In the final decade of the twentieth century the term ‘identity’ achieved ubiquity in the social sciences. Alongside this, it has become somewhat of a buzzword in wider society today. The literature review chapter of this thesis seeks to place the following research within the sociological discussion of ‘identity’.

In this thesis I propose to discuss the collective (national, state, and supranational) identifications of British expatriates in contemporary Finland with reference to the following research question: How do British expatriates construct their collective identities in discourse?

The ‘ethnographic discourse analysis’ that I have employed in this study seeks to combine the ethnographic study of British expatriates in contemporary Finland with a discursive analysis of my data collected. The ethnographic fieldwork conducted does not follow a traditional style: rather than collecting data from various sources and compiling it together for analysis, I recognize the contribution of my own expatriate experiences and some eighteen months plus of participant observations to the qualitative interviews conducted, which comprise the corpus of my data. In total over ten hours of digital audio recordings were made, transcribed and analyzed herein.

The following discursive analysis focuses upon the language and means employed by those interviewed to construct their various collective identifications. It explores the complex relationships between these discursive identity constructions and seeks to explain their subjective importance.

Avainsanat-Nyckelord-Keywords
britit
identiteetti
työskentely ulkomailla
Collective Identities
Englishness
Welshness
Britishness
Europeanness
Discourse Analysis
Ethnographic Fieldwork
Qualitative Interviewing

Säilytyspaikka-Förvaringsställe-Where deposited

Muita tietoja-Övriga uppgifter-Additional information