

# COMMITTING PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY:

BLOGGING BODIES, MARGINALIZATION AND VIOLENCE

Jason Garcia & Nadia Sosa Machin

# BODIES THAT MATTER

- Individual study “Bodies, Marginalization, and Violence”
- Intersectional feminist and postcolonial theories
- Blogging - committing to public Sociology

# WHAT IS PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY?

- A subfield of Sociology, which serves to engage with non-academic audiences (A.K.A. the public).
- **“Public sociology engages publics beyond the academy in dialogue** about matters of political and moral concern” (Burawoy, 2004, p.5).
- Interplay of **reflexive knowledge**

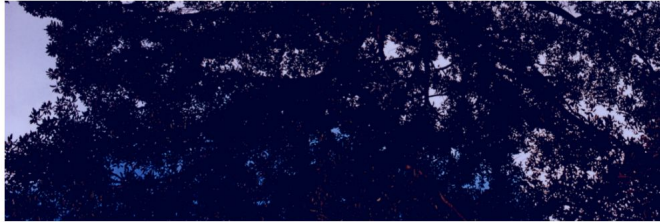
# THE PROCESS

(AKA THE METHODS)

# CREATING OUR BLOGS

- Selecting our host site: Wordpress
- Maintaining Anonymity
- Naming our blogs

Jason:



**emBody Sociology**

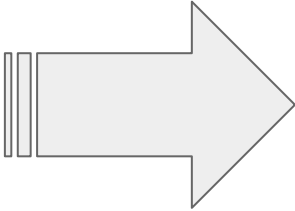
[Home](#) [About](#)

Nadia:



**Simply Sociology**

# BLOG TOPICS

- Docile Bodies
  - Bodies that Matter
  - Race/Place
  - Disposable Bodies
  - Pride and Exile
  - Fatness and Governmentality
  - Imperialism and Democracy
- 
- Events in the news
  - Case studies
  - Personal Experiences
  - Government Law and Policy

# RESOURCES FOR INSPIRATION

Drew Inspiration from

- Previous courses
- Widely known academic blogs
- Popular feminist blogs

Our blogs became additional resources of reflexive knowledge



# OUR AUDIENCE

## Gaining an audience:

- Social media
- Tagging Blog Posts

## Engaging the Audience:

- Blog As A Tool To Validate Our Voices
- Talking About Contemporary Issues

 Jason Garcia @jayyyjee · 10h  
My next blog post is up! Read my self-reflection on fat shaming & acceptance  
[#FatShaming](#) [#BodyPosi](#) [#PublicSociology](#)



### Fatness: A Self Reflection

"Cow." "Fatty." "Fat-So." "Fat-Ass." "Fat-Fuck." These are among some of the many words that have been casted against me by others on a near-daily basis. The...  
[embodysociology.wordpress.com](http://embodysociology.wordpress.com)



Nadia Sosa Machin

October 23 · Edmonton · 🌐

Hey all. Here's my new blog post! The title gives it away so I won't say too much about it. This one is a little bit longer, but I really think that it's an important topic that we all need to be talking about. I would love some feedback and hope that we can start a conversation! Thanks for reading 😊

### Disposable Bodies: The Normalization of Violence Towards Indigenous Women

On the morning of April 18, 1995, Pamela George, an Indigenous woman, was found face down in a ditch...

[SIMPLYSOCIOLOGYBLOG.WORDPRESS.COM](http://SIMPLYSOCIOLOGYBLOG.WORDPRESS.COM)

Like Comment Share

You, D-Bingley Hoang and 4 others

1 share



Write a comment...





THE  
PEDAGOGICAL  
GAINS  
(AKA OUR DISCOVERIES)

# SELF REFLEXIVITY

## Not Being The Authoritative Voice

- Not speaking on behalf of anyone
- Our experiences are not THE sole experience

## Starting A Conversation, Rather Than Providing Solutions

- We're still learners
- We're still privileged

# APPROACHABILITY & AUTHENTICITY

Making Our Writing Accessible

- 'Unlearning' academic writing
- Shifting tones

Establishing Our Voice

- Engaging an actual conversation
- Putting ourselves in our writing



# FEEDBACK & IMPACT

- Audience engagement
  - Facebook comments
  - Instructors and colleagues
- Wordpress Stats:

## Jason

All-time posts, views, and visitors

 Posts	6
 Views	882
 Visitors	653
 <b>Best Views Ever</b> December 15, 2016	248

## Nadia

All-time posts, views, and visitors

 Posts	8
 Views	253
 Visitors	132
 <b>Best Views Ever</b> November 23, 2016	54

# GOING FORWARD

- Carrying our blogs forward:  
Yes or no?
- Impact of our blogging was  
greater than any paper we've  
ever written.
- We are proud of our work.



A screenshot of a Facebook post. At the top left is a profile picture of a woman. To its right is the name "Nadia Sosa Machin" in blue, followed by "2 mins · 🧑" and a small downward arrow. Below this is the text of the post: "Jason and I did a thing, we wrote this blog together to reflect on our experience while blogging for our class project. Thank you everyone who has read our posts and given us feedback! Come see us April 24th as we present our blogging experience at the Macewan Sociology Symposium." Below the text is a rectangular preview of a blog post. The preview has a white background and a thin border. On the left side of the preview is a placeholder image. On the right side, the title "Committing Public Sociology: Reflecting on our Experience" is in bold. Below the title is a short paragraph: "Our course has come to an end! Read our joint blog post as we reflect upon our experience with this project and the impact it has had on as as students and..." At the bottom of the preview is the URL "SIMPLYSOCIOLOGYBLOG.WORDPRESS.COM". Below the preview are three interaction buttons: "Like" with a thumbs-up icon, "Comment" with a speech bubble icon, and "Share" with a share icon. At the bottom of the screenshot is a comment input area. It starts with a small profile picture of the same woman, followed by a text box containing the placeholder text "Write a comment...". To the right of the text box are icons for adding a photo and an emoji.

**Nadia Sosa Machin**  
2 mins · 🧑

Jason and I did a thing, we wrote this blog together to reflect on our experience while blogging for our class project. Thank you everyone who has read our posts and given us feedback! Come see us April 24th as we present our blogging experience at the Macewan Sociology Symposium.

**Committing Public Sociology:  
Reflecting on our Experience**

Our course has come to an end! Read our joint blog post as we reflect upon our experience with this project and the impact it has had on as as students and...

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👍 Like    💬 Comment    ➦ Share

 Write a comment... 📷 😊

THANK YOU