



Keeping it Honest: Vulnerable Writing

vulnerablewriting.engagingvulnerability.se

22-23 AUGUST, 2019, UPPSALA. A collaboration between the research program Engaging Vulnerability (EV) and the Nordic Wittgenstein Society (NWS). The 10th annual conference of the Nordic Wittgenstein Society. Conference website: <http://vulnerablewriting.engagingvulnerability.se>

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- **Lars Hertzberg**, Professor Emeritus in Philosophy, Åbo Akademi University.
- **Shahram Khosravi**, Professor of Social Anthropology, Stockholm University.

THEME

Using a theoretical framework and defending a position within that framework often function as unspoken requirements for those who wish to be conceived of as serious and highly engaged researchers today. Sometimes a conflict arises between ambitions rising from such requirements and an ambition to let sincerity and engagement be principal guidelines.

An example is found in Wittgenstein who likened his philosophical investigations with traveling criss-cross over a wide field of thought and described the form of a philosophical problem with the words "I don't know my way about". His thoughts were crippled, he wrote, if he tried to force them in one single direction. His struggle to find a form of presentation was connected with an ambition to keep philosophy honest.

To deviate from accepted guidelines for how to write is to place oneself in a vulnerable po-

sition. There is also a more personal aspect to writing vulnerably: to break with norms often means breaking with a way of seeing and conceptualizing that has become second nature, partly through academic training. Yet another aspect comes in when one's academic writing is a representation of the lives of others. How can I reveal and communicate the situation of others in ways that do justice to them? Can my personal, embodied experiences be a resource in my academic writing?

The conference aims to elucidate the notion of vulnerable writing and the question of honesty from the perspectives of philosophy, anthropology, social studies, gender studies, literary studies, etc.

Topics of interest, for example:

Wittgenstein's philosophical method; the question of honesty in research; auto-ethnographic studies; the rhetoric of vulnerability; the relation between form and content; the ethical implications of different ways of writing in research; representing the lives of others in academic texts; vulnerable writing and gender; the relation between writing fiction and academic writing.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Welcome to send in abstracts. Maximum 300 words, submitted by May 10 to:

EVkonferensNWS@gmail.com

Please indicate academic field or discipline of author.