



Roundtable Session:

“Reviewer 2 Must Be Stopped”:

**The Power Relations in Knowledge Production and Reviewing Process
from the Non-Anglo-American Perspectives**

Organizers:

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Abstract:

“Reviewer 2” symbolizes the peer reviewer who is rude, patronizing, unwilling to treat the authors as peers. S/he offers vague, condescending and nonconstructive critique, which causes both novice and more experienced academics to doubt their scientific abilities. “Reviewer 2 attitude” reproduces masculinist power relations by portraying reviewers as omniscient, objective and ultimately better scholars and the manuscript authors as always already inferior, insufficiently read, insufficiently literate and insufficiently intelligent. Adopting the position of “Reviewer 2” has been discussed in informal academic circles and also ridiculed (i.e. in a Facebook group named after the phenomenon: “Reviewer 2 Must Be Stopped”, gathering more than 50 thousand users) but also lately constructively discussed in social sciences (Watling et al., 2021).

We believe that such discussion is needed in geographies of sexualities which have already demonstrated how hierarchical knowledge production might (re)produce masculinist, hetero and cisnormative, colonial, and classed inequalities (Rose 1993; Berg 2001) and influence the content and hierarchy of topics in academic publishing (Berg 2001; Kulpa & Silva 2016). It is also pertinent since the “Reviewer 2 attitude” can disproportionately harm underrepresented groups, e.g. women of colour and non-binary people of colour (Silbiger & Stubler, 2019) but also non-native English-speaking academics.

Possible topics;

We invite speakers to discuss the reviewing process from the perspectives of geographies of sexualities, queer studies (and the “queer art of failure”) as well as in relation to affective turn (i.e. the role of shame and shaming but also anger, rage and their effect on creativity) and postulates of “slow science” (de Craene 2020). We especially welcome speakers from non-Anglo-American, non-Western, non-Global North localities.

We intend the roundtable to be a platform for peer discussion; thus, we invite submission of a short 5 minutes speeches describing experiences, good counter practices and ideas related to the call.

Please send abstracts (200 words) to: astasinska@psych.pan.pl till 27th of March 2022

More about the conference at <https://2022.egsconference.com/>