



WESTFÄLISCHE
WILHELMS-UNIVERSITÄT
MÜNSTER

Institut für
Ethnologie

Institutscolloquium SoSe 2013

15.05.2013, 16 – 18 Uhr, Stadtstraße 21, Münster, Raum STU 105 (2.10)

Dr. Kristine Krause

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Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen):

Abusua in London: Practicing Family and Creating Relatedness in Therapy Networks around a Ghanaian Pub

Esi was the owner of a pub in North east London. When she fell sick with cancer, the regulars at her pub became the core group of her therapy network. Esi combined biomedical treatment with Christian Pentecostal healing and herbs from Ghana in the treatment of the cancer. Her decisions for and against certain types of treatment were highly contested among the members of her therapy network.

In the talk I will present the story of Esi from the different perspectives of the people involved in this network. Her story will serve as an example to explore the difference and overlap between friendship and extended family relationships, the meaning of created kinship and practiced family and how these relate to events of sickness. I will further discuss how what people do when they are sick, is best seen as an intrinsically relational activity. I will thereby argue against a common perspective in medical anthropology which conceptualizes health seeking behavior as driven by explanatory models, and recommend a perspective focusing on practices and embodied knowledge instead..

Alle Interessierten sind zu diesen Vorträgen herzlich eingeladen.