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Margot AM BRINK: Annotation of dissertation.

STORIES OF MIGRATION: From here to there and back ... and the stuff in-between.

This dissertation mainly uses the Auto (Relational) Ethnographical way to look at the stories of migrants. It furthermore inquires about the possibility of migration speaking into the lives of migrants in such a way that they might think differently about themselves. My own story of migration acts as a canvas for discussing migration, culture and identity and to ground the stories of the migrants, from various countries, which I interviewed. The inquiry suggests that most of the migrants – including myself – I spoke with personally or via questionnaire, may have experienced times of difficulty, but that they mainly came away from their experiences of migration in ways which highlight their personal resilience and contribution to the countries to which they had migrated.

The dissertation also engages in an in-depth discussion of Social Construction, as well as Poststructuralism and Postmodernism, Feminism, and the research methodology (Feminist Inquiry, Auto (relational) Ethnography and Narrative Inquiry) used. Chapter Six condenses the conversations with the migrants (as well as my own answers to the interviews questions) and draws upon the literature reviews encompassed during the inquiry, to highlight the issues discussed by the interviewees. Chapter Seven concludes the more academic aspects of the dissertation by summarizing whether the dissertation actualised its aims, whether it contributed to research at large and whether it passes the valuative criteria I used as posed by Laurel Richardson.

The dissertation speaks to migration in a very personal way by making use of a **before...** and an **after...** chapter that acts as a pro-and an epilogue explicating the real heart of migration – the tangible experience of a migrant on a day-to-day level.