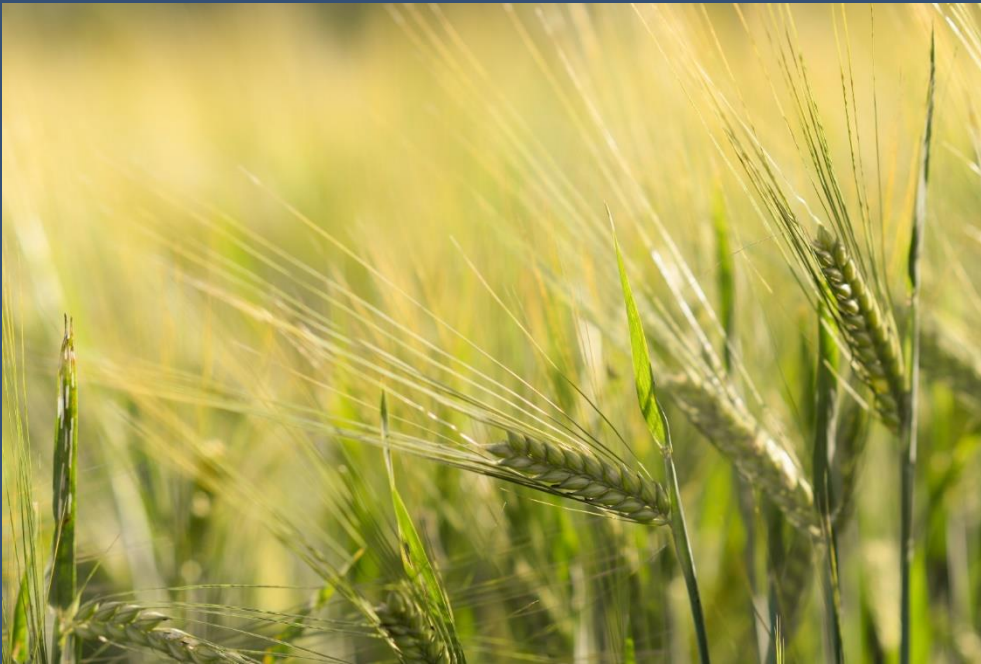


The challenges of online interviewing in enabling multi-layered storytelling

María Calderón Muñoz



East and Central Africa



- 620 sisters answered the question: *What is the essence of religious life for women where you live?*
- Use of email and WhatsApp
- Role of gatekeepers – trust



UK and Ireland

- Interviews to women who had entered religious life and that had either stayed or had left.
- 53 interviews: 48 face to face and 5 using skype

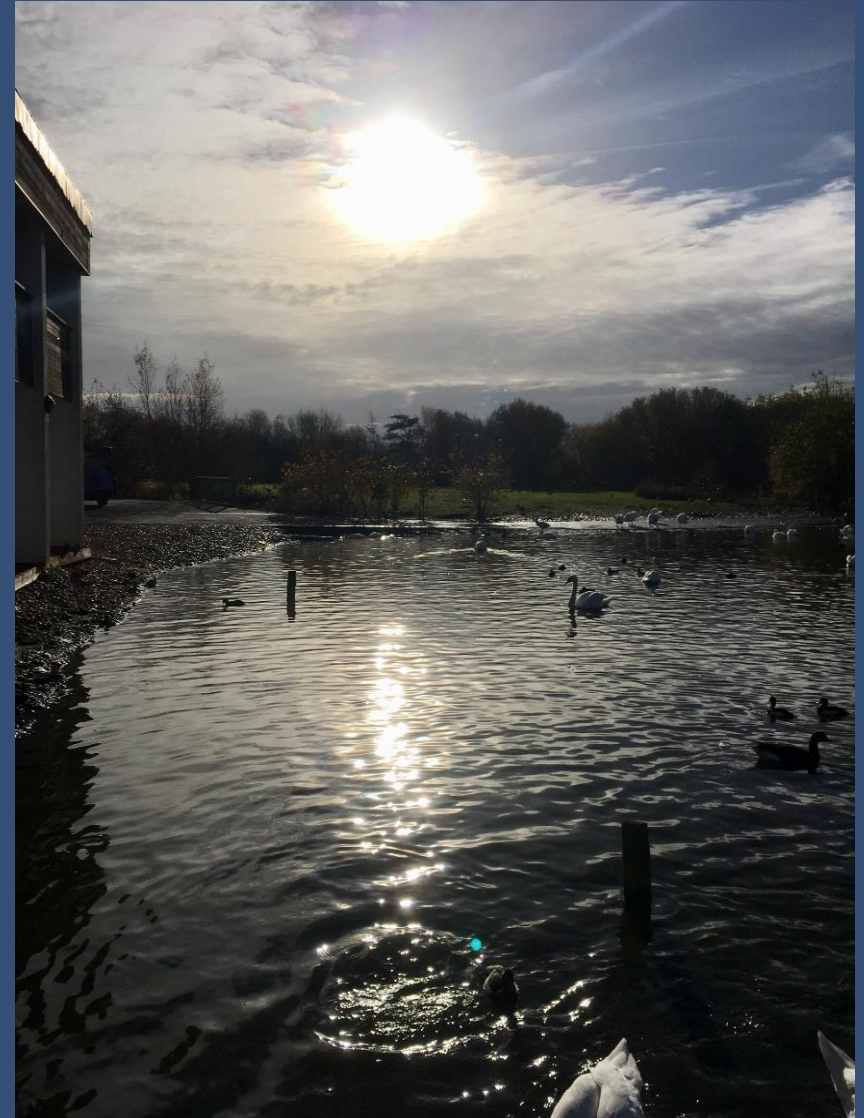
Storytelling and narratives

- Narratives are contextual
- They are multi-layered
- Storytelling is a performative act
- They help deal with pain



Relationships of trust

- Time together
- Common purpose
- Shared experiences: i.e praying
- Shared silence



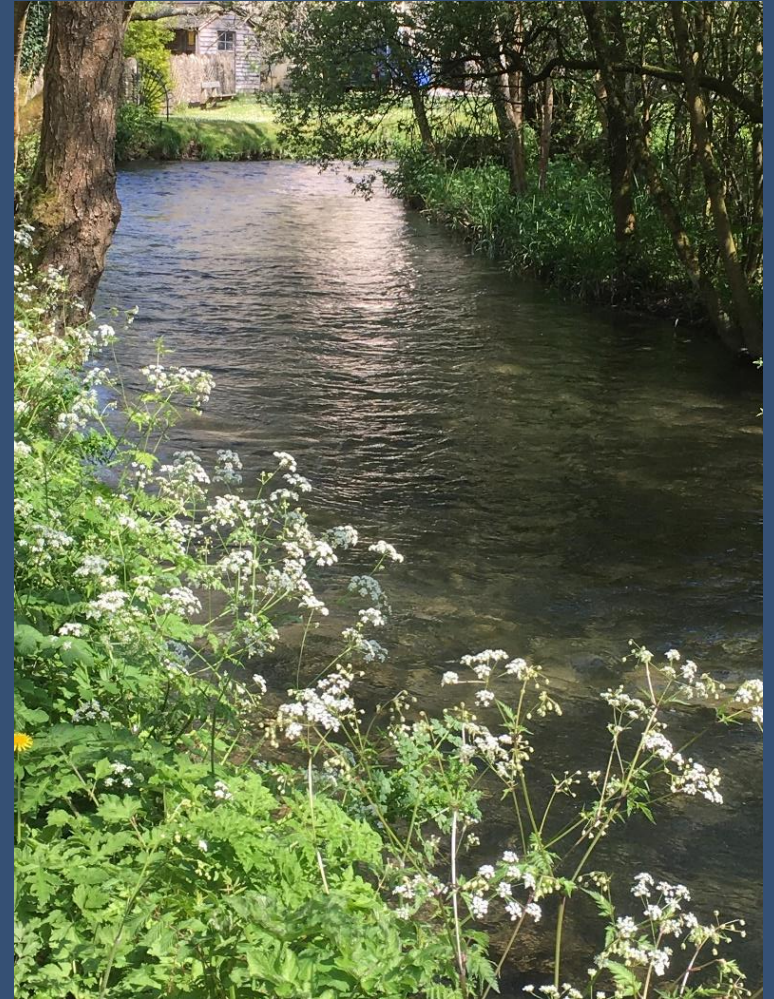


Online interviewing

- Connectivity problems
- Lack of social cues; interruptions
- Self awareness: the mirror effect
- Tiredness
- Interviews cannot be paused

Joyous stories, painful stories

- Meeting interviewees help with understanding context
- Different stages, different layers.
- Narratives help healing.



Conclusions

- Online techniques are useful for certain types of research.
- Need to think how to make online interviewing more engaging
- Acknowledge limitations

