

Post. doc. project Trine Medby Fossland, Department of Sociology

Title: MULTICULTURAL CHALLENGES AND THE POWER OF IDENTITIES

The project focuses on young second generation immigrants in the north of Norway. Inspired by modernisation and globalisation theory (Castells, Bauman, Pilkington, Brubaker, Wallerstein) the study examines how young immigrants of non-European origin interact with different majority cultures (including own and parents' country of origin) in their passage into adult life. The people under study have varying social backgrounds and enter adulthood from various points of departure with diverging and gendered challenges. How do they identify with different ethnic and national categories? How do they seek recognition, belonging and participation? School, familylife, neighbourhood, leisure-time activities are important empirical arenas. Adopting a life course perspective the study focuses on transitional processes in their life histories, and analyses the integration and marginalisation processes from youth to adult within a multicultural frame.

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