**Interview with an immigrant**

Interview with an immigrant, by Lisa Korpershoek, transcripted by Lisa Korpershoek and Liv Santifort

*Please introduce yourself, tell us your name, country of origin, and when you immigrated to the Netherlands.*

My name is Malin, I'm from Sweden and I've been living in the Netherlands since November 1997.

*How did you enter the Netherlands and why?*

Why I'm here, it's because I met a very nice boy. From Amsterdam. So we decided we would move together, that I would move here, to the Netherlands, with him.

And, we entered the country with a car, full of stuff.

*What about your family, do they also live in the Netherlands?*

No. My swedish family, my parents, brothers and sisters are still in Sweden and it’s just me here with now my husband and my two lovely children.

*What was your initial accommodation?*

I stayed then with my then boyfriend, now husband, in his very very small apartment in the centre of Amsterdam.

*As a newcomer, how did you manage to find labour? And under what conditions?*

I got my first job through friends in the Netherlands, friends from my then boyfriend.

*How did you learn the Dutch language? Have you ever had the chance to attend lessons on Dutch language and/or Dutch culture?*

I started with the very basics course in Sweden before Imoved here. I wanted to be able to say, some things. And then I did a cursus for foreigners at the free university of Amterdam.

*Did you stay in the Netherlands ever since?*

Yes.

*What is your current accommodation?*

I now live in a, I’d say small, house with my husband and children and cats and some fish, just outside Amsterdam.

*What is your current relationship with your family in Sweden?*

It’s still very fine and nice and I see them regularly. Which I’m very glad to be able to do.

*What is your current occupation?*

I’m a stay at home mum, taking care of everything here.

*What is your current legal status in the Netherlands and have you got Dutch citizenship?*

I’m very legal. I don’t have a Dutch citizenship, it’s not necessary since I’m from Sweden. And I’m married, so, I’m very legal here.