

Curriculum Vitae Diana Debora van Bergen, PhD

Date of Birth: 25th July 1978

The Netherlands Institute for Social Research

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Current Employment

2009- I work as an academic researcher in the department of Emancipation, Youth and Family of The Netherlands Institute for Social Research in The Hague.

Education and Related Coursework

2004-2009 PhD candidate at the Department of Sociology, VU University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. [PhD received in June 2009]

2008 Oral History and Life stories. S. Wieringa, ASSR, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

2008 Master class in Cross Cultural Psychiatry. A. Kleinman, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

2008 Course in Psychiatry, Psychology and Anthropology. P. Ventevogel, COGIS, Utrecht, The Netherlands.

2006 Summer Research Institute on Suicide Prevention in Rochester Medical Centre, Rochester, New York State, United States.

2005 Course in Developmental Psychopathology R. Kuijpers, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, The Netherlands.

2005 Summer School in Mixing methods: Combining quantitative and qualitative methods. M. Bergmann, Essex, United Kingdom.

2005 Biographic Narrative Interpretative Method. T. Wengraf, Middlesex University, London, United Kingdom.

2005 Course in Multivariate Analysis using SPSS statistics. A. Hoogendoorn, VU, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

2003-2004 Master degree 'Gender, Culture and Modernity' in the department of Sociology, Goldsmiths College, London, United Kingdom. Coursework included: *Gender & Research Methods, Gendering the Self, Gender, Equality and Difference, Psychological Perspectives in Anthropology.*

1997-2002 Bachelor and Master degree in Sociology at the VU University in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Key modules studied: *Issues of Power & Participation, Ethnicity and Minorities, Culture & Identity Formation, Sociology of Health Care interventions.*

1996-1997 Exchange student at Hagagymnasium in Borlange, Sweden with Youth for Understanding (YFU). Courses included *Social Sciences, Philosophy and Swedish.*

1990-1996 Atheneum (A level studies) in *History, English, Dutch, German, Economics and Maths* at the Comenius College in Hilversum, The Netherlands.

Research

- 2009- In my current research project I investigate the psychological wellbeing and acceptance of Dutch lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) youth. I developed the first Dutch large scale study of LGBT youth that attracted 1650 respondents (with J. Van Lisdonk). In addition, I conducted 30 in depth interviews with a subsample of LGBT youth who experienced high levels of LGBT negativity.
- 2008 I analyzed the prevalence and risk factors of suicidal behavior in a large scale data set of 4500 female adolescents in the city of Rotterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2007-2008 I conducted life-story interviews with 47 young women in four ethnic groups in The Netherlands with a history of suicidal behavior, focusing on their interpretations of their self harm, as well as their history of migration, childhood, life events, abuse, family relations and religion. Participants were contacted through healthcare professionals with permission of the ethics committee.
- 2005-2006 I conducted a study of psychopathology, psychological disorders and motives for attempted suicide of individuals admitted to the first aid department of the VU medical center, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2006 I studied 120 medical files of young suicidal immigrant women of Turkish, Moroccan, South Asian and Dutch origin seen at a clinic for mental health services in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, focusing on life events and family relations.
- 2004 I studied health care professionals' perspectives of suicidal behavior of South Asian migrant women in the United Kingdom. I arranged and conducted semi structured interviews as well as analyzed the interviews. This resulted in my second Master Thesis.
- 2003 Research assistant to Prof. C. Weibel (UC Berkeley). I coordinated and translated during his interviews for the project *Terror, Terrorism and the Human Condition*.
- 2002 Trainee at Mr. A. de Graaf foundation, Amsterdam, The Netherlands where I carried out a qualitative research focused on male sexworkers. Through in depth interviews with informants I succeeded in acquiring an expressive portrait of the work of male sexworkers in Amsterdam, which resulted in my first Master thesis.

Teaching

- 2009 Two guest lectures for the course "Cultural Diversity and Religion in International Perspective", Sociology, VU University coordinator: S. Saharso.
- 2008 Guest lecturer for the course *Experiencing Differences* at the University of Amsterdam. Gay & Lesbian Studies. Course coordinator: G. Hekma.
- 2006 Lecturer for the course *Immigrant Youth in The Netherlands* for BA students in *Sociology* at the VU University.
- 2005 Tutor of seminars in *Methods of Social Research* for BA students at VU University.
- 2005 Guest Lecturer on Judith Butler for the course 'Debates in postmodernity' at VU University. Course coordinator: C. Delhaye.

Publications

Scientific journals [Peer reviewed]

Van Bergen DD., Smit JH., Van Balkom AJLM. & Saharso S. (2009) 'Suicidal Behavior of Young Immigrant Women in The Netherlands. Can we use Durkheim's concept of 'fatalistic suicide' to explain their behavior?' *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 32 (2): 302-322.

Van Bergen DD., Smit JH., Van Balkom, AJLM., Van Ameijden E. & Saharso S. (2008) 'Exploration of Suicidal Ideation in Majority and Minority Adolescents in Utrecht, The Netherlands.' *Crisis, the Journal of Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention* 29(4):202-208.

Van Bergen DD., Smit JH., Kerkhof AJFM. & Saharso S. (2006) 'Gender and Cultural Patterns of Suicidal Behavior. Young Immigrant women of Hindustani Background in The Netherlands.' *Crisis, the Journal of Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention* 27(4): 181-188.

Van Bergen DD. (2006) 'Partner selection of Turkish and Moroccan Second-generation Migrants in The Netherlands' by Bouw C. & Sterckx L. *Migrantenstudies* 22 (1): 27 Book review [in Dutch].

Van Bergen DD. (2003) 'The Work and Living Condition of Migrant Male Prostitutes in Amsterdam'. *Migrantenstudies, (Special issue 'Youth')* 19 (4): 240-251 [in Dutch].

Revise & Re-submitted papers

Van Bergen DD., Smit JH., Van Balkom AJLM. & Saharso S. (2009) 'I felt so hurt and lonely- Narratives of Young Immigrant Women in The Netherlands on Suicidal Behavior'. re-submitted at *Transcultural Psychiatry* [11th of February 2010].

Van Bergen DD., Eikeleboom M., Smit JH., Van de Looij Janssen PM. & Saharso S. (2009) 'Suicidal Behavior and Ethnicity of Young Females in Rotterdam, The Netherlands: Rates and Risk Factors'. Re-submitted at *Ethnicity and Health* [26th of October 2009].

Dissertation

Van Bergen DD. (2009) *Suicidal behavior of Young Migrant Women in The Netherlands. A Comparative Study of Minority and Majority Women*. PhD thesis, VU University Amsterdam.

Bookchapters

Van Bergen DD. & Van Lisdonk J. (2010) Chapter 9: 'Experiences of Acceptance and Homonegativity in Dutch LGBT youth' in S. Keuzenkamp, *Report on Acceptance of Homosexuality in The Netherlands 2010*. The Hague, The Netherlands Institute for Social Research, *forthcoming* [in Dutch].

Van Bergen DD. & Van Lisdonk J. (2010) 'Chapter 10 The Psychological Wellbeing of Dutch LGBT Youth' in S. Keuzenkamp *Report on Acceptance of Homosexuality in The Netherlands 2010*. The Hague, The Netherlands Institute for Social Research, *forthcoming* [in Dutch].

Van Bergen DD. & Saharso S. (2010) 'Immigrants and Suicidal Behavior. The Role of Gender'. in L. Sher & A. Vilens *Immigration and Mental Health: Stress, Psychiatric Disorders and Suicidal Behavior among Immigrants and Refugees*. New York, Columbia University Press (*in press*).

Van Bergen DD. & Saharso S. (2009) Surviving Victimhood. Lessons to Be learnt from Suicide Attempts by Immigrant Women in The Netherlands'. In J. Van de Zwaard, J. Janssen & S. Keuzenkamp. *Autonomy and Imagination*. Rotterdam, Kosmopolis [in Dutch].

Presentations

August 2010 'LGBT-negativity, psychological wellbeing and coping strategies of Dutch LGBT adolescents,' Division 44, *American Psychological Association*, San Diego, United States (Letter of acceptance received on 21st of January 2010).

October 2008 'I felt so hurt and lonely- Narratives of suicidal behavior of young immigrant Women in The Netherlands' at the *European Association for Forensic Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Psychology*, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

August 2008 'Suicidal behavior of young immigrant women in The Netherlands,' at the *European Symposium of Suicide and Suicidal Behavior*, Glasgow, Scotland.

June 2008 'Suicidal Behavior of young immigrant women in The Netherlands. The relevance of Durkheim's category of fatalistic suicide,' at the conference *Qualitative Research of Mental Health*, Tampere, Finland.

September 2006 'Suicidal Ideation in minority and majority youth', at the 11th *European Symposium on Suicide and Suicidal Behavior*, Portoroz, Slovenia.

September 2005 'Gender and cultural patterns of suicidal behavior. Hindustani women in The Netherlands' , at the 13th *World Conference of Suicide and Suicidal Behavior*, Durban, South Africa.

Memberships

* International Affiliate of the American Psychological Association.

* Member of the Amsterdam School of Social Science Research (ASSR), Amsterdam.