

A CONVERSATION WITH:

PAUL WILLIS KEELE UNIVERSITY, UK

Reflections on Culture and Ethnography

Paul Willis is a Professor of Social/Cultural Ethnography at Keele University. Trained in literary criticism at Cambridge he received his PhD in 1972 from the Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies at Birmingham University where he remained as Senior Research Fellow until 1981. During the 1980's he served as youth policy adviser to Wolverhampton Borough Council in the English Midlands. There he produced *The Youth Review* (published by the Council and Ashgate) which formed the basis for youth policy in that city and for the formation of the democratically elected Youth Council, both still functioning. During the 1990's he served first as Head of the Division of Media, Communications and Cultural Studies and then as a member of the Professoriate at the University of Wolverhampton. In 2000 he co-founded the Sage Journal, *Ethnography*.

"My work has focused on the mainly but not exclusively ethnographic study of lived cultural forms in a wide variety of contexts, from highly structured to weakly structured ones, examining how practices of 'informal cultural production' help to produce and construct cultural worlds 'from below'. Currently he is working on conceptual and methodological ways of connecting or re-connecting a concern with identity/culture to economic structure, with particular reference to 'shop floor culture'."

Willis's publications include:

Learning to Labour - in New times, (ed with Nadine Dolby & Greg Dimitriadis). New York: Routledge, forthcoming

The Ethnographic Imagination. Cambridge: Polity, 2000

Moving Culture. London: Gulbenkian Foundation, 1990.

Profane Culture. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1978

Learning to Labour. Aldershot: Gower, 1977, reprinted 1978, 79, 80,81,88,94,98, 2001

MARTINA CVAJNER UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO, ITALY

Female Migration and the Presentation of the Self

Martina Cvajner (Ph.D sociology, University of Trento) is a post-doc researcher working on issues of migration and sexuality.

Workshop in Urban Ethnography **Monday, April 19**
11:30 a.m.–1:20 p.m., 140 Prospect Street, Room 102B