

**Shaking the Habitual
Newsletter from meeting in Stockholm
3rd to 5th of February 2016**



Present at the meeting at Nicolaigården/Egalia:

From Nicolaigården/Egalia: Anders Szpigler, Frida Wikström, Josefin Gåvsten, Kristian Wallin, Lotta Rajalin, Sarah All

From Hårryda: Annette Hellman, Annika Gry, Crister Carlsson, Erika Grindberg Bentley, Heidi Järvelainen, Paula Bergström, Siv Jörblom

From Bassa Regianna: Giliola Belli, Simone Armini, Tanya Partachi

From Hjallastefnan: Aki Arnason and Arny Steindora Steindorsdottir



Erasmus+





Wednesday 3:rd Feb

Lotta Rajalin, head of Nicolaigården/ Egalia welcomes everyone to Stockholm and the project meeting.

Crister Carlsson goes through the background to Shaking the Habitual for those that were not in Iceland

We also discuss response on the project so far. Some of the feedback has been:

'Important', 'Is in line with Erasmus guidelines', 'Well grounded with the preschool staff at the different participating schools'

Crister also goes through what all project partners have agreed to do as part of Shaking the Habitual;

1. Participate at all project meetings
2. Dedicate time for discussions/reflections
3. Staff at all participating preschools are involved
4. Hold lectures, spread and communicate the project externally
5. Host school write a newsletter
6. Evaluation
7. Pupils and parents are involved and informed
8. Toolkit for working with gender glasses in preschools
9. Communicate what each school does. Not trying to convince other projectpartners that ones own method is the right method

To account for:

- Participation in each meeting, Certificate of participation
- Work shadowing

Crister goes through registration process in eTwinning. Our goal is to have 100 members.



All meetings (staff, parent and with the children) should always have Shaking the Habitual as a standard point

Kristian Wallin from Nicolaigården shows a film he and Anders made from the meeting in Reykjavik in October 2015. The group discuss how video is an effective format for communicating the project both internally and externally.



Ginola and Simone wants to expand the use of video to spread Shaking the Habitual internally. Written documentation remain important however for guidelines and common documents.

Lotta Rajalin gives a talk about the work with equality and gender neutral education at Nicolaigården/Egalia.

[Click here](#) to see Lotta give a similar talk at TEDx in Tartu,

Estonia in November 2015

[Click here](#) to see Teachings for the whole life spectra, a short film about how staff work at Nicolaigården/Egalia which was also shown at Lotta's talk

Discussion about the common theme 'Childrens culture from a gender perspective'. The theme opens up for interesting meetings and discussions. At 15.00 the meeting moved into the big hall at Ugglan, Nicolaigården. The teachers from Härryda doing teacher shadowing during the week discuss their experiences at Nicolaigården and Egalia. After this the teachers from all the different schools presented the projects relating to 'Children's culture from a gender perspective', going on at the different schools. You can see some of the presentations on the eTwinning site.



Nicolaigården/Egalia

Alven: Elin and Jessica presented a short film describing how they worked with culture and gender with the youngest children See the film on eTwinning



Trollet: Katrin and Lucas tell the group about how they have worked with a book called Mamma borta (Mummy gone) to address various issues with the younger children such as families, refugees and friendship.

Ugglan: Anders and Christina describe their work with the children around being a good friend. They have been working both with songs, stories and fictional characters. See the presentation on eTwinning



Enhörningen: Kristian, Katrin, Pamela, August and Scott present the group's work (see presentation on e-Twinning)



Korpen: Anna, Josefine, Britt Marie, Marie, Mattias och Reza show a short film about how they have worked with fairy tales from an egalitarian and gender perspective. Looking at our historic heritage where the fairytales are important but also seeing it from a modern perspective. See the presentation on eTwinning



Egalia: Sara and Josefin G show how they have worked at Egalia with literature from a gender and global perspective and in particular the notion of Princesses. See the presentation on eTwinning

Bassa Regianna: Giliola, Simone and Tanya tell the group about how they are starting a new publishing company giving out





gender aware childrens book. Their first book is called Né questo né quello (or Not this nor that in English). The children have been participating in the creative process which started a year ago. See the presentation on eTwinning



Hjallastefnan: Aki and Army present their planned work with parent involvement and with literature. They discuss challenges regarding the relatively small amounts of childrens literature in Iceland due to the small population and the even smaller amount of gender aware books.



Härryda: Annette, Annika, Paula and Siv talked about Rosa Pedagogik (Pink Pedagogy) and their work with gender equality in Härryda. This pink pedagogy will challenge and exceed the hierarchal power relationship between people with position themselves differently. Not only gender. It wants to highlight children's right to be involved in working with equality.

We finish the day, together, with dinner at historic restaurant **Gyldene Freden** in the Old Town. Gubbröra (herring and egg mix on brown bread) and Meatballs with lingonberry jam was on the menu

Thursday 4:th of Feb

We start the day at Nicolaigården with breakfast, a retrospective of the day before, discussions about the different projects presented Wednesday afternoon.

Some of the reflexions were:

- Good to have a common theoretical basis in the book Pink Pedagogy





- Visiting staff thought it was good to see both the film Teachings for the whole Life Spectra and the reality at the schools.
- Feed back, dicussions and reflexions on the book published by the BassaRegianna also in it's larger political context in Italy.
- Suggestion: A book about Shaking the Habitual and the work with gender and equality at the different schools. Bassa Regianna would take on over- all responsibility for layout and production
- Discussion about the influence of the catholic church in Italy and the churches previous influence in the Nordic countries. What the school law say about christian ethics.
- Discussion about sexualization, objectification etc. How adults relate to these issues.The adult gaze differs from the gaze of the child

Att 11 **Cathrine Fawcett** held a lecture called 'The effect on norm-conscious pedagogy on preschool children's gender-related cognition'

You can see a film of the lecture on eTwinning.



After lunch **Kristian Wallin** held a lecture on Men in

Preschool: The man as a symbole for change. Kristian talked

about the issue from an international perspective, looking at the development and the challenges facing 12 places across the globe as divers as Taiwan, Turkey and Norway. A PDF of the lecture is available on eTwinning.





At 15.00 the group walked to Egalia for a tour. Lotta Rajalin, Sarah All and Josefin Gåvsten presented working methods, history and development at Egalia and the LGBT- certification of Nicolaigården/Egalia.

Friday 5:th of Feb

The day started with the weekly sing-along session at Nicolaigården held by Bella Ronnehed for all the children at the pre-school. Bella then discussed challenging gender stereotypes through songs and music.

After a short break, Bella held a talk about the work at Spira, an open pre-school (where parents are present with their child throughout the day) for adopted children from 1-8 years old and how the work with gender related issues differs from that at the Nicolaigården/Egalia





After lunch the group planned and discussed the meeting in Härryda during week 11 (from 14th to the 18th of March). As with Stockholm, the pre-schools in Härryda would like to invite the other project partners to do teacher shadowing from Monday the 14th and the rest

of the week. Project meetings are planned for Wednesday 16th-Friday 18th.

The group decided to work with two questions as common theme:

1. When and how do I/we, as preschool educators, enforce stereotypical gendernorms?
2. When, where and how do the children in preschool act/interact beyond sterotypical gender norms?

It was a fantastic week filled to the brim with exciting discussions, reflection and knowledge sharing. Taking part of each other's day to day work, projects and ideas on how to challenge stereotypical gender norms was a big part of the meeting in Stockholm. It was also a big plus that so many of the staff from Nicolaigården/Egalia, apart from the members of the project group, were able to participate and contibute. We all

the



look forward to next meeting in Härryda!