

Invitation to Sociology: On the Reflexivity of Experiencing the Field

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ABSTRACT

This study is concerned with the deciphering of the mental contacts that the students of the sociology department establish with sociology. The founding assumption of the study is to reach the "ghosts" created by sociology in the mind of the individual who is in contact with sociology. The concept of ghost refers to the shadows that sociology creates in the mind. This reference includes the mental patterns of the person after beginning their sociology education. In the data analysis of the study, the interpretive phenomenology approach was preferred. Research data were collected through semi-structured interviews with the participants. First and second-year sociology students who took the *Introduction to Sociology* and *Applied Sociological Studies* courses were selected as the sample in the study. In the study, it was aimed to stimulate the information that the participants learned before. During this stimulation, sociologist candidates' belief in sociological knowledge and experiencing how that knowledge can be used was considered as the stage of preparing the mind to depict the quality they attribute to sociology. The narratives have been produced directly related to the social sphere itself. It is aimed to present the ability of sociological knowledge to produce multiple perspectives inherently in narratives. The main concern in using this inclusion is to reveal the functionality of sociological knowledge in the minds of the participants and what it looks like. In this context, the participants were asked "What does sociology mean to you?". Participants were asked to draw a picture on an A4 paper. The pictures obtained were analyzed with the interpretive phenomenological analysis approach.

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