

## PSI IN EVERYDAY SOCIAL INTERACTION -- University of York – Grant Num.: 113/18

**AIMS:** To explore the poetics of accounts of ostensibly telepathic moments that occur in everyday life.  
A main assumption : the (psi) event described in the accounts (the *aboutness*) feeds back in specific ways with the narrative(poetics)-in-interaction displayed to convey it.

**DATA:** 52 accounts (nearly 50 people represented) on enigmatic communication.

**RESULTS.** The cases involve:

- Influence of interactional dynamics (intersubjectivity, interpersonal resonance) over *aboutness*.
- A poetic infrastructure including a narrative framework ('small stories') and the operation of the poetic principle of parallelism.
- Apparent speech errors or unusual turns of phrase fulfill an interactional function: to trigger and mark convergence/resonance between interlocutors (a spoken utterance and unarticulated thoughts).
- The expression of those micro-events is achieved through parallelism across different levels of the structure. These aesthetic qualities appear both:  
in features of the production of the data and in the experiences reported on in those.

The results suggest that the **poetic principle of parallelism** might provide an overarching perspective (descriptive and explanatory) to advance in the analysis of an aesthetics of communication that includes enigmatic instances.

**PUBLICATIONS:** Wooffitt, R., Fuentes-Calle, A., Campbell, R. (2020) Small stories with big implications.

Identity, relationality and aesthetics in accounts of enigmatic communication. *Narrative Inquiry*.

“Poetic patterns of connectedness (parallelism) in episodes of 'anomalous' communication” (in progress).