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Learning To Be Vélomobile

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TITLE

Learning To Be Vélo-mobile

ABSTRACT

There are few qualitative studies to date of how children learn to become vélo-mobile, and of how parents and caregivers talk and interact with children to instruct them how to ride safely. This paper reports on a study of how children learn to sit in a carrier bike as a passenger and to ride their own bike. In my data from Denmark, these activities take place in urban areas with good biking infrastructure, including separate bike lanes and dedicated cycle paths, as well as bike-only traffic lights at intersections. Therefore, this study provides insight into how riders actually use and learn to use a bike-friendly infrastructure, and how in such an environment they learn to ride with the help of others. Video and audio recordings of family bike rides as well as school bike training sessions and school bike tours were made to capture from multi-angles the aural and visual features of the local organisation of the ride from the participants' perspectives. Multiple 'micro' video cameras were placed on the researcher's bike as well as on some of the children's bikes. In addition, new ways to represent (in transcript form) specific features of the sensefulness of riding together are proposed. My ethnographic study attempts to combine qualitative approaches to situated learning with interactional mobility studies to derive a complementary approach to investigating the following phenomena:

- 1) the discursive pedagogical framing of cycle training and cycling in situ;
- 2) instruction and instructed action: directing, assessing and shepherding children who are learning to cycle;
- 3) learning to ride in formation: the 'bike train' as an instructed formation-in-action;
- 4) sharing the experience of riding together;
- 5) learning to navigate an obstacle course together;
- 6) practising safe cycling in real traffic;
- 7) negotiating the appropriate conduct of other road users.

Cycling and Society Symposium 2012: provisional programme

Location: University of East London Stratford Campus, Water Lane, E15 4LZ

For more information, please contact Rachel Aldred, UEL Sustainable Mobilities Research Group,
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Monday 3rd September

9:00 coffee & biscuits

9:30 welcome and introduction

9:45-11:15

The Politics of Place

Economic, social and cultural transformation and the role of the bicycle in Brazil (Tim Jones).

Production of Space and Mobility Trends in Post-socialist Zagreb (Damir Soh)

Cycling Lanes in Santiago de Chile – encoded images and political priorities (Viktoria Wesslowski)

Towards a bicycle system (John Parkin and Dave Horton)

Short break: 11:15-11:30

11:30-1:15

Identities and Experiences

Identity and Lifecourse

Triggers for Changes in Cycling: The Role of Life Events and Modifications to the Environment (Kiron Chatterjee)

Women, Gendered Roles, Domesticity and Cycling in Britain, 1930-1970 (Peter Cox)

Cycle mobility and borderwork (Anne Jensen)

Embodiment and Experience

Recursive (bi)cycles; how cycling your journeys changes the journeys you want to make (Pete Wood)

Retracing Trajectories in Utrecht (NL) – The embodied experience of cycling in a fragmented city (Jan van Duppen and Bas Spierings)

1:15 lunch served

1:30-2:15 lunch + poster session

Posters

A Review of the Effectiveness of Adult Cycle Training in Tower Hamlets, London (Sam Margolis)
Are 3D intervention materials useful to promote increased levels of active travel/physical activity in Glasgow workplaces? (Emma Bill)

Freedom of movement: The socio-politics of the bike, the bloomer and the female cyclist (Katrina Jungnickel)

Inequities in bicycle usage: Socio-demographic predictors of uptake and usage of a public bicycle sharing scheme in London (Flora Ogilvie and Anna Goodman)

Public bike hire schemes & city living (Sara Basterfield)

SAFECYCLE: e-safety applications for safe cycling in Europe (Angela Van der Kloof)

Subjective experience of INfrastructuralChangE: a Longitudinal Approach (SINCE) (Joost de Kruijff and D. Ettema)

The bicycle as a means of transport from a system perspective (Ian Perry)

The Big Society: practitioner project in 2 London boroughs (Alix Stredwick)
The effect of permeability on uptake of school cycle training (Paul Lowe)
The Formation of Attitudes Towards Bicycling, Davis, California (Susan Handy)
The Function, Form and Politics of Cycle Mapping in London (Brian Deegan)
What can we learn from Denmark on increasing safer cycling and integrating of Hackney taxis into London cycling strategies? (Mark Forshaw)
Who and what are paper cycling maps for? (Henrietta Sherwin and Caroline Bartle)

2:15-3:45pm

Mapping and Modelling

The BICY project: results of analyses aimed at increasing cycling in Central European cities and beyond (Jason Meggs, Silvia Bertoni, Anton Pashkevich, Nazanin R Dehkordi, Federico Rupi, Joerg Schweizer)

How do cyclists make their way? (Hans Skov-Petersen, Suzanne Elizabeth Vedel, Thomas Sick Nielsen and Jette Bredahl Jacobsen)

The Auckland CYCSIM model: simulating the integrated societal costs and benefits of policies to increase commuter cycling (Alex Macmillan, Woodward, A. W., Connor, J. L., Witten, K., Kearns, R.)

The Good and the Bad – Bicyclists' Experiences In Copenhagen (Bernhard Snizek, Hans Skov-Petersen and Thomas Sick Nielsen)

3:45-4:15pm tea break

4:15-5:30pm

Participation and Civil Society

CicLAvia as Human Infrastructure in Los Angeles: Ethnographic Experiments in Equitable Bike Planning (Adonia Lugo)

Processes of citizen participation in the implementation of sustainable urban mobility systems (Elisabeth Lorenzi + co-authors)

Understanding Cycling in Budapest (Katalin Tóth)

Tuesday 4th September

9:30 welcome

9:45-11:15am

Round Table Discussion

Children and Cycling: new research from Denmark (chair, Paul Lowe)

Safe and Secure School Cycling (Anette Jørgensen)

Learning To Be Vélomobile (Paul McIlvenny)

Children's everyday cycling – barriers and possibilities among Danish families' daily transport behaviour (Trine Agervig Carstensen)

Healthy and bicycle-friendly school roads (Henriette Jensen)

11:15-11:30

Coffee break

Workshop

11:30 – 1:30 feedback from event, other business including host for future years