

The Institute for Sociology, Centre for Social Sciences, HAS
cordially invites you to its fortieth *Jour fixe* event:

Natasha S. Mauthner:

**The *Listening Guide* feminist method of narrative analysis:
Towards a posthumanist performative (re)configuration**

Academic symposium

Presenter: Natasha S. Mauthner

(Professor, Business School, University of Aberdeen)

Discussant: Judit Acsády (Institute for Sociology, CSS HAS)



Abstract

Mauthner's chapter suggests that normative ways of enacting research methods in the social sciences treat methods as readymade techniques for discovering preexisting realities. This representational configuration is contrasted with performative approaches in which methods are understood as constituting, rather than describing, realities. Inspired by the work of North American feminist physicist and philosopher, Karen Barad, Mauthner develops a 'posthumanist performative' approach to method. On this account, methods are understood as dynamic and open-ended practices that necessarily embody and enact specific, historically- and culturally-contingent, conceptual assumptions that help create realities in line with these assumptions. Mauthner illustrates her approach through a case study of Brown and Gilligan's (1992) *Listening Guide* feminist method of narrative analysis, a method that she suggests was constituted by, and constitutive of, second-wave feminism and its representational identity-politics and voicegiving philosophical, theoretical, methodological and political project.

Keywords

performativity, feminism, narrative analysis

Venue: Institute for Sociology, Centre for Social Sciences, HAS,
Hegedüs room, Budapest I. Úri u. 49.

Date: 5 November, 2015 (Thursday), 1p.m.