

## **Working with emotion? Critical approaches to spaces of work**

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In recent decades, feminist geography has been a productive arena in which to challenge and theorise the gendered home/work binary. More recent conceptual debates have further deconstructed this binary by considering the affective and emotional dimensions of workspaces (eg. Deery & Fischer 2010). Since significant amounts of our lives are spent in spaces related to work, we consider Susie Orbach's (2008: 14) call "for greater emotional literacy at work", alongside literature that argues both the emotional and affective as critical in understanding wider social relations (Davidson et al. 2005; Gregg & Siegworth 2011). This session, then, invites reflections that attend to the deconstruction of dualistic conceptions of 'home and 'work', 'mind' and 'body', 'rational' and 'emotional', and explores emotions and affects within institutional, professional, social, cultural and personal experiences related to, and relational across, spaces of work (and beyond). Recognising emotional geographies of work as contested, complex, fluid and emergent, we hope that this call for papers and interventions (broadly conceived) will promote dialogue that meaningfully contributes to discussions pertaining to both *research on* and *experiences in and through* spaces of work.

Davidson, J., Bondi, L. & Smith, M. (eds.) (2005) *Emotional geographies*. Ashgate, London.

Deery, R. & Fisher, P. (2010) Switching and swapping faces: performativity and emotion in midwifery. *International Journal of Work Organisation and Emotion* 3(3): 270-286.

Gregg, M. and Seigworth, G.J. (eds.) (2011) *The Affect Theory Reader*. Duke University Press, Durham, NC.

Orbach, S. (2008) Work is where we live: Emotional literacy and the psychological dimensions of the various relationships there. *Emotion, Space and Society* 1(1): 14-17.