Discourse and Identity

The relationship between language, discourse and identity has always been a major area of sociolinguistic investigation. In recent times, the field has been revolutionized as previous models – which assumed our identities to be based on stable relationships between linguistic and social variables – have been challenged by pioneering new approaches to the topic.

This volume brings together a team of leading experts to explore discourse in a range of social contexts. By applying a variety of new analytical tools and concepts, the contributors show how we build images of ourselves through language, how society moulds us into different categories, and how we negotiate our membership of those categories. Drawing on numerous interactional settings (the workplace; medical interviews; education), in a variety of genres (narrative; conversation; interviews), and amongst different communities (immigrants; patients; adolescents; teachers), this revealing volume sheds new light on how our social practices can help to shape our identities.

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Studies in Interactional Sociolinguistics

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Discourse and Identity

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# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List of contributors</th>
<th>page x</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Part I Overview: theory, method and analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Editors’ introduction</th>
<th>27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Narrative and identity: the double arrow of time</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elliot Mishler</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Footing, positioning, voice. Are we talking about the same things?</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branca Telles Ribeiro</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Small and large identities in narrative (inter)action</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra Georgakopoulou</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 From linguistic reference to social reality</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deborah Schiffrin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Part II Private and public identities: constructing who we are

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Editors’ introduction</th>
<th>135</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Identity à la carte: you are what you eat</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Lakoff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Contents

6 Workplace narratives, professional identity and relational practice  
*Janet Holmes* 166

7 Identity and personal/institutional relations: people and tragedy in a health insurance customer service  
*Liliana Cabral Bastos and Maria do Carmo Leite de Oliveira* 188

8 The discursive construction of teacher identities in a research interview  
*Greer C. Johnson* 213

9 Becoming a mother after DES: intensive mothering in spite of it all  
*Susan E. Bell* 233

### Part III The gendered self: becoming and being a man

10 Hegemonic identity-making in narrative  
*Scott Kiesling* 261

11 On being white, heterosexual and male in a Brazilian school: multiple positionings in oral narratives  
*Luiz Paulo Moita-Lopes* 288

12 Urban fathers positioning themselves through narrative: an approach to narrative self-construction  
*Stanton Wortham and Vivian Gadsden* 314

### Part IV The in-between self: negotiating person and place

Editors’ introduction 345
Contents

13 Group identity, narrative and self-representations
   Anna De Fina 351

14 Performing self, family and community
   in Moroccan narratives of migration and settlement
   Mike Baynham 376

15 Making it personal: shared meanings in the
   narratives of Holocaust survivors
   Brian Schiff and Chaim Noy 398

References 426
Index 452
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