

## "Draw My Life Internet Video- as an Example of a Micro Life Story"

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Draw My Life is an Internet phenomenon which is known enough to have its own description in Wikipedia, where we can read that it is "a type of Internet video in which the author narrates their life history, set to a fast-motion video of the author drawing illustrations on a whiteboard of key figures and events in their life". The videos began with Irish YouTuber and musician Bry in 2011 and in 2013 became very popular. Many well-known YouTubers posted such videos. They last several minutes and are a general overview of the whole life, told in an authorial (original) way and at the same time attractive enough to be watched by millions of Internet users. Also today we can find new videos. In my presentation I will analyse these films focusing on their structure, the way YouTubers present themselves, the events they expose in such short story. Above all, I will try to answer the question to what extent such biographical micro-stories can become analytical material for biographical research.

## Viral Epistolary: Digital Collective Letter-Writing in Time of Pandemic

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Like many other countries, Italy faced the most severe and restrictive lockdown measures during the first SARS-CoV-2 so-called wave, from March to June 2020.

In this period, we promoted an online letter-writing and letter-sharing community project called "Viral Epistolary" (VE). VE lasted three months, collected more than 500 letters, and connected thousands of people from all over the country. VE's aims were to promote a digital space aimed at sharing domestic isolation, physical distancing, and pandemic experiences, as well as providing mutual and community support, by using letters as a mediation, meaning-making, and auto/biographical tool.

Our paper foresees two parts. Firstly, we will present the main findings of the preliminary phase of our research, where we conducted an inter-disciplinary narrative analysis of the letters collected. Hence, we will highlight how digital and community writing can be understood as a sort of "meanwhile" liminal space. The pandemic as a social total fact is rearranged through resistance, survival, and social relationships-restoring frames. Particularly, we will see how personal and biographical resources are used to deal with and understand social phenomena and how different personal and social backgrounds emerge from a shared narrative pretext.

In the second part, we will discuss methodological issues related to the second-ongoing phase of our research, which involves EV's participants through new writing opportunities and interviews. The scope will be to deepen the understanding of how their experiences related to the pandemic have changed through time and within the transformation of overall pandemic social-framing processes.

## Photo-elicitation techniques in autobiographical interviews with Black Poles (work-in- progress).

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This paper will discuss introducing visual interviewing techniques into a biographical research design. It will also comment on preliminary results of a pilot study.

The project aims at producing a sociography of the experience of being a black Pole based on life stories of adult mixed-race Poles, raised in Poland and identifying themselves as Polish, with at least one immigrant parent. A generation of people has come of age, who were born into families started by immigrants coming to Poland from Africa and Asia still under communism and in the 1990s.

Despite a significant wave of immigration in recent years, Polish society is still uniquely mono-ethnic and mono-cultural. There is little anti-discriminatory or multi-cultural education in the public school curriculum. The representation of non-white Poles in the public discourse and popular culture is sparse. Is such a society, being mixed-race means bearing signs of otherness which are at all times 'hurled in the immediacy of the visual encounter' (W.J.T. Mitchell).

Photo-elicitation techniques may help in reaching aspects of experience not evoked through narrative constraints of an oral interview. Images may elicit autobiographical

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