

Embedded clinical ethnography as a method for investigating culturally diverse health experiences

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ABSTRACT

In this talk, I will discuss some outcomes and implications of my decades-long experiment in interdisciplinarity combining Clinical Psychology with Anthropology, especially a particular aspect of my research approach I call Embedded Clinical Ethnography. I will reflect on my experiences of combined anthropological fieldwork and volunteer clinical psychological practice in a diverse variety of contexts, including the Navajo Nation (a large indigenous North American tribe), Bhutan (a Buddhist kingdom in South Asia), and the teaching hospitals of Harvard Medical School and the University of Chicago. This work illuminates the continuities and diversity of mental disorders and forms of effective intervention across cultures.