

Talking Proper: The Rise of Accent as Social Symbol

SLICE: Critical perspectives on language (de)standardisation

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BACKGROUND

This book is the first publication from the international group of researchers involved in developing the SLICE programme. SLICE being originally coined as an acronym for *Standard Language Ideology in Contemporary Europe*. This title hints at the interests and objectives of the SLICE research group, but of course it doesn't define them. The programme is still evolving and the present book is designed to be part of the formative discussion through which empirical and theoretical priorities will be established and carried forward. The fundamental aim has been to establish a European network of like-minded (or perhaps constructively antagonistic) researchers, with the prospect of developing one or more innovative, comparative European projects on standard languages, linguistic standardisation and linguistic destandardisation.

Many key dimensions of SLICE remain to be determined, and we will introduce some of them in detail in this Introduction. But a first-level examination of the SLICE acronym suggests the following. *Standard language* is itself a slippery concept, and it is in need of further critical consideration. It is self-evident that many of Europe's languages can legitimately be called standard languages. But SLICE is interested in the criteria according to which the designation 'standard' can be applied, no doubt differently in different environments, and in whether the concept has different connotations and implications in different European countries and communities ('communities', because the programme will focus on several smaller regions as well as on nation-states). SLICE is interested in *ideologies* of language as much as in the forms and functions of languages themselves, and in exploring how ideology can be made visible by different research methods. This implies a commitment to researching the attitudes and value-structures that underpin attributions of 'standard', potential subjective complexities and shifts in these subjectivities. We expect language ideologies to differ across research sites, and in many cases also within them. Researching language ideologies should give us access to the social and cultural dynamics that position European languages as social-cultural symbols and resources in their different settings. SLICE is concerned with *contemporary Europe*, but this does not imply a neglect of history. On the contrary, we are interested in – and mainly motivated to analyse and understand – the ways in which contemporary socio-linguistic arrangements across Europe have recently evolved and are currently evolving. While most European languages have long histories of standardisation, SLICE focuses on what is changing *now*, in the context of late modernity. To that extent the SLICE acronym might alternatively be interpreted as ...*in a Changing Europe*, with an emphasis on change specifically in the era of globalisation.

SLICE's networking ambitions are already being fulfilled. In February and August 2009 about thirty scholars from diverse European contexts gathered in Copenhagen for two exploratory workshops on 'The nature and role of language standardisation and standard languages in late modernity'. The following countries/communities were represented at the workshops: Denmark, Finland (Finnish-speaking and Swedish-speaking), France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland (Irish-speaking), the Lowlands (Netherlandic and Belgian Dutch), Norway, Sweden, UK (English-speaking and Welsh-speaking). The preponderance of northern Euro-

Download Citation on ResearchGate Talking Proper: The Rise of Accent as Social Symbol This book is a history of the rise and fall of the English accent as a. Talking proper: The rise of accent as social symbol. 2nd edn. By Lynda Mugglestone. Oxford: Oxford University Press, Pp. viii, ISBN Talking Proper. The Rise of Accent As Social Symbol. Second Edition. Lynda Mugglestone. Detailed examination of the origins of a British. John K. Walton; 'Talking Proper': The Rise of Accent as Social Symbol. By Lynda Mugglestone (New York: Oxford University Press, Talking Proper is a history of the rise and fall of the English accent as a badge of cultural, social, and class identity. Lynda Mugglestone traces the origins of the. Pronunciation in Britain acts as an image of identity laden with social and cultural sensitivities. In 'Talking Proper,' Mugglestone studies the shifts in attitudes to. Talking proper: the rise of accent as social symbol. Responsibility: Lynda Mugglestone. Imprint: Oxford: Clarendon Press ; Oxford ; New York: Oxford University. 'Talking Proper': The Rise of Accent as Social Symbol. Pronunciation or BBC English, a mode of articulation which we conceived of solely as 'talking posh. Talking Proper the Rise of Accent as Social Symbol 2 Accent as Social Symbol - Download as PDF File .pdf), Text File .txt) or read online. Trove: Find and get Australian resources. Books, images, historic newspapers, maps, archives and more. Pronunciation in Britain acts as an image of identity laden with social and cultural sensitivities. In 'Talking Proper' Lynda Mugglestone studies the shifts in. Pronunciation in Britain acts as an image of identity laden with social and cultural sensitivities. In Talking Proper Lynda Mugglestone studies the shifts in. Talking Proper is a history of the rise and fall of the English accent as a badge of cultural, social, and class identity. Lynda Mugglestone traces. Author: Mugglestone, Lynda [Browse]; Format: Book; Language: English; Published/Created: Oxford ; New York: Oxford University Press, Description. The establishment of the English RP accent: a flawed interpretation? John Honey Lynda Mugglestone, 'Talking proper': the rise of accent as social symbol.

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