ENGLISH SUMMARIES

Asmus Dall Gregersen: The Face Mask as a Social Tool

Based on fieldwork in Marseille, this article investigates the social meanings of the medical face mask among a group of students that volunteered in a food distribution program. The article shows how the meaning of face masks shifted across social situations and could symbolise both solidarity and social distance. By conceptualising the face mask as an interactional tool, the article argues that non-compliance to the face mask directive was not necessarily a moral breach, but rather could be a productive social tool for the construction of community and intimacy. In the context of widespread use of face masks, a practice promoted by authorities, the action of removing it in the presence of others became a strong marker of personal proximity, if it was not experienced as an interactional breach and submitted to sanctions. The article seeks to nuance the understanding of face mask use as an unequivocal prosocial behaviour by showing how its significance was situationally constructed.

Keywords: covid-19, face mask, interaction, masks, breaching, intimacy

Catrine Sundorf Kristensen, Mette Terp Høybye, Charlotte Nørholm, Malthe Barnkob Lehrmann, Julie Kampe Ziska, Andreas Roepstorff & Jens Seeberg: Viral Ethnography

In this article we describe the work of the anthropological component of the research project "HOPE – How Democracies Cope with COVID-19: A Data Driven Approach" during the COVID-19 epidemic in Denmark. The article illustrates how the unsettled state of the virus afforded a continuous rethinking of the ethnographic fieldwork. Due to the acute state of the corona-situation, the ethnographic team relied on pre-existing knowledge about and connections to a diverse range of fields in order to establish rapid access and to start collecting data on the Danish population's experiences with SARS-CoV-2. While being the object of anthropological inquiry, the virus also defined the methodological possibilities, as risk of contagion, and restrictions incited the use of virtual interviews, quick graph-elicitations and data extraction from Facebook. While the ethnographic nature of each individual method can be discussed, we argue that they, in combination with the team's personal experiences of life during the corona-crisis as well as anthropological reflection and theorization, conjure up a

quasi-ethnography, which allows for central ethnographic insights into the social consequences of the corona-crisis. Furthermore, we argue that for ethnographic knowledge to play a contributing role in handling a situation like the corona-crisis, methodological flexibility is central for ethnographic knowledge to play a contributing role in handling a situation like the corona-crisis.

Charlotte Andreas Baarts: Digital Relationships. Autoethnographic Explorations in a Virus Infected World

An autoethnographic account based on a personal narrative of being in a bi-national non-married relationship to a partner residing abroad. The world, infected by a virus, travel restrictions, increased nationalism and the political global climate keeps non-married couples and families involuntarily separated on different continents. The virus also keeps anthropologists from doing fieldwork, at least in real life, everyone is expected to keep to oneself. The digital world becomes the site for doing fieldwork. Braided into the personal narrative, the anthropologist explores the potentials of using autoethnography in digital communities. What do the classical fieldwork concepts, "being there", "participation", deep hanging out, imply in a digital setting, and how, or is it possible to experience bodily groundedness digitally. The evocative, literary text invites the reader into the personal narrative, and simultaneously into the ethnographic explorations of connections between lived in real life and the online community. The autoethnographic approach combined with being part of a digital community makes the anthropologist experience a "digitally mediated autoethnographic resonance". This resonance becomes the methodological experience that bridges ethnographic experiences in real life with online experiences. Simultaneously the resonance connects the personally desolated individual with the digital community in the continuously infected world and in the longings for the partner.

Pia Juul Bjertrup & Landry Bambara: Is Covid-19 a Disease of the Elite? Stories about Inequality during the Covid-19 Pandemic in Burkina Faso

With the covid-19 pandemic, stories, rumors and conspiracy theories have circulated and spread faster than the virus itself. In Burkina Faso, the two first covid-19 cases were identified in early March 2020, and soon after stories circulated,

which in various ways connected the outbreak with the Burkinabe elite and their connections to the global north. In this paper, we examine our interlocutors' stories about covid-19 as a social critique of inequality in society and a critique of the increased inequality during the covid-19 pandemic. By accusing politicians and the elite of corruption, manipulation and bad morals, our interlocutors discretely challenge their status, and in that way, covid-19 becomes an occasion for our interlocutors to criticize what they experience as wrong and unjust in society. Furthermore, we show how stories about covid-19 as a political plot become attractive, as they delegitimize covid-19 restrictions and thus justify lack of compliance. Our interlocutors experience covid-19 disease and symptoms as absent, and here we demonstrate how their covid-19 similar symptoms are neither confirmed nor disconfirmed as covid-19 infection. In this context, we point out the inequality in the access to covid-19 diagnostic tests and show how this diagnostic inequality is part of shaping our interlocutors' experiences with and stories about covid-19 as the disease of the elite.

Sabina Pultz, Magnus Paulsen Hansen & Helene Jepsen: Planning for a Job. The Trying Experience of Unemployment during the Covid-19 Crisis in Denmark

In Denmark, unemployed people have been governed through activation policies for several decades; however, during corona epidemic these were temporarily suspended. What happens when part of the system is put on hold and how does that effect the experience of being unemployed? Based on in-depth interviews with 25 unemployed people, we apply the theoretical framework of regimes of engagement developed by Laurent Thévenot as we explore how unemployed people engage in and are subject to various regimes. In doing so, we explore how the plan of the unemployed cooperates or creates tension between engagements in other areas in life. Thus, the suspension gives an opportunity to examine the effects of the active labour market programs through its absence.