

Proposal Title: **Politicizing Emotionality in Social Science Research**

Editors: Mirna Carranza<sup>1</sup>, Giovanni Hernández-Carranza<sup>2</sup> and Elizabeth Grigg<sup>3</sup>

Goal: To illustrate the emotional implications of working amidst extreme violence outside of the Global North or with people from the Global South settled in the Global North.

Type: Edited book collection

Abstract Submission Deadline: Send to [carranz@mcmaster.ca](mailto:carranz@mcmaster.ca) by November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Successful authors will be notified by January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Chapter Deadline: May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Requirements: Chapters are expected to be 30 pages, to a maximum of 35 (references included), double spaced. APA format.

**Call for Abstracts:** We call on social scientists whose experiences in research spaces are steeped in violence and/or have experiences with research participants whose lived realities are shaped by social/political/economical violence. This book challenges ideologies that protect and sustain White ways of knowledge production that privilege positivistic values such as objectivity and rationality as the 'right' and 'only' way to conduct research. To decenter whiteness, we will explore our own and our research participants' experiences of affect, by centering how emotions shape people's lived realities.

Emotions, as internal processes are both, socialized, and while less discussed – political. Understandings of affects, moods, and emotions vary across the globe, indicating there are unique geographical elements to the ways that socialization influences the inner - workings of our lives. Embodiment requires us to understand how affect intersects with our ways of being (Thomas, 2016) and knowing. Acknowledging affect allows for a fuller understanding of one's own and other's humanity, and is a key strategy to work towards decolonization (Barlow & Hall, 2007). Yet, subjective experiences of affect, continue to be relegated to the private, with restrictions of who and when these can be expressed publically (Ahmed, 2004). Experiencing and expressing affect remains in opposition to the rational, positivist, masculine and Eurocentric notions of neutrality in "public life" (Jeyapal, 2021). Eurocentrism's global dominance on research facts is rooted on epistemic privilege and in the process, robs certain people and identities of having their affects, moods, and emotions acknowledged. Instead Eurocentrism ascribes value to others due to their positionality, such as their race, gender, and place of living, to name a few. Emotions have not been told through a political lens. It is at this juncture, the silencing of emotions, and where the public and private meet – social science researchers, that this book is concerned.

We wish to explore how social scientists adhere or resist expectations of "neutrality" when designing research projects that explore research on affect and emotion and/or where violence is amidst. Neutrality has left those working in high-stress and intense emotion areas, such as violence, without the space to name, map, discuss, and experience affect and emotions. This comes into sharp focus when people engage in research that deviates and challenges Eurocentric ways of knowing by centering ways of knowing and feeling that often emerge from Global South/East. Generally, these types of knowing and feeling are epistemically subjugated and perceived as "irrational" and "backward" (Grosfoguel, Hernández & Velásquez, 2016) which naturalizes violence and invisibilizes experiences affects and emotions (Carranza, 2018). This edited collection seeks to deconstruct the space of neutrality, by engaging with a variety of emotional realities when researching, working, and living amidst violence as politicized in the body and the emotional self. Thus, to contribute to the insubordination of knowledge and the emergence of "Other" epistemologies from a global genealogy.

---

<sup>1</sup> Professor, McMaster University

<sup>2</sup> PhD (c), York University

<sup>3</sup> PhD Student, McMaster University