



# LUND UNIVERSITY

'Critical places' as a method to ethnographically study health, body and accessibility

Hansson, Kristofer

2018

*Document Version:*

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link to publication](#)

*Citation for published version (APA):*

Hansson, K. (2018). 'Critical places' as a method to ethnographically study health, body and accessibility. 203-203. Abstract from 34th Nordic Ethnology and Folklore Conference, Uppsala, Sweden.

*Total number of authors:*

1

**General rights**

Unless other specific re-use rights are stated the following general rights apply:

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal

Read more about Creative commons licenses: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

**Take down policy**

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

LUND UNIVERSITY

PO Box 117  
221 00 Lund  
+46 46-222 00 00

## **'Critical places' as a method to ethnographically study health, body and accessibility**

12. Health Matters - Culture, Health and Body in Medical Humanities

Kristofer Hansson<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institutionen för kulturvetenskaper, Lunds universitet, Sverige

### **Abstract**

This is a conceptual paper trying to present and develop the concept of "Critical places" and how it can be used when studying the everyday experience of living with long-term sickness or/and disability. I developed the concept a couple of years ago in a chapter about young men living with asthma and allergy (2007). The concept analyse the duality of both physical risk and social benefit and how they can collide in one specific place and create a bodily situation where the individual need to act. "Critical places" focus on the phenomenological thought about doing and what happens in the specific situation, in this way the concept can also be seen as an ethnographic method. As a more theoretical concept "critical places" can be used for a hermeneutic analyse of risk-taking, hiding from stigma, identity formation, power relations in a specific place, highlight limitations of accessibility and so on. I have also used the concept in a couple of chapters concerning disability (Hansson 2009, Hansson 2013, Alftberg, Apelmo & Hansson 2016). The concept have also been used by Cridland (2017) in here ethnographic study of eating communities and by Hagen (2012) in his study about people living with Huntington's disease. In this paper I will develop the concept with my new research project about limitations of accessibility for people living with disability.