UiO **:** **Faculty of Social Sciences**
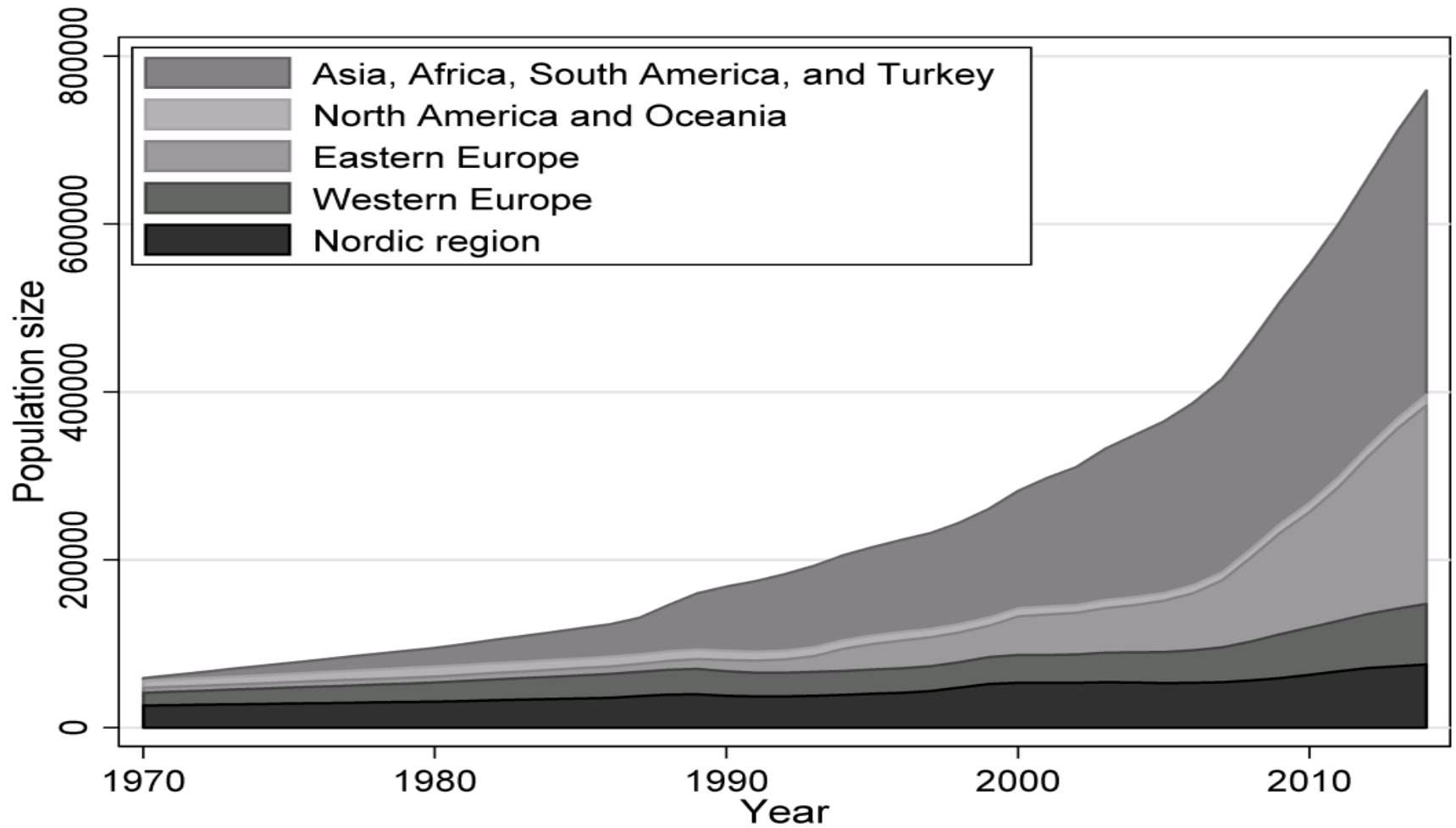University of Oslo

Gunn Elisabeth Birkelund

Children of Immigrants in Norway – Education, employment, discrimination

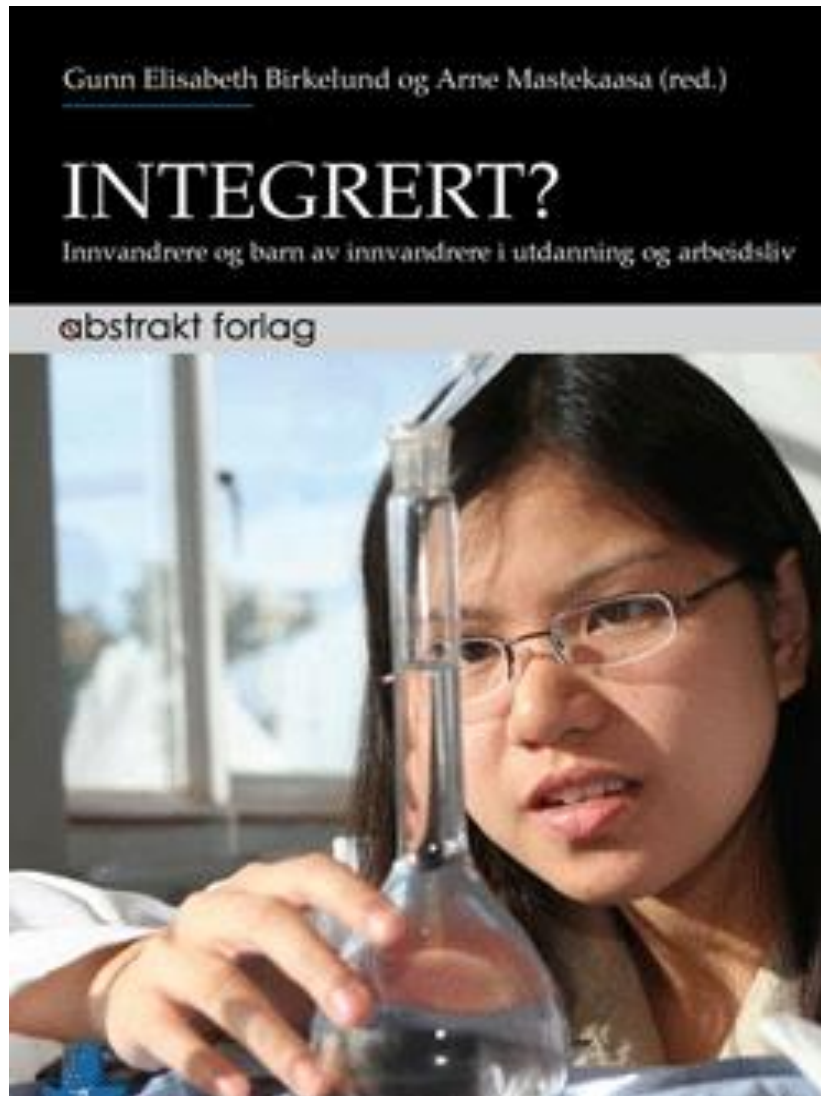# Rapid increase in immigration into Norway
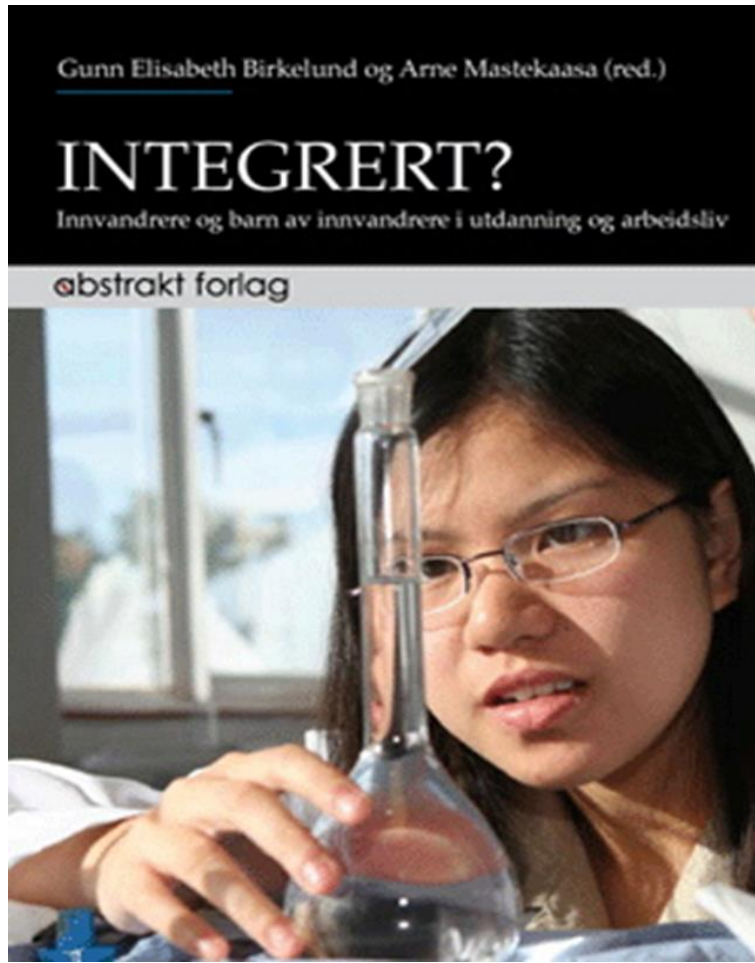– we need more knowledge

Recent research projects

- Educational Careers (2004-2010) - Norwegian Research Council.

- School Segregation in Oslo (2009-2010) — Oslo City admin.

- Discrimination (2011- 2015) - Norwegian Research Council.

- Ethnic Segregation (2014 - 2019) — Norwegian Research Council. Collaborates with Swedish Segregation project, headed by Peter Hedström

- GEMM (2015-2018) (Growth, Equal Opportunities, Migration, Markets) — EU Horizon 2020.

Gunn Elisabeth Birkelund og Arne Mastekaasa (ed.) 2009

Gunn Elisabeth Birkelund og Arne Mastekaasa (red.)

INTEGRERT?

Innvandrere og barn av innvandrere i utdanning og arbeidsliv

abstrakt forlag

- Second generation (non-western) immigrants have somewhat lower grades than the others.
- Many second generation children have parents with little or low education.
- Controlling for social background and school grades (at lower levels) we find that minority groups have *higher probability to continue in the educational system* than the majority has (with similar grades).

Educational careers

Gunn Elisabeth Birkelund og Arne Mastekaasa (red.)

INTEGRERT?

Innvandrere og barn av innvandrere i utdanning og arbeidsliv

abstrakt forlag

- → *Educational drive:* high motivation for education.
- At the universities minority students are overrepresented in medicine, odontology, and natural sciences.
- At university colleges they are overrepresented in engineering and technical disciplines, and administrative-economic disciplines.

Integrated? A mixed picture

Education:

- **The main results are positive** – second generation immigrants use their educational opportunities: educational drive

- But some groups have problems – in particular those that do not complete upper secondary school

Labour markedet:

- Access to jobs is the main obstacle. Diskriminering is likely.

- Once a job is obtained, the rest (income, etc.) seems better!

Measuring and Explaining Discrimination in the Labour Market (DISCRIM)

Aims at documenting and explaining labor market discrimination:

- Ethnic discrimination in a tight labor market

- Why do employers discriminate?

- Particularly focus on second generation minorities

The hiring process –
who gets a job call for an interview?

Multiple data:

- Randomized field experiments
- Interviews with employers (self-selected)
- Register data
- Name recognition

'Getting a job'.
Three randomized field experiments

- Phase 1 - Oslo

  - 28. september 2011 - 6. januar 2012

- Phase 2: Stavanger/Bergen/Trondheim

  - 7. februar 2012 - 18. september 2012

- Phase 3: Oslo – with long-lasting unemployment

  - 22. oktober 2012 - 19. april 2013

- Total ca. 900 applications

ISF-study (Midtbøen & Rogstad 2012)

       30. august 2010 – 25. oktober 2010

Relative *Call-Back Rate* (call-back$_N$ /call-back$_P$)

DISCRIM-project	*Call-back rate (K/M)*	
• Oslo	1,30	(1,24/1,45)
• Stg/Bg/Trh	1,18	(1,19/1,16)
• ISF-study	1,30	(1,20/1,67)

Compared with other countries , Norway in the low/mid group (but comparison difficult due to different designs, occupations, minority group, osv.) OECD 2013 (Heath et al).

Birkelund, Gunn Elisabeth; Jon Rogstad, Kristian Heggebø, Tove Mogstad Aspøy & Heidi Fischer Bjelland (2014). Diskriminering i arbeidslivet : resultater fra randomiserte felteksperiment i Oslo, Stavanger, Bergen og Trondheim. *Sosiologisk Tidsskrift*, *22*(4), s 352-382

Call-back (percent) by occupational group

Relativt likt Oslo, Stg/Bg/Trh (ikke utd.). Lavere for alle fagfelt ved arb ledighet)
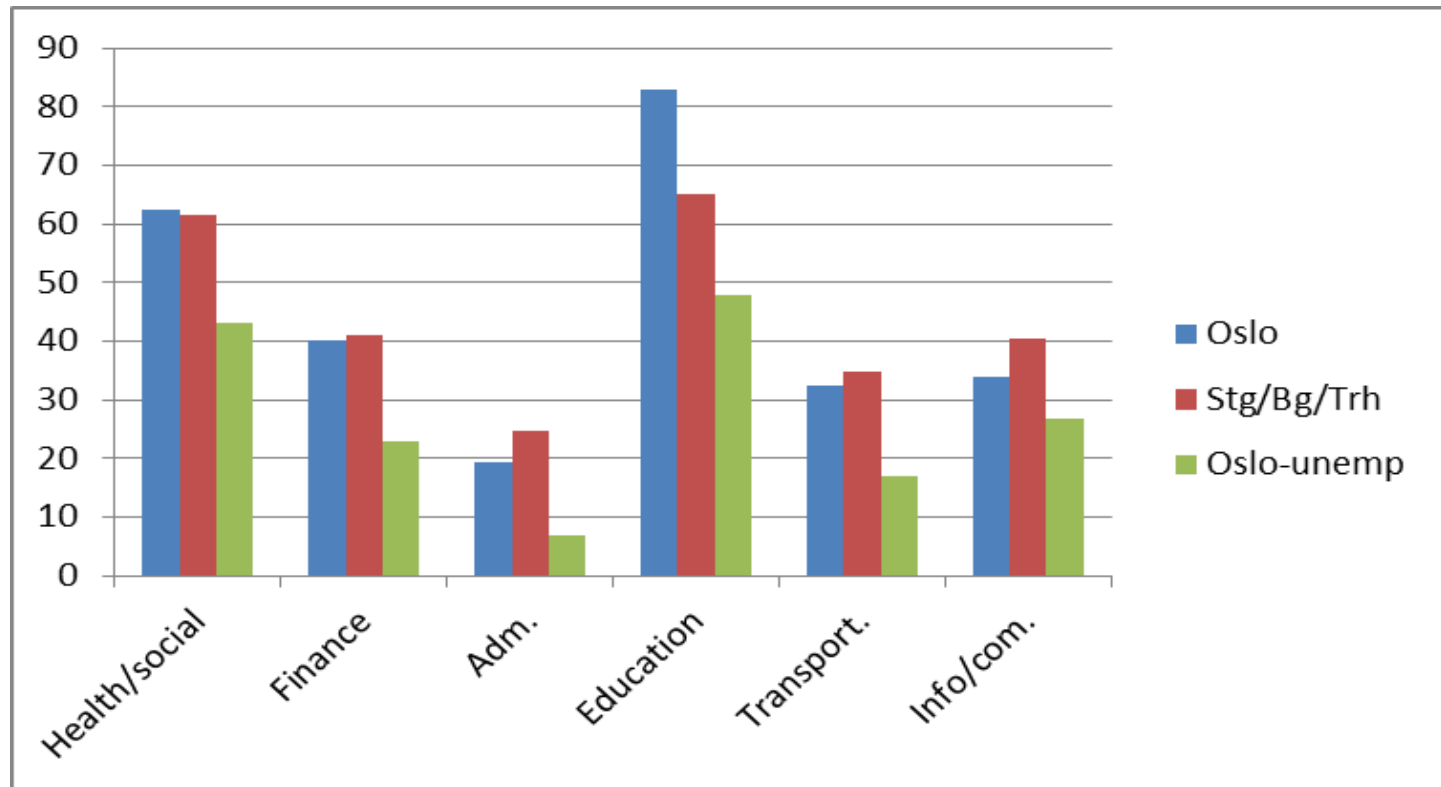
Additional DISCRIM topics

- Long-lasting unemployment → more discrimination?
  - 1,63 (1,45/2,00)

- July 22, 2011: Behavioral effects of the terror attacks?
  - Comparing the ISF experiment with our first field experiment

- Rational laziness - Experience based discrimination –

  Attempting to understand employers' decision devices in hiring processes

- Transition rates from education to employment
  - Event-history analyses of graduates, register data. Many countries/regions of origin.

Transition rates from education to employment - an event-history analysis of graduates.

(Birkelund, Gunn Elisabeth; Mats Lillehagen, Vibeke Puja Ekre & Elisabeth Ugreninov (2014). Fra utdanning til sysselsetting. En forløpsanalyse av indiske og pakistanske etterkommere i Norge. *Tidsskrift for samfunnsforskning*, 55, s 385- 414)
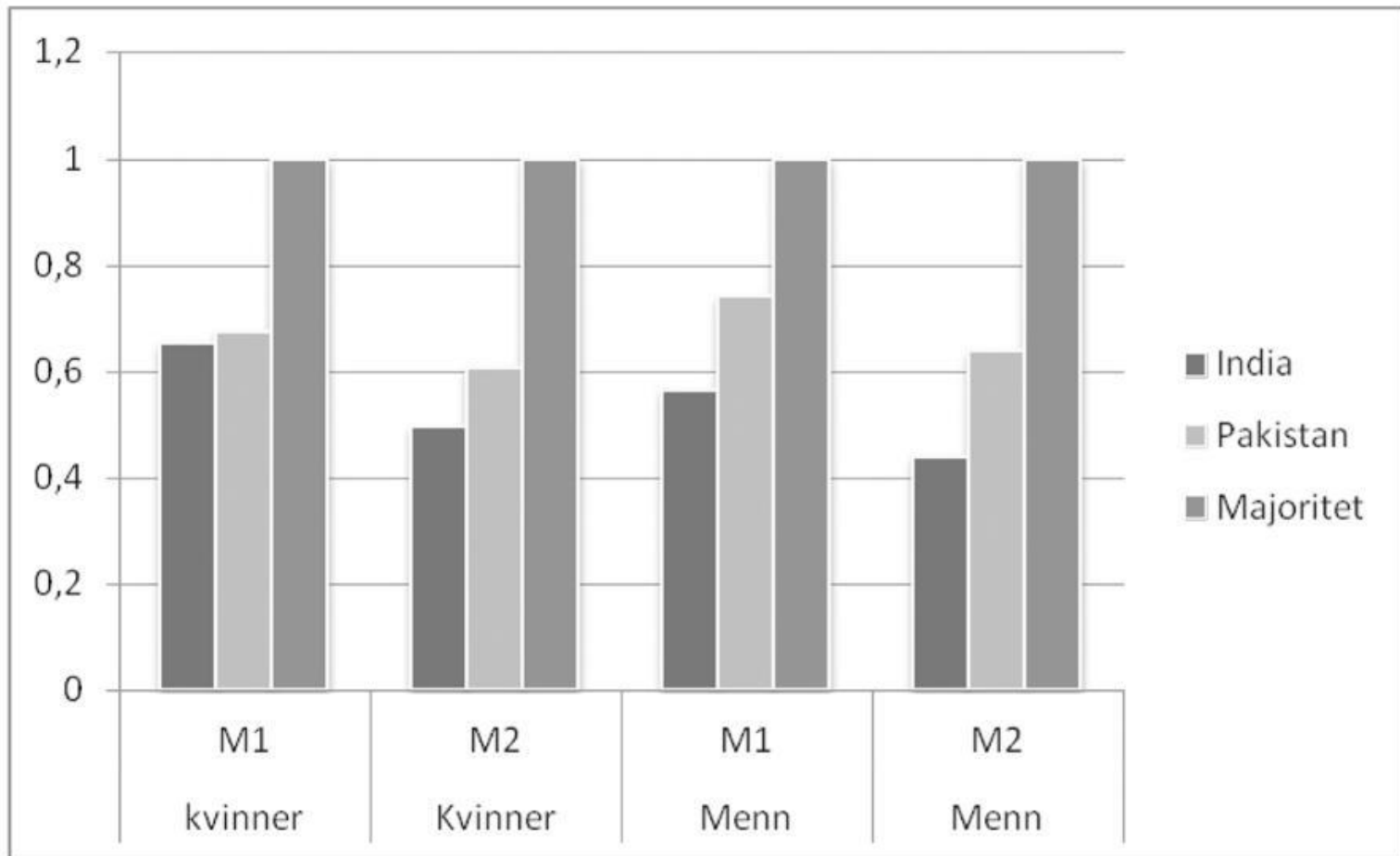
Educational careers + School segregation project. (Foto: Svein Erik Furulund, Aftenposten)

We classified schools by:

- Percentage of students with minority background (so-called ethnic segregation)

- Percentage of students with parents with higher education (university level or høgskole, i.e., socio-economic segregation)

# Educational careers + school segregation project

Do students in schools with many minority students get lower grades? Are drop-out rates higher? Are continuation rates affected?

Fekjær, Silje Noack & Gunn Elisabeth Birkelund (2007).
'Does the ethnic composition of upper secondary schools influence educational achievement and attainment? A multilevel analysis of the Norwegian case.' *European Sociological Review*, 23: 309-323.

Lower secondary schools in Oslo by percent minority students and percent students with parents with higher education. Graduating cohorts 2002-2006. (**Pearson's r = - 0,83**).
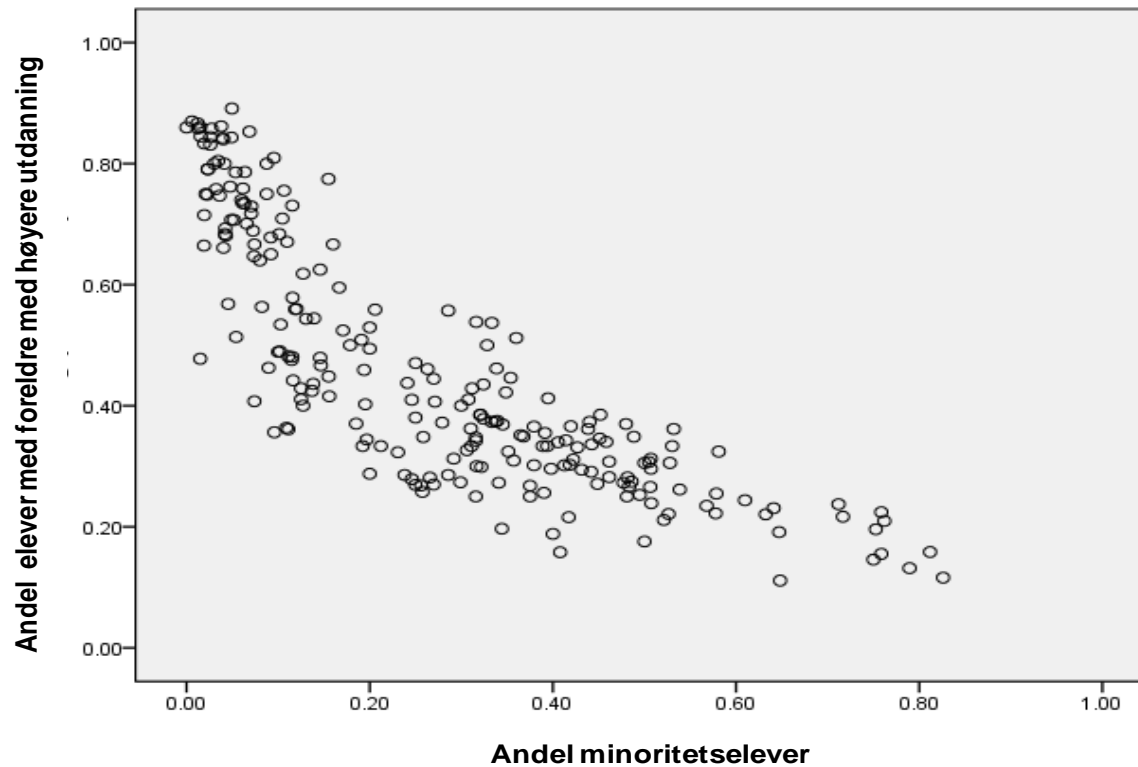
Lower secondary schools by percent minority students and average grades (grunnskolepoeng) within each educational cohort. All graduating cohorts (Oslo) from 2002-2006. (Pearsons r = - 0,77).
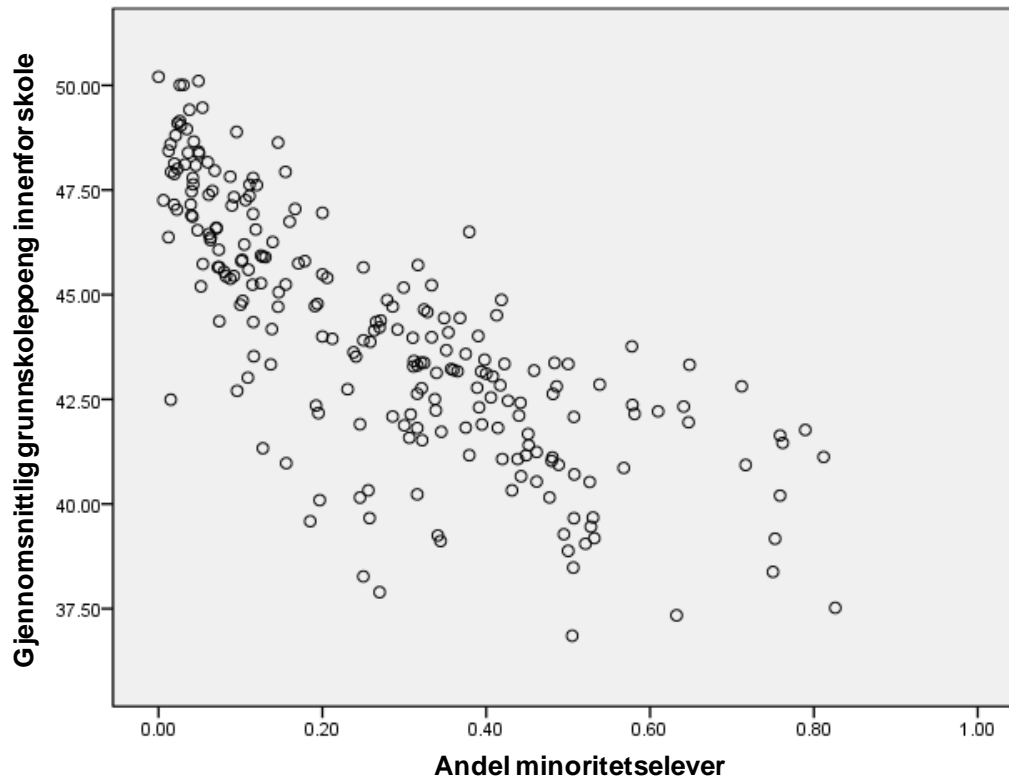
The Impact of Immigrant Classmates on Educational Outcomes

Are Skeie Hermansen & Gunn Elisabeth Birkelund (2015) – (Norway)

- To identify the **causal effect** of immigrant classmates on educational outcomes, we exploit variation in immigrant student composition across adjacent cohorts within the same school, thus controlling for unobserved heterogeneity across schools and their student bodies.

- The results show that students in cohorts with higher immigrant shares have a slightly higher likelihood of completing upper secondary education relative to students in cohorts with lower immigrant shares within the same school. This positive impact of immigrant classmates is about three times stronger among immigrant students than native students.

- Our results indicate that the overall variation in educational outcomes across schools with different immigrant concentrations primarily reflects student sorting according to socioeconomic status and other unobserved traits, while immigrant student composition seems to be of lesser importance.

Ethnic Segregation in Schools and Neighborhoods: Consequences and Dynamics

We aim at providing new understandings of the <u>dynamics</u> of ethnic segregation across schools and neighborhoods.

To use register data for solid empirical analyses of the non-random selection of individuals into schools and neighbor-hoods causing local ethnic and socio-economic segregation where children grow up.

To measure the <u>consequences</u> of segregation across schools and local communities on children's short- and long-term life chances.

To have an explicit focus on important underlying mechanisms, such as peer-effects.

Segregation project - objectives

- To analyze children's school and neighborhood exposure over a <u>longer time period</u> than previous studies, to scrutinize both the duration and the timing of exposure.

- To explore the complex and non-linear <u>segregation dynamics</u> to see if there are <u>threshold</u> levels over which families with Norwegian-born parents decide to move

- To <u>combine methodological approaches</u>, such as descriptive analysis, econometric modelling and agent-based simulation.

Summary…

- We know more now then when we started --- ☺
- At Univ of Oslo we will continue working with immigration-related topics
- Behavioral studies need to be supplemented with solid attitudinal data

- → welcome CILS in Norway!