

Elisabeth Backe-Hansen

Research Director, Researcher I
Norwegian Social Research (NOVA)
P.O.Box 3223 Elisenberg, 0208 Oslo, Norway
Email address: ebh@nova.no
Direct phone: +47 22541307, mobile phone +47 92446421
Fax: +47 22541201

Brief CV

Born 28.09.1949

I worked as a clinical psychologist within child welfare between 1974 and 1988. Since that I have been researching several fields encompassing child welfare, children and young people, since 1996 at NOVA. My doctoral dissertation from 2001 analyzed decision-making processes in child protection. I have been researcher I (corresponding to full professor) since 2002. From 2003 to 2006 I was research director of NOVA's youth research group, and since a reorganisation in 2006 I've directed NOVA's department for research on children, youth and the family, which includes child welfare research. NOVA is a Childwatch Key Institution, and I am NOVA's representative within Childwatch International.

Since 2001 I've been familiarizing myself with literature within the field of child poverty, and since 2004 a colleague at another research institute and I have been retained by the Ministry of Children and Equality to supervise and evaluate an ongoing investment in counteracting the effects of child poverty in Norway. In all 55 Norwegian municipalities are involved in this effort, with a range of projects funded by the Ministry.

Since 2002 I have been responsible for a Nordic project about indicators of children and young people's well-being in the Nordic countries, which will be finalized this year. We also collaborate with the International Society of Child Indicators, established in 2007.

For the last couple of years I have also prioritized research on young people who leave public care, or after-care youth, which ties in with an interest in groups of youth who are in particular risk of social exclusion and marginalization during the transition to adulthood. In Norway this means the age range from 16 to 23. Robbie Gilligan from Trinity, Dublin, who is also a Board member in Childwatch International, and I are hosting a seminar in Slovenia in November, 2008 focussing on socially excluded youth in societies in transition, where we will gather together young and more experienced researchers from Eastern European countries to discuss possible strategies and interventions. The seminar is funded by Childwatch.

Most recent publications

(I have not published over-much during later years as I've been more or less fully occupied as a research director, but here come what I suppose are the most relevant publications)

Backe-Hansen, E. (2004). *God nok omsorg. Riktige beslutninger i barnevernet*. [Good enough care. Taking the right decisions in child protection]. Oslo: Kommuneforlaget.

Backe-Hansen, E. (2004) *Barns håndtering av en oppvekst med vedvarende dårlig økonomi. Kunnskapsbidrag fra 36 studier av barnefattigdom*. [How children handle growing up with persistent poor economy. Contributions from 36 studies of child poverty]. Oslo: NOVA, report no. 12/04.

Backe-Hansen, E. (2005). Children and young people's well-being in the Nordic countries. In Klöckner, C. (published in a German book, I do not have the full reference here).

Backe-Hansen, E. (2006). Hva er gode tiltak mot barnefattigdom? [What are good interventions against the effects of child poverty?] Oslo: Voksne for barn, årbok om barn.

Backe-Hansen, E. & Clausen, S.-E. (2007). Vold og seksuelle overgrep som årsak til barnevernstiltak. [Physical and sexual abuse as reasons for child welfare interventions]. In S. Mossige & K. Stefansen (eds.). Vold og overgrep mot barn og unge. Oslo: NOVA, report no. 20/07.

Backe-Hansen, E. (2008). Hvordan kan fosterforeldre bidra til utvikling av resiliens? [How can foster parents contribute to the development of resilience?] I Borge, A. I. H. (ed.). *Resiliens i praksis*. Oslo: Cappelen Akademiske forlag.
Mona Sandbæk (20 % bistilling fra 1.1.2009, på prosjektet om barns levekår)

Bakken, A., Hegna, K., Borg, E. & Backe-Hansen (2008). *Er det skolens skyld? Kunnskapsstatus om skolens bidrag til kjønnsforskjeller i skoleprestasjoner*. [The fault of the school? A knowledge status about the school's contribution to sex differences in school achievement]. Oslo: NOVA, report no. 2/08.

Borg, E., Kristiansen, I.-H., Backe-Hansen, E. (2008). *Kvalitet og innhold i norske barnehager. En kunnskapsoversikt*. [Quality and content in Norwegian kindergartens. A knowledge status]. Oslo: NOVA, report no. 6/08.

Backe-Hansen, E. (2008, in press). God praksis i forhold til bevegelige mål. [Good practice when the objectives are fluid]. In R. Dahle & N. Hennem (eds). *Barnevernets håndtering av vold og seksuelle overgrep*. Oslo: NOVA, to be published as a report.

Backe-Hansen, E. (2008, in press). Barnevernets kunnskapsbehov. [Need for knowledge in child welfare]. To be published by Cappelen forlag, a book edited by N. Hennem and E. Bakketeig.