

Welcome to seminar

Social geographies on mental health

By Dr. Hester Parr



When: 10th of September 2015
Time: 10.00-11.00
Where: University of Agder, Grimstad; A 2 135

Presentation:

Hester Parr has investigated the relationship between mental health and place by focusing on how 'mentally ill identities' are defined by reference to streets, institutions, cities, regions, virtualities, natures and mobilities (Parr, 2008). This is achieved through examining the politics of psychiatric service users and city-wide activism; spaces of 'mad' identity formation (Parr and Philo, 1995); the provision and politics of third sector services; delusional testimony; remote rural care provision; online community development and peer support (Parr, 2008); urban nature work (Parr, 2007), artistic citizenships (Parr, 2006) and mobility (Parr and Fyfe, 2013). The person with mental health problems is transformed through this body of work from stigmatised outsider to nuanced and networked social citizen (Parr, 2008). The work centres a diverse collection of voices and experiences which are consistently neglected or marginalised. This work takes mental illness seriously but with ramifications for debates about public and population mental health and policing (Parr and Fyfe, 2013). Currently she is doing research on missing people.

Responsible: Professor Inger Beate Larsen