We seek contributions which report research with groups in society whose experiences may be semi-visible or semi-acknowledged within normative discourses. Such groups (often described as 'hard to reach populations') pose challenges of researcher access, and have minimal research visibility. As a consequence of societal un-acknowledgement or marginalisation, their experience remains in the 'half shadows', – being known to exist but not being known about.

Members of such groups may be located within mainstream society with their human experience or agency denied, suppressed or oppressed; or they may be the subjects of enforced confinement; removed from mainstream life by reason of their ‘difference representation’ (which may be configured as deviance or disease, or threat or danger).

For researchers who work to reveal the lived realities of such groups this edition offers the opportunity to bring their research together in a dedicated special edition collection.

Authors are asked to submit a proposal outlining the topic and content of their article (maximum 500 words).

All submissions will be subject to double blind peer review. Key Dates are:

- January 15th 2018: Expressions of interest including a 500 word abstract
- February 16th 2018: Full papers submitted for peer review
- March 9th 2018: Papers returned for revisions
- May 4th 2018: Final papers accepted and publication of issue

Please email your expression of interest to the special issue Editor: Gloria Kirwan (KIRWANGM@tcd.ie)