Record Nr. UNINA9910815430703321 The lost ethnographies: methodological insights from projects that **Titolo** never were / / edited by Robin James Smith, and Sara Delamont Pubbl/distr/stampa London, United Kingdom:,: Emerald Publishing,, 2019 **ISBN** 1-78743-931-3 1-78714-773-8 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (192 pages) Collana Studies in qualitative methodology, , 1042-3192;; volume 17 Disciplina 306.01 Ethnomethodology Soggetti Ethnology Sociology Social Science - Research Research methods: general Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Prelims -- Editorial introduction -- Chapter 1: Periwigs in Prauge: the opera project we never did -- Chapter 2: Remarks from a lost engagement with the engaging ordinariness of parkour -- Chapter 3: Losing bigfoot -- Chapter 4: A sociological case of stand-up comedy: censorship, offensiveness and opportunism -- Chapter 5: Researching underwater: a submerged study -- Chapter 6: Flat claps and dengue fever: a story of ethnographies lost and found in India -- Chapter 7: Losing the students in a school ethnography: anthropology and the puzzle of holism -- Chapter 8: What happens when you take your eye off the ball? Reflecting on a lost study' of boys' football, uneven playing fields and the longitudinal promise of Esprit de Corps -- Chapter 9: Exorcising an ethnography in limbo -- Chapter 10: Finding the lost thing under the binds of a neglected thesis cover -- Chapter 11: The edges and the end: on stopping an ethnographic project, on losing the way -- Index. Sommario/riassunto The Lost Ethnographies reports on the methodological lessons learnt

from ethnographic projects that, viewed superficially, failed.

Experienced researchers write about projects they planned, and were

excited about, which then never began, had to be abandoned, or took such unexpected directions that it became a different piece of work altogether. The topics and settings are varied and disparate, but the lessons learnt have important similarities. This collection focuses on absences; topics and settings that remain under researched; taken for granted aspects of social life that have not been scrutinized, and finally the potential insights that are gained when absences are carefully examined and explored. Readers will learn a great deal about research design, fundraising, writing up, access negotiations, serendipity in the field, and the complex interaction between the body and the brain of the ethnographer and the realities of ethnographic research. Maximising learning from the failings' of ourselves and of others is the positive message of the collection. The most poignant chapters are those in which the author returns' to reread and reflect on a past project; something that is not done often enough, partly because it can be painful. The accounts of projects which had to be abandoned or radically changed offer hope to researchers facing difficulties in their own investigations. These reflections, on projects that were never even begun, show how to gain fresh energy and social science insight from apparent rejection, and the collection approaches the whole concept of lost ethnography in provocative ways.