

Curriculum Vitae

Janikke Solstad Vedeler

Born: 7th of August 1974, Tønsberg, Norway

Current Occupation: Senior researcher at Nordland Research Institute and at Norwegian Social Research

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Education:

PhD in Sociology, University of Oslo, Norway, 2014

Thesis: "Disability and employment – about equal opportunities for participation."

The thesis provides insight into what may facilitate or impede employment participation for persons with disabilities, drawing on qualitative interviews with employed Norwegians and Americans with disabilities, born in the 1970's and early 1980's.

In the interviewees' stories strong work ethics, higher education, and supportive employers emerge as facilitators for employment while lack of/delayed provision of accommodation and support as well as hesitant employers emerge as obstacles to employment. These findings are discussed in view of Anthony Giddens' theory of lifestyle choices and Nancy Fraser's "participatory parity" to offer insight as to why the experiences of transition into employment for persons with disabilities may differ from the objectives of national disability policies.

The cross-national approach shows that the interviewees, despite living within different welfare policy contexts, face similar challenges with regards to participation in work life on a par with persons without disabilities.

Supervisors: Professor Arnlaug Leira, Department of Sociology, University of Oslo, and Senior Researcher Lars Grue, Norwegian Social Research

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

Thesis: "Dance in Diaspora: Processes of identity among people in Oslo of Sri Lankan Tamil origin."

The thesis examines how girls and young women 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 interdisciplinary degree) in Social anthropology, Development studies, and Gender studies, including one semester at the University of Arizona, USA. University of Oslo, Norway, 1993-1998

Upper Secondary Education (age 16-19), Nøtterøy videregående skole, Norway, 1990-1993

Work Experience:

Senior Researcher at Nordland Research Institute and at Norwegian Social Research, November 2015–

Commission Secretary, Ministry of Health and Care Services, August 2013–November 2015

- Submission of official Norwegian report "Out in the Open".

Research Associate, Norwegian Social Research, with grants from the Sophie's Minde Foundation and the Norwegian Public Roads Administration, 2009 – 2012

- In collaboration with Cecilie Høj Anvik at Nordland Research Institute, conducted the study "Mobility and participation", exploring through the use of GPS mapping and qualitative interviews significant conditions for mobility and employment participation for employed Norwegians with mobility disabilities who are in need of welfare services, examining issues related to how everyday life consists of and is regulated by time consuming tasks, movements from one place to another, physical hindrances, challenges, and so forth.

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 – doctoral thesis submitted June 2013, accepted September 2013, defended March 2014

- Conducted a qualitative research study on disability and employment. Purpose of study: Examine conditions and processes important for entry into employment among young persons with mobility disabilities. Supervisors: Professor Arnlaug Leira & PhD Lars Grue.
- 2007-2008: Visiting junior scholar at the Burton Blatt Institute, Syracuse University, N.Y., USA. Conducted qualitative interviews with Americans with mobility disabilities as part of the PhD study.

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.

Co-editor for *Scandinavian Journal of Disability Research*, published by the Francis and Taylor Group, established by the Nordic Network on Disability Research.

Publications

- Vedeler, Janikke Solstad (2013). Disabled persons' job interview experiences: stories of discrimination, uncertainty and recognition. *Disability & Society*. doi: 10.1080/09687599.2013.831748
- Anvik, Cecilie Høj & Vedeler, Janikke Solstad (2012). Hvorfor er størrelse viktig? Betydninger av handikapparkeringsplasser for personer med bevegelseshemming. *Plan: Tidsskrift for samfunnsplanlegging, byplan og regional utvikling*.
- Vedeler, Janikke Solstad & Schreuer, Naomi (2011) Policy in Action: Stories on the Workplace Accommodation Process, *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*, 22(2): 95 – 105.
- Vedeler, Janikke Solstad & Mossige, Svein (2010) Pathways into the labour market for Norwegians with mobility disabilities, *Scandinavian Journal of Disability Research*, 12(4):257-271.
- Vedeler, Janikke Solstad & Mossige, Svein (2009) Barriere for karriere i Tøssebro, J. (red.): *Funksjonshemming - Politikk, hverdagsliv og arbeidsliv*. Oslo: Universitetsforlaget, p. 119-131
- Araten, T., Vedeler, J.S., Myhill, W.N. & Blanck, P. (2009) Labor and Employment in Burch, Susan. (red.): *Encyclopedia of American Disability History*. Facts On File, Inc.
- Blanck, P, Myhill, W.N., Vedeler, J.S., Morales, J., Pearlman, P. (2009) Individuals with Cancer in the Workforce and Their Federal Rights in Feuerstein, M. (red.): *Work and Cancer Survivors*. New York: Springer, p. 255-276.
- Vedeler, Janikke Solstad (2009) When benefits become barriers. The significance of welfare services on transition into employment in Norway. *Alter, European Journal of Disability Research*, 3(1):63-81.
- Vedeler, Janikke Solstad, Sasaoka, Karin & Mossige, Svein (2006) *Ungdom som selger eller bytter sex. En faglig veileder til hjelpeapparatet*. Oslo: NOVA 2006, pp. 107.
- Vedeler, Janikke Solstad (2004) 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, pp. 23

Vedeler, Janikke Solstad (2003) *Dans i diaspora. Identitetsprosesser blant personer i Oslo med tamilsk bakgrunn*. Master's thesis at the University of Oslo, pp. 138.

Conference papers and dissemination

- "The constructions of meaningful everyday lives", together with Cecilie Høj Anvik at the biannual NNDR conference, Turku, Finland, May 28 2013.
- "Space, technology, and embodied motions - Exploring societal participation for Norwegians with mobility disabilities", together with Cecilie Høj Anvik at the First Annual Conference of the Alter: European Society of Disability Research, Paris, July 5-6 2012.
- "Om kropper i bevegelser - Mobilitet, deltakelse og barrierer i utforming av hverdags- og arbeidsliv", together with Cecilie Høj Anvik at the biannual conference of Norsk nettverk for forskning om funksjonshemming (NNFF), in Bodø, June 7-8 2012.
- "Utenfor, innenfor eller litt på siden? Forskerblikk på rekruttering av og tilrettelegging for arbeidssøkere med funksjonshemming", together with Cecilie Høj Anvik at a seminar by Fylkesmannen in Sogn & Fjordane, March 21 2012.
- "Mobilitet og deltakelse. Betydningen av transport", together with Cecilie Høj Anvik at a work shop by Statens Vegvesen, Oslo, January 16 2012.
- "Betydningen av transport i hverdagslivet til sysselsatte personer med bevegelseshemming", together with Cecilie Høj Anvik at a seminar by Statens Vegvesen, Oslo, November 24 2011.
- "Exploring everyday life practices among persons with mobility disabilities", together with Cecilie Høj Anvik at the NNDR - 11th Research conference, Reykjavík, Iceland, May 27–28 2011.
- "Rehabilitering i et hverdagslivsperspektiv", together with Cecilie Høj Anvik at the conference "Mellom livsverden og funksjon", at HiO November 11-12 2010.
- "Anomali, liminalitet, anerkjennelse: Jobbintervju og funksjonshemming" at the conference by Norsk Nettverk for Forskning om Funksjonshemming, Oslo, October 18-19 2010.
- "Welfare Services: Facilitators or Barriers to Labor Market Participation?" at the conference by Rehabilitation International (RI) and their 21st World Congress, Quebec City, Canada, August 25-28 2008.
- "Different pathways to employment: the experiences of young adults with disability" at the conference by Society for Disability Studies, N.Y., USA, June 18-21 2008.
- "The voice of persons with disabilities following a large scale disaster" at the conference by Society for Disability Studies, N.Y., USA, June 18-21 2008.

Other

Fieldwork in Colombo, Sri Lanka, April 2002, 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 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.

Languages

Norwegian (mother tongue)

English (fluent oral and written)