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# Risk creation in traveling: Backpacker Adventure Narration

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## Abstract

This paper addresses, through examples from in-depth interviews with long-term budget travelers, how culturally and socially constructed narratives about risk and adventure are manifested by individuals in backpacker communities. Such manifestation is carried out through consumption of, for instance, experiences, places, food, medicine, and clothing. It is argued that tales and acts of "risk and adventure" work particularly well in individuals' efforts to "narrate identity". The paper also addresses a need for more gender sensitive research, through suggesting that adventurous women may be caught in an intersection between two logical systems: the reflexive life project of "late modernity" open to both genders and the adventure as a historically founded masculine practice.

Résumé

La création du risque en voyageant: narrations d'aventure par des randonneurs. Cet

article tire des exemples d'interviews en profondeur avec des voyageurs à long terme et à petit budget afin de montrer comment des individus dans des communautés de randonneurs présentent des narrations culturelles et sociales du risque et de l'aventure. Leur présentation se réalise par la consommation d'expériences, lieux, nourriture, médicaments, vêtements, etc. On soutient que les récits et les comportements de «risque et aventure» contribuent considérablement aux efforts des individus pour «raconter leur identité». L'article répond aussi au besoin de recherches plus sensibilisées envers les femmes, tout en suggérant que les femmes aventureuses sont peut-être prises au croisement de deux systèmes logiques: le projet de vie réfléchi de la «modernité tardive», auquel les hommes et les femmes ont accès, et l'aventure comme une pratique masculine avec des bases historiques.



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## Keywords

adventure; risk; identity; narrative; mythology

## Mots-clés

aventure; risque; identité; narration; mythologie

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