

## **Psi in everyday social interaction**

### **ABSTRACT:**

#### **Background**

How psi communication emerges in talk-in-interaction, its poetic configurations, what this reveals about intersubjectivity (e.g.: embodied intersubjectivity, interpersonal resonance, permeability of the physical body).

#### **Aims**

To explore the poetics of accounts of ostensibly telepathic moments that occur in everyday life. A main assumption is that the (psi) event described in the accounts (the aboutness) feeds back in specific ways with the narrative(poetics)-in-interaction displayed to convey it.

#### **Method**

Our current data collection consists of 52 accounts (nearly 50 people represented) on enigmatic communication. Analysis is framed in the overlapping methodologies of narrative and talk-in-interaction.

#### **Results**

The cases involve a poetic infrastructure including a narrative framework ('small stories') and the operation of the poetic principle of parallelism. We see how apparent speech errors or unusual turns of phrase are fulfilling an interactional function: to trigger and mark convergence/resonance between interlocutors (between a spoken utterance and unarticulated thoughts). Particular aesthetic qualities appear both in features of the production of the data, and in the experiences reported on in those. The results suggest that the poetic principle of parallelism might provide an overarching perspective (descriptive and explanatory) to advance in the analysis of an aesthetics of communication that includes enigmatic instances.

#### **Conclusions**

This project contributes to refine concepts on the poetic/narrative articulation of intersubjectivity via psi communication in everyday interaction. In particular, through the lens provided by the narrative framework of 'small stories' and by the poetic principle of parallelism.

#### **Keywords**

Psi communication, Interactional poetics, Narrative, Intersubjectivity

### **Published Work:**

Wooffitt, R., Fuentes-Calle, A., & Campbell, R. (2020). Small stories with big implications Identity, relationality and aesthetics in accounts of enigmatic communication. *Narrative Inquiry*. doi: 10.1075/ni.20013.woo

Os textos são da exclusiva responsabilidade dos autores  
All texts are of the exclusive responsibility of the authors

**Researcher's Contacts:**

Prof. Robin Wooffitt  
Department of Sociology  
University of York  
Wentworth College W/241  
Heslington YO10 5DD  
UK

Phone: +44 (0)1904 323063

Email: [robin.wooffitt@york.ac.uk](mailto:robin.wooffitt@york.ac.uk)