Sociology and Activism, will hold a one hour webinar on Friday October 2nd 2020 from 12.30 to 1.30 AEST (east coast time), which is 10.30 to 11.30 WAST (Western Australian time).  Please consider proposing a presentation or stimulus paper, or joining us on the day!

**THEME - Activist Research and Reflections during the 2020 Pandemic**

There will be up to five presentations of five minutes each on the theme with five minutes discussion.  The goal of the webinar is to prompt further action/activism, research networks and collaborations, and research and sociological reflection.

Within the over-arching theme **Activist Research and Reflections during the 2020 Pandemic** we suggest possible areas for presenters and stimulus papers:

*Using this time to enhance democracy and its practices*

*Civil liberties during and after covid 19.*

*The CovidSafe app amidst the continued absence of an Australian Bill or Charter of Rights*

*Observations and critical reflections about Australian culture and society*

*– for example: Are there fundamental differences in Australian culture and society compared with other developed nations? What are these fundamental differences, and what are the implications for the nature of contemporary Australian society?  Did post 9-11 legislation teach us that freedoms removed are not returned?*

*Our current activism and issues arising during the 2020 Pandemic e.g. disposable consumer representation in health services and systems*

*New legislations in 2020 e.g. surveillance laws.  What action is needed from sociologists?*

*What can we do together to find (and act on) our passion for a better and fairer world.*

**Proposals with the subject line Activist R&R Webinar should be sent to:**[**admin@tasa.org.au**](mailto:admin@tasa.org.au)**by or on Thursday September 17th 2020.**

We propose to develop, after the webinar, a loose activist network to encourage, foster and develop activist-oriented research and reflection from mentoring, peer support, peer review, co-authoring and co-presenting work or mobilising the affordances of social media.  This may be of interest to independent scholars (e.g. those not affiliated to a university or workplace), postgraduate students, early career researchers and eminent researchers – all those looking for fresh approaches to their research and research community, and/or their use of social media for sociology and activism.

The co-convenors (Ann Lawless and John McGuire) have worked with members James Arvanitakis and William Calcutt to develop this seminar with assistance from TASA Admin Officer Sally Daly and others.