

On my own gender reflections & the paper

Gender in European forest ownership and management: reflections on women as “New forest owners”

Gro Follo , Gun Lidestav, Alice Ludvig, Lelde Vilkriste, Teppo Hujala, Heimo Karppinen, François Didot & Diana Mizaraite



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Facesmap

Gro Follo

Vienna 8 September 2016



The origin of my gender awareness

- Pedagogue
(kindergarten 15 years)

- Boys and girls are in many ways different, and we treat them differently
- The importance of their bodies and my own body

- Anthropologist

- Women have always been a part of the empirical data due to interest in kinship and marriage



Epistemological truths for me

Sex/gender

1. “Kjønn” seems to be anywhere and nowhere
 - Realized as language, artefacts, physical strength, social acting, jobs, sexual practice, expectations, penis,.....etc.
 - Non-realized potential
2. What kjønn is, is too complex to answer ➡ for me an “explanatory principle” (cf. Bateson 2000)
3. Kjønn is always playing a part when humans are involved, but the effects of kjønn vary in degree





Example from forestry (1)

Register data may be gendered

Around 1980 - ? :

“Owner of the estate” often the main user or responsible for management ➡ male biased

Now:

“reference owner” when joint ownership among couple:

- the one with highest share ➡ male biased?
- if 50-50% share, the oldest one ➡ male biased





Example from forestry (2)

“The huger, the better”-idea is gendered

1. Female owned estates are smaller
2. The huger estate, the more economically interesting
 - also for younger brothers of sisters with the juridical allodial right to the estate



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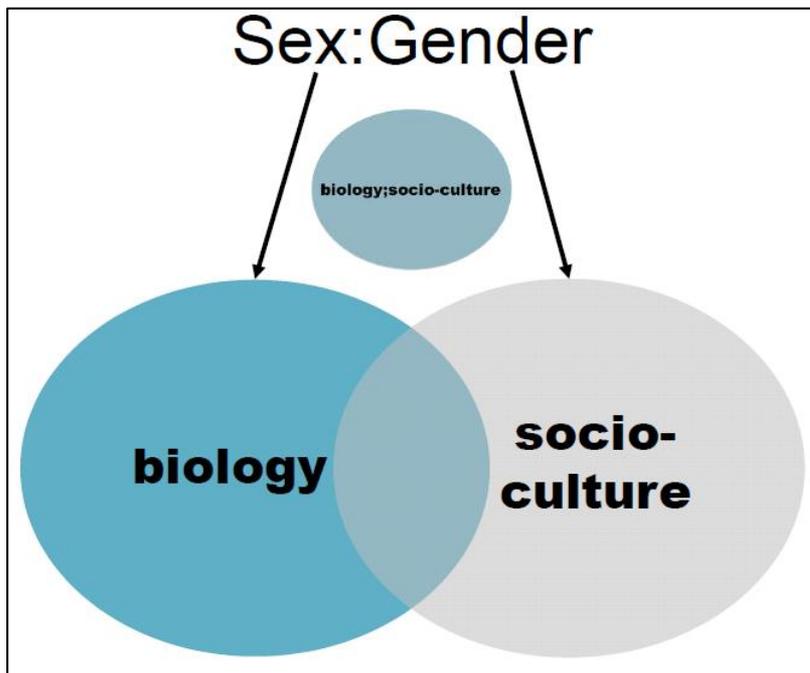


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In Europe: About 30% of the small-scale forest property holders is women

Schmithüsen and Hirsch 2010



➔ “gender”

Among the ways to consider gender

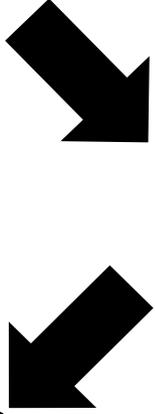
Gender as:

1. empirical variable
2. relational and structuralizing category
3. meaning category

“Place” to look for it:

1. the body
2. situated conduct
3. everywhere

Methods and materials

- Compilation of current data and publications
 - Collective meta-analysis
- 
- 65 sources and publications

What numbers are there?

Table 1. Basic data on female forest owners and their forest ownership in selected European countries.

Country/region	Individual private forest owners (physical persons)			Owner characteristics – female forest owners compared to male forest owners			Forest ownership		
	Numbers of female owners	Proportion female owners, %	Trend of numbers or proportion of female forest owners	Women mean age	Women residence	Women level of education	Proportion of forest land owned by women, %	Comparative size of female-owned estates	Acquisition by purchase
Austria ^a	43,606	31		+ 2 yrs			25	0.69	
Bosnia-Herzegovina ^b		3							
Croatia ^b		7							
Estonia ^b	38,012	44					36	0.70	
Finland ^c	240,000	38	Increased from 17% in 1975	+ 2 yrs	More often distant to their forest	More often university education		0.83	FFO less often
France ^d	285,000	30	No difference since 1999	+ 4 yrs	More distant to their forest	More often university education	27	0.82	FFO less often
Germany, Bavaria only ^b	252,000	39							
Germany Thüringen, B-W and NRW ^b		Ca 20	Forecast predict that proportion of women will increase						
Ireland ^b		Ca 17							
Latvia ^e	64,022	44	From none to 64,022 since restitution	+ 5 yrs	Less distant to their forest	Less often university degree	38	0.82	FFO less often
Lithuania ^b	44,093	52	From none to 44,093 since restitution	+ 5 yrs		Less often university degree		0.76	FFO less often
Macedonia ^b		4–8							
Norway ^f	29,157	25	Increased from 15% in 1989	+ 3 yrs	More distant to their forest	More often univ/ college education		Smaller	
Slovenia ^b		49					38		FFO less often
Sweden ^g	124,809	38	Increased from 20% since 1976	+ 2 yrs	More often distant to their forest		34	0.78 if sole ownership/ 0.90 if joint ownership	FFO less often
Switzerland ^b		Ca 20							
UK ^b		17–27							

... as empirical variable

Country/region	Numbers of female owners	Proportion female owners, %
Austria ^a	43,606	31
Bosnia-Herzegovina ^b		<u>3</u>
Croatia ^b		7
Estonia ^b	38,012	<u>44</u>
Finland ^c	240,000	38
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Sweden ^g	124,809	38
Switzerland ^b		Ca 20
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% of ♀ and % of ♂

... as relational, structuralizing category

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tells us why

←

←



... as meaning category

Example: Forestry competence

- What gender implications do the attributions of competence have?
- How does gender interfere with and is reflected in the development of new forestry competence?
- What kind of forestry competence is understood as proper?
- Does gender matter in how established and newer forestry competence is spread?

What matters:

- Numbers matter:
 - Increase the visibility of women
 - Possible to create more numbers and let both halves speak up
- Number of female forest owners matters:
 - The more they are, the more they will come into view ➡ more normal to be a female forest owner
- How we understand numbers matters:
 - Tools for interpretation is necessary
- How we understand matters:
 - Necessary to understand structures and meaning systems (are “beyond” the individual)

Recommendations to researchers

1. Assume that gender matters
2. Design your empirical settings accordingly