

As fan communities face members who see their positions as enlightened because of their "superior" knowledge--and as academic conferences, programs, and journals are flooded with people who see fan studies as a justification to make a living writing about their hobby without worrying so much about any critical intervention or generating compelling insights--it's perhaps no surprise that the term has "grown" to the point that people are now questioning whether its use has been stretched past usefulness.

—Ford, in Jenkins

- How do we avoid doing this in our own research while still retaining accountability?
- Is it possible to do valuable research as a fan yourself?

NEXT WEEK

- 'Space, Place and Local Change'
- Importance of place and locality to various types of music and the scenes around them
- The relationship between the 'local' and the 'global'
- How changing places through gentrification might affect music
- How the internet (e.g. Soundcloud) affects music's relationship with place
- Alternative modes of conducting space- and place-centred research.