Research on Children and Social Interaction

Editor's introduction

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Welcome to the first issue of *Research on Children and Social Interaction*, a journal that will provide a dedicated outlet for the rapidly growing body of research exploring children's interactions. The primary focus is on children and young people's naturally occurring social interaction – their talk and embodied action in ordinary, live, situated interactions. Contributions will explore interactions across everyday and institutional settings, and will further understandings of the social practices, actions and events that are a constitutive feature of children's everyday lives and social worlds.

The journal offers a natural home for ethnomethodological and conversation analytic research on and with children, as well as ethnographic and sociolinguistic research focused on children's interaction. It will also welcome work from a broader range of methodologies and disciplines where the substantive contribution of a paper is one that recognizes the primacy of social interaction in children's worlds and social practice, and in the constitution and enactment of children's sociality, relationships, identities, understandings and experiences.

Research on Children and Social Interaction (RoCSI) celebrates the growing interest in studying children's social interaction in its own right, as a topic and framework for study. It takes up a place among related periodicals that publish research focused on children and young people, families, and education, and those that publish research on social interaction, language and discourse. Its unique – and important – contribution is the interdisciplinary marrying of these foci. Many journals that publish research on and with children have a disciplinary focus; for instance, psychology and development, linguistics, or education. Given the multifaceted richness of children's social worlds and interactions, academic enquiry into these areas is best served by the multiple perspectives, questions, and understandings that different disciplines bring. The hope is that the benefits flow in both directions; that the studies of children's naturally occurring social interaction featuring in this journal will feed back into the knowledge base of disciplines that our contributors and readers align with. We aim to facilitate enquiry and dialogue within and between psychology, linguistics, education, sociology, anthropology and allied disciplines. Putting children's social interactions at the heart of enquiry provides exciting opportunities for contributing, broadening and transcending traditional disciplinary norms and established ways of thinking.

RoCSI welcomes submission of original articles that explore children's social interactions, including empirical, theoretical or applied papers. We also encourage submissions of other forms of research and writing that will help enliven and develop this new field of enquiry. This includes review articles that offer in-depth reviews and discussions of particular topics aligned with the aims and scopes of the journal; research notes that offer brief summaries of research projects and analysis; and commentaries that take the form of 'letters to the editor' and discuss or reflect on recent research publications or presentations, core issues and debates, and methodologies. Proposals for special issues and guest editorships are also welcomed, to showcase important themes and issues in the field of children's social interaction.

The journal begins with some excellent papers that highlight the analytic, theoretical and practical issues that interactional analysis of children's social engagements can offer. We are very lucky to have a number of distinguished scholars serving on the editorial board, who will help shape the direction of the journal and peer review the submissions. Together,

the journal sets out to serve as an intellectual hub for those studying children's social interaction. We look forward to continuing to receive excellent contributions that will help establish and develop the journal, and secure the future of this research focus on children's talk and embodied action in situated moments of everyday life.