



Call for papers

Where the rivers meet: Sharing ethical research experiences in social justice, social welfare, community work, social policy, and social work

A special issue to be published in 2023 by
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Co-Editors:

Ana M. Sobočan, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
Ian Calliou, University of Manitoba, Canada

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They have a place in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada where three rivers meet. For thousands of years this place has been a meeting place of different cultures, societies, and peoples. It was the heart of transcontinental trade routes, its location in the geographic centre of Turtle Island. Goods were traded, but also an exchange of knowledges, practices, and experiences. When Europeans arrived, they too traded with the many communities. When these nations and peoples made this journey to this place it was an endeavour. Their return on this labour was only fruitful by the assumption that what was traded would not be arbitrarily devalued. That the journey itself served as a sort of stripping away of power imbalances to reside at a place of mutual benefit. What each group brought would be unique, embedded in their contexts and cultures, and in demand to the others who arrived. Its value recognized based on inimitability derived from the origins of that knowledge/experience. What each brought was valued and the trades reflected that.

To engage in research processes is already to be engaging with ethical complexity. It is an endeavour marked by privilege and authority, prone to misconduct, and shaped by responsibility and relationships. Power, agency, ethical, social, and cultural issues undeniably permeate all research, and it is important that questions of practise in research and the foundations of research are addressed along a broad spectrum of issues that include research processes, methods and purposes, forms of interpretation, and issues related to the values and ethical choices of those conducting the research. Research ethics brings complexity to research processes. While the norms and principles of research (often) seem very simple, dilemmas and controversies abound in research practise. Conducting research and with integrity means conducting research responsibly and in a morally defensible manner, while adhering to relevant ethical principles. Many researchers would certainly agree that the ethical perspective needs to go beyond a legalistic and codified understanding of research ethics to consider the socio-political embeddedness of ethical principles and how research can serve as a means of providing knowledge, interrogating social justice, realising human rights and mobilising social equality and inclusion.

In this context, the journal *Ethics and Social Welfare* seeks to publish a special issue dedicated to promoting exchange and discussion on issues, challenges, and problems – as well as experiences, practises, and strategies – arising from the conducting of research. Conducting research means anticipating and responding to dilemmas, taking considerations into account (at every stage of the research process) and developing awareness in research issues. While this topic has received increasing attention in recent decades, this has tended to concentrate on particular dilemmas and experiences that certain research domains are more likely to encounter and uncover. The aim of the proposed special issue is to explore and discuss issues specifically related to the ethical conduct of research in social justice, social work, community work, social welfare, social policy, and related areas.

This call is meant to replicate that meeting place, where the three rivers meet at the heart of a continent. Researchers at all instances, the communities they work with, and the peoples who carry the knowledges and wisdom from practice and experience are asked to make the journey to this meeting place. That each of those who choose to make the journey is evidence enough that the value of their reflections will barter fair trade, that the uniqueness of their research practices and reflections derived from their own contextual centre is evidence of its value. At this meeting place, this special issue, we endeavour to hold an account of traditional, re-claimed, re-stated, or re-imagined ethical research practice. Here at this meeting place, we seek not to extract for individual benefit, but exchange and honour embedded and lived ethical research experiences.

Call for authors to submit a paper:

We welcome contributions on ethical considerations related to research from a range of disciplines, most notably on researching issues in ethics, social work, community work, social welfare, and social policy. Authors are invited to consider submitting papers corresponding to topics below and beyond them:

- Contextually embedded, owned, navigated, and deployed research practice.
- Experiences in research embedded in, befitting for, presented by, and engendered from communities, peoples, and populations.
- Considerations in all stages of research: from inception to post-publication.
- Researching across cultures: issues of power, voice, and knowledge construction.
- Research across/between/within groups and sections of communities.
- The ethics of knowledge.
- Research and social justice: roles, values, and responsibilities.
- Ethical issues inside research settings: observing unethical behaviour, unjust practices.
- Researchers' positionalities and situatedness (including academic research, practitioner research, research by experts by experience): tensions, hierarchies, and challenges.
- Conflicts of interests and conflicting responsibilities in research: participants, communities, funders, colleagues.
- Centring ownership, benefit, and reward in research.

- Research impact and scientific/societal benefits: adverse findings, dissemination practices, challenges of reporting.
- Theoretical conceptualization of social work / community work / social welfare / social policy research.

A range of styles can be considered, besides research-based articles, also debates and commentaries on contemporary research practices and policies. Academic papers should be up to 6000 words in length and commentaries and practice papers up to 4000 words.

Journal's instructions for authors are available on the journal website (www.tandfonline.com/resw), and authors are kindly asked to follow them.

All academic papers will be double-blind peer-reviewed. Practice papers and other material will be considered for publication by the editors and subject to review.

Call is available also at: <https://express.adobe.com/page/YTKh7VljGh1s6/> and <https://www.tandfonline.com/journals/resw20>

Procedure and timelines

1. Abstracts should be submitted by **April 1st, 2022**, via email to Ana M. Sobočan: ana.sobocan@fsd.uni-lj.si or Ian Calliou : ian.calliou@umanitoba.ca

Abstracts should be between 300-500 words.

2. Authors will be notified by 15th April 2022 of acceptance of abstract and invitation to submit a full paper. Important: all papers will undergo standard peer-review procedures, and those deemed publishable will be offered publication either in the special issue or in a consecutive issue (the latter will first be published online).
3. Deadline for submission of full papers 15th August 2022. All submissions should be made online at the Ethics and Social Welfare Scholar One Manuscripts Website Author's Centre (follow the link *Submit an Article*).
4. Notification of acceptance/acceptance subject to revisions by 15th December 2022.
5. Revised manuscripts to be submitted by 15th February 2023.
6. Notification of acceptance for full publication by 15th May 2023.
7. Publication August 2023.