

Seminar: Children's mediating role and challenges in refugee and migrant families' everyday life

Organized by Center for Migration and Integration (MIAU) at Aarhus University

2019-09-15 - Narges Ghandchi

Date	Monday 25 November
Time	9:30 - 17:30
Location	DPU, Aarhus University

Description

Studies and empirical data from several national contexts illustrate that children and youth are supposedly quicker in learning the language and deciphering cultural codes of migration destinations. Consequently apart from their own challenges in coping with their everyday practices at home, school, and among their peers, they also assist their parents with translating between migrant and refugee families' mother tongue and the host countries' main languages. In linguistic anthropology and applied linguistics, these children and youth are technically called Language Brokers, and language brokering has drawn academic attention from a number of perspectives over the past two decades. The issue is, however, of high importance and relevance due to ongoing mobility and migration across the world, particularly, from the Global South to the Global North. In present Europe as a consequence of downgrading newly-arrived and more established refugees' legal positions, many refugee families have faced extra expenses for interpreting pertaining to medical care, school meetings, legal, and, in general, everyday matters. To overcome this, several families benefit more often from their children and youth as linguistic resources for assistance. This seminar concentrates on a review of studies on child language brokering, provides case studies about children's engagement within families with difficult past due to war, trauma, and the like, and discusses how children and youth may be affected during brokering tasks in their relation to the parents as well as to authorities. Moreover as part of these children's everyday (linguistic) struggles, the seminar presents studies on the everyday challenges of children with refugee background at school.

The seminar is free; however, there are a limited number of places. In the case of interest, please send us an email to ng@edu.au.dk no later than **November 1***.

09:30-10:00	Welcome coffee
10:00-10:30	Introduction

10:30-11:15	Keynote (I): <i>Immigrant Child Language Brokering: A Ten Year Retrospective</i>
	By Professor Marjorie F. Orellana, University of UCLA
11:15-12:00	Keynote (II): <i>"Sometimes my parents think like 'oh, maybe they are discriminating me'": Taking a dialogical approach to understand self-other relationships during sensitive language brokering situations</i>
	By Sarah Crafter, Senior Lecturer in Psychology, Open University London
12:00-13:00	Lunch break
13:00-13:45	<i>"Sometimes they ask me and my brother to take a bicycle ride"- Exploring children's engagements as acts of mediation</i>
	Trine Brinkmann, Assistant Professor, University College Copenhagen, Department of Social Work
13:45-14:30	<i>"They think, we are ELDer than our mom": Cross-generational power relations in refugee families and children's mediating role</i>
	Narges Ghandchi, PhD Fellow, School of Education (DPU), Aarhus University (Denmark)
14:30-15:00	Coffee/tea break
15:00-15:45	<i>Emotion Work and Feeling Rules of Engaging with Newly Arrived Children in Comprehensive Schools in Denmark.</i>
	Bolette Moldenhawer, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Section of Education, University of Copenhagen.
15:45-16:30	<i>Opportunities and challenges regarding the first reception of newly arrived students in three primary schools in Malmö, Sweden</i>
	Anna Hell, Doctoral student, Faculty of Education and Society, Malmö University (Sweden)
16:30-17:15	Discussion