PROGRAMME

The Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
(School of Child and Youth Care)

Barbara D. Hodgins

2007    University of Victoria    MEd
1994    University of British Columbia    BA

“(Re)Storying Dolls and Cars:
Gender and Care with Young Children”

Friday, September 19, 2014
1:00 P.M.
Human and Social Development Building, Room A373

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Jessica Ball, School of Child & Youth Care, UVic (Supervisor)
Dr. Veronica Pacini-Ketchabaw, School of Child & Youth Care, UVic (Member)
Dr. Peter Stephenson, Department of Anthropology, UVic (Outside Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. Mindy Blaise, College of Education, Victoria University

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Wanda Hurren, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, UVic
Abstract

Feminist theorising has been instrumental in efforts to challenge gender hierarchies and conceptualize care as an ethic of relationality and interdependence, and has influenced visions of pedagogy as a relational, ethical and political endeavour. While these pedagogies importantly challenge simplified, uncontextualized, apolitical notions of both gender and care, they do not necessarily attend to the increasing complexity of children’s heterogeneous commonworlds. Following a theoretical and methodological framework aligned with material feminism and post-qualitative research, in particular thinking with feminist scholars Barad and Haraway, this research questions what an engagement with human-and non-human relationality might do to complicate conversations about gender and care. Employing pedagogical narrations through a post-qualitative lens, this inquiry explores how children, educators and things become implicated in gendered caring practices. A diffractive analysis is put to work wherein gender and care are analyzed with/in several child-doll and child-car encounters, and are diffractively read through other doll and car stories near and far from the classroom. This analysis illuminates the political and ethical embeddedness of early childhood pedagogies, and the understanding that gendering and caring emerge with/in a complex web of many relations. Material feminism loosens ties that bind simplified constructions of gender as explanations for care and vice versa, and instead puts forward that gender and care performatively emerge through intra-action. As such pedagogical and research practices need to pay careful attention to that which is always already on the verge of becoming.

Awards, Scholarships, Fellowships

2009-2010 HELP-UVic: REACH Scholarship, University of Victoria
2009 HELP-UVic: REACH Recognition for Exemplary Graduate Research Award, University of Victoria
2008-2009 HELP-UVic: REACH Thesis Funding, University of Victoria
2008 HELP-UVic: REACH Recognition for Exemplary Graduate Research Award, University of Victoria
2008-2009 Agnes Shahariw Memorial Scholarship, University of Victoria

Presentations

1. Hodgins, B.D., Kummen, K., Thompson, D. A Methodology for/of Disruption in Child and Youth Care Practices Child and Youth Care in Action III Conference, Victoria, B.C. May 2014


8. Hodgins, B.D., Kummen, K. *Pedagogical Narrations: Opportunities for Practice in the Post Secondary Classroom*, Transforming Our Childhood Programs, Vancouver, B.C. February 2012


10. Hodgins, B.D. *Pedagogical Narrations’ Potentiality as a Methodology for Research with Children*, Qualitative Analysis Conference, Brantford, ON. May 2011


14. Hodgins, B.D. Father Involvement in Parenting: Exploring Young Children’s Perspectives, REACH Graduate Symposium, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C. November 2009

15. Hodgins, B.D. Father Involvement in Parenting Young Children, REACH Graduate Symposium, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C. November 2008

16. Hodgins, B.D. Father Involvement Content in Parent Education Programs Focus on Fathering Event, Victoria, B.C. November 2008


18. Hodgins, B.D. Father Involvement Content in Parent Education Programs National Father Involvement Research Alliance Conference, Toronto, ON October 22, 2008

**Publications**


