Power and phenomenology in ethnology

Author: Kristofer Hansson (Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences)

Short Abstract

In this paper I want to develop a theoretical discussion on power and phenomenology. Central for my discussion is how people always have different ways of dwelling in the world. People are, to use Sara Ahmed’s metaphor, in line with their world. But not being in line can be problematic.

Long Abstract

In this paper I want to develop a theoretical discussion on power and phenomenology. Central for my discussion is how people always have different ways of dwelling in the world. People are, to use Sara Ahmed's metaphor, in line with their world. But not being in line with the dwelling that is sanctioned, ideal, or wanted can be problematic. I want to give some examples. It can be the wrong decorations in the garden, or that the children are too noisy in the backyard, or it is the car that is too expensive and exclusive in the neighbourhood. It may also be that the person is categorized as having the wrong skin colour, do not share the "same" culture, or is defined as an outsider among the insiders. From the following questions I want to develop this theoretical discussion: How can we theoretically understand the cultures that direct us in life and make us in line? How can we understand other peoples rejections when we are not in line? How can we study the creativity people use to become in line? And how can we understand the crisis that are connected too people that feel that they are never in line?