

Propositions accompanying the PhD thesis

1. People visit former war sites in search of affective experiences. (this dissertation)
2. Although tourists often mention education as a reason to visit a former war site, such education should be seen as pertaining to self-reflection, personal development, and personal moral or emotional engagement with specific war histories, and not to a more formal education of war history. (this dissertation)
3. The concept of dark tourism does not do justice to the diversity of tourist's experiences on former war sites. (this dissertation)
4. The ambivalence captured in the notion of 'authenticity' should be the starting point for further investigation into the relation between the tourist and the site. (this dissertation)
5. Sometimes a book reveals a more layered image of the past than a physical site. (this dissertation)
6. Research on war tourism would gain depth and diversity by shifting its focus to investigating tourism to the less iconic and more mundane war sites.
7. Public debates on war tourism are too often hijacked by moral policing.
8. The corona crisis forces us to rethink our current modes of researching tourism.
9. Scientific education would benefit from a closer collaboration with artists and the arts.
10. Teachers shouldn't write off 'lazy' or unprepared students too soon. It is a teacher's task to probe into the reasons for their behavior.
11. "Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose."
– Zora Neale Hurston