Flemish Deaf Empowerment and DPN Spirit

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Flemish Deaf Empowerment

Ethnographic exploratory research:
Life stories of Flemish Deaf leaders

Research purpose:
Factors contributing to Deaf empowerment?
New theories in Deaf Studies
LIFE

WAKE UP

BEFORE

CHANGE

NOW
Global Deaf encounters and visits to Deaf dream worlds:

1994: Flemish Deaf people visit Gallaudet University
“There many things which I absorbed with my eyes. First, when we entered, there were lots of posters: Deaf history etc. Then there was the reception: the secretary signed while she was on the phone! That was the first thing that woke me up: hearing people signed too!”

Gaby, Flemish Deaf leader
“That is possible, a Deaf president! Before, I always thought: a Deaf president, that is impossible. But it is not! Because the president is Deaf and because of other things, I started to think differently: if he can do that, I can do that too!”

Gaby, Flemish Deaf leader
“In Gallaudet, there was a man who was very inspiring to me. Before, I always thought that it was too bad: I have 2 Deaf sons and my parents are Deaf. But there, that man had 25 generations of Deaf and he was proud! He made me feel strong!”

Jerry, Flemish Deaf leader
“Gallaudet, that was fire! After that, we were more active: more and more Deaf started to think about how Deaf people live. We have to fight, reach goals.”

Ronny Van Landuyt,
Flemish Deaf leader
Grassroots globalization of Deaf cultural rhetoric

Deaf dream worlds and the imagination leading to translocal Deaf activism
MEET MEET, VISIT VISIT

Nomadic Deaf Identities, Deaf Dream Worlds and the Imagination Leading to Translocal Deaf Activism

Preliminary Research Findings & Reflections

Goedele A. M. De Clerck
In process:

Transnational commonalities in Deaf people’s lives. An exploration of Deaf empowerment in international Deaf people at Gallaudet University

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