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A place for life or a place to live

Gieling, Johannes

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Propositions belonging to the PhD thesis

A place for life or a place to live

Rethinking village attachment, volunteering and liveability in Dutch rural areas

Joost Gieling

1. The 'participation society' fosters processes of social and spatial inequality; rural communities with a lack of social, cultural or intellectual capital are often not able or interested to establish new forms of self-organisation (This thesis)
2. The meaning of place becomes more complex as different sections of the rural population attach differently to different aspects of the rural environment (This thesis)
3. Primary school closure may have a positive impact on village societies in terms of community engagement and community cohesion (This thesis)
4. Most volunteers do not primarily participate out of solidarity but because of personal interests and desires (This thesis)
5. Less mobile residents are most vulnerable and therefore rural policies should be adjusted to meet their specific needs and requirements (This thesis)
6. The availability of facilities and services increasingly becomes an expression and not a result of a village's social bonding and cohesion (This thesis)
7. The field of rural geography would benefit from more quantitatively oriented research in order to identify and explore wider general patterns of rural social change (This thesis)
8. "Defining liveability is simple. LIVE in a place I like and the ABILITY to perform my tasks" (a quote from prof. Pascal Perez at TEDxUWollongong 2013)
9. Johan Cruijff (1947-2016) zei ooit: "Je gaat het pas zien als je het door hebt". Dit geldt ook het doen van een PhD. Het duurt even voordat je alles doorhebt, maar als je het eenmaal ziet dan gaat het hard (PhD Life)
10. Attachment to a place can be very random and unexpected: even a desk and a computer in the 'basement of academia' can induce feelings of nostalgia (PhD life)