

Everyday life in a Pandemic: Disruption as a lens for studying practice dynamics

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This presentation situates the session 'Disruptions in Everyday Life: Changing Social Practices and Dynamics of Consumption' conceptually in the context of practice theoretical research on consumption. We offer a brief overview of the conceptual state of the field highlighting the specific opportunities afforded by studying practices during crises and disruptive events for generating insights concerning the dynamics of practices and addressing some unanswered questions in the field. Following this, we provide an overview of key contributions of current research according to five key themes that advance insights concerning the dynamics of practices. We unpack insights into how and why practices change, as well as the policy implications emerging from this across five key themes of conceptual, empirical, and methodological relevance for the field. These include connections, variation, culture, history, and methodology. In discussing each of these themes we highlight lacunas in understanding that recent work seeks to address and reveal some of the contributions they make in doing so. We conclude with a discussion on the unfinished business of studying interconnected practices in flux and offer reflections and directions for further inquiry.