

CV – Janikke Solstad Vedeler

Born: 7th of August 1974, Tønsberg, Norway
Current Occupation: Research Fellow, Norwegian Social Research
M. Status: Cohabiting with Lars M. Gudmundson
Children: Jonas (born 1999) and Selma (born 2004)

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E d u c a t i o n :

Cand.polit. degree (equals Master of Philosophy degree) in Social anthropology, University of Oslo, Norway, 2003

Thesis: "Dance in Diaspora: Processes of identity among people in Oslo of Sri Lankan Tamil origin". In the thesis I examine how girls in Oslo express different Tamil identities through classical Indian dance. Supervisor: Professor Øivind Fuglerud, Department of Ethnography, University of Oslo.

Cand.mag. degree (four years interfaculty degree) in Social anthropology, Development studies, and Gender studies, including one term at the University of Arizona, USA. University of Oslo, Norway, 1993-1998

Nøtterøy high school, Norway, 1990-1993

W o r k E x p e r i e n c e :

Research Fellow, Norwegian Social Research, with a 4 year grant from the Research Council of Norway, and PhD-student at the Department of Sociology, University of Oslo, 2006-onwards

- Conducting a research study on disability and employment. Purpose of study is to examine processes important for succeeding in labor marked among people with disabilities.

Research assistant, Norwegian Social Research, 2002-2006

- Developed in collaboration with Professor Svein Mossige and research assistant Karin Sasaoka a guidance on youth and prostitution. The project was commissioned by the Ministry of Children and Equality. The guidance addressed existing knowledge of the subject and aims at stimulating debate amongst public social agencies and health workers on how to proceed in cases of youth prostitution. 6000 copies of the guidance have been disseminated. In 2006, 6 regional conferences were organized during which I was responsible, together with Karin Sasaoka, for presenting the guidance and organizing work-shops.

- Co-working with Professor Svein Mossige in the IT-network Child centre for Children at Risk (www.childcentre.info). The network is operated by the Council of the Baltic Sea States. Publishing articles and reports on the network's website.

- Responsible for implementation of the Norwegian survey "Young people's attitudes towards sexuality and sexual abuse" among 5000 pupils in senior high schools in different cities in Norway. The Norwegian survey was an integrated part of a larger international study implemented in Sweden, Iceland, Estonia, Lithuania, and Poland. In Norway, 41 different high schools participated and I was responsible for organizing discussions at schools among teachers.

- Conducted interviews with 10 Sri Lankan Tamil families in Oslo in relation to the study "Network and adaptations – transnational families in Norway". Purpose of study was to examine differences and

similarities in adaptations among Tamil and Somali people in Norway. I contributed to the interview guide addressing the significance of family and friends and life in Norway.

- Prepared a paper on the importance of communication between parents and schools to White paper no. 30 *Culture for learning* (2003-2004), prepared by the Ministry of Education and Research. I made a summary of research and proposed actions.

Part-time work with people with intellectual disabilities, Nøtterøy and Oslo, Norway, 1992-1999

Teacher in elementary school, Oslo, Norway, 1994, 1998

V o l u n t e e r / N G O s

The Church City Mission, Oslo, Norway, 2006-onwards

- Working at a cafe for homeless people and drug addicts.

Chair of parent council at Frydenhaug Kindergarten, Oslo, Norway, 2002-2003

Students and Academics International Help Foundation (SAIH), Norway, 1995-1997

- Editor of the SAIH-newsletter, coordination of public debate meetings and participating in campaigning activities.

SOS-Racism, Tønsberg, Norway, 1989-1992

- Coordination of public campaigning activities.

Operation Day's Work/Operasjon Dagsverk, Nøtterøy, Norway, 1992

- Operasjon Dagsverk is a solidarity campaign by, with and for youth. Every year high school students participate in the campaign by giving one day of their education to do a "Days work". I was responsible for the campaign at local level.

Chair of student council at Borgheim junior high school, Norway, 1989

O t h e r

Fieldwork in Colombo, Sri Lanka, April 2006, for my Master's thesis. Conducted qualitative interviews with dance teachers in Bharata Natyam.

Student at the University of Arizona, USA, 1997. Classes in Middle-Eastern history, archaeology and popular culture.

Fieldwork in Tanzania, March 1996. As part of my development studies, I conducted a 4 week-fieldwork in Dar-es-Salaam addressing the situation of street children and identifying different activities for the children.

Spent 6 months in New Mexico, USA, 1994. Studying social anthropology.

Spent a year in Sri Lanka, 1987-88. Played a major part in a film by FORUT, a Norwegian NGO, called "Janikke's diary" ("Janikkes dagbok"), which addressed the everyday life of refugees, seen through the eyes of me, a 13 year old Norwegian girl. The film was produced by Worldview International.

P u b l i c a t i o n s

Janikke Solstad Vedeler, Karin Sasaoka and Svein Mossige: *Young people selling or exchanging sexual services. A guidance to public social services and health workers. (Ungdom som selger eller bytter sex. En faglig veileder til hjelpeapparatet.)* Oslo: NOVA 2006, pp. 107

"Authoring the world through dance. On the meaning of Bharata Natyam to the Tamil diaspora" in *Different pictures of the 'others'. Transnational lives in Norway*. Ed. Ø. Fuglerud. ("Å forfatte verden gjennom dans. Betydningen av bharata natyam i den tamilske diaspora" i *Andre bilder av de "andre". Transnasjonale liv i Norge*, red Ø. Fuglerud). Oslo: Pax. 2004, pp. 23

"Dance in Diaspora. Processes of identity among people in Oslo of Sri Lankan Tamil origin." (*Dans i diaspora. Identitetsprosesser blant personer i Oslo med tamilsk bakgrunn*). Master's thesis at the University of Oslo, 2003, pp. 138

L a n g u a g e s

Norwegian (mother tongue)

English (fluent oral and written)

French (introductory courses in high school)

R e f e r e n c e s

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