WORKSHOP:

Conducting, structuring and analyzing socio-legal data

18 January 2019
9.00 – 19.00
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Unter den Linden 9
10117 Berlin
Room E25

The Socio-Legal Lab is a space for students/researchers who would like to apply socio-legal methods in their research projects, but face theoretical/methodological challenges in doing so. It aims to create a collaborative learning atmosphere to discuss and ideate about what it means to do socio-legal research.

The first workshop was convened in the spring of 2018 at the Law & Society Institute Berlin. It provided an overview of key debates in socio-legal research and an insight into different methodological schools that are prominent in the field. Part two aims to delve deeper into the questions raised at the first workshop with a focus on ‘data’ and different ways of seeing, approaching and using it.

The one-day workshop will start with an introduction of key questions raised in the first workshop. This is followed by a panel discussion, where experts from different disciplinary backgrounds address one fundamental challenge of analyzing socio-legal data: How do we bridge common dichotomies in socio-legal research such as micro/macro structures, critical/engaged/applied knowledge production or descriptive-analytical/normative-dogmatic approaches? The second half of the workshop will be devoted to methodological sessions organized by the participants based on their interests. These sessions will engage in the following discussions: How is data from different sources like archives or interviews collected, coded and produced? How do these processes construct knowledge and produce different narratives? And what does this mean for the work of individual researchers? Through a mixture of inputs from invited academics and participants, reading and interactive activities, the Socio-Legal Lab aims to provide a platform for meaningful discussions and brainstorming.

Participants
Students and researchers interested in conducting socio-legal research

Registration

Convenors
Lisa Hahn (lisa.hahn@rewi.hu-berlin.de)
Siddharth de Souza (siddharth.de.souza@rewi.hu-berlin.de)
PROGRAM

9.00 – 09.30  Registration

9.30 – 10.00  Introduction and recap of the first workshop:
General debates on law & society

10.00 – 12.00  Public Panel Discussion:
Bridging common dichotomies in socio-legal research
with Prof. Dr. Susanne Baer, Prof. Dr. Philipp Dann, Prof. Dr. Julia Eckert, Prof. Dr. Marie-Claire Foblets
- From micro to macrostructures
- From critical to engaged to applied knowledge production/research
- From descriptive-analytical to normative-dogmatic

12.00 – 13.00  Potluck-Lunch

13.00 – 15.30  Producing and analyzing data I: Texts as data
- Documentary method
- Narratives
- Archives

15.30 – 15.45  Coffee break

15.45 – 17.45  Producing and analyzing data II: Interviews as data
- Semi-structured interviews
- Collaborative research
- (Extended) case studies

17.45 – 18.30  Ordering your data: Mapping and typologies

18.30 – 19.00  Final reflection and evaluation

19.00  Dinner

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