.harrison@uws.edu.au

Christina Loganathan
c.loganathan@uws.edu.au

Apologies

Cameron McAuliffe
c.mcauliffe@uws.edu.au

Greg Noble
g.noble@uws.edu.au

[View 2010 Seminar
schedule](#)

In a globalised and networked world there is an increasing interest among feminist scholars within the humanities and social sciences about how space becomes gendered and the ways people create meeting places and form social, economic and emotional relations. In regard to this, the area of information communication technologies has received much attention, particularly in regard to computers, internet use and the question of the digital divide. However, within the field of communication studies there has been less interest on gender and the telephone. This seminar will focus on using the medium of the telephone to contribute toward a textual and visual methodology, which theorises ways in which space becomes gendered. By using research diary, memory work and photography the researchers explore the fragmented, situated, transgressive and transformative function of this medium. This includes gendered and other power relations situated in-between geographies and landscapes which they connect and change. The seminar exemplifies how genre-transgressive methodologies that include textual and visual production of data in the context of women's everyday lives allow theorisation of technological use of, in particular mobile phones. The findings point toward the crucial impact of emotions in the construction of multiple and gendered spatialities. Transformative agency of emotions means that places, and memories as well as dimensions of power that shapes life such as for example gender, age, and geographical situatedness intersect in complex ways.

Mona Livholts is Associate Professor of Social Work and Research Fellow of Social Work specialising in Gender Studies at Mid Sweden University, and the founder and coordinator of the international interdisciplinary research network for Reflexive Academic Writing Methodologies (R.A.W.):

<http://www.miun.se/raw>. She is author of: "*Vanlig som vatten*" *Manlighet och normalitet i mediernas berättelser om våldtäkt* ["As normal as water" Masculinity and normality in media representations of rape] (Gleerups, 2007) and co-editor of *Genus och det akademiska skrivandets former* [Gender and forms of academic writing] (Studentlitteratur, 2007). Inspired by poststructuralist feminist theory, literary fiction and visual analysis, Livholts has introduced the untimely academic novella as a new form of genre-transgressive personal narrative (*International Review of Qualitative Research* May 2010 and *Life Writing* September 2010). In a series of interviews with researchers about their writing, she also elaborates on ideas of post/academic writing as a contemporary academic condition of multiple and shifting interdisciplinary strategies of writing research. Livholts is guest editor (with Bränström Öhman) of a forthcoming Special Issue of *NORA, Nordic Journal of Gender and Feminist Research 2010: "Writing Change? Challenges for Feminist and Gender Studies"* and editor of a book project on alternative and new writing methodologies for feminist studies with members of the R.A.W. network.