



MELBOURNE
GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF
EDUCATION

*Education, Equity and Social Identities
Strategic Research Program*



eScholarship Research Centre
*Australian Social Science Data Archive (ASSDA)
Melbourne*

**An invitation to a seminar hosted by
The Education, Equity and Social Identities Research Program,
and the eScholarship Research Centre,
The University of Melbourne**

***Digital archiving and re-use of
qualitative research data – dilemmas,
challenges and possibilities***

**Natasha Mauthner
University of Aberdeen**

When: Tuesday May 5th, 10.30-11.45 am

Where: Frank Tate Meeting Room, Room 211,
Alice Hoy Building, University of Melbourne

In this seminar and discussion Natasha Mauthner will outline developments in the UK regarding the archiving and re-use of qualitative data sets, including the requirement of funding agencies for research data to be available and prepared for archiving. The presentation will raise a number of dilemmas to do with ethics, consent and context associated with this trend and with the secondary analysis of archived qualitative data. It will also consider some of the practical issues involved, as well as potential benefits and costs of 'mass archiving'. There will be ample time for questions and discussion of these matters in relation to developments in Australia and at the University of Melbourne.

Natasha Mauthner is a Reader at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. Her research interests focus around issues of gender, work, family, social networks and mental health; and she is author of *The Darkest Days of My Life: Stories of Postpartum Depression* (Harvard University Press, 2002). Her methodological and epistemological work explores the implications of a reflexive social science for research practices and the construction of knowledge. She has written about reflexive approaches to the interpretation of narratives and subjectivity; epistemological and ethical issues in archiving and re-using qualitative data; the micro-politics of team research and research management; epistemological issues in team-based collaborative research; and the Listening Guide approach to narrative analysis. Natasha is currently on a 6 month sabbatical at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand where she is conducting an empirical study of academic lives and practices. She will be visiting the University of Melbourne 4 – 15 May 2009. **If you are interested in taking part in that study, she would be delighted to hear from you.** Please contact her directly at: n.mauthner@abdn.ac.uk

Please RSVP to Eleanor Brignell by email: eleanorb@unimelb.edu.au if you wish to attend this seminar.