Understanding Society
from the Department of Sociology
Preface

This research activity report documents our department’s activities during the period between 2007 and 2010. The report was compiled in order to have the kind of overview necessary to be able to answer to the internal evaluation that Uppsala University conducts every three years using a distinguished panel of international researchers (the so called KoF-evaluation). While putting this together we started holding a series of meetings to inform our colleagues about how the work was progressing. As we began to present what the compilation exercise we were involved in was resulting in, we began to realize that few of us had in fact the kind of overview over the department that we had compiled. Out of this realization grew the idea that the report should be printed out so that others could gain insight into the variety of research projects in which we are involved.

What started as an internal evaluation exercise ended up being, in other words, a comprehensive research report that documents not only who we are but also what we do as far as research is concerned. Worth noting is, however, that this report is not a presentation of our department per se. We are involved in numerous undergraduate activities as well which are not described here. This is namely a research activity report and not a presentation of our department as such. Thus, this report offers insight into the work that the staff of the Department of Sociology at Uppsala University is involved in and the collaborations that underlie that work. Our staff’s research profiles are also described in order to provide an overview of the variety of research expertise that can be found in this department.

Needless to say, we – the KoF-group – hope you find this report as interesting as we think it is. It offers namely relatively detailed information about what Sweden’s oldest department of sociology has been up to lately!

Thanks to everyone who contributed and to Helena Lundquist for administrative assistance.

Uppsala, 2011-04-24

Michael Allvin, Helena Olsson & Sandra Torres (i.e. the KoF-group)
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Research highlights

As Sweden’s oldest department of sociology, our department has a longstanding tradition of research in this discipline. The department runs also one of the largest doctorate programs in Sweden; a program that has been deemed to be amongst the best in the latest evaluation conducted by the Ministry of Higher Education.

In the section where we describe all of the research projects that have been running during the period in question we will go into a bit of detail about the four different research themes that are characteristic of the work we conduct. In this section we will only provide some of the highlights of our work; i.e. what our department is mostly known for.

Research in gender violence has, for example, put our department on the map of Nordic feminist sociology. The same holds true for research on Masculinities. One of the world leading researchers in this field is one of our professors.

Our research on disability, aging and gender is also considered to be groundbreaking. Our department has Sweden’s only Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Disability Studies. The research conducted on disability and the way in which this social position intersects with other social positions such as gender and age is therefore recognized across Nordic countries as research that has paved the way for a new understanding of disability.

The same can be said of the research on children and youth that is conducted at our department since it casts innovative light on young age as a social position. Of particular interest is the research conducted on economically deprived children since that work has raised national awareness amongst practitioners and policy makers who work with this vulnerable group.

Our department has also Sweden’s only Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Social Gerontology. It is therefore not surprising that innovative research on aging and old age as well as theory development within social gerontology has been conducted in this department for years. The theory of gerotranscendence is, for example, recognized world-wide as a paradigm shift in the way in which aging is understood. That theory was formulated by the professor who held the chair in question up until 2010. Social gerontological research focusing on ethnicity, culture and migration is the specialty of the new
holder of that chair. Research in this area is also well-established at a European level as the section on prizes and awards will attest to.

The department has longstanding traditions in research in the multidisciplinary field of International Migration and Ethnic Relations (IMER) and a model for explaining the Swedish population’s attitudes towards immigrants with special focus in extreme attitudes has become widely recognized.

Research in social psychology is also worth mentioning since that is also one of the research themes for which we are known. In November 2010 the Department hosted an international conference on Social Entrepreneurship – The Jane Addams Conference - that brought together scholars from around the world to discuss social entrepreneurship.

Awards & prizes
During the period between 2007 and 2010 the department received a number of prizes, awards, fellowships and honorary professorships which are worthy of being mentioned. Professor Keith Pringle received, for example, an Honorary Professorship from Warwick University.

Associate Professor Wendelin Reich received Oscarspriset as well as the Pro Futura Scientia award at the end of 2009; the latter is a fellowship awarded after nominations are made by universities to the Bank of Sweden Tercentenary Fund. The fellowship entails, among others, working at the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study (SCAS) and being involved in SCAS’ prestigious network, SIAS (‘Some Institutes for Advanced Study’; a group of nine leading European and American institutes for advanced study, among them IAS Princeton and Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin).

One of our Chairs, Professor Sandra Torres, was awarded one of the prestigious FLARE-fellowships in 2008. FLARE stands for Future Leader of Aging Research in Europe and is a unique research fellowship awarded by the European Research Area on Aging on the basis of the importance and centrality of one’s research to theory development in gerontology and geriatrics.


The international award for excellence in research that one of our emeriti professors has had named after him – the Jan Trost Award for Outstanding
Contributions to Comparative Family Studies – by the International Section of the National Council on Family Relations in the USA must also be mentioned. This prize – which was inaugurated in 1989 - is awarded every year to an internationally established researcher in the field of family studies.

Interdisciplinary, national and international activities

A look at the data we have gathered for the period that this report departs from shows that 42 out of the 112 projects that have been running at our department during this time have involved collaboration across disciplinary boundaries; some of our project entail collaborations with scholars in social work, education, psychology, political science, culture geography and medicine to name a few.

Our seminars tend also to be quite multidisciplinary. A vast majority of the researchers from outside our department that participate and/or present at them have, in fact, other disciplinary backgrounds besides sociology. Last but not least it seems appropriate to point out that we collaborate with SCAS (the Swedish Collegium for Advance Studies) since one of the department’s researchers is working from that center at the moment. Our department takes also part in the various seminars that are organized by SALT (Forum for Advanced Studies in Arts, Languages and Theology) at Uppsala University.

During 2007 and 2010 our staff gave 282 invited talks at international and national conferences as well as 85 lectures for practitioners and policy makers.

Editorial commitments

Insight into the commitments that a department’s research-active staff has as far as national and international peer-reviewed journals are concerned gives an idea of the department’s standing within the scientific community. It seems therefore important to list the commitments that our staff have as far as editorial boards are concerned. Beginning at the national level it must be noted that one of our professors is the Editor-in-Chief for Sociologisk Forskning – which is the national peer-reviewed journal in sociology – while one of our Chairs sits on the board of Socialvetenskaplig Tidskrift.

The same Chair is Associate Editor of the International Journal of Aging and Later Life; which is the first open-access international peer-review journal in the field of aging and old age. The latter sits also on the editorial boards of Ethnicity and Health which is the highest ranked journal on Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Report 2010 on ethnic relations, the Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences which is ranked as six out of 24 on the gerontology and geria-
trics list as well as *Social Policy and Society* and the *International Journal of Qualitative Methodology*.

The Associate Editor of *Women’s Health and Urban Life*, the *International Journal of Sociology of the Family* and the *Journal of Comparative Family Studies* is also one of our professors emeritus. He sits also on the editorial board of the *Journal of Family History*.

Another one of our professors sits on the board of the *Journal of Sociocybernetics* (JoS) and is a consulting editor of *Cybernetics and Human Knowing* while yet another sits on the editorial board of *Sociology*.

One of our associate professors is consulting editor to the *Scandinavian Journal of Disability Research* while one of our doctoral students sits on the Editorial Board of *Postcolonial Europe*.

**Seminars**

The research environment at the Department of Sociology is characterized by a lively and seminar culture. Besides the seminar we call the ‘Higher Seminar’ which is the seminar that hosts, among others, our doctoral students’ half-way and final seminars, there are six different seminar groups that meet regularly. These seminar groups focus on sociological theory, gender, migration and ethnic relations, social psychology, sociology of religion and disability. A total of 200 seminars have been hosted by them during this period besides the 10-12 seminars a year that are hosted by the Higher Seminar. All of these seminars attract researchers from other departments who chose to either participate or present their work in our environment because of the engaged discussions that take place in them (43 papers authored by researchers from other universities have been presented between 2007-2010).
Staff 2007–2010

Staff on Tenure (in alphabetical order)

Allvin, Michael (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology & Psychology)
Michael Allvin is doing research within the field of work and organization. As an associate professor of psychology and sociology, as well as being a registered psychologist, his research oscillates between micro and macro level analyses and focuses on two different, although closely related problems. On the one hand issues related to new working conditions, such as the individualization of work; insecurity of work within the New Economy; social and psychological consequences of flexible working conditions. His research in these areas help to explain and anticipate the consequences that increasing demands for self-organization and accountability put on the individual. On the other hand his research also focuses on issues related to new forms of organization, such as governance in post-bureaucratic organizations; knowledge intensive work and organizational restrictions; the fragmentation of contract based organizations. Here his research tracks the conflicting demands intrinsic to organizations permeable to outside forces.

Barron, Karin (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology)
Karin Barron’s research focuses on sociological perspectives on disability, gender and age/generation. Her projects answer questions dealing with power positions and enabling and disabling processes, situations and contexts. Issues such as autonomy, identity, participation, ethics, terminologies and categorizations are investigated and analyzed. Barron is consulting editor of the Scandinavian Journal of Disability Research.

Ekerwald, Hedvig (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)
Hedvig Ekerwald is a general sociologist with two specialties, youth research and history of sociology. She has conducted different studies on family life, sexuality, education, consumption and the politics of the young. She has contributed to making the male dominated youth research of the 1980’s include young women and their interests. Concerning the history of sociology, she has
written several studies on Alva Myrdal as a scholar and contributed to putting her on the map as one of Sweden’s leading social scientists. Hedvig Ekerwald is the editor of the Swedish referee journal *Sociologisk Forskning*. She is also board member of ISA-RCHS and has been appointed by the Swedish government to the board of the *Swedish Arts Grants Committee 2001-2006*. She has also been awarded the *Pedagogical Prize of Uppsala University*.

**Gronow, Jukka (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology; until August 2010)**

Jukka Gronow’s research has a focus on sociology of culture and consumption. His specific interest is ‘sociations of taste’ which can be defined as forms of social cohesion, based neither on mutual economic and political interests nor on shared strong normative expectations. He has studied various forms of modern food consumption in the Nordic countries and has also analyzed the phenomenon of fashion, which is totally irrational but extremely important as a social phenomenon since it is an important mediator between the individual and the society. Gronow has also applied these theoretical insights in historical studies of consumption in the Soviet Union during the 1930s and also in the present, rapidly changing, Russian society where many traces and remnants of the Soviet consumption model still can be found.

**Hammarström, Gunhild (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology; emeritus since 2009)**

Gunhild Hammarström’s research focus is in the field of sociology of ageing. Her areas of research include the following: a critical analysis of the modernization hypothesis concerning aged people in a cross-cultural perspective; intergenerational family relationships in relation to structural change, such as urbanization and industrialization; the construct of intergenerational solidarity; ageing and loneliness in relation to structural and individual factors as well as value continuity and value change across family generations in a changing society. Hammarström has also studied the manner in which understandings of constructs, such as successful ageing, diminished everyday competence and dependence, are affected by special circumstances such as being a home-help care recipient. She is one of the pioneers in social gerontology in Sweden and has been one of the leading researchers in old age and aging in this country for years.

**Lewin, Bo (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

Bo Lewin is a sex researcher and has since the late 1970’s headed a series of studies focusing on special groups such as adolescents, immigrants and people
with disabilities as well as the general public to further the knowledge on how sexuality is perceived and performed in different social settings and under varying circumstances. In particular he has been interested in how society shapes us, our sexuality and our perception of sexuality in general while we – at the same time – participate in the creation and maintenance of the societal perceptions of sexuality. The latest manifestation of this ongoing research is the work he has co-edited (with Professor Bente Træen of the University of Tromsø) and contributed several chapters to: Sexology in Context: A Scientific Anthology (2008). In that edited collection he develops the sociological and social-psychological understanding of the peculiarities and historical circumstances that have shaped the Nordic way of constructing, understanding and living sexuality. Bo Lewin has worked with the World Health Organization in matters related to sexual health and has been Associate Editor of AIDS Education and Prevention. He is also the Head of this department.

**Mella, Orlando (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

Orlando Mella’s research has focused on the study of Swedish attitudes to ethnic diversity in a longitudinal perspective. He has developed the research instrument **Ethnic Diversity Barometer**; an instrument that has been used to study attitudes to ethnic diversity every year since 2005 among a representative sample of the Swedish population. His research pays particular attention to the study of extreme negative attitudes toward immigrants and assumes that such attitudes are not outliers but important indicators for the potential development of general attitudes toward ethnic minorities. Most recently his interest has also been on the study of attitudes and behaviors in relation to social risks and catastrophes. Mella is also the Head for the Forum for Latin American Studies at Uppsala University, coordinating a network composed by 12 Latin American universities and 4 Nordic universities. He has been guest professor at several Chilean universities (U del Pacifico, U San Sebastian, U Central, U de la Frontera) and was awarded the Pedagogical Prize of Uppsala University in 2006.

**Misheva, Vessela (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

Vessela Misheva’s research interest is in the intersection of macro and micro sociological theory. She publishes extensively in both macro-sociological systems theory and social psychology. The theory of emotions with a focus on self-conscious emotions, theoretical and applied symbolic interactionism, and autopoietic systems theory are main concerns in most of her publications. Part of her
publications deal with issues of the sociology of knowledge and the theory of science. Misheva is a member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Sociocybernetics* (JoS) and is a consulting editor to *Cybernetics and Human Knowing*.

**Näsman, Elisabet (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

Elisabet Näsman’s research focuses on the Sociology of Childhood and on the theoretical issues concerning impact of the age order and institutionalized life course in present day society, the social construction of childhood and child positions, ageism in childhood as well as children’s rights and agency. Empirically, her interests have encompassed the work life – family life interface (parental leave, working hours, work environment issues, the meaning of work, family negotiations, and work to family spillover). Furthermore she has studied the financial lives of children (at home, pre-school and school) and children’s perspectives on, and strategies for, various forms of adversity in childhood (such as fathers’ violence against mother, poverty and unemployment). She has also studied how such adversities affect children’s lives at pre-school and school. In general theoretical terms the studies are, in addition to sociology of childhood studies, informed by gender studies, symbolic interactionism, organization theory, intersectionality and research on violence. A special focus is on research ethics and children’s participation in research. Professor Näsman was program coordinator of the Social Work Program at Uppsala University between 2009 and 2010 and the Pro-Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences between 2009 and 2011.

**Palm, Irving (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology)**

Irving Palm’s research direction and research interest has in substance revolved around the social phenomenon of social movement, international migration and cultural meeting. His dissertation dealt with the growth of two early social movements and the relation between them at different levels of Swedish society. Later the interest and research has been directed towards cooperation between different organizations. Such a field of research passes under the name ecumenicalism, which means cooperation between religious organizations. He has also studied inter-organizational cooperation within the official sector at different levels and in relation to different developments in society. His other research interest deals with migration and people’s attitudes to, and the results of, ethnic diversity in society. In all of these cases his research deals with meetings between movements or organizations and also between persons with different backgrounds; what happens at such meetings is of great interest.
**Pringle, Keith (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

Keith Pringle’s research fields are: the sociology of gender (masculinities/men’s practices); intersectional perspectives (especially focused on young age, gender, and ethnicity); comparative welfare analysis; and the sociology of social work. Professor Pringle is one of the world’s leading researchers in the field of Critical Studies on Men and is a member of the expert advisory group on gender for the Swedish Research Council. His most recent publications include: (co-editor) *Men and Masculinities Around the World: Transforming Men’s Practices*, Palgrave MacMillan, New York, in press; (co-editor) the *International Encyclopedia of Men and Masculinities*, Routledge, New York, 2007; (co-author) *European Perspectives on Men and Masculinities*, Palgrave MacMillan, 2006; (co-author) *Men and Masculinities in Europe*, Whitting and Birch, London, 2006. He has also led a number of international European Union-funded research networks in the fields of masculinity studies and human rights violations. He holds the Chair in Social Work and Social Policy at London Metropolitan University. In addition he is Honorary Professor in the SWELL Research Centre at Warwick University in the UK as well as Honorary Professor at Aalborg University in Denmark and Affiliated Professor at Mälardalen University College in Sweden. Professor Pringle is also member of the Advisory Editorial Boards of the international journal *Men and Masculinities* and of the journal *NORMA* (Nordic Journal for Masculinity Studies).

**Rathsman, Kerstin (Ph.D. & Senior Lecturer)**

Kerstin Rathsman’s research focus is in the field of social psychology. She has studied the consequences of incest and how women’s development of self and their social life as adults are affected when they have been subjected to sexual abuse in their childhood. She has analyzed incest from a symbolic interactionist perspective linking it to gender and power relations. Her research developed a concept of “black holes” in the victims’ identity and asked whether we can/will see what happens in the most forbidden relationship? She has also analyzed whether these children have any support from school or other adults around them when the abuse exists from the perpetrators in the family. Rathsman is Deputy and Assistant Head of Department since 2009 and was the Director of Studies between 2001 and 2008.
**Söder, Marten (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Disability Studies, emeritus since 2010)**

The focus of Mårten Söder’s research has been on different sociological aspects of disability, with particular emphasis on professional and political discourses, welfare provisions, attitudes and identity formation. Studies of discourses have a particular focus on historical developments, in particular the ideology of services for persons with intellectual impairments. His studies of welfare provision include critical analysis of legal, organizational and professional activities and have lately focused on group homes for persons with intellectual impairments. The starting point for his research about attitudes was a critique of the concept of attitudes and its operationalization on the basis of which the idea of ambivalence as a central dimension of our understanding of disability has been developed.

**Tornstam, Lars (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Social Gerontology, emeritus since 2010)**

Lars Tornstam has in his research set the stage for the development of his theory of gerotranscendence. This theory was developed to address what was seen as a mismatch between dominant theories in social gerontology and existing empirical data. A development towards gerotranscendence can involve some overlooked developmental changes that are related to increased life satisfaction. The gerotranscendent individual typically experiences a redefinition of the Self and of relationships to others and a new understanding of fundamental existential questions including becoming less self-occupied, attaining an increased feeling of affinity with past generations. The individual might also experience a decrease in interest in material things. Positive solitude becomes more important. There is also often a feeling of cosmic communion, and a redefinition of time, space, life and death. Gerotranscendence does NOT imply any state of withdrawal or disengagement. Rather, it is a theory that describes a developmental pattern beyond the old dualism of activity and disengagement. In 2006 Tornstam was awarded by the Swedish journal 'Äldreomsorg’ with a so called Value Ground Award for important contributions for the theory of gerotranscendence. In 2006 he also was awarded by the Swedish Gerontological Society with the 2006 Great Gerontology Award for his outstanding contributions to gerontological research.
**Torres, Sandra (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Social Gerontology)**

Sandra Torres’ research is at the crossroad between the sociology of aging and the sociology of international migration and ethnic relations. As such, she is regarded as one of the leading ethno-gerontologists in Europe which is why she was awarded one of the prestigious FLARE-fellowships (Future Leader of Aging Research in Europe) by ERA-AGE NET (a European research strategy program financed by funders across Europe). Torres’ areas of research expertise include: the relationship between cultural values and understandings of successful aging; the problematization of culture relevance (or the lack of) in studies of aging and old age; the manner in which understandings of gerontological constructs are affected by life transitions and specific circumstances; issues related to late in life migration and the effects that understandings of ethnic ‘Otherness’ and transcultural care encounters have in the planning and provision of elderly care. Professor Torres is *Adjunct Professor (Professor II) in Rehabilitation & Aging at Oslo University College*, Norway and was a *Visiting Professor in Social Gerontology at King’s College London* in England (2009-2010). She is Associate Editor to the *International Journal for the Study of Ageing and Later Life* and sits on the editorial boards of *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences; Ethnicity and Health; Int.l Journal of Qualitative Methods; Social Policy and Society* and *Socialvetenskaplig Tidskrift*. She is also the *President of the Swedish Gerontological Society* and a Council Member of the *Int'l. Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics*.

**Trost, Jan (Professor of Sociology; emeritus since 2000)**

Jan Trost is working with theory improvement of the perspective of symbolic interactionism and empirical applications of this theoretical perspective within the field of family research. He has been invited as visiting professor at, e. g., *University of Minnesota, University of Leuven, Belgium, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, The Kinsey Institute at University of Indiana, Oslo University*, and as distinguished professor at *University of North Carolina*. Trost has published more than 40 books and 200 scientific articles/chapters. He is Honorary President of the *Committee on Family Research of the International Sociological Association*. In 1999 the North American organization *National Council on Family Relations* inaugurated an annual award in his honor, the *Jan Trost Award for Outstanding Contributions to Comparative Family Studies*. Professor Trost is Associate Editor of *Women’s Health and Urban Life*, the *Inte-

Affiliated staff (in alphabetical order as well)

**Ahmadi, Fereshteh (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology at Gävle University College)**

Fereshteh Ahmadi’s research interest is on the role of religion and spirituality in people’s life. She wrote her doctoral thesis on ‘Iranian Islam and the Concept of the Individual’. She has been interested in two main areas: aging and immigration and aging and spirituality. She has also analyzed Islam and feminism as well as women and integration. Her studies have focused also on culture, religion, spirituality in coping and music and coping.

**Eliaeson, Sven (Ph.D. & Research Fellow)**

Sven Eliaeson’s research interests have had Max Weber’s methodology and its receptions as Schwerpunkt. He has also done work on intellectuals such as Machiavelli, S. Pufendorf and G. Myrdal. He is currently writing a monograph on Myrdal’s intellectual biography, mainly focusing on Myrdal’s life-long struggle against uncontrolled value intrusion and the new relevance his work has gained for the pan-European problems of civil society and sustainable welfare state. He has also studied Axel Hägerström’s value philosophy and its methodological consequences and his interests include the long line of secularization of social thought and the proper pursuit of intellectual history and conceptual history. In recent years he has increasingly been engaged in European cooperation. He has arranged symposia at the Centre for Social Studies (CSS) in Warsaw, on democracy and civil society East of the Elbe and ‘problems and prospects’ for transformation processes and the European Union enlargement. His extensive interest in history has also resulted in co-edited volumes on the Norwegian secession from Sweden in 1905 and the Nordic security policy. Eliaeson is Visiting Professor of Sociology at the Centre for Social Studies and Graduate School for Social Research of the Polish Academy of Science in Warsaw, Poland.
**Eriksson, Maria (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology, Researcher)**

Maria Eriksson’s research mainly follows two pathways. One concerns social change and its dynamics. The primary foci have been social work and social policy, and the relationship between the two. The empirical field has been families and children, and men’s violence against women and children they know. The other pathway concerns evaluation research and how critical perspectives might contribute to the debate about evidence based practice. Maria Eriksson is interested in how different forms of inequality interact. She has also focused upon age and gender and to some extent ethnicity. Her research explores the construction of policy problems as well as the relationship between formal and informal institutions at the interface between different ‘domains’ of policy and practice. She has carried out a comparative research project in the Nordic countries. She is coordinating a Nordic research network on child protection measures as well as evaluation of support interventions to children exposed to violence. Eriksson has lead several national expert assessments and she has been Profile Co-coordinator and Programmed Co-coordinator within and for the Social Work Programme at our department.

**Hugemark, Agneta (Ph.D. & Researcher)**

Agneta Hugemark’s research starts out from theories on organizations, social movements, and the welfare state. Included is research on social movements’ struggle for social justice and how collective identities are articulated and political claims expressed as a matter of redistribution, recognition and equal participation. Special interest is placed on conflicting claims within/between organizations, and how the solutions may (dis)advantage different groups within the movements. Her research also includes how recent changes in the welfare state – marketization and consumer choice – have ended in new challenges for social movements as well as for individual citizens. As a consequence, also the state is faced with new challenges. Her research on the effects of these changes has primarily been carried out within the disability field. More specifically, the field of Personal Assistance is in focus since this is the welfare policy field in which the mentioned changes have had its most distinct and obvious consequences.

**Jess, Kari (Ph.D. & Senior Lecturer in Social Work)**

Kari Jess’ research is mainly in the field of evaluation, both socio-economic and process evaluation. Her areas of research expertise include: program evaluation of correctional programs for young offenders as well as programs for
addicts and addicts with physical handicaps. Her recent research includes a report on the program theory of Evaluation Verkstad Practice (EVP). EVP is an evaluation capacity building endeavor where the participants learn about evaluation by doing an evaluation. An international network has been formed around EVP’s in which Jess is one of the members. Of interest is perhaps that although she was affiliated to our department during the period in question, she is a part of a tenure staff now.

**Lundström, Catrin (Ph.D. & Researcher)**

Catrin Lundström works with a research project on first-generation Swedish migrant women living in the Western parts of the United States, Singapore and Costa del Sol, in southern Spain. Her research focuses on the racialized and gendered constructions of migrating bodies and (re-)articulations of cultural identities in these shifting social and political landscapes. In relation to this project, she was a visiting scholar at the Sociology Department, *University of California at Santa Barbara* between 2007 and 2008. Catrin’s doctoral thesis examines young Latina women in the increasingly multi-ethnic Sweden, and covers a range of issues related to national belonging, housing segregation, suburban mythologies and popular culture. As a Ph.D. Student, she was a visiting scholar at the Department of Linguistic Anthropology of the *University of Arizona*, Tucson (2005).

**Reich, Wendelin (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology, on leave 2010-2014)**

Wendelin Reich’s main area of research is pragmatics (the study of communicative interaction), which is a field that draws equally on linguistics, philosophy, social psychology, and artificial intelligence. Among his recent contributions are ‘The Cooperative Nature of Communicative Acts’ (Journal of Pragmatics, forthcoming) and ‘Basic Communicative Acts (BCAs) in Human-Robot Interaction’ (AAAI Press/Proceedings, forthcoming). In the years following his dissertation, Wendelin developed an alternative to speech act theory that coheres better with current research on how the brain processes information, especially communicative signals, and research on how interaction by means of communicative acts may have evolved in genus Homo. The chief problem with speech act theory, he argues, is its ignorance of context. Cognitive neuroscience and evolutionary psychology both predict that comprehension of communicative acts was evolutionarily selected to exploit context in a computationally efficient manner. He has also developed formal models of how context is integra-
ted in the process of communicative comprehension. His primary focus is on “Basic” communicative acts in face-to-face settings (pointing gestures, yes/no signals, etc.) which are linguistically trivial but capable of conveying complex and context-sensitive meanings. Wendelin is Pro Futura Scientia V Fellow at the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study (SCAS) in Uppsala which is why he is on leave at the moment.

Schirmer, Werner (Ph.D. & Researcher)
Based on Luhmann’s systems-theoretical approach, Werner Schirmer’s research focuses on the social construction of agency: how and under which conditions are people addressed as agents or non-agents in social processes. Werner examines this theoretical question in two different areas: a) respectful and disrespectful behavior in social interactions and b) the notion of personal responsibility for one’s health in Swedish healthcare priority-setting. Schirmer has been a postdoctoral visitor at the University of California at Irvine and at Ghent University.

Sjöborg, Anders (Ph.D. & Researcher)
As a sociologist of religion Anders Sjöberg has specialized on youth and religion. Focusing on the relationship between religion and social values, his current project concerns public schools and the role of religious education (RE) in promoting intercultural understanding in a secularized and culturally plural society. Other research interests include youth culture and religion, where he is a member of the Nordic network on the mediatization of religion and culture.

Åsander, Ann-Sofie (Ph.D. & Researcher)
Ann-Sofie Åsander studies the quality of life and sexual health of HIV-infected youth living in Sweden using both quantitative and qualitative approaches. She has also studied the psychosocial situation of HIV-infected parents with African origin living in Sweden and identified support strategies for these families.
Ph.D. students

**Andersson, Catrine (BSSc in Sociology)**

Catrine Andersson’s doctoral project analyses the concept of marriage using archeology and conceptual history to trace shifts and continuities. The results show love as a central concept for introducing gender neutral marriage, and norms of coupledom as central to maintaining the role of marriage in the Swedish modern state. By enforcing differentiation between sexual and non-sexual, reproductive and non-reproductive, coupled and non-coupled relationships, social order is maintained. Thus, despite major changes, coupledom has been constant over the past century.

**Andersson, Malinda (Ph.D. in Sociology in 2010)**

Malinda Andersson’s general research interests are critical social theories and sociology of knowledge. In her doctoral project, she combines two areas of research: sociological perspectives on social policy on the one hand, and postcolonial, feminist, and queer approaches to nation formation on the other. In focus are discursive aspects of welfare, i.e. how various families, citizen groups and social problems are constructed in social policy and official documents. Her research shows that the relevance of analyzing divisions such as ‘normal’/’deviant’, ‘Swedes’/’immigrants’, ‘health’/’illness’, lies in the possibility of exploring premises and consequences of particular categorizations, and problematizing the conditions which make them appear natural.

**Berggren, Kalle (BSSc in Sociology and Political science & MA in Gender Studies)**

Kalle Berggren’s research interests are primarily intersectionality studies and critical studies on men and masculinities. He focuses on how ideals and practices of masculinity intersect with the social positions of sexuality, ethnicity and class in the Swedish context. His research examines these processes in Swedish rap lyrics. Through examining the often explicit lyrics of hip hop, his dissertation aims not only to account for a neglected dimension of hip hop culture, but also to contribute to an understanding of masculinity as discursively and intersectionally constructed and negotiated.

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1 Note that the doctoral students listed are the ones that have been in our program during the period that this report focuses on (2007-2010). Some of them have just received their Ph.D.’s which is why that is the degree listed in parenthesis for some. The reason why those with a Ph.D. are not listed as members of staff is that their projects are dissertation projects and are best served by descriptions alluding to the doctoral program that they have just completed.
**Corte, Ugo (MA in Sociology)**

The aim of Ugo Corte’s doctoral project is to demonstrate the usefulness of modern social movement theory to study subcultures. More specifically, he uses the concepts of *resources* from Resource Mobilization theory (Zald and McCarthy, 1977; Edwards and McCarthy, 2004), and to a lesser extent of *framing processes* (Snow et al., 1986: Snow and Benford, 1988 and Benford), and *collective identity* (Melucci, 1984), to research White Power music. In his dissertation he analyzes a case study of a lifestyle sport community.

**Dahlkild-Öhman, Gunilla (MSSc in Political Science)**

Gunilla Dahlkild-Öhman’s research focus is on children exposed to father’s violence to mother. Her dissertation explores radical learning and its conditions in the field of family law investigations in the social services in Sweden. Her research points out that new knowledge, new frames of interpretation, new discourses as regards violence in heterosexual relationships and children exposed to such violence are not "easy" to handle. Established relations of power – between violent fathers and abused mothers as well as between violent fathers and victimized children - are challenged. Learning about this topic will almost inevitably constitute a form of “radical learning”. Dahlkild-Öhman uses this concept to highlight that this type of learning is radical both in the sense of transcending established frames of interpretation and in the sense of challenging existing relations of power in the society.

**Egeberg Holmgren, Linn (Ph.D. in Sociology in 2011)**

Linn Egeberg Holmgren’s field of research is critical masculinity studies. Her thesis, *No Man’s Land: on men as feminists, interview performances and the politics of passing* (2011), deals with issues of pro-feminist men and feminist theory on gendered experience and Selves in interview interaction and in relation to gender (in)equality of the welfare state. Her research further elaborates the sociological concept of passing and introduces the concept of co-fielding to research on interaction and reflexivity in qualitative interviewing; as such it is considered ground-breaking within the Nordic field of masculinities.

**Eriksson, Lovisa (MSSc in Social Psychology)**

Lovisa Eriksson’s studies how interaction on social arenas on the internet has gained in popularity over the last decade, and how an increasing number of dyadic relationships are formed online. The aim of her dissertation is to improve the social
psychological understanding of how close interpersonal relationships can form and be maintained on the internet, especially with respect to trust, intimacy and social emotions. In 2009 Eriksson was awarded the Torgny Segerstedt’s prize for best article in Sociologisk Forskning; the national peer-review journal in sociology.

**Ekstam, Helen (MSSc in Social Sciences)**

Helen Ekstam’s research area of interest is over-crowded housing in urban areas. She studies this phenomenon in relation to gender, ethnicity and social stratification. The aim of her doctoral thesis is two-fold: to study individual interpretations of living in over-crowded housing and to study welfare norms concerning crowding.

**Engholm, Pär (BSSc in Sociology)**

Pär Engholm is interested in questions concerning the philosophy and sociology of science and the philosophy of language as well as questions regarding the mind and evolutionary epistemology. The subject of his PhD thesis is American Pragmatism with particular focus on Richard Rorty. The working title of the thesis is “Late Pragmatism and the ‘Transcendence’ of Metaphysics: The Case of Richard Rorty”. In this work he performs an analytical as well as historical exposition of the implosion and demise of analytic philosophy and the formulation of a neo-pragmatist position in the aftermath of the radical questionings of the foundations of the Analytic school by Sellars, Quine and Davidson.

**Fernqvist, Stina (BSSc in Gender Studies & MSSc in Sociology)**

Stina Fernqvist’s research project aims to define the meaning of economic hardship concerning material conditions, social relations and construction of identity. Another important aspect of her project is to analyze the visibility and agency of children within welfare institutions and social policy.

**Flinkfeldt, Marie (BA in Sociology & BA in Political Science)**

Marie Flinkfeldt’s research interests revolve around medical discourse, presently focusing on long-term sick leave. The over-arching aim of her research is to explore how sick leave legitimacy is managed in situations of potential questioning, and how illness authenticity, as part of this, is accomplished and undermined in interaction. Ultimately, this is a micro-level approach to exploring culture and social structure, as they are produced and reproduced in social interaction. The research contributes to an understanding of the conditions of being on sick leave in Sweden, as well as the interplay between different professional groups involved in the sick leave process.
Gröndal, Hedvig (MSSc in Sociology)
Hedvig Gröndal’s research interest centers on childhood, law, language and interaction. She examines legal representation of children in Swedish care proceedings. Her research focuses on the kind of legal representation that is created in the proceedings through the argumentation performed by the representatives which, consequently, raises questions about how the legal representatives handle the child’s best interest and the child’s wishes. The project builds on different kinds of material, such as written material from care proceedings, sound recordings and observations from court hearings.

Haghverdian, Serine (MSSc in Social Psychology)
Serine Haghverdian’s research concerns the lived experiences of young women of Middle Eastern descent living in Sweden. Her main focus is to explore how these young women construct their own identity with regards to the complexity of them being ethnically recognized as ‘the Other’ from the perspective of the majority society. With this project, she aims to increase the understanding of the lives of young women from collectivistic cultures often referred to as patriarchal, highly traditional, and controlled by the widely debated concept of honor.

Hannerz, Erik (MSSc in Sociology & MSSc in Cultural Studies)
Erik Hannerz’ research project aims to investigate how the subcultural is kept together, despite participants’ heterogeneities and alternative interpretations of the authentic. The three questions that inform his dissertation project are: what orders these differences, how are they made meaningful and more importantly what consequences do they have? In addition, the project investigates how members of cultural groups define and create their social space; how meaning is attributed and action validated in relation to each other and to the cultural frameworks that is both the foundation and the consequence of these actions. The way in which actions and symbols are made authentic are also studied as they are made distinct from a cultural ‘Other’, thus the issue of authenticity is rather a subjective feature disguised as something true. His project investigates, therefore, how the image of authenticity is created within the subcultural not how it is perceived from the outside. Hannerz is coordinator of the research seminar Cultural Space at the Department of Sociology of Gothenburg University.
**Iversen, Clara (MSSc in Social Psychology)**

Clara Iversen’s main research interest is the management of credibility in relation to victims and offenders. She has also studied credibility in relation to the social service’s responses to young ethnic minority women who have experienced violence in their families. Her research project departs from the sociology of scientific knowledge, more specifically an ethno-methodological approach to science as a social practice among other social practices. Iversen studies also how identities are managed in interaction. Her dissertation taps into a discussion of the development of Evidence based Practice (EBP) in social work and what it means for the profession of social work and for the profession of research on social work and, moreover, what conditions for service-users does the development of EBP in social work imply.

**Jukkala, Tanya (BA in Sociology)**

Tanya Jukkala’s main research interests are within the areas of medical sociology, deviant behavior, sociological theory and quantitative methods. Her dissertation project is on suicide mortality in Russia. It aims at an understanding of the high level of suicide mortality in contemporary Russia against a backdrop of the historical development of Russian suicide mortality. Developing the theoretical and methodological approaches to suicide within the sociological field are other important parts of her project.

**Jurkane, Iveta (MSSc in Sociology)**

Iveta Jurkane’s dissertation project is on intimacy in long-distance romantic relationships. Her point of departure is that any relationship, including dating relationships, has to be maintained. They demand some sort of investment – time, energy, and often also financial. In case of long distance romantic relationships (LDRR) there are limited possibilities of personal meetings. Nevertheless, previous studies show that long distance couples show similar level of satisfaction with their relationships, higher idealization of the romantic partner, and are not more likely to commit infidelity. The aim of Jurkane’s study is to investigate how couples cope with permanent distance and how partners design their romantic relationships without proximity. Her dissertation aims to bring the long distance relationship phenomenon to a higher level of abstraction, theorizing mutual communication in time and space context, and explaining the idealization of the romantic partner.
**Kalat, Anne-Sofie (MSSc in Social Psychology)**

Anne-Sofie Kalat’s research focuses on educational sociology, sociological research on identity and gender studies. She is also interested in different perspectives on what fair and equal education means and strategies to get closer to these goals and in this context, action research. Primarily, her research has explored the ways in which social categorizations of gender, class and age make interactions and identities meaningful. Kalat focuses on men as a social category, and how notions of masculinity can be used to maintain hegemonic and subordinate positions within a specific institution or organization. In her projects she has especially been interested in methods by which interactions between people can be studied (e.g. participant observations, semi-structured group interviews and action research seminars).

**Kania Lundholm, Magdalena (MSSc in Sociology & MA in European Political Sociology)**

Magdalena Kania Lundholm’s research interests can best be described by referring to the debate on nationalism, national identity and social media. Her dissertation project examines contemporary forms of nationalism and national identity with a particular focus on the discourse of patriotism in popular culture and social media. It engages with the highly controversial debate concerning contemporary nationalism that is now a typical element in public discussions across the ‘new Europe’. More specifically, the project addresses the cultural aspect of nationalism as found in the contested discourse of modern patriotism in Polish discussion forums and other forms of social media such as Internet citizenship journalism. Kania Lundholm is member of the Editorial Board of Postcolonial Europe.

**Lassinantti, Kitty (BSSc in Sociology)**

Kitty Lassinantti has been involved in various projects concerning eldercare (such as the inventory and evaluation of palliative care, co-ordination between regional health care and municipal eldercare and staff policy and education). Since 2009 her dissertation project is in the field of disability and gender, and focuses on women diagnosed with the neuropsychiatric diagnosis ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyper Activity). The aim of her project is to further the understanding of what being categorized/categorizing yourself as a woman with ADHD can mean.
**Mjöberg, Jessica (Ph.D. in Sociology in 2010)**

Jessica Mjöberg’s research focuses on social psychological issues with an emphasis on social theory. She studies the specific conditions that surround life and relationships in contemporary Western societies and is particularly interested in theoretical constructions of intimacy. She is also interested in the sociology of knowledge and the way in which knowledge about social life is constructed.

**Paulsen, Roland (BA in Sociology & MA in Media and Communication)**

Roland Paulsen’s research focuses on issues concerning the changing meaning of labor in a society where productivity is continually increasing. Mainly due to technological development, the need for labor has never been smaller than it is today. Yet we are working more than what earlier generations have done during most of human history. This is because labor, and wage labor in particular, has become an end in itself rather than the means for producing material wealth. His dissertation work will show how the ideology of labor is emptying work of substance and value. He was the winner of *The Nordic Sociological Association Competition for Junior Sociologists* in 2008 and of the *27th International Labor Process Conference Best Doctoral Paper* in 2009. During the Fall of 2009 Paulsen visited the Department of Human Resource management at Strathclyde University and is currently engaged as *Fulbright Visiting Student Researcher at the Department of Sociology of Cornell University*.

**Peuravaara, Kamilla (BSSc in Sociology)**

Kamilla Peuravaara’s research interests can best be described as conceptions of the social meaning-caring body, constructions of normality, ideal and deviancy among young women with disability. The research she is conducting for her dissertation aims to contribute with an understanding, in Sociology of the Body, as well as in Disability Studies, about conceptions and constructions of the body as part of constructing identities.

**Räterlinck, Lennart E. H. (BA in Psychology & MA in Sociology)**

Lennart Räterlinck’s research interests involve psychoanalytic theory, symbolic interactionism, and systems theory. He specifically focuses on the concept of the Neighbor in the works of Slavoj Žižek, a concept which becomes the anchoring point for a discussion of questions concerning the construction of ‘the Other’, of the fundamental conditions of sociality and human interaction, and of a decentralized notion of the subject. His dissertation aims to contribute to
an understanding of both the concept of “the social” and of the subject that is highly sociologically relevant and that might present new ways of conceptualizing human interaction.

**Salmonsson, Lisa (MSSc in Sociology)**
Lisa Salmonsson’s research interests can best be described by referring to the debate on intersectionality. She focuses namely on the relationship between professional status and immigrant background. Her dissertation project aims to contribute to an understanding of how highly-educated immigrants in general, and immigrant doctors in particular, are perceived and regarded in the Swedish health care sector. Empirically-speaking her dissertation focuses also on the experiences of doctors with immigrant backgrounds as professionals in institutions where ethnic-hierarchies are at play.

**Smedberg, Naomi (BA in Sociology and Hispanic Studies and MA in Sociology)**
Naomi Smedberg’s research interests include conceptualizations of power, self-government, health, family, nature, and normality, and if/how these can be operationalized, primarily through the lens of gender, age and sexuality, in the analysis of both official and non-official texts – the latter referring to “the little techniques of government” which can be read in everyday speech, texts and actions (Rose, O’Malley, Valverde, 2006). Michel Foucault’s work on discourse, governmentality, and biopolitics provide a fruitful basis upon which to explore the aforementioned conceptual areas, as do more recent governmentality studies’ perspectives, which in themselves have been deeply inspired by Foucauldian theory. Smedberg’s interests can be categorized as lying at the crossroads between youth studies, educational sociology and the sociology of knowledge, allowing for an exploration of how young people and their teachers are constructed as subjects, and what categories of subjects, with what needs and capabilities, and to what ends, in the context of school.

**Sohl, Lena (BA in Literature)**
Lena Sohl’s research focuses on upward class mobility in a Swedish context and on intersections such as gender, class, race and sexuality. Her research contributes to an understanding of upward class mobility in a Nordic context. Upward mobility is often discussed in terms of life chances; the education system, for instance, is thought to be able to compensate for being brought up in a family where no one has a higher education. The Nordic Welfare model is
sometimes used as explanation to why upward mobility is easier in Sweden than in the US. But this “American Dream in a Swedish context” can be put into question by using feminist and postcolonial theory.

**Vieira, Magdalena (MSSc in Sociology & MA in Cultural Anthropology)**
Magdalena Vieira’s research interests lie at the crossroad of the anthropology of travel, the sociology of situations and international migration and ethnic relations. Her main focus is on the empirical exploration of social interaction between Swedes and immigrants riding city buses. Her focus is on (bus) context influencing interaction between different players, which means that context is not emphasized as the main topic for this project. Instead, the social interaction is here presented as a premise for understanding. Exploring interaction ritual theory in the context of this project she aims to point out how new cultural symbols are generated, to what extent and when the meanings of these symbols are shared, concretized and presented, and when old symbols retain social commitments or fade away as no longer meaningful.

**Wejbrandt, Anita (MSSc in Sociology & MS in Social Care)**
Anita Wejbrant’s main interest is within the field of social gerontology. Her dissertation project comprises studies related to relationships in the frame of dementia. Among the topics explored are: marital satisfaction, issues regarding communication and quality of life. One of the positive aspects she focuses on is relationships in the midst of dementia that do not exhibit the common expressions of violent behavior that are usually documented in the literature on this subject.

**Wernesjö, Ulrika (MSSc in Sociology)**
Ulrika Wernesjö’s research interest can best be described by intersectionality and also identity and identification processes. In her research, she is particularly interested in relationships between age, ethnicity and gender. Her dissertation aims to contribute to an understanding of how unaccompanied children and young persons are positioned in Swedish society as immigrants and as children and/or young adults. Moreover, she focuses on how these children and young person’s themselves create and negotiate belonging in this particular context.
Willander, Erika (MA in History)

Erika Willander’s research interest concerns contemporary forms of spirituality and religion with an orientation toward lay definitions and their relation to societal structural change. She is interested in secularization theories and their counter-argument, such as the spiritual revolution claims and the religious transformation hypotheses based on individualization theories. Moreover, she has an interest in statistical research methods and is currently working with an analysis on Swedish blog texts about spirituality and religion using Context Categorization Method. Since 2009 she has been the coordinator for the Sociology of Religion Research Seminars at our department.
The department’s research environment can be best described by alluding to the 112 projects which have been running between 2007 and 2010. These projects can be grouped into four themes. These are: 1) social positions and their intersections; 2) critical studies on culture, policy and practice; 3) social, systems and institutional interaction and 4) sociology and its intellectuals.

The theme of social positions and their intersections encompass projects that focus on class, gender, sexuality, age, ethnicity, religion and disability as well as their intersections. Our department’s longstanding tradition of having Chairs with specializations in gender, social gerontology and disability as well as a growing interest on research on children and youth among staff has contributed to making this theme the largest in our department. Irrespective of which social position these projects focus on it is clear that a problematizing theoretical edge characterizes all of these endeavors. They all aim, in one way or another, to contribute to expanding sociology’s understanding of how social positions – and their intersections – affect our daily lives. 43 projects about this theme have been conducted during the period in question. They have generated a total of 168 publications, 166 invited talks at conferences and 76 lectures for practitioners and policy makers.

The theme of critical studies on culture, policy and practice is the second largest research stream. Some of these projects focus on the study of cultural practices and could be best described as studies that depart from cultural sociology. Within this theme there is also a stream of research that aims to problematize the assumptions that guide policy at different levels and focus on different target groups. Last but not least, this theme includes critical studies of practice in different sectors such as, for example, schools, social care services of different kinds and elderly care to name a few. A total of 37 projects have been conducted about this theme during the period in question; they have generated a total of 76 publications, 41 invited talks at conferences and 9 lectures for practitioners and policy makers.

Projects whose main focus of attention is interaction have been grouped under the heading of social, systems and institutional interaction. Both micro and macro interaction is studied within the realm of this theme; a theme that is anchored in the longstanding tradition of research in social psychology that we have had in our department but expands it to include more macro-oriented approaches to interaction. Some of these projects focus on the conditions for
interaction that different settings and/or systems impose while others focus on the manner in which different actors handle these conditions. A total of 28 projects about this theme have been conducted during the period in question. These projects have generated a total of 73 publications and 75 invited talks at conferences.

Last but not least, there is the research stream known as sociology and its intellectuals. This is the smallest research stream at our department at the moment if we are to go by the number of researchers that are conducting research in this area as well as the dissemination outputs they have produced.

This section aims to provide short presentations of these research projects. Under each theme, the projects are listed by type of staff first (i.e. staff with tenure, affiliated staff - which also includes staff on a time-limited contract- and doctoral students) and are alphabetically presented departing from the staff’s name which is, in most cases, the primary investigator or project leader for the project described. Information under the heading of project leader indicates if the project is being led by colleagues at other departments and/or universities. Information regarding collaborators is given in order to bring attention to the numerous collaborations we have and the variety of disciplines with which we collaborate.

Some of the projects described here were launched before 2007. Hence that information regarding project period is also given. Funding sources are listed as well in order to show the variety of funding bodies that finance the research we conduct. The name of funders is provided in English. In parenthesis we will indicate the abbreviations that this funders use in Swedish. Do note that we list both who our external funders are and whether or not we have conducted our research thanks to funding provided by the department (hereby referred to as internal funding). Last but not least we list dissemination outputs per project. Of interest here is that what we list under dissemination outputs pertains to the project as a whole and not just to the specific period that this report is concerned with (i.e. 2007-2010). Sometimes the dissemination outputs list the publications for the entire project while sometimes it is only the publications authored by staff that are listed.

For a complete list of publications see Uppsala University Publication Database: http://www.ub.uu.se/sw/Service/Publicera-och-registrera-i-DiVA/Om-DiVA/
Projects on Social Positions and their Intersections

Projects conducted by staff with tenure:

**Barron, Karin (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Identity Constructions and Participation of Young, Disabled Men

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project sheds light on how disabled young men's identities are constructed. The project sheds also light on how young men with severe impairments experience the identities that are assigned to them through various means. As such, this project aims to shed light on the intersection between disability and gender/masculinities. Qualitative methods are used to collect the data for this project.

**PROJECT LEADER:** Associate Professor Karin Barron

**COLLABORATORS:** none

**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2007-continues

**FINANCED BY:** The National Association for Disabled Children and Youths (RBU)

**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 1 report

**Barron, Karin (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Inclusion and Exclusion: On Being a Child and Disabled

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The project aims to further our understanding of the way in which disabled and non-disabled children interact with one another. Moreover, the project explores the ways in which interaction processes are gendered. As such, the project explores the intersection between age, disability and non-disability as well as the intersection between disability and gender. The project collects its data via questionnaires to parents of disabled children of the ages 2-6 and through qualitative interviews and observations at pre-school centers (both children and staff will be interviewed).

**PROJECT LEADER:** Associate Professor Karin Barron

**COLLABORATORS:** none

**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2010-continues

**FINANCED BY:** The National Association for Disabled Children and Youths (RBU)

**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** none yet
**Ekerwald, Hedvig (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

PROJECT TITLE: Globalizing Religious Identities: An Interview Study on Young Practicing Muslims in Sweden

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project focuses on young practicing Muslims in Sweden. The aim is to explore important changes in the religious identities of today's young believers in a globalized world. The project is based on 30 semi-structured thematic interviews with young Muslims. The project departs from Jocelyne Cesari's research on Islam in France and focuses on the changes that religious identity undergoes as people make the transition from migrant to minority and, as their identities as Muslims, move from collectivistic to individualistic. The project aims to shed light on whether the first Muslim generation born and raised in Sweden is different from the immigrant parent generation. As such, this project focuses on religion and age as social positions as well as on the intersection between these two. The empirical material for this project is collected through qualitative methods.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Hedvig Ekerwald

COLLABORATORS: Professor Fereshteh Ahmadi (Department of Social Work, Gävle University College) and Professor Mattias Gardell (Theological Department, Uppsala University). Project reference researchers: Mohammad Fazl-hashemi (Department of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, Umeå University) and Mohammad Reza Nafissi (London Metropolitan University)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-continues

FINANCED BY: internal funding through the universities involved

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: Applications to (FAS) and (VR) in 2008, to (FAS & VR) and (RJ) 2009 and to (VR) in 2011.

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**Ekerwald, Hedvig (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

PROJECT TITLE: The 2004 Tsunami and Young Victims

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project aims to investigate if and how adolescents’ experiences of trauma following a natural disaster differ from adults’ experiences in this respect. The project focuses on young victims’ narrated experiences. As such, it brings to fore the importance of social positions (in this case age) to the study of traumatic experiences.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Christina Hultman (Institutionen för medicinsk epidemiologi och biostatistik, Karolinska institutet)

COLLABORATORS: Professor Hedvig Ekerwald (at our department); Mats Uttervall (Department of medical epidemiology and bio statistics); Doctoral
Candidate Anna Lindam (Department of Molecular Medicine and Surgery, Karolinska Institutet) & Professor Tom Lundin (Department of Neuroscience, Uppsala University)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2006-continues
FINANCED BY: Data collection financed by Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS), Swedish Emergency management Agency (Krisberedskapsmyndigheten), National Board of Health and Welfare (Socialstyrelsen) via National Center for Disaster Psychiatry.
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: none yet

Gronow, Jukka (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Social Differentiation and Cultural Distinctions in Finland
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project focuses on social differentiation and cultural distinction in Finland and entails extensive empirical studies conducted in close collaboration with British, Danish and Norwegian sociologists. The main research question concerns the relation between high-brow and low-brow culture and the importance of taste as a marker of social status. As such, the project explores the relationship between social positions and cultural distinction. The empirical material for this project is constituted of archival sources, published documents and newspapers as well as qualitative interviews.

PROJECT LEADER: Associate Professor Keijo Rahkonen (Department of Sociology, University of Helsinki)
COLLABORATORS: Professor Jukka Gronow (Uppsala University; since the fall of 2010 at the Department of Sociology, University of Helsinki); Dr. Semi Purhonen; Doctoral Candidate Nina Kama and Doctoral Candidate Riie Heikkinen (Department of Sociology all three at University of Helsinki, Finland)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2007-continues
FINANCED BY: Academy of Finland (2007-2009)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 10 peer-reviewed articles (3 authored by Prof. Gronow)

Hammarstöm, Gunhild (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology; emeritus since 2009)

PROJECT TITLE: Constructions of Biological and Social Aging in Carl von Linné’s Dissertation on Human Aging

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project analyses Carl von Linné’s dissertation on human ageing (Metamorphosis Humana) from 1767. Linné regards human aging as a biological fact and makes an analogy between human ageing as
a biological fact and the transition (metamorphosis) in nature, mainly plants. Nevertheless, his descriptions of human aging and age stages are social constructions based on his personal experiences of people in his neighborhood in the 18th century. Hence that this project has been classified as belonging to the theme of social positions since its focus on age (old age in particular) sheds light on the socio-historical construction of aging.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Gunhild Hammarström
COLLABORATORS: none
PROJECT PERIOD: 2007-2008
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book chapter.

Hammarström, Gunhild (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology; emeritus since 2009)

PROJECT TITLE: Has the ‘Law of Jante’ Lost its Importance in Swedish Society?
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project emanates from earlier projects on value change and continuity. It focuses on the ‘law of Jante’ which is a Nordic unspoken rule of behavior that has regulated social interaction for many years. Swedish daily newspapers have noted that this law no longer has a firm grasp among younger generations. Empirical longitudinal and cross-sectional studies seem to support this assertion. This project aims to shed light on these empirical findings by discussing how they relate to structural change (such as the transformation of the educational system) as well as in relation to family attitudes and upbringing. It is hypothesized that the family (parents) has a more important role for value change than it is usually assumed.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Gunhild Hammarström
COLLABORATORS: none
PROJECT PERIOD: 2010
FINANCED BY: none
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: not yet

Näsman, Elisabet (Ph. D. & Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Economic Hardship in Childhood: How Children, Parents, Schools and Social Welfare Agencies Understand and Deal with Children’s Lives in Families with Scarce Resources
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proportion of poor children in Sweden is low in international comparison, but has increased during the last two decades.
Research in this area has mainly been quantitative and research on children’s own experiences is scarce. This project aims therefore to explore the impact of economic hardship on children from children’s perspective on their everyday life in a condition of scarce economic resources, combined with the perspectives of peers, parents and professionals at school, in social welfare agencies and in administrative court (where parents may appeal decisions on social welfare). Empirical material consists of qualitative interviews with poor children and their parents, with professionals from schools, social welfare agencies and administrative courts and with groups of children at school. The latter have also answered a questionnaire. Court records have been analyzed as well.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Elisabet Näsman

COLLABORATORS: Leg. Psychologist Christina von Gerber and Doctoral Candidate Stina Fernqvist (at our department)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2005-2010

FINANCED BY: Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS) 2005-2010

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 report, 2 articles accepted for publication in peer reviewed international scientific journals, 1 submitted to a Swedish peer reviewed scientific journal, 12 conference papers and 14 presentations for practitioners and/or policy makers

Näsman, Elisabet (Ph. D. & Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Father’s Financial Oppression: Exploitation, Control and Deprivation of Mothers and Children

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Economic abuse, economic violence and financial violence are concepts used in research on men’s violence against women, in order to grasp aspects of exploitation, control and deprivation related to money and property. Focused research in this area is rare and there is conceptual confusion related to differences in understanding what kind of phenomena this is. The relationship between father’s power and the access to material resources for mothers and children is a neglected area in several areas of research: research on violence, on poverty and on child abuse and neglect. The project aims at exploring this area of power theoretically as well as empirically and raises questions about financial oppression in the family as a critical issue also in professional practices, crossing institutional borders within the social welfare agency as well as within the legal system. Children’s invisibility and their lack of participation in research as well as professional practices in this area is another critical issue raised in the project.
PROJECT LEADER: Professor Elisabet Näsman
COLLABORATORS: Doctoral Candidate Stina Fernqvist (at our department)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2006 ongoing
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 chapter in a book (in Swedish and Norwegian), 3 conference papers and 2 presentations for practitioners and/or policy makers

Pringle, Keith (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)
PROJECT TITLE: Research Network on “The Social Problem of Men”
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project entails a research network. The network consists of leading scholars from 10 universities across Europe. The network aims to collate and re-analyze all data on men and masculinities derived from: (a) academic studies (b) policy documentation (c) statistical sources (d) media representations. The data collated has been generated in 14 European countries and is therefore quite rich as far as showing the variety of approaches to studies on men and masculinities in these areas.
PROJECT LEADER: Professor Keith Pringle
COLLABORATORS: Professor Jeff Hearn (Sociology, HANKEN, Finland); Ursula Mueller (Gender studies and sociology, Bielefeld University, Germany), Professor Irina Novikova (Gender studies, University of Latvia), Elzbieta Oleksy (Gender Studies, Lodz University, Poland), Harry Ferguson (Social Work, University of the West of England, UK), Oystein Holter (NIKK; University of Oslo).
PROJECT PERIOD: 2000-2010
FINANCED BY: EU Research Directorate under the Framework 5 Programme (2000-2003); internal funding by Aalborg University and Mälardalen University (2004-2008) as well as by our department (2008-2010)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 books; 1 book chapter, 6 articles in peer-reviewed journals; 2 European-Union published reports; 11 policy-option papers to European governments and to the European Commission (Prof. Pringle is co-author in all of these) as well as countless keynote lectures and conference papers.

Pringle, Keith (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)
PROJECT TITLE: Elderly Men as Primary Carers
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project explores the multi-faceted care relationships and caring processes associated with men who as elders become
the primary care-givers for their heterosexual partners. As such, this project is exploring how the social positions of gender and old age intersect with one another within the context of informal caregiving. Qualitative interviews are used to collect the data for this project.

PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Henrik Eriksson (Mälardalen University) and Dr. Jonas Sandberg (Ersta-Sköndal University College)
COLLABORATORS: Professor Keith Pringle
PROJECT PERIOD: 2007-2010
FINANCED BY: internal funding from all three universities involved
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 articles in peer-reviewed journals

Söder, Mårten (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Disability Studies)
PROJECT TITLE: Disability in an Intersectional Perspective
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project aims to conduct an inventory of how intersectionality has been dealt with, theoretically and empirically, in disability research as well as how general theorizing about intersectionality has related to the disability dimension. In focus are also the differences in how the concept of intersectionality in different methodological traditions (such as quantitative positivism, interpretive qualitative research, critical realism and system theory) has been used.
PROJECT LEADER: Professor Mårten Söder
COLLABORATORS: Dr. Lars Grönvik (at our department as well as at the National Board of Social Welfare).
PROJECT PERIOD: 2007-2009
FINANCED BY: internal funding

Söder, Mårten (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Disability Studies)
PROJECT TITLE: Juridification and Vulnerable Groups
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: One aspect of juridification (the expansion of juridical thinking to encompass human relations that were earlier regulated by other means) is the way it affects moral judgment and ethical thinking. According to several authors juridification means that complex relations are transformed into rather simple and formal categories and the moral dimension is lost. In this project the consequences of juridification for vulnerable groups and their situation are investigated. Theoretically it relates to the discussion about
“the ethics of caring” and empirically it build on various studies done at the Nordland Research Institute about the situation of elderly people, children and persons with disabilities.

PROJECT LEADER. Dr. Tina Handegaard (Nordland Research Institute, Bod, Norway).

COLLABARATORS. Professor Mårten Söder (at our department)

PROJECT PERIOD. 2005-2008

FINANCED BY. Norwegian Research Council.

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS. 2 peer-reviewed articles (one of them under review).

Torres, Sandra (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Social Gerontology)

PROJECT TITLE: Migration Research within the Research Programme ‘Forms of Care in Later Life: Place, Time and Life Course’

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Research Programme mentioned in the title is comprised of five different themes: 1) end-of-life research; 2) research on aging and disability; 3) research on civic involvement; 4) late-life-housing related matters and 5) migration-related research on aging, old age and elderly care. Prof. Eva Jeppsson-Grassman (Linköping University) leads the entire research programme. Thirteen researchers and 6 doctoral students are involved in the programme as a whole. Prof. Torres leads the migration team (5 researchers from 4 different universities who are working on 8 different studies). As such, this project does not entail the project leadership of single studies per se but rather the management of the research team working on migration-related issues.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Sandra Torres (for the management of the migration team)

COLLABORATORS: Associate Professor Erik Olsson (CEIFO, Stockholm University); Dr. Emilia Forssell (Department of Social Work, Ersta Sköndal University College); Dr. Mirjaliisa Lukkarinen-Kvist (NISAL, Linköping University); Dr. Anna Olaison (NISAL, Linköping University) & Doctoral Candidate Laura Machat-Fromm (NISAL, Linköping University)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2007-2012


DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 7 peer-reviewed articles (4 authored by Prof. Torres); 15 book chapters (6 authored by Prof. Torres) and 32 conference papers (24 authored by Prof. Torres)
Torres, Sandra (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Social Gerontology)


PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project departs from the Nordic debate on media representations of ethnic ‘Otherness’ and from the debate on globalization’s implications for different European elderly care regimes and the manner in which they try to adapt to increasing ethnic diversity. It aims to shed light on the public debate on ethnicity, culture, language, religion and migration within the context of Swedish and Finnish elderly care sector. The point of empirical departure is twofold and historical. The data is comprised of all daily newspaper articles reporting on elderly care that have addressed these issues as well as all sector-specific articles published in the main professional newsletters. Data from 1995-2009 has been collected and analyzed using quantitative and qualitative content analysis methods.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Sandra Torres

COLLABORATORS: Dr. Camilla Nordberg (Swedish School of Social Sciences, University of Helsinki) & Dr. Jonas Lindblom (School of Sustainable Development of Society and Technology, Mälardalen University)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-continues

FINANCED BY: initially funded through internal funding awarded by Linköping University, Mälardalen University and the University of Helsinki (2008-2009); Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS) (2009 – when the project got some funding through the Research Programme mentioned above) and internal funding from this department since 2010

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 peer-review article (submitted) and 4 conference papers

Torres, Sandra (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Social Gerontology)

PROJECT TITLE: Successful Aging: Abilities, Strategies and Understandings

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Gerontological research has shown that elderly people find it problematic to become dependent upon other people and upon different social support programs in order to manage their everyday lives. A variety of studies have also shown that elders develop an awareness of their declining physical abilities when they start having health problems. There is,
however, very little research on how this awareness might affect the strategies that elders utilize in order to age well and no research at all on what this awareness might mean to the understandings of gerontological-related constructs that elders uphold (such as successful aging, dependency, independence and autonomy). This project aims therefore to study how ‘cognitively healthy’ elders with minor physical health problems handle being a home help care recipient by focusing on the different strategies that these elders utilize in order to age well as well as on the implications that these might have for their understandings in question.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Sandra Torres
COLLABORATORS: Professor Gunhild Hammarström (also at this department)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2003-continues
FINANCED BY: funding by the Swedish Research Council (VR) (2003-2004) and through internal funding Mälardalen University, Linköping University and Uppsala University from 2005
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 5 peer-reviewed articles; 1 book chapter; 1 report and 8 conference papers

Torres, Sandra (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Social Gerontology)

PROJECT TITLE: Critical Studies on Ethnicity, Culture, Globalization, Migration and Old Age
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project is comprised of a variety of studies that explore in one way or another how ethnicity, culture and migration has been explored in research on aging and old age. The studies are informed by sociological theory on ethnicity and migration and aim to expand social gerontological theory through a critical approach to the field of gerontological inquiry known as ethno-gerontology. They all problematize the manner in which ethnicity, culture and migration is understood within social gerontology and argue that our understanding of aging and old age would best be informed if we were to expand how we think of ethnic ‘Otherness’ in this field.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Sandra Torres
COLLABORATORS: none
PROJECT PERIOD: 2001-continues
FINANCED BY: internal funding from Mälardalen University (2001-2004); Linköping University (2005-2007) and through the FLARE-grant (Future Leader of Aging Research in Europe) awarded through ERA-AGE NET (2008-2011)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 edited book, 4 book chapters, 2 edited special issues for two different peer-reviewed journals (1 forthcoming), 12 articles in peer-reviewed journals (1 forthcoming), 30 keynote/plenary presentations and 14 conference presentations

Projects conducted by affiliated staff:

**Eriksson, Maria (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology, Researcher)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Children with a Father who is Violent to the Mother Encounter Family Law: Victimized Children as Social Actors in Investigations Concerning Custody, Contact or Residence.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** In court mandated investigations regarding child custody, contact or residence, investigators are required to seek information about the child's “view” and report it to the court, unless it is inappropriate. There has been little knowledge about what this means for children in a difficult life situation. The project focuses on children whose father has been violent to their mother. It explores how institutional and organizational conditions impact upon children’s participation in social services’ family law investigations. Of special interest is how professionals pay attention to children’s victimization, fear and need of protection.

**PROJECT LEADER:** Associate Professor Maria Eriksson

**COLLABORATORS:** Doctoral Candidate Gunilla Dahlkild-Öhman & Professor Elisabet Näsman (both at our department), Doctoral Candidate Jeanette Sundhall (Gender studies/Department for Cultural Sciences, Goteborg University)

**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2005-2008

**FINANCED BY:** Crime Victim Compensation and Support Authority (Brottsofferfonden) (2005-2007) and Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS) (2005-2007)

**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 1 book/monograph (in press), 9 book chapters (2 of them by non-department staff), 8 articles in peer-reviewed journals, 24 conference papers, 55 presentations for practitioners and/or policy makers

**Lundström, Catrin (Ph. D. & Researcher)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Gendering Swedishness in the US context

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project highlights the construction of Swedish national identity and gender in a non-Swedish context by focusing on the Swedish Women Educational Association (SWEA), a network comprising of Swedish-speaking women all over the world. In this context, the expressions
of Swedishness are physically disconnected from the nation, but have roots in
an image of Swedish nationhood. The aim is to develop theoretical knowledge
about gender, ethnicity and national identity through ethnographic investiga-
tion in the non-profit network for Swedish-speaking women, SWEA, in the
U.S. context.

PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Catrin Lundström
COLLABORATORS: Professor France Winddance Twine (Department of So-
ciology, University of California, Santa Barbara)
FINANCED BY: Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 3 articles in peer-reviewed journals, 7 confe-
rence papers and 1 conference workshop

Lundström, Catrin (Ph. D. & Researcher)

PROJECT TITLE: Transnational Perspectives on Swedish Latinas
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project departs from previous work on Swe-
dish Latinas from a transnational perspective, analyzing youth culture, transna-
tional identities, and the politics of diaspora. It is based on individual interviews,
pair interviews, and focus group discussions with twenty-nine high school girls
of Latin American descent which are born and/or raised in Sweden as well as
adoptees with the same descent. The study aims to understand how mechanisms
of exclusion and inclusion operate through intersecting power structures of race,
gender, class, sexuality, and age, in the increasingly multi-ethnic Sweden.
PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Catrin Lundström
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book, 1 book chapter, 3 articles in peer-re-
viewed journals, 1 article in popular science journals and 3 conference papers

Sjöborg, Anders (Ph.D. & Researcher)

PROJECT TITLE: Silence, Conflict or Exoticism?: Views on Religion and Re-
ligious Education among Students and Teachers of Upper Secondary Schools
in Multicultural Sweden
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: How do high school students and their teachers
view religion and religious Education? Earlier Swedish studies in this area
either failed to pay enough attention to the multicultural situation, or failed in
delivering results on a more general level. This project aims at acquiring new
knowledge on how religion is perceived in a society which on one hand, has been described as one of the most secularized in the world, but on the other hand can be characterized as multicultural and even multi-religious. The project benefits in its analysis from quite recent international studies on the topic in other cultural contexts. From recent studies the secularization thesis has been challenged by theories addressing the increasing importance of cultural pluralism. This project employs data from, first, a survey enquiry among upper secondary students and teachers. Some questions posed in the questionnaire are the same to students and teachers. Second, focus group interviews on religion and Religious Education are conducted in both categories.

PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Anders Sjöborg

COLLABORATORS: Professor Jörgen Straarup (Umeå University) and Professor Geir Skeie (University of Stavanger & Department of Education of Humanities and Social Sciences, Stockholm University)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2011

FINANCED BY: Swedish Research Council (2008-2011) as well as internal funding

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 conference papers and 3 article manuscripts in progress (only publications authored by Dr. Sjöborg are listed)

Sjöborg, Anders (Ph.D. & Researcher)

PROJECT TITLE: Human Rights and Religion

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The aim of the project is to investigate the relationship between religion and human rights. This is accomplished by studying if and how the attitudes on human rights among upper secondary school students are affected by their religious attitudes and religious behavior, controlled for socioeconomic differences. Swedish survey data has been collected by a questionnaire among Christian, Muslim and secularized youth. Focus group interviews are used to complement the quantitative data. This project concerns the Swedish participation in an international project involving 15 countries. The Swedish part is also integrated in the program The Impact of Religion – Challenges for Society, Democracy and Law 2008-2018, Uppsala University.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Johannes van der Ven (Department of Religious Studies, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands) as well as Professor Anders Bäckström (Department of Theology, Uppsala University)

COLLABORATORS: Dr. På Ketil Botvar (Kifo, Oslo); Professor Trygve Wyl- ler (Department of Theology, University of Oslo); Professor Iain Cameron (Department of Law, Uppsala University); Professor Mattias Gardell (Department
of Theology, Uppsala University) and Dr. Anders Sjöborg (at our department)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2005-2013
FINANCED BY: Swedish Research Council (VR) (2008-2018) as well as internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 conference papers, 1 book chapter (forthcoming) and 2 article manuscripts in progress (only publications authored by Dr. Sjöborg are listed)

Sjöborg, Anders (Ph.D. & Researcher)
PROJECT TITLE: Religion as a resource?
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The aim of this project is to raise knowledge on the place and significance of religion for young people’s lives in a late modern, multi-cultural and globalized Sweden. The project seeks to mediate a width of perspectives and viewpoints from which religion (content, forms, and functions) can be described and interpreted (that is to analyze religion from an interdisciplinary angle). The aim is also to problematize and contribute with new perspectives and issues in relation both to earlier studies in these matters but also “general opinion”. Earlier Swedish studies have shown that changes in young people’s living conditions during the 21st century bring to the fore several existential dilemmas where some central themes concern feeling of inclusion in society, increased feelings of stress and anxiety, and the relation between self-realization and social relations.
PROJECT LEADER: Associate professor Jonas Bromander (Uppsala University & Church of Sweden) and Associate Professor Mia Lövheim (Department of Theology, Uppsala University)
COLLABORATORS: Dr. Kerstin von Brömssen (Department of Literature, History of ideas, and Religion, University of Gothenburg) and Dr. Anders Sjöborg (at our department)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2009-2012
FINANCED BY: Church of Sweden (2008-2011) and the Sigtuna Foundation (2008-2011)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book chapter (forthcoming)

Åsander, Ann-Sofie (Ph.D. & Visiting Lecturer)
PROJECT TITLE: Quality of Life and Sexual Health among HIV-infected Youth Living in Sweden.
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project departs from previous research among HIV-infected African parents that showed that these parents had integrated a
more Swedish way of talking and being close to their children, but in relation to their HIV status they used what they described as the African style of not informing their children. How is it for young HIV-infected children to grow up with parents that do not communicate with them about HIV? Are young adults able to tell others about their own HIV-infection and especially in such a vulnerable situation that includes sexual contact? In Sweden there are about 160 young HIV-infected persons between 15 to 24 years of age, where the majority have African origin. This study has both a quantitative and qualitative approach exploring life quality and sexual health among HIV-infected youth in Sweden.

PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Ann-Sofie Åsander
COLLABORATORS: Associate professor Kerstin Sjögren Fugl-Meyer, (NALS & Department of Social Work, Karolinska University Hospital, Stockholm); Associate Professor Lars E. Eriksson, (Department of Neurobiology, Care Sciences and Society, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm) & Social worker Christina Ralsgård (National Centre for Knowledge and Resources for HIV-infected Children and Youth, Karolinska University Hospital).

PROJECT PERIOD: 2010-2012
FINANCED BY: SMI, Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease Control
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: none yet

Åsander, Ann-Sofie (Ph.D. & Visiting Lecturer)


PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Most children of HIV-infected persons in Sweden have a parent of African origin. The aim of this project was to deepen our knowledge and understanding of the psychosocial situation of HIV-infected parents with African origin living in Stockholm/Sweden, as to identify and improve support strategies for these families. Reported experiences of discrimination from medical personnel outside the HIV clinic, implies a need for education of health personnel at primary healthcare centers. Health care personnel need to pay attention to these HIV-infected African parents’ cultural dilemmas and adapt medical information accordingly and repeat information about how the virus is and is not transmitted.

PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Ann-Sofie Åsander
COLLABORATORS: Professor Anders Björkman (Division of Medicine, Department of Infectious Diseases, Karolinska University Hospital) & Professor Elisabeth Faxelid (Division of Global health, Department of Public Health Sci-
ences, Karolinska Institutet).
PROJECT PERIOD: 2004-2010
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 papers in peer reviewed journals, 2 papers in non-peer-reviewed as well as 4 talks at seminars for researchers and practitioners.

Åsander, Ann-Sofie (Ph.D. & Visiting Lecturer)
PROJECT TITLE: Report-Survey and Analysis of Interventions to Support Children of Infected Persons.
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This is a report requested by the National Board of Health and Welfare. The survey was performed among the infectious diseases departments in Sweden as well as voluntary organizations for HIV-infected persons. Results showed that the majority of children are not informed about their parents HIV status. There is a need for a joint programme for medical and psychosocial follow-up at the infectious diseases departments in Sweden. The cooperation between the HIV clinics and the voluntary organizations needs to be revitalized.
PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Ann-Sofie Åsander
COLLABORATORS: None
PROJECT PERIOD: 2007
FINANCED BY: National Board of Health and Welfare (former National Institute of Public Health)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 report and 1 talk at a seminar for researchers and practitioners.

Projects conducted by Ph.D. students:

Berggren, Kalle (BSSc.. in Sociology and Political science & MA in Gender Studies)
PROJECT TITLE: Swedish Hip-hop in an Intersectional Perspective
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The music style known as hip-hop has emerged as a recent global genre of popular culture, and is associated with resisting processes of racialization as well as with the reiteration of stereotypical notions of gender and sexuality. This Ph.D. project examines constructions of power and identity in Swedish hip-hop lyrics. In contrast to previous research on Swedish
hip-hop that have been characterized by ethnographic methods, this project utilizes discourse analysis – informed by intersectional theory – to deconstruct how race, gender and sexuality are constructed and negotiated in rap lyrics.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Elisabet Näsman and Professor Keith Pringle
PROJECT PERIOD: 2010-2014
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 conference paper

Dahlkild-Öhman, Gunilla (MSSc in Political Science)
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The topic of men’s violence to women and children’s position in these families is a topic still relatively new to the profession. The topic is also controversial. New knowledge, new frames of interpretation, new discourses as regards violence in heterosexual relationships and children exposed to such violence are not ”easy” to handle. Established relations of power – between violent fathers and abused mothers as well as between violent fathers and victimized children - will be challenged. Therefore, learning about this topic will almost inevitably constitute a form of “radical learning”. This concept is therefore used in order to highlight that this type of learning is radical both in the sense of transcending established frames of interpretation and in the sense of challenging existing relations of power in the society. The thesis investigates radical learning and conditions for this kind of learning.
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Associate Professor Maria Eriksson and Associate Professor Michael Allvin.
PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2011
FINANCED BY: own funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 8 conference papers

Egeberg Holmgren, Linn (Ph.D. in Sociology 2011)
PROJECT TITLE: No Man’s Land: On Men as Feminists, Interview Performances and the Politics of Passing
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This Ph.D. project is based on a qualitative interview study with 28 young men who are engaged in feminism. The research involves an elaboration of Erving Goff Man’s interactionist concept of passing
and introduces the analytical concept of ‘co-fielding’ to the interdisciplinary social sciences of qualitative methods/interviewing. The thesis also includes an analysis of gender equality and research on men and masculinities in the Swedish welfare state, and an elaboration of how issues of ethics and empirical contexts can be understood as part of theoretical research processes.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis was supervised by Professor Elisabet Näsmman and Professor Keith Pringle (at our department). Professor Jeff Hearn (Centre for Gender Studies, Linköping University and Hanken School of Economics, Helsinki) was a collaborator in the project.

PROJECT PERIOD: 2004 -2011
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 6 articles in peer-reviewed journals, a dissertation monograph introducing 4 of the articles and 5 conference papers

Ekstam, Helen (MSSc in Social Sciences)
PROJECT TITLE: Female Bodies in Small Spaces: A Phenomenological Approach to Compact Living
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project aims to study the emotions between the body and the material reality of the small home. A combination of phenomenological theories (e.g. Merlau-Ponty, Österberg) and feminist development of the latter (e.g Moi, Grosz) are being used as point of theoretical departure.
COLLABORATORS: none
PROJECT PERIOD: 2006-2012
FINANCED BY: The Institute for Housing and Urban Research
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 journal article and 1 conference paper

Fernqvist, Stina (BSSc in Gender Studies & MSSc in Sociology)
PROJECT TITLE: Economic Hardship in Childhood
PROJECT DESCRIPTION The project as a whole focuses on children’s own perspective, experiences in everyday life and financial and social strategies in interaction with children, parents and professionals at school and in the social welfare agencies.
PROJECT LEADER: Stina Fernqvist
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Elisabet Näsmann and Professor Keith Pringle
FINANCED BY Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research
DISSEMINATION: 1 book chapter, 1 book and 2 peer-reviewed articles
Flinkfeldt, Marie (BA in Sociology & BA in Political Science)

PROJECT TITLE: Doing Sick Leave

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This dissertation focuses on long-term sick leave from work, which is approached as something that is ‘done’, or ‘talked into being’. Employing a discursive psychology (DP) framework, heavily drawing on conversation analysis (CA), the thesis sets out to examine sick leave discourse in two Swedish settings – an online forum thread about sick leave, and multi-party sick leave status meetings held by the social insurance agency. The aim, at an over-arching level, is to explore how sick leave legitimacy is managed in situations of potential (implicit, or explicit) questioning, and how illness authenticity, as part of this, is accomplished and undermined in interaction. Ultimately, this is a micro-level approach to exploring culture and social structure, as they are produced and reproduced in social interaction.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Associate Professor Maria Eriksson and Professor Elisabet Näsman

PROJECT PERIOD: 2007-

FINANCED BY: internal funding

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book chapter, 1 chapter in report, 1 peer-reviewed article (forthcoming) 3 conference papers (talks) and 1 conference poster

Gröndal, Hedvig (MSSc in Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Legal Representation for Children in Care Proceedings

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This dissertation project aims is to study legal representation for children who are 15 years and younger in Swedish care proceedings. According to Swedish law, which draws on the UN convention on the rights of the child, the representative shall acknowledge the child’s views and wishes. However, should the representative consider the child’s view not to be in the best interest of the child, the representative should advocate in line with what s/he means is in the child’s best interest. Thus, in the study it is examined the kind of representation that is constructed in relation to young children in these proceedings. Theoretically, the project is inspired by discourse analysis, conversation analysis as well as childhood sociology. The project builds on different kinds of material, such as written material from care proceedings, sound recordings and observations from court hearings.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Associate Professor Maria Eriksson and Professor Elisabet Näsman

PROJECT PERIOD: 2010-
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 conference paper.

Haghverdian, Serine (MSSc in Social Psychology)
PROJECT TITLE: Social Identity Processes and Lived Experiences among Young Women of Middle Eastern backgrounds Living in Sweden
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This Ph.D. project aims to qualitatively explore, describe and analyze lived experiences among young women of Middle Eastern descent living in Sweden. The empirical material is based on both group and individual interviews which have been focused around the participants’ lived experiences as members of an Othered ethnic and cultural group, and also around the multiplicity and complexity of identity and social belonging.
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Bo Lewin and Professor Hedvig Ekerwald
PROJECT PERIOD: 2007-2012
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book chapter, 1 paper in a conference proceedings, 5 conference papers

Kalat, Anne-Sofie (MSSc in Social Psychology)
PROJECT TITLE: Young Men’s Negotiations of Identities in Swedish Upper-Secondary School
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Ph.D. project is a micro-sociological study about young men's gendered identifications and identifications of young men in upper-secondary school. It aims to contribute to the debate about “under-achieving” boys in school in three ways: 1) by adding more (local) empirical knowledge about male and female students’ negotiations of masculinities, 2) by exploring how (educational) social psychology can contribute to the gender analysis and 3) by developing more precise concepts to use for analysis of equality-equity in education. The methods of the project include classroom observations and semi-structured interviews with individuals and groups. The sample consists of male and female students, age 16.
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Elisabet Näsman and Professor Keith Pringle
PROJECT PERIOD: 2005-continues
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 book chapters, 1 article in a peer-reviewed journal and 4 conference papers
Kalat, Anne-Sofie (MSSc in Social Psychology)

PROJECT TITLE: From Novice to Doyen – An Action Research Project on masculinities and Risk in Swedish Rescue Service

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project focuses on constructions of masculinities and risk within the fire brigade in general, and as aspects of becoming/being a firefighter in particular. Previous gender research in this area has mainly focused on understanding women’s alienation and rarely on the actual constructions of the “normal fireman”. The aim is to study the constructions of the firefighters’ masculinities with a focus on the impact of the gendered constructions of risk in processes of inclusion and exclusion within the fire brigade: What attributes, capacities and behaviors are ascribed to the position of a firefighter within the organization, and how are the external identifications of the fireman are constructed by experience and negotiations? The project is based on three sub-studies and is methodologically situated in the fields of participatory action research and ethnography. The project collects its data through participant observation of a team of firefighters, interviews and logbooks with students from a Civil Protection school doing their internship at a fire station, and research-seminars with firefighters and students separately and together with representatives from other branches of the larger civil protection organization.

PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Fredrik Bondestam (Centre for Gender Research, Uppsala University)

COLLABORATORS: Dr. Henrik Berg & Dr. Anneli Häyrén Weinestål (both at the Centre for Gender Research, Uppsala University) and Anne-Sofie Kalat (at our department & at the above mentioned center)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2009-2012

FINANCED BY: Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 conference papers

Lassinantti, Kitty (BSSc in Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Between Stigma and Resource: Women Negotiating the Meaning of ADHD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This Ph.D. project is about women diagnosed with the neuropsychiatric diagnosis ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyper Activity). Questions of identity construction, conceptions of normality and deviance, gender and disability are all in focus. An issue under investigation is whether or not being categorized/categorizing yourself as a woman with ADHD can, in certain contexts and situations, be perceived as a resource.
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Associate Professor Karin Barron and Professor Elisabet Näsman
PROJECT PERIOD: 2009-2012
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: not yet

**Löfmarck, Erik (MSSc in Sociology & MSSc in Political Science)**

PROJECT TITLE: The Trembling Hand that Feeds You: On Risk management in Everyday Life

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The thesis focuses on risk management associated with the feeding of young children, and the empirical backbone consists of qualitative interviews with their parents in Sweden and Poland. Theoretically, the study departs from the notion of Risk Society and the body of literature studying everyday life within it. The main argument being elaborated here is that risk management must be seen as involving much more than the reliance on expert systems often at the center of earlier research.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Kerstin Jacobsson and Professor Apostolis Papakostas (both at Södertörn University College) as well as Professor Elisabet Näsman (at our department)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2013

FINANCED BY: The Baltic and East European Graduate School (BEEGS), located at Södertörn University College. BEEGS is part of the Centre for Baltic and East European Studies.

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 conference paper

**Peuravaara, Kamilla (BSSc in Sociology)**

PROJECT TITLE: Conceptions of the Body, Sexuality and Gender among Young Women Categorized with Intellectual Impairment

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This Ph.D. project departs from the sociology of the body, sociological research on identity and gender studies and uses a phenomenological standpoint to shed light on how the body, gender and sexuality among young women labeled with intellectual impairment are conceptualized within consumer culture and school context. The project gathers its data through focus group interviews inspired by inclusive research as well as personal interviews with young women between the ages of 17 and 20 who are students at secondary special school.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Associate Professor Karin Barron and Professor Elisabet Näsman.
**Sohl, Lena (BA in Literature)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** The Only Way is Up: Women’s Narratives of Upward Class Mobility in a Swedish Context

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Upwardly mobile is often discussed in terms of life chances; if the education system for instance can compensate for an upbringing in a family where no one has a higher education. The Nordic Welfare model is sometimes used as explanation to why it is more likely to become upwardly mobile in Sweden than in the US. But this “American Dream in a Swedish context” can be put into question by using feminist and postcolonial theory. This Ph.D. project raises the following questions: In what ways can the concept of diaspora and transnationalism be used in understanding upward class mobility? How are possibilities to become upwardly mobile linked to notions of Swedishness and whiteness? Why is Swedishness perceived as a desirable position? How can feelings of belonging and not belonging be understood by using intersections like class, gender and race?

**COLLABORATORS:** The thesis is being supervised by Professor Keith Pringle (at our department); Associate Professor Minna Salminen-Karlsson and Dr. Fredrik Bondestam (both at the Centre for Gender Research, Uppsala University) & Dr. Catrin Lundström (Umeå Centre for Gender Studies, Umeå University)

**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2008-2012

**FINANCED BY:** internal funding

**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** none yet

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**Wernesjö, Ulrika (MSSc in Sociology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Being an Unaccompanied Child in Sweden

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This Ph.D. project is an ethnographic sociological study about experiences of belonging and everyday life in Sweden among unaccompanied children and young persons. The research project is based on participatory observations, interviews and walks with young persons who are living at group homes for unaccompanied children. By using this combination of qualitative methods the project will explore how belonging can be understood by linking belonging to geographic places and situations. Moreover, processes of exclusion and of constructing ‘the Other’ will be explored in relation to intersections of ethnicity, gender and age.
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Keith Pringle and Professor Elisabet Näsmann
PROJECT PERIOD: 2009-2013
FINANCED BY: Stiftelsen Allmänna Barnhuset (2010-2011) as well as internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: none yet

Wesolowski, Katharina (BSSc in Sociology and Gender studies)
PROJECT TITLE: Fertility and Fertility Intentions in Ukraine and Russia
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This Ph.D. project aims at studying fertility and fertility intentions of women in Ukraine and Russia using data collected (and yet to be collected) by SCOHOST (Stockholm Centre on Health of Societies in Transition) in the first hand. The research agenda consists of four studies which intend to cover factors behind women’s wish for children, factors influencing abortions and the possible bearings on fertility, family policy and its possible influence on fertility and a fifth study trying to find out if extraneous effects like weather conditions might affect survey responses on fertility intentions.
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is supervised by Professor Ilkka Henrik Mäkinen and Professor Sven Hort (both at Södertörn University College)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2010-2014
FINANCED BY: BEEGS (Baltic and Eastern European Graduate School) through the Baltic Sea Foundation
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: none yet

Willander, Erika (MA in History)
PROJECT TITLE: Religion after Individualization
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Sweden is often defined as one of the world’s most secularized countries. However, the secular description is dependent on a definition of religion which may be at odds with the predominantly forms of Swedish religious expression. Previously research commonly uses indicators such as church affiliation and acceptance of official creed as indicators for religion. These indicators do not take into account that general values of personal autonomy and self-authority in Sweden may have changed religious expression. Consequently, this Ph.D. project aims to investigate what is associated with religion in contemporary Sweden. The present aim is analyzed using survey data and a new form of quantitative text analysis based on Latent Semantic Analysis called Context Categorization Method.
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Vessela Mi-
Projects on Critical Studies on Policy, Culture and Practice

Projects conducted by staff with tenure:

**Gronow, Jukka (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**


PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project focuses on the social and cultural history of the Soviet fashion institutions in the post-war period. At the time that fashion was an anomaly in the socialist planned economy the Soviet Government and the Communist party of the Soviet Union invested heavily in the promotion of fashion. Every Soviet citizen had a right, in principle, to dress themselves beautifully and fashionably. Using archival sources, published documents, journals and newspapers as well as interviews with participants, these projects describes the historical development of Soviet fashion and analyzes the problems and contradictions it faced.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Jukka Gronow (Uppsala University; from the Fall of 2010 at the Department of Sociology University of Helsinki)

COLLABORATORS: Dr. Sergey Zhuravlev (Institute of Russian History at the Russian Academy of Sciences)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2005-2010

FINANCED BY: internal funding

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book (forthcoming in 2011) and 8 peer-reviewed articles
Hammarström, Gunhild (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology; emeritus since 2009)

PROJECT TITLE: The Policy of ‘Aging in Place’: Dilemmas in Theory and Practice

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project departs from findings emanating from a project on successful aging (listed under the theme of social positions and led by Prof. Torres), a project on old people with multiple diagnosis and a project concerning priorities in the health care sector (both conducted before the evaluation period by Prof. Hammarström). This project aims to problematize the contradiction that these previous projects brought to fore between the goal of ‘ageing in place’ that characterizes Swedish elderly care and the emphasis on older people’s right to self-determination as stipulated in the Social Service Act. As such, this project is a clear example of a critical study of policy, culture and practice.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Gunhild Hammarström
COLLABORATORS: none
PROJECT PERIOD: 2009-
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 conference papers and presentations for practitioners and policy makers

Hammarström, Gunhild (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology; emeritus since 2009)

PROJECT TITLE: Old people with Multiple Diagnoses and their Experiences of Continuity of Care

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project is a municipality-commissioned study. The project focused on older people with multiple diagnoses living in their own home. The aim of the project was to study personal experiences of the collaboration between hospital care, primary health care and the elderly care in the municipality, that is, how continuity in the care received was regarded. The findings showed that this frail group of older people experienced lack of continuity in the collaboration between the care levels and a sense of un-safeness in their own home.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Gunhild Hammarström
COLLABORATORS: none
PROJECT PERIOD: 2006-2007
FINANCED BY: Regionförbundet Uppsala län
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 report
**Hugemark, Agneta (Ph.D. & Researcher)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** From Social Justice Claims to Matters of Public Responsibility

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project departs from the assumption that the interpretation of needs and how needs can best be met, are subject to constant struggle within and between social groups. The project aims at illuminating the processes in which claims from social movements are transformed into governmental responsibility, and the role played by the social sciences in these processes. The overall purpose of the research is to increase knowledge about the interaction between social movements, the social sciences and politics.

**PROJECT LEADER:** Professor Christine Roman (School of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences, Örebro University).

**COLLABORATORS:** Associate Professor Hugemark, Agneta (at our department)

**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2007-2011

**FINANCED BY:** Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS) (2007-2010) and internal funding since

**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 1 book chapter and 2 conference papers

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**Hugemark, Agneta (Ph.D. & Researcher)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Personal Assistance in the Scandinavian Welfare State

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project entails a collaboration of researchers in Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. Of particular interest is the development of new steering tools and ways to organize and develop welfare political strategies within the public sector and in the crossover between public, private and voluntary actors. A significant aspect of the development is an increasing consumer direction of welfare services based on trends inspired by market forces but also by social movements started by service users in opposition to an incapacitating welfare state. The two trends are joined and accentuated in the scheme of Personal Assistance (PA). Although PA is the main focus of the project, the intention is to show how this arrangement highlights these trends of development and further to analyze the consequences and dilemmas which arise for welfare policy.

**PROJECT LEADER:** Professor Ole Petter Askheim

**COLLABORATORS:** Associate Professor Agneta Hugemark (at our department); Dr. Ingrid Gulsvik; Dr. Jan Andersen (Lillehammer University College, Norway); Associate Professor Karen Christensen (Department of Sociology at...
the University of Bergen, Norway); MA Bjarne Bjelke Jensen, (University of Aarhus & Danish Disability Resource Centre, Copenhagen); Dr. Inge Storgaard Bonfils (Research and Development Centre for Integrated Care in Health and Social Services, Metropolitan University College, Copenhagen); Associate Professor Kerstin Gynnerstedt (Linnaeus University in Växjö, Sweden); Hans Bengtsson (School of Social and Health Science, Halmstad University, Sweden)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2009-2012
FINANCED BY: Lillehammer University College and internal funding from the collaborating universities involved
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: none yet

**Hugemark, Agneta (Ph.D. & Researcher)**

PROJECT TITLE: The Concept of Risk in Social Theory.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The concept of risk has been used in a lot of various ways in the social sciences. Sometimes as an equivalent with danger and hazard and sometimes with the distinct meaning of calculated (by statistical methods) dangers. All of these (and more) ways to use “risk” suggest that we have to do, not with one concept but with a lot of different concepts designated with one and the same term. This project examines how the term risk is used in analyses of policy recommendations in the welfare state context.

PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Malinda Andersson & Dr. Agneta Hugemark

COLLABORATORS: none

PROJECT PERIOD: 2010-
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: none yet

**Jess, Kari (Ph.D. & Senior Lecturer in Social Work)**

PROJECT TITLE: A Socio-Economic Evaluation of the Program ‘Young KRIS’

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: A socio-economic evaluation of the costs and benefits of a correctional program for young offenders conducted by former young offenders.

PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Kari Jess

COLLABORATORS: Professor Philip Lalander (Malmö University College)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2009-2010

FINANCED BY: Allmänna arvsfonden

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 research reports
Jess, Kari (Ph.D. & Senior Lecturer in Social Work)

PROJECT TITLE: Evaluation EVP’s (workshops).
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Research about the program theory of evaluation EVP. 100 participants in EVP and some of their managers where interviewed to reveal the consistency of the EVP’s content and contribution to individuals and their organizations.
PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Per-Åke Karlsson (School of Health Sciences, Borås University College) and Professor Bengt Eriksson (Department of Social Work, Karlstad University & Hedmark University College)
COLLABORATORS: Professor Ove Karlsson Vestman and Dr. Laila Niklasson (both at Mälardalen University College), Professor Jennifer Greene (Educational Psychology, University of Illinois) and samordnare Elisabet Beijer (FoU I Väst/GR)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-continues
FINANCED BY: internal funding by the universities involved
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 research report

Lewin, Bo (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: The Social Construction of Sexuality
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Differences in life styles, sexual attitudes and sexual experiences lead to different understandings of what sexuality is. As such they shape the social construction of sexuality, the manner in which different sexual realities work as identity markers and the way in which sexuality can be an essential part in the construction of the Self. This project aims to deconstruct the manner in which sexuality – as a social position – is socially constructed.
PROJECT LEADER: Professor Bo Lewin
COLLABORATORS: Professor Bente Træen (Dept. of Psychology University of Tromsø)
PROJECT PERIOD: 1995-continues
FINANCED BY: National Board of Health (1996-1998) as well as internal funding received by both researchers from their respective departments
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 co-edited book, 8 book chapters (3 of them by non-department staff), and 2 articles in peer-reviewed journals papers
Näsmann, Elisabeth (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Family Law Proceedings, Domestic Violence and their Impact upon Schools

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The way in which preschools and schools are affected by family law disputes that involve children who have experienced violence in the family, is a neglected research area. This pilot project aims to shed light on whether or not there is a need for further staff training in these matters. As such, the project brings attention to potential gaps between policy, culture and practice. Empirical data consist of thematic interviews on staff experiences and understandings, with a strategic sample of headmasters and school and preschool staff from two cities. In addition, a survey to headmasters from 110 schools and 110 pre-schools has been conducted for an overview of prevalence of various incidents.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Elisabet Näsman

COLLABORATORS: Associate Professor Maria Eriksson & Research Assistant Linnéa Bruno (both at this department)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2010-2011


DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 conference papers, 1 article in a peer-reviewed journal (submitted) and 1 seminar for practitioners.

Palm, Irving (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Cooperation and Efficiency: a Study of Inter-Organizational Cooperation between Local Government and County Council

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: During the last decades the public sector in Sweden has gone through substantial changes. A central element in the modernization process that the system is undergoing is rationalization. This research project aims to study the way in which professions, organizational cultures and participants at different levels collaborate with one another. Moreover, the project aims to shed light on the different views on efficiency that collide as municipalities and county councils try to collaborate over organizational borders. Data from this project shows that there are good conditions for cooperation and that exploiting these can result in higher efficiency and improved quality.

PROJECT LEADER: Associate Professor Irving Palm

COLLABORATORS: Associate Professor Kerstin Collman (Department of
Business Studies, Uppsala University)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2002-2011
FINANCED BY: internal funding (2002-2004); Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS) (2005-2007) and internal funding (2008-2011)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 books, 1 book chapter, 2 reports, 3 conference papers and 4 presentations for practitioners

Pringle, Keith (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)
PROJECT TITLE: Co-ordination Action on Human Rights Violations (CAHRV)
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The part of this European project that Prof. Pringle led consisted of a sub-research network of leading scholars from universities in 11 European countries. In addition to extending the European Documentation Centre mentioned in earlier, the project explored the cross-European dynamics and processes of men’s violence in all its inter-related forms in order to produce a strategy to address such violence within the domains of policy, academia and practice.
PROJECT LEADER: Professor Keith Pringle (2003-2006) and Professor Irina Novikova (University of Latvia) (2006-2010)
COLLABORATORS: Professor Jeff Hearn (Department of Sociology, HANKEN, Finland); Elzbieta Oleksy (Gender Studies, Lodz University, Poland); Professor Irina Novikova (Gender studies, University of Latvia); Iva Smidova (Gender Studies, Masaryk University, Czech Republic); Gunilla Bjeren and Dag Balkmar (Gender Studies Centre, Stockholm University) and Lee-Ann Iovanni (Aalborg University)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2003-2010
FINANCED BY: EU Research Directorate under the Framework 6 Programme (2003-2006); internal funding from Mälardalen University (2006-2007) as well as internal funding from our department (2008-2010)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 4 book chapters, 2 articles in peer-reviewed journals and 1 European Commission-published Report

Pringle, Keith (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)
PROJECT TITLE: Transforming Men’s Practices: Men and masculinities around the World
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This book project aims to bring leading scholars in the field of men’s practices and masculinities together to produce a transnational volume (to be published by Palgrave MacMillan in New York) aimed at
academics, students, policy-makers and practitioners focused on the issue of how problematic men’s practices are being challenged and transformed across the globe. As such this project is a primary example of the kind of research projects that approach policy, culture and practice in a critical manner. Scholars from 17 countries are involved in this project.

**PROJECT LEADER:** Professor Keith Pringle; Dr. Elisabetta Ruspina (Sociology, University of Milan), Professor Jeff Hearn (Department of Sociology, Hanken, Finland) and Professor Bob Pease (Social Work, Deakin University, Australia)

**COLLABORATORS:** see above  
**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2009-2011  
**FINANCED BY:** internal funding from all of the participating universities  
**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 1 co-edited book (to be published in 2011).

**Pringle, Keith (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Dimensions of Marginalization within the Swedish Child Welfare System  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project critically explores processes of marginalization associated with the Swedish Child Welfare system: to what extent it challenges and to what extent it reproduces such processes. It does so via a discursive analysis of (a) interviews with 43 “actors” within that welfare system including: parents, welfare workers, welfare managers, central and local government as well as NGO policy-makers, politicians, academics (b) relevant policy documents.  
**PROJECT LEADER:** Professor Keith Pringle  
**COLLABORATORS:** none  
**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2001-2010  
**FINANCED BY:** Economic and Social Research Council of the United Kingdom (ESRC) (2000-2002); internal funding provided by Aalborg University (2003-2007); internal funding from Mälardalen University as well as internal funding from our department since 2008  
**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 8 chapters and 1 article in a peer-reviewed journal

**Pringle, Keith (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Research Policy and Research Practice in the Global Research Economy  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project uses a multi-method approach to
explore the power-relational processes operating across Swedish research infrastructures in the context of globalization. The project departs from case studies from two contrasting academic disciplines in an attempt to show both the differences and similarities of the processes at play.

PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Paula Mählck (Department of Pedagogy, University of Stockholm)
COLLABORATORS: Professor Keith Pringle
PROJECT PERIOD: 2010-2012
FINANCED BY: internal funding (2010) and Swedish Research Council (VR) (2011-2012)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 conference paper

Rathsman, Kerstin (Ph.D. & Senior Lecturer in Sociology; Deputy and Assistant Head of Department)

PROJECT TITLE: The School as Children’s Deputy
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project explores how schools act when children have been sexually abused. The project departs from previous research on adult women who had been sexually abused in their childhood and who reflected on the lack of support they received from their schools.

PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Kerstin Rathsman
COLLABORATORS: none
PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-continues
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book and 1 book chapter

Söder, Mårten (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Disability Studies)

PROJECT TITLE: The Diffusion of Behavioral Change Technologies in Services for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: During the last decade different behaviorist methods have spread rather fast in services for persons with intellectual disabilities and behavioral disorders. The project asks the question of why this is so, who has been the agents introducing this change and what social factors have influenced it. Theoretically we make use of neo institutional theories of organization and data stem from qualitative interviews with central agents.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Mårten Söder
COLLABORATORS: Bengt Finn (Regional Organization of Municipalities in the County of Uppsala)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2009
FINANCED BY: Regional Organization of Municipalities in the County of Uppsala
DISSEMINATION: One research report and several presentations at seminars and conferences.

Torres, Sandra (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Social Gerontology)

PROJECT TITLE: Identifying Needs in Elderly Clients with Migrant Backgrounds: Are Understandings of Cross-Cultural Interaction, Ethnic ‘Otherness’ and Gender Relevant for Need Assessment Practice?

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project departs from the research gaps that exist in the debate on institutional categorization as far as the implications of ethnic ‘Otherness’ and gender are concerned. The project aims also to address another gap; namely the lack of knowledge we have about how such understandings affect the political economy of care. The project focuses on need assessment practice in elderly care and aims therefore to explore if and how understandings of cross-cultural care interaction, ethnic ‘Otherness’ and gender affect the manners in which need assessment processes legitimize and restrict access to certain elderly care services. As such, the project is a good example of projects that tackle the intersection of themes since this project is as much about practice as it is about the ways in which that practice understands the social positions of ethnic ‘Otherness’ and gender.

PROJECT LEADER: Prof. Sandra Torres

COLLABORATORS: Dr. Anna Olaison (NISAL, Linköping University) & Dr. Emilia Forssell (Department of Social Work, Ersta Sköndal University College)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2010-continues
FINANCED BY: funded through internal funding awarded by Linköping University (2010) and Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS) (2011-2013)

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 peer-review article (forthcoming)
Projects conducted by affiliated staff:

**Eliaeson, Sven (Ph.D. & Researcher)**

PROJECT TITLE: CiSoNet

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The European Civil Society Network (CiSoNet) deals with a most promising issue of European integration and enlargement: the emergence, dynamics and perspectives of a European-wide civil society. Embedded in the EC’s 5th Framework Programme’s Key Action on “Improving the socio-economic knowledge Base”, CiSoNet aims to stimulate cross-disciplinary research that concentrates on transnational dimensions of civil society, thereby contributing to the building of a European research area in the social sciences and humanities. CiSoNet links fifteen partners from ten countries (Germany, Great Britain, France, Sweden, Spain, Netherlands, Italy, Poland, Hungary, Serbia-Montenegro), representing different disciplines - sociology, political science, history, anthropology and law.

PROJECT LEADER: Prof. Dr, mult. h. c. Jürgen Kocka, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (WZB), In Poland Andrzej Rychard and Henryk Donanski of IFiS PAN.

COLLABORATORS: John Kean, Victor Perez-Diaz, Pal Tamás, Peter Wagner, Sidonia Jedrzejewska and Sven Eliaeson

PROJECT PERIOD: 2003-continues

FINANCED BY: European Commission (2003-2004) and internal funding since 2003

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 4 conference papers (only those authored by Eliaeson are listed)

**Eriksson, Maria (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology)**

PROJECT TITLE: Intersectionality and the Dynamics of Social Policy Change

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project draws upon results from a number of previous as well as on-going empirical studies on policy, culture and practice focusing on children that are exposed to intimate partner violence. The theoretical focus concerns intersectional perspectives and how they can account for the dynamics of policy change.

PROJECT LEADER: Associate Professor Maria Eriksson

COLLABORATORS: none

PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2012

FINANCED BY: internal funding

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book/monograph (in progress)
Eriksson, Maria (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Evaluation of Interventions Supporting Children Exposed to Severe Conflicts in their Family (National Evaluation Project)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: In the Autumn of 2007 the government launched a national plan of action to combat men’s violence against women, which contained a number of initiatives to improve the situation of abused women and their children. The Institute for Evidence based Social Work/IMS at the National Board of Health and Welfare was given the task to evaluate the effects of support interventions aimed at children exposed to violence against their mothers. The evaluation compares the outcomes of the support interventions especially aimed at children exposed to violence (provided by 9 different organizations), with ”treatment as usual” provided by social service, the child- and youth psychiatry or voluntary women’s shelters (6 different organizations). The project is designed to generate at least 3 Ph.D. theses, in psychology (Göteborg University), social work (Örebro University) and sociology (Uppsala University).

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Anders Broberg (Department of Psychology, Göteborg University)

COLLABORATORS: Associate Professor Maria Eriksson & Doctoral Candidate Clara Iversen, (from our department); Associate Professor Ulf Axberg, Project Coordinator Linnéa Almqvist & Doctoral Candidate Karin Grip (Department of Psychology, Göteborg University); Professor Kjerstin Almqvist & Research Assistant Ulrika Sharifi (County Council of Värmland); Ph.D. Åsa K. Cater & Doctoral Candidate Anna Forssell (The Academy of Law, Psychology and Social Work, Örebro University)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2011

FINANCED BY: National Board of Health and Welfare (Institute for Evidence based Social Work/IMS)

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 reports (1 in press) and 1 seminar for practitioners and policy makers

Eriksson, Maria (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Evaluation of the Swedish Inheritance Fund’s Support to Projects on Men’s Violence against Women and Children

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This evaluation project concerns the support from the Swedish Inheritance Fund (Allmänna Arvsfonden) to 41 projects run by voluntary organizations during the period 1994 till 2008. The projects concerned different support interventions to children, young people or women subjected
to men’s violence, or about measures to prevent such violence. The evaluation consists of three parts: a) a document study, based on the documentation sent to the funding body Allmänna Arvsfonden by the projects; b) a survey based upon questionnaires to all of the organizations responsible for the projects, and c) an in-depth study of five selected projects, based upon interviews (n=15) with persons involved in the projects (n=31), such as project managers, co-workers, collaborators, and service users.

PROJECT LEADER: Associate Professor Maria Eriksson
COLLABORATORS: Dr. Lena Berg (at our own department)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2010
FINANCED BY: The Swedish Inheritance Fund (Allmänna Arvsfonden)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 report and 1 seminar for practitioners and policy makers

Eriksson, Maria (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Evaluation of Groups for Battered Women at Ersta Fristad (Ersta Diocesan organization, Stockholm)
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This evaluation project concerns a newly developed model for group therapy for women subjected to intimate partner violence by a male partner. The group work model is eclectic and combines psychodrama with trauma theory, cognitive behavioral therapy and psycho-educational approaches. Normally, the group lasts 1 year. The evaluation aims to assess changes following upon the participation in the group therapy: a) changes in bodily symptoms and symptoms of mental health problems; b) changes in relationships, especially as regards children and other close relations; c) changes in the social situation as a whole, especially as regards the work situation and financial independence.

PROJECT LEADER: Associate Professor Maria Eriksson
COLLABORATORS: Doctoral Candidate Gunilla Dahlkild-Öhman (at our department)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2007-2009
FINANCED BY: Ersta Diocesan organization.
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 report and 1 seminar for practitioners/policy makers
Eriksson, Maria (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Evaluation of the "Daddy-project" at the Uppsala Project against Men’s Violence (MVU)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This evaluation project concerns a newly developed group-work model aimed at fathers who are violent or aggressive towards their children’s mother. The intervention model includes support to the co-parents/mothers and in some instances also children. The evaluation uses qualitative methods in order to explore service user perspectives on the intervention model.

PROJECT LEADER: Associate Professor Maria Eriksson

COLLABORATORS: Ida Bylund (Children’s Ombudsman in Uppsala)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2010

FINANCED BY: internal funding

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 report

Eriksson, Maria (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology)


PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Efforts to promote the protection of, and support to, abused women have opened up for new understandings of children who see, hear or in other ways are exposed to men’s violence against women and its consequences. On the basis of a redefinition of children exposed to violence into children subjected to violence some important policy changes have recently been made in the Nordic countries as regards children’s status as crime victims. This development raises the question of the role played by social movements and voluntary organizations active in the field. The overarching aim of the project is to map the range of interpretative frames and strategies used in relation to the phenomenon of children experiencing violence by a selection of children’s rights and women’s shelter organizations in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden. It is explored, firstly, to what extent the selected organizations define children who "witness" violence as subjected to violence and crime victims respectively, and, secondly, if – and if so how – these organizations actively are trying to accomplish a criminalization of the act of making a child see, hear or being aware of violence to someone close to the child. The empirical material consists of documents from ten organizations working at a national level in the selected countries, as well as interviews with nine key persons from eight of the ten organizations.
PROJECT LEADER: Associate Professor Maria Eriksson
COLLABORATORS: none
PROJECT PERIOD: 2007-2008
FINANCED BY: Scandinavian Research Council for Criminology
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 article in a peer-reviewed journal, 1 article in a conference proceeding, 2 key note talks at Nordic conferences (1 research & 1 policy/practice), 1 talk at a seminar for researchers and practitioners (Tampere, Finland), 1 conference paper and 1 presentation at a departmental seminar (Stockholm University).

Schirmer, Werner (Ph. D. & Senior Researcher)
PROJECT TITLE: Conflicting Semantic Grounds in Healthcare Prioritization: Insights from Systems-Theoretical Sociology
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Scarce resources in healthcare make prioritizations between patients and treatments necessary. The Swedish government introduced an ethical platform which contains a set of rules to guide physicians’ prioritizations. However, later evaluations showed that the platform has failed its purpose of giving effective directives. This project scrutinizes a possible cause of this failure that has been overlooked up to now. We assume that the failure is due to a semantic divergence between key concepts the prioritization criteria are built upon and socially cherished values. In a pluralist society, the meanings of such values are constantly contested. A divergence between meanings of the key concepts and the prevailing understanding of values lead to incompatible expectations on how to prioritize.
PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Werner Schirmer (at our department) and Professor Dimitris Michailakis (Department of Social and Welfare Studies, Linköping University)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-
FINANCED BY: internal funding from the participating universities
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 article in a peer-reviewed journal, 2 article manuscripts currently under review and 3 conference papers
Projects conducted by Ph.D. students:

**Andersson, Catrine (BSSc. in Sociology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** One Hundred Years of Coupledom: Marriage in Swedish State Documents 1909-2009  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This dissertation project analyses the concept of Marriage using archeology and conceptual history to trace shifts and continuities. The results show love as a central concept for introducing gender neutral Marriage, and norms of coupledom as central for maintaining the role of marriage for the Swedish modern state. By enforcing differentiation between sexual and non-sexual, reproductive and non-reproductive, coupled and non-coupled relationships, social order is maintained. For one hundred years, despite major changes, coupledom is constant.  
**COLLABORATORS:** This thesis is being supervised by Professor Mats Franzén and Associate Professor Per Gustafsson  
**FINANCED BY:** internal funding  
**DISSEMINATION:** 8 conference papers

**Andersson, Malinda (Ph.D. in Sociology in 2010)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** The Logic of Blood and Roots: Transnational Adoption in the Discursive Practice of Swedish Welfare  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** In the dissertation, transnational adoption is used as an example to address the tension between inclusive and differentiating aspects of the discursive practice of Swedish welfare. The study is conducted through discourse analysis of social policy related documents published between 1997 and 2008. Drawing mainly upon postcolonial conceptualizations of national and familial belonging, the construction of transnational adoption as an area of knowledge in social policy is explored. Within the discursive practice of Swedish welfare, particular accounts of what it means to live as an adoptee and the features presumed to differentiate the adoptive family from other families are made. While these accounts could be read as well-intended inclusive concerns, they may at the same time be read as a site where normalization and racialization come into effect. The analysis of constructions of transnational adoption in social policy serves to explore the symbolic boundaries of the Swedish nation.  
**COLLABORATORS:** The thesis was supervised by Associate Professor Karin Barron and Professor Jukka Gronow
CARLSSON, MARIANNE (MA IN SOCIOLOGY)
PROJECT TITLE: Diligent Girls and Talented Boys: Talent in State Documents on Education from the 1940’s
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This dissertation aims to shed light on how talent and gender was perceived in the Swedish Government Official Reports on education that were published in the 1940’s.
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is supervised by Professor Hedvig Ekerwald and Professor Eva Sandstedt
PROJECT PERIOD: 2003-2011
FINANCED BY: internal funding and a grant from GH Nation, Uppsala
DISSEMINATION: 1 conference paper and 2 presentations

CORTE, UGO (MA IN SOCIOLOGY)
PROJECT TITLE: Subcultures: A Social Movement Approach (preliminary)
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The aim of this dissertation is to demonstrate the usefulness of modern social movement theory to study subcultures. More specifically, I use analytical the concepts of resources from Resource Mobilization theory (Zald and McCarthy, 1977; Edwards and McCarthy, 2004), and to a lesser extent of framing processes (Snow et. al, 1986: Snow and Benford, 1988 and Benford), and collective identity (Melucci, 1984), to research White Power music, and analyze a case study of a lifestyle sport community.
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Prof. Mats Franzen and Associate Professor Michael Allvin (the original supervisor was Prof. Jukka Gronow)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2012
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION: 3 peer-reviewed articles (1 in progress) and 1 book chapter

EKSTAM, HELEN (MSSc IN SOCIAL SCIENCES)
PROJECT TITLE: Crowded or Cozy? A Critical Comparison of the Swedish Welfare Norms of Crowded Housing and the Subjective Experience of Crowding
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The aim of this Ph.D. project is twofold: 1) to study the crowded population in Stockholm and to compare the subjective notion
of crowdedness to the standardized norms as well as 2) to study the welfare norm in governmental documents.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Eva Sandstedt and Associate professor Per Gustafsson
PROJECT PERIOD: 2006-2012
FINANCED BY: The County Administrative Board in Stockholm 2006-2012 as well as internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 report

Hannerz, Erik (MSSc in Sociology & MSSc in Cultural Studies)
PROJECT TITLE: Positioning the Mainstream: Concave and Convex Frameworks of Punk
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This Ph.D. project aims to investigate how the subcultural is kept together, despite participants’ heterogeneities and alternative interpretations of the authentic. The three questions that inform the project are: what orders these differences, how are they made meaningful and more importantly what consequences do they have? In addition, the project investigates how members of cultural groups define and create their social space; how meaning is attributed and action validated in relation to each other and to the cultural frameworks that is both the foundation and the consequence of these actions. The way in which actions and symbols are made authentic are also studied as they are made distinct from a cultural Other, thus the issue of authenticity is rather a subjective feature disguised as something true. Hence that the project investigates how the image of authenticity is created within the subcultural not how it is perceived from the outside.
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Associate Professor Tora Holmberg and Professor Mats Franzén
PROJECT PERIOD: 2007-2012
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 4 conference papers

Iversen, Clara, (MSSc in Social Psychology)
PROJECT TITLE: The Practice of Evaluation in Social Work with Children
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Evaluation-studies are increasingly being used to improve social work practice. The evaluations themselves imply certain conditions for professionals and service-users. This Ph. D. project utilizes the perspective that the sociology of scientific knowledge affords in order to critically address how the practice of evaluation in social work with children works. The
project sheds light, among others, on how the idea of ‘a positive outcome’ is constructed in evaluation-interviews with social workers.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Associate Professor Maria Eriksson and Associate Professor Tora Holmberg

PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2013

FINANCED BY: internal funding

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 article manuscript (submitted)

**Kania, Magdalena (MSSc in Sociology & MA in European Political Sociology)**

PROJECT TITLE: Love with Borders: Cultural Nationalism in Post Socialist Context: The Case of Poland.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This Ph.D. project aims to study nationalism as a discourse that organizes and reproduces social and political life and can critically negotiate inclusion to an imagined community. It departs from the assumption that it is problematic when nationalism is geographically and politically marginalized as a problem either of the right-wing, or the ‘uncivilized’ groups of societies. Hence that the project employs a broader understanding of this phenomenon since the study is on ‘nationalism from below’. Empirically speaking the project focuses on the case of post socialist Poland where cultural legacies from the communist period still shape contemporary political discourses. In focus is the second decade of the new millennium and the contested discourse on Polish patriotism.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Vessela Misheva and Professor Sandra Torres

PROJECT PERIOD: 2006-

FINANCED BY: internal funding

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 article in journal and 4 conference papers

**Paulsen, Roland (BA in Sociology and an MA in Media and Communication)**

PROJECT TITLE: Empty Labor: The Practice of Time Appropriation

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This Ph.D. project is being conducted as a compilation of articles. The first article discusses a vast number of quantitative studies measuring the so called “non-financial employment commitment” and argues that these studies prove that employment commitment is decreasing globally and that the protestant work ethic is particularly on the decline in the OECD countries. The second article is based on more than 40 in-depth interviews with
people who spend more than half of their working hours on private activities and focuses on the phenomenon known as “soldiering”, “time appropriation” and “recalcitrance” within economic sociology. This form of workplace inefficiency raises some questions concerning productivity and workplace resistance, and one of the findings presented is that “empty labor” of this kind may result from a combination of low employment commitment and managerial shortcomings. The fact that corporate management itself can be a source of unproductiveness complicates the question of whether slacking should be regarded as a form of organizational misbehavior. This issue is further elaborated in a paper presented at the Swedish Sociological Association in 2010. The findings show that theoretical issues studied are much more integrated in the Anglo-Saxon sociology of work than in the Swedish one.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Associate Professor Michael Allvin
PROJECT PERIOD: 2007-2012
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 3 articles in peer-reviewed journals, 1 book chapter and one book

Salmonsson, Lisa (MSSc in Sociology)
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This Ph.D. project started at a medical staffing and recruitment company where it was observed that candidates with foreign names were not as easily recruited as candidates with Swedish names. The project sheds light on the assumptions and attitudes to ethnic ‘Others’ that can be found in the Swedish health system. A survey among medical doctors about their experiences of discrimination has been conducted. Qualitative interviews with medical doctors that have immigrated to Sweden and now work within the health system have also been conducted.
COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Orlando Mella and Associate Professor Irving Palm
PROJECT PERIOD: 2009-2014
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 article manuscript (under review)
**Smedberg, Naomi (MSSc in Sociology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Foucauldian Readings of Empirical material in Irish Education  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This Ph.D. project analyzes a selection of empirical material gathered from/produced within the context of the Irish school-based Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) programme. This empirical material consists of two types: documentary material, including the Social, Personal and Health Education curriculum in which RSE is embedded, and RSE resources for teachers; and interviews carried out with teachers, who are currently, or have at some point since the introduction of the programme in 1997, been active in teaching this programme. The project departs from Michel Foucault’s work on knowledge, power, surveillance, the formation of the subject, normality, and discourse, and on governmentality studies’ approaches which have been inspired by his writings, and/or aim to develop them further. The aim of the project is, in line with its theoretical basis, to explore the kinds of subjects constructed in the specific, defined context of school-based sex education, explore to what ends these subjects are produced, and by which strategies such subjects are made. In other words, the project’s focus is in looking for who is being constructed, for what purpose, and how this is being done, and by doing so, exploring claims to knowledge and governmental power in the everyday.  
**COLLABORATORS:** The thesis is being supervised by Associate Professor Karin Barron and Professor Elisabet Näsman  
**PROJECT PERIOD:** (2004-2012)  
**FINANCED BY:** internal funding  
**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 1 conference paper

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**Projects on Social, Systems and Institutional Interaction**

Projects conducted by staff with tenure:

**Allvin, Michael (Ph.D. & Associate Professor of Sociology & Psychology)**  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Knowledge intensive jobs are becoming more fre-
quent. The performance in these jobs is often less regulated than traditional jobs. This means that more decisions are left to the individual. To most people this is both practical and stimulating. Unregulated conditions of work can, however, also be a source of insecurity and stress. This project aims to find out why some people become inspired by the demands inherent in the unregulated conditions of work, while others become overwhelmed by them. The project sheds light on the work situation as such as well as the strategies people use to handle it. As such, it focuses on the interaction between work environment and different types of workers. Two large case studies - using both questionnaires and qualitative interviews - are being conducted within the scope of this project.

**PROJECT LEADER:** Associate Professor Michael Allvin

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr. Christin Mellner (Department of Psychology, Stockholm University); Dr. Maria Hanson (Department of Psychology, Stockholm University); Dr. Fredrik Ovitz (Department of Sociology, Stockholm University); Dr. Wanda Astvik (Department of Psychology, Stockholm University); Professor Gunnar Aronsson (Department of Psychology, Stockholm University); Associate Professor Eva Bejerot (Department of Psychology, Stockholm University)

**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2007-continues

**FINANCED BY:** Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS) (2007-2010)

**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 2 conference proceedings and 2 articles in peer-reviewed journals (submitted)

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**Ekerwald, Hedvig (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Squatters: Young People, State and Democracy

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Young people’s participation in political organizations has steadily decreased since World War II. Social non-parliamentary movements built on single questions are believed to be one of the reasons why this is the case. These social movements seem to attract young people in ways that political parties do not seem able to. The focus of this project is on the squatters that invaded a house in Linköping on March 17-18, 2000. The project’s subject matter was broadened as the events at the EU-meeting in Gothenburg in June 2001 unfolded since it became clear that the two incidents were connected. Through these two case studies, this project sheds light on the way in which institutions interact with young people involved in this type of social movements. The project focuses also on the social interaction that takes place in these social
movements as they evolve as alternative political actors.

**PROJECT LEADER:** Professor Hedvig Ekerwald  
**COLLABORATORS:** Licentiate Magdalena Czaplicka (Department of Sociology, Uppsala University)  
**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2001-continues  
**FINANCED BY:** Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS) (2001-2002) and internal funding ever since  
**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 4 book chapters, 1 book review in a peer-reviewed journal and 5 conference papers

**Ekerwald, Hedvig (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Harassment in Schools and Democracy  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project aims to answer the following questions: Why do fewer young people vote today than ten or twenty years ago? Why do an increasing number of young people turn to extremist political movements instead of the established political parties in parliament? Do facts like these suggest that the Swedish school system is failing to educate democratic citizens? Through observations, interviews, and questionnaires with groups of young people focusing on the issue of harassment in schools, this project explores how young people experience democratic processes.  
**PROJECT LEADER:** Professor Carl Anders Säfström (School of Education, Culture and Communication, Mälardalen University)  
**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Hedvig Ekerwald (at our department); Dr. Sylvia Edling and Doctoral Candidate Jan Grannäs (Department of Education Uppsala University)  
**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2004-continues  
**FINANCED BY:** Swedish Research Council (VR) (2004-2006) and internal funding ever since  
**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 1 book  

**Hammarström, Gunhild (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology; emeritus since 2009)**  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Transcultural Approaches to Old Age Care  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project aims to raise the level of awareness of cultural and transcultural approaches utilized by the nursing staff of a Swedish municipality. It stems from the fact that growing ethnic and cultural diversity amongst nursing staff and patients is bringing to fore a state of affairs characterized by multiculturalism. The project aimed to explore the experiences that the
nursing staff had of working with care recipients and colleagues that have non-Swedish backgrounds. As such, this project focuses on institutional interaction.  

**PROJECT LEADER:** Associate Professor Azita Emami (Department of Nursing, Karolinska Institute)  
**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Gunhild Hammarström  
**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2007-2008  
**FINANCED BY:** internal funding from Karolinska Institutet  
**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 1 report

**Hammarström, Gunhild (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology; emeritus since 2009)**  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Reductions of Sleeping Drugs and Sedatives: the Perspective of Nursing Staff  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project is a municipality-commission project. The background of the project was that increased ordinances of sleeping pills and sedatives to older people had become a challenge in nursing homes. The project focuses on the nursing staff’s personal experiences and thoughts about how this new policy might have had an influence on their working situation on the one hand, and on the situation of older people on the other. The findings showed a great variety among the staff; some were positive to the project, others were not. It seems as if this new routines not were sufficiently anchored among the staff.  
**PROJECT LEADER:** Professor Gunhild Hammarström  
**COLLABORATORS:** none  
**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2008-2009  
**FINANCED BY:** Regionförbundet, Uppsala län  
**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 1 report

**Mella, Orlando (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Measuring Attitudes to Ethnic Diversity in Sweden  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The purpose of the project is to study the attitudes existing and developing among the Swedish population in relation to ethnic diversity from a longitudinal perspective. Three data collection waves have been conducted since the project began: one in 2008, one in 2009 and another one in 2010. The study is a continuation and development of what is called *Ethnic Diversity Barometer*, an attitude study which was carried out by Uppsala University for the first time in 2005 and then again in 2006 and in 2007. Both interviews and surveys are being used in order to collect the data. Although
this project sheds light on the manner in which social positions influence the attitudes in question, the focus is more on the implications of these attitudes for social interaction in Swedish society. This is why this project is listed under the theme of social, systems and institutional interaction.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Orlando Mella
COLLABORATORS: Associate Professor Irving Palm & Research Assistant Kristina Bromark (both at our department)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2005-2011
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book chapter, 6 reports and 4 conference papers

Misheva, Vessela (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: The “Stakeholder Approach” in the Analysis of Non-Profit Civil Organizations: A Platform of Innovative Initiatives in Devising Welfare Measures”

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project aims at micro-analysis of the results achieved and the problems encountered in the work of non-profit organizations in seven countries with different welfare states and cultures. The research focus is on five areas of their activities: A) Health, B) Immigration, C) Gender Discrimination, D) Education, E) Unemployment. The project includes 35 case studies of non-profit organizations from the 7 partner-countries. It uses the “stakeholder approach” and collects empirical material from national archives, survey data, and from over 500 in-depth interviews.

PROJECT LEADER: Overall project coordinator: Prof. Mino Vianello (Universita degli Studi di RoMA La Sapienza, Italy); Project leader for Sweden: Professor Vessela Misheva
COLLABORATORS: Professor Irene Molina (Institute for Housing and Urban Research, Uppsala University). International partners: Prof. Mino Vianello, Lorella Cedroni and Mariella Nocenzi (Universita degli Studi di RoMA La Sapienza, Italy); Prof. Dr. Ursula Apitzsch (J.W. Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am main, Germany); Professor Renata Siemienska (Department of Sociology, The Robert B. Zajonc Institute for Social Studies, Warsaw University); Prof. Michal Palgi (University of Haifa, Israel), Professor Litsa Nicolaou (University of Piraeus, Greece), and Professor Yilmaz Esmer (Bahcesehir University, Turkey)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2009- continues
FINANCED BY: Internal funding through the corresponding universities
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: Application submitted to the 7th EU RTD Framework Programme (FP7 – SSH – 2011 – COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS)

**Misheva, Vessela (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** The Invisible Barriers

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This is a comparative study of the problems young people and their families encounter in their everyday life. The method is participant observation and the empirical material will be collected by inside-observers through questionnaires and recorded video-interviews of members of immigrant families. It will be published on the project’s website as a blog and will serve an audio and video communication campaign for the promotion of integration and intercultural relations. The video will be shown during a public event in Florence with the participation of all observers and scholars involved in the project from both countries and Radio station Controradio (Florence, Italy)

**PROJECT LEADER:** Professor Carlo Sorrentino (University of Florence, Italy); Project leader for Sweden: Professor Vessela Misheva

**COLLABORATORS:** Professor Carlo Sorrentino, Professor Silvia Pezzoli, and Ph.D. candidate Carlotta Bizzari (all at the University of Florence, Italy),

**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2009- continues

**FINANCED BY:** internal funding through the corresponding universities

**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** Application submitted to The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) of the EU under the Program “YOUTH in ACTION,” 09/2010

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**Misheva, Vessela (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Jane Addams, the Emergence of Symbolic Interactionism and the Idea of Social Entrepreneurship

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The project was inspired by the idea to get together some of the leading experts in symbolic interactionism and history of sociology from Europe and North America on the occasion of the 150th birthday of the symbolic interactionist, Nobel peace prize winner, and social worker - Jane Addams, for a discussion of the obscure question about the origin of Symbolic Interactionism and its relation to sociology’s future. It’s particular focus was on the contributions of Jane Addams and other female sociologist/practitioners outside academia to both the establishment of Symbolic Interactionism as a sociological subject in relation to the emergence of social entrepreneurship and social work. It culminated in a two day interdisciplinary international conference hosted by the Department of Sociology (Jane Addams on Social En-
trepreneurship, 18-19 November 2010, Uppsala) which received international attention and was well attended by Nordic sociologists, social psychologists and social workers.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Vessela Misheva
COLLABORATORS: Jan Trost (Department of Sociology, Uppsala University); Mary Jo Deegan (University of Nebraska, Lincoln, USA), Lauren Langman (Loyola University of Chicago, USA), Mark Hutter (Rowan University, Glassboro, New Jersey, USA), Andrea Salvini (University of Pisa, Italy), Robert Dingwall (Nottingham Trent University, UK), Erik Schneiderhan (University of Toronto, Canada), Rita Braches-Chyrek (Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany), Michael Hill (University of Nebraska, Lincoln, USA), Mirriam Adelman (Universidade Federal do Paraná, Curitiba, Brazil), Per Wisselgren (Umeå University, Umeå, Sweden), Ivo Zander (Department of Business Studies, Uppsala university). For the realization of the Conference we cooperated with the Nobelmuseum, Stockholm.

PROJECT PERIOD: January 2008 - continues
FINANCED BY: Riksbankens Jubileumsfond; Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research (FAS); SALT; The Faculty of Social Sciences at Uppsala University; Nobelmuseet and internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 14 conference presentations & 2 round tables (the papers from the conference will be collected and published in an edited volume in 2011)

Misheva, Vessela (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Society and Sociology in Luhmann’s Systems Theory
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project is grounded in my previous work on systems theory which has been presented at international conferences and published in international journals. It aims at a comprehensive summary of Luhmann’s theory as a whole for a Swedish speaking audience, which, according to my judgment, is lacking at the moment. In addition, the project offers a fresh look on the complex scientific, methodological, and political reasons for the emergence of the so called “Habermas-Luhmann controversy” and evaluates the reasons for the difficulties which Luhmann’s theory experiences to enter the sociological cannon and its place in modern sociological thought.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Vessela Misheva
COLLABORATORS: None
PROJECT PERIOD: 2007 -2011
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 peer-reviewed article & 1 book chapter (forthcoming)

Misheva, Vessela (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Critical Analysis of the Introduction of Symbolic Interactionism in Sociological Social Psychology with a Focus on George Herbert Mead’s social psychology

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project is of a historico-sociological nature and concerned an in-depth exploration of the classical foundation of Symbolic Interactionism. It was inspired by the publication of a number of critical introductions in symbolic interactionism which continued the tradition of singling out Mead’s works as the only source of theoretically and philosophically-sound symbolic interactionist ideas and of undermining the contributions of the sociologists whose works have paved Mead’s way. The project involved a close examination of Cooley’s and Addams’s most important works and the tracing of their influence in Mead’s works. On the backdrop of the study are the heated debates between sociologists, psychologists and philosophers at the beginning of the 20th century about the essence of social psychology and its disciplinary belonging. The analysis focuses on the reasons why Cooley’s work was eventually neglected and forgotten.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Vessela Misheva

COLLABORATORS: None

PROJECT PERIOD: 2007- continues

FINANCED BY: internal funding

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 review essay and 2 conference presentations

Misheva, Vessela (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)

PROJECT TITLE: Symbolic Interactionism

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: An encyclopedia entry commissioned by the editors of Sociopedia, the on-line sociological encyclopedia of the International Sociological Association. The project involves a concise presentation of the essence of SI, its origin and its main ideas and development from classical to modern times, together with instructions for the representative original publications, critical expositions, and recommended further readings.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Vessela Misheva

COLLABORATORS: None

PROJECT PERIOD: 2008 -2011

FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 encyclopedia article

**Misheva, Vessela (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

PROJECT TITLE: Postcolonial Theory in a Cold Climate  
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project was inspired by Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak’s work, especially the publication of her *Other Asias* (2008). It involved a close examination of the utilization of postcolonial theory in Nordic feminist discourse in respect to the question whether postcolonial theory can travel.  
PROJECT LEADER: Professor Vessela Misheva  
COLLABORATORS: None  
PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2010  
FINANCED BY: internal funding  
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book review and 1 guest-lecture

**Misheva, Vessela (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

PROJECT TITLE: Self-Conscious Emotions  
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: A book project dealing with the theoretical controversies in the theory of emotions, the disagreements between sociologists, psychologists and philosophers about what emotions really are, with a special focus of the so called self-conscious emotions: shame, pride and guilt.  
PROJECT LEADER: Professor Vessela Misheva  
COLLABORATORS: None  
PROJECT PERIOD: 2006 - continues  
FINANCED BY: internal funding  
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book (in progress), 3 conference presentations, 2 peer-reviewed articles

**Misheva, Vessela (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)**

PROJECT: Festschrift for Kaj Håkansson  
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: A collection of articles having to do with my colleague and former supervisor Kaj Håkansson’s work or sociology in general to be published in a Festschrift. The volume also includes my own reflection on the vocational nature of supervision which emphasizes the difference between science as organization and science as institution.  
PROJECT LEADER: Professor Vessela Misheva, Dr Sverre Wide and Dr Fredrik Palm (editors).  
COLLABORATORS: a number of Swedish scholars from Uppsala and other universities
PROJECT PERIOD: 2006-2008
FINANCED: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 book chapters and 1 Festschrift

Torres, Sandra (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Social Gerontology)

PROJECT TITLE: Understandings Dementia, Dependency and Autonomy amongst Older People Diagnosed with Dementia, their Informal and Formal Caregivers

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project departs from the research gap that exists in the literature in dementia care as far as understandings of dementia-related challenges are concerned and the impact these have on the negotiations that take place between people with dementia, their informal and formal caregivers. As such the project aims to shed light on the manner in which understandings of dementia (as well as dependency and autonomy within the context of dementia) are negotiated in the triads for care that the project involves.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Sandra Torres

COLLABORATORS: Dr. Ingrid Hellström (Department of Social and Welfare Studies, Division of Nursing, Linköping University)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2009-continues

FINANCED BY: internal funding provided by Linköping University (2009-2010) and by Uppsala University since 2010

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 report and 1 conference paper

Torres, Sandra (Ph.D. & Chair in Sociology with a Specialization in Social Gerontology)

PROJECT TITLE: Elderly Care in a Globalized World: A Study of Cross-Cultural Interaction in the Context of Swedish Elderly Care

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Informed by the debate on globalization and departing from an interdisciplinary approach to the study of elderly care interactions, this ethnographic project aims to shed light on how elderly care providers and recipients perceive and relate to those that are ethnically and culturally different from them. The project aims also to assess how the perceptions and behaviors in question facilitate and/or inhibit the deliverance of high quality and user friendly elderly care.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Sandra Torres

COLLABORATORS: Professor Azita Emami (Department of Nursing, Karolinska Institute & Seattle University)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2006-2011
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 5 peer-reviewed articles (2 of them forthcoming); 6 book chapters; 1 edited book and 16 conference papers

Trost, Jan (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology; emeritus since 2000)
PROJECT TITLE: Symbolic Interactionism and Family Change
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project – which is comprised of different studies – aims to contribute to the field known as the Sociology of Family via the theoretical perspective usually called symbolic interactionism. The studies comprised under this heading have focused on the changes that the social institutions of family and marriage have undergone through the past few decades. As such, the studies have followed and interpreted these changes and contributed to problematizing the way in which we think about what family is.
PROJECT LEADER: Professor Jan Trost
COLLABORATORS: none
PROJECT PERIOD: ongoing
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 5 books, 6 peer-reviewed articles, 3 book chapters and 11 conference papers

Projects conducted by affiliated staff:

Ahmadi, Fereshteh (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology at Gävle University College)
PROJECT TITLE: Music as a Coping Strategy: a Study of Music’s Role in Coping with Cancer from the Patients’ Perspective
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project aimed to examine the role music plays as a coping mechanism when facing cancer. 17 cancer patients who use music as a coping mechanism were interviewed. The findings show that there is a wide variation in both the music they choose and the function that music fulfills for them. Five music categories were discovered: nature, music, religious music, aggressive music, healing music and pleasing music. The music of nature was found to give a feeling of belonging to an immense whole – a feeling of the unity of existence. This feeling helps cancer patients see their problems as a natural part of life. Healing music was found to enhance the mind/body
connection. As such, it enabled patients to get in touch with their inner world. Religious music and cheerful music seem to help patients achieve a balance in their inner feelings whereas hard and heavy music seem to help young cancer patients get rid of their anger and reconstruct their self-image.

PROJECT LEADER: Professor Fereshteh Ahmadi (Gävle University College & at our department)
COLLABORATORS: none
PROJECT PERIOD: 2006-2009
FINANCED BY: Swedish Research Council (VR)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 3 articles in peer-reviewed journals

Schirmer, Werner (Ph.D. & Researcher)
PROJECT TITLE: The Problem of Disrespect in Encounters between Immigrants and Native Swedes
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The goal of the project is to understand what characterizes the (dis)respectfulness of communicative relations. These insights are used to build a sociological theory of respect. Its basic idea is that showing respect is a particular form of communicatively acknowledging the agency of the other. It involves conveying that one is willing to give him/her ‘elbowroom to act’, and doing so in a way which is costly to one’s own agency. Apart from the advantage that a better understood conception of respect would have for sociological analysis, applied contexts such as welfare research, ethnic relations, gender studies and disability research could profit from distinguishing concepts such as respect, considerateness, tolerance and others. While it is easy, in a political setting, to demand “more” of each of these, distinguishing the concepts and their hidden meanings along the ‘ascribed agency’ dimension might be important and helpful when implementing them through policies as well as practicing them in everyday life.
PROJECT LEADER: Associate Professor Wendelin Reich (SCAS, Uppsala University)
COLLABORATORS: Dr. Werner Schirmer (at our department) and Doctoral Candidate Linda Hamann (Department of Sociology, Stockholm University)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-
FINANCED: Swedish Research Council
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 article accepted for publication at international peer reviewed journal, 2 article manuscripts currently under review and 3 conference papers
Projects conducted by Ph.D. Students:

**Eriksson, Lovisa (BA in Social Psychology & MSSc. in Social Psychology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Risk, Trust and Interpersonal Relationships on the Internet

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** As interaction on social arenas on the internet has gained in popularity over the last decade, an increasing number of dyadic relationships are also formed online. The aim of the Ph.D. project is to improve the social psychological understanding of how close interpersonal relationships can form and be maintained on the internet, especially with respect to trust, intimacy and social emotions.

**COLLABORATORS:** The thesis is being supervised by Professor Vessela Misheva and Professor Bo Lewin

**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2010-2014

**FINANCED BY:** internal funding

**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 1 peer-reviewed article and 4 conference papers

**Iversen, Clara (MA in Social Psychology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Book project ‘The social psychological perspective’

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This book project aims to describe and discuss sociological contributions to the field of social psychology in an attempt to advance our understanding of how the social psychological perspective has contributed to the development of micro-sociology.

**PROJECT LEADER:** Associate Professor Jonas Stier and Dr. Jonas Lindblom (School of Sustainable Development of Society and Technology, Mälardalen University)

**COLLABORATORS:** Doctoral Candidate David Redmalm (School of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences, Örebro University), Dr. Elin Thunman (Department of Social Science, Växjö University), Dr. Jonas Lindblom and Dr. Tomas Kumlin (School of Sustainable Development of Society and Technology, Mälardalen University, Dr. Marcus Persson (Department of Sociology, University of Lund); Dr. Sverre Wide (School of economy and Society, Dalarna University College) as well as Doctoral Candidate Lennart Räterlink and Doctoral Candidate Clara Iversen (at our department)

**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2007-2011

**FINANCED BY:** internal funding from all of the universities involved

**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 1 text book
**Jukkala, Tanya (BA in Sociology and Literature & MSSc in Sociology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Suicide in Russia: A Sociological Study  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project aims at a sociological understanding of the high level of and dramatic increases in suicide mortality in Russia in the contemporary period. This work includes both a theoretical exploration of the sociological understanding of suicide and a macro-sociological case study of suicide mortality in Russia. In my theoretical work I am trying to apply Niklas Luhmann’s systems theory on suicide in order to develop and gain new perspectives on the sociological theory of suicide. The empirical work focuses on quantitative analysis of the historical development of suicide mortality in Russia. Here the historical context of suicide mortality in Russia, i.e. how suicide mortality has changed historically in relation to societal change and events, forms a backdrop against which the development in suicide mortality in contemporary Russia can be better understood.  
**COLLABORATORS:** The thesis is being supervised by Professor Ilkka Mäkinen (Södertörn University College) and Professor Vessela Misheva (at our department)  
**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2008-2012  
**FINANCED BY:** Centre for Baltic and East European Studies (CBEES)  
**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 3 articles in peer-reviewed journals and 2 conference presentations

**Jurkane, Iveta (BA and MA in Sociology)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Intimacy in Long-distance Romantic Relationships  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Any relationships, including dating relationships, have to be maintained. They demand some sort of investments – time, energy, and often also financial. In case of long distance romantic relationships (LDRR) there are limited possibilities of personal meetings. Nevertheless, previous studies show that long distance couples show similar level of satisfaction with relationship, higher idealization of the romantic partner, and are not more likely to commit infidelity. The aim of the study is to investigate how couples cope with a permanent distance and how partners design their romantic relationships without proximity. The contribution of the study to the field is an attempt to bring the long distance relationship phenomenon to a higher level of abstraction, theorizing the mutual communication in time and space context, and explaining the idealization of the romantic partner.  
**COLLABORATORS:** The main supervisors of thesis is Professor Kerstin Ja-
cobsson and Professor Apostolis Papakostas (both at Södertörn University College) and Professor Elisabet Näsman (at our department)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2010-2014
FINANCED BY: Center of Baltic and East European studies
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 conference paper

**Mjöberg, Jessica (Ph.D. in Sociology 2010)**

PROJECT TITLE: The Intimate Society: A Sociological Inquiry into Intimacy and Late Modernity

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This dissertation takes ‘intimacy’ as a point of departure for a study of the concept of intimacy and how it can be understood following different epistemological traditions. The dissertation – which departs from phenomenological analysis - addresses the sociological ramifications of intimacy and its manifestations during late modernity. Her research can therefore be regarded as an attempt to give provisional answers to two salient questions, namely: What is intimacy? and What makes intimacy salient in present day society?

COLLABORATORS: This thesis is being supervised by Professor Elisabet Näsman and Professor Jukka Gronow

PROJECT PERIOD: 2003-2010

FINANCED BY: internal funding by Skövde University College and our department

DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 dissertation monograph, 1 article in a conference proceeding, 2 articles in popular scientific journals and 9 conference papers

**Räterlinck, Lennart E. H. (BA in Psychology and MA in Sociology)**

PROJECT TITLE: The Neighbor and the Constitutive Void of the Symbolic Order.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Räterlinck’s research focus upon questions concerning the possibility of combining the psychoanalytic notion of the desiring subject with the notion of a discursively constructed subject in order to acquire a better understanding of radical social change. One important underlying assertion here is that there exists no fundamental, individual experience of a self, which is then reified by the specific socio-symbolic order within which the subject is positioned. No, the subject itself appears *through* this process of symbolization; it is never given a priori and only exists *as if* it had an independent, essential reality. This combination of psychoanalysis and emancipatory so-
social theory tries, among other things, to form a nonlinear conception of social change, based on a retroversive causality, and a conception of the social (and of sociality) as constituted through the unpredictability of retroversive signification. The point is to avoid both the Foucauldian immanentist conception and the Marxian transcendentalist conception of the social. The specific, more concrete, point of attachment for this general discussion concerning the constitution of the subject, of sociality and the possibility of radical change, is the concept of the Neighbor.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Mats Franzén
PROJECT PERIOD: 2010-2014
FINANCED BY: IMER

**Vieira, Magdalena (MA in Sociology & MA in Cultural Anthropology)**

PROJECT TITLE: Moments on A City Bus: Culture, Space and Interaction among Selves and Ethnic Others in Swedish society
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This Ph.D. project aims at an empirical exploration of social interaction between Swedes and immigrants riding city buses. The focus is on (bus) context influencing interaction between different players, which means that context is not emphasized as the main topic for this project. Instead, the social interaction is here presented as a premise for understanding. Exploring interaction ritual theory in the context of this project the researcher aims at pointing to how new cultural symbols are generated, to what extent and when the meanings of these symbols are shared, concretized and presented, and when old symbols retain social commitments or fade away as no longer meaningful. Empirical data will be gathered through group – and individual interviews with bus riders and participant observations on a city bus.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is supervised by Professor Vessela Misheva and Professor Sandra Torres
PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-
PROJECT PERIOD: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 2 conference papers and 1 presentation at departmental seminar (Malmö University)

**Wejbrandt, Anita (MSSc in Sociology and MS in Social Care)**

PROJECT TITLE: Relationships and Dementia
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Research on marital relationships within the context of dementia seldom pays attention to positive aspects. Sociological research regarding the onset of dementia is also lacking at present. Against this back-
ground, this Ph.D. project aims to explore marital relationships when one of the partners has a dementia diagnosis. The project departs from both quantitative and qualitative data in order to shed light on the manner in which dementia influences marital relationships.

COLLABORATORS: The thesis is being supervised by Professor Gunhild Hammarström and by Dr. Marianne Winqvist (Nationellt Kompetenscentrum Anhöriga)

PROJECT PERIOD: 2008-2013
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 article manuscript in progress

Projects on Sociology and It’s Intellectuals

Projects conducted by staff with tenure:

_Ekerwald, Hedvig (Ph.D. & Professor of Sociology)_

PROJECT TITLE: Alva Myrdal: The Scholar
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The aim is to describe the merits of Alva Myrdal’s scholarly work through an analysis of her publications.
PROJECT LEADER: Professor Hedvig Ekerwald
COLLABORATORS: Dr Christian Fleck (Department of Sociology University of Graz, Austria); Dr Nilgün Celebi (University of Mugla, Turkey); Dr Andreas Hess (School of Sociology University College Dublin, Ireland); Prof Dr Dirk Kaesler (Department of Sociology, University of Marburg, Germany); Prof (Emer.) E. Stina Lyon (London South Bank University, England); Dr Laurent Jeanpierre (Department of University Paris XII, France) and Dr Sven Eliaeson (at the Centre for Social Studies, Warsaw, Poland before; at our department between 2007-2010)
PROJECT PERIOD: 1999-
FINANCED BY: EU (2004-2005) as well as internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: 1 book chapter, 3 articles in peer reviewed journals (one under review), 1 article in non-peer-reviewed journal and 4 conference papers
Projects conducted by affiliated staff:

**Eliaeson, Sven (Ph.D. & Researcher)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** ANOVASOFIE

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project aimed to analyze the reasons for the fragmentation in the European sociological research community. Moreover, the project aimed to develop means, including electronic ones, to overcome the fragmentation of sociology in Europe. In addition, analyzes of differences and similarities in the role performance of public intellectuals in different European countries and at different times in the 20th century were conducted in order to shed light on how European sociology has evolved.

**PROJECT LEADER:** Professor Christian Fleck (Department of Sociology, Karl-Franzens-Universität i Graz)

**COLLABORATORS:** Dr. Sven Eliaesson (at the time “contracting partner” for Poland); Aleksandra Walentynowicz (CSS in Warsaw); Joanna Bielecka-Prus (Catholic University in Lublin); Vilhelm Bohutskyy (CSS/CEU in Warsaw).

**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2004-continues

**FINANCED BY:** The European Commission (2004-2006) as well as internal funding by the partner universities

**DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS:** 3 book chapters (2 authored by Dr. Eliaeson); 1 review essay, 1 article in a peer-reviewed journal and 6 conference papers (4 authored by Dr. Eliaeson)

**Eliaeson, Sven (Ph.D. & Researcher)**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Gunnar Myrdal as a Weberian and European Public Intellectual

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project aims to shed light on the public intellectual that Gunnar Myrdal was and the various sources of inspiration he found in European academic institutions. The project departs from the idea that there is a need to expand sociologists understanding of who Gunnar Myrdal was since it is rather common to assume that he was an intellectual “made in the USA”. In the biography that this project will result on, the focus is on the different streams of thought that influenced his scholarship.

**PROJECT LEADER:** Dr. Sven Eliaeson.

**COLLABORATORS:** none

**PROJECT PERIOD:** 2008-

**FINANCE BY:** Handelsbankens Forskningsstiftelser (Jan Wallander, Tom He-
DELIOUS och Tore Browaldhs stiftelser) (2008-2010)
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: see above under ANOVASOFIE as well as 1 book chapter (forthcoming)

Eliaeson, Sven (Ph.D. & Researcher)
PROJECT TITLE: Axel Hägerström and Modern Social Thought
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Axel Hägerström is the only Swedish philosopher of international significance. Yet in many ways he remains unknown, both in the larger scholarly community and in Sweden itself. One reason for this is this that his influence has repeatedly been obliterated through incorporation in later movements of thought. There is therefore a need for a serious scholarly reassessment of Hägerström’s work in terms of present issues.
PROJECT LEADERS: Dr. Sven Eliaeson and Professor Folke Tersman (Department of Philosophy, Uppsala University)
PROJECT PERIOD: 2009-
FINANCED BY: internal funding
DISSEMINATION OUTPUTS: an international conference is planned for 2011.