

Academic CV and Scientific Profile Dr. Maren S. Behnert

1. Academic Qualifications

Doctor of Philosophy (Dr. des. Phil.) – Technische Universität Dresden

German Linguistics and Language History

Dissertation: *Pragmatic Dimensions of the Defendolekt: A Grounded Theory Study on the Language Practices of Young Adults Living Predominantly on the Street*

Grading: magna cum laude (Dissertation), summa cum laude (Disputatio)

Master of Arts – Universities of Heidelberg & Freiburg

Education for Children and Youth Living on the Streets

Final Grade: 1.1

First State Examination – TU Dresden

Higher Secondary Teaching Qualification in German Studies and History

Final Grade: 1.9

2. Research & Teaching Focus

- Wertschätzende Haltung und Kommunikation im Unterricht
(*Appreciative Attitude and Communication in the Classroom*)
- Straßenpädagogik
(*Street Pedagogy / Street Education*)
- Ressourcen und Kompetenzen marginalisierter junger Menschen
(*Resources and Competencies of Marginalised Young People*)
- Gesellschaftliche Ursachen von Exklusionsprozessen
(*Societal Causes of Processes of Exclusion*)
- Kommunikatives Handeln von Randgruppen (Straßenkinder)
(*Communicative Practices of Marginalised Groups – Street-connected Youth*)
- Empirie inklusiver Bildungssettings
(*Empirical Research on Inclusive Educational Settings*)
- Rekonstruktive, theoriebildende Forschung
(*Reconstructive, Theory-Building Research*)
- Qualitative Forschungsmethoden
(*Qualitative Research Methods*) GTM

3. Professional Experience

Johann-Gottfried-Herder Gymnasium, Pirna

Senior Teacher (Deutsch/Literacy and Grammar & Geschichte/History), Grades 5–12

Aug 2022 – present

TU Dresden – Institute of German Studies

Lecturer in Sociolinguistics
Sep 2012 – Oct 2015

Treberhilfe Dresden e.V.

Street Educator – Mobile Youth Social Work / Streetwork
Jan 2012 – Mar 2014

Additional Roles

- Project assistance at international Street Pedagogy networks
- Teaching assignments in Literature Didactics
- After-school educator in special education contexts

4. Research Projects (Third-Party Funded)

Freie Hochschule Dresden – Social Pedagogy & Management

Research Projects: School absenteeism in Saxony; Evaluation of “Straßenschule”
Apr 2022 – present

Straßenschule – Treberhilfe Dresden e.V.

Concept development, fundraising, scientific supervision
Jan 2012 – present

apfe Institute – EHS Dresden

Project: Learning Spaces as Inclusive Environments (FES funded)
Mar 2016 – Nov 2018

Patio 13 – PH Heidelberg

Photo-ethnographic fieldwork in Germany and South Africa (Don Bosco funded)

5. International Experience

- Project consulting in South Africa, Burundi, Tanzania, Zambia, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nepal, India (since 2013)
- Guest Lecturer, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg (2013)
- Guest Seminar, University of South Africa (UNISA), Pretoria (2013)
- Doctoral fieldwork in Johannesburg (2013)
- Study abroad in South Africa and Mozambique (2007–2008)

6. Publications (Selection)

Monographs

- *Defending the Street Environment* (Barbara Budrich, 2018)
- *KONELE – Living Competence Networks* (Grin Verlag, 2013)
- *Competencies of Street-Connected Young Adults* (MA Thesis, 2012)

Book Chapters

- *The Street School of Treberhilfe Dresden as a Transitional Socialisation Space* (Springer VS, 2024)

Journal Articles

- *School Absenteeism: Overload Within the School Environment* (Corax, 2022)
- *Nonconformists with a Desire for Education* (Corax, 2020)
- *Secondary Appropriation: Verbal Strategies in Social Space* (Sozialraum.de, 2018)

Online Publications & Brochures

- Multiple brochures and online articles on street pedagogy and children's rights

7. Conference Presentations (Selection)

- „You're Doing This for Yourself, Blah Blah Blah...“ – School Absenteeism Conference, FHD Dresden (2023)
- *Research in Street-Based Learning Environments* – EH Dresden & FES (2021)
- *Othering Processes Among Street-Connected Youth* – National Streetwork Conference (2015)

8. Conference Organisation

- "Lernort Straße" – EH Dresden & Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (2021)
- Street Pedagogy & Inclusive Literacy Conference (2017)
- International Street Pedagogy Conference (2012)

9. Teaching Portfolio

- Theory and Methods of Sociolinguistics (TU Dresden)
- Orality and Literacy in Low-Literacy Contexts
- Resilience in Street-Connected Youth
- Child Poverty and Future Opportunities (FES)

10. Skills & Additional Competencies

Languages: English (fluent), Latin (Latinum), French (basic), Russian/Zulu/Xhosa (beginner)

IT Skills: MS Office, SPSS, LaTeX, CITAVI, MAXQDA

Music: Cello (Music A-level)

11. Voluntary & Civic Engagement

- Board Member, was ihr wollt e.V. (since 2023)
- Support for bereaved parents (Sternenkinder Dresden e.V.)
- Long-term engagement with Street Pedagogy organisations (Spring of Help e.V., Kids Haven e.V.)
- Founder (2006) Spring of help projects, Board Member Spring of Help e.V. (2011 – present)

Publications | Publikationen

Monographs | Monographien

Behnert, Maren (2018): *Die Lebenswelt Straße verteidigen. Verbale Handlungsstrategien junger Menschen mit Lebensmittelpunkt Straße in Deutschland und Südafrika.*
(*Defending the Street Environment: Verbal Action Strategies of Young People Living Predominantly on the Streets in Germany and South Africa.*)
Series: *Soziale Arbeit und sozialer Raum* – Barbara Budrich Verlag.

Gemoll, Christin / Behnert, Maren (2013): *KONELE – Kompetenznetzwerke leben.*
(*KONELE – Living Competence Networks: A Concept for Competence Development of Disadvantaged Children and Youth Through Network Formation.*)
Munich: Grin Verlag.

Behnert, Maren (2012): *Kompetenzen junger Erwachsener mit Lebensmittelpunkt Straße in Deutschland und Südafrika.*
(*Competencies of Young Adults Living on the Streets in Germany and South Africa – An Empirical Study.*)
Unpublished Master's Thesis, PH Heidelberg.

Basfeld, Maren (2008): *Gedichte von der Straße – Interkulturalität und Schreibkompetenz.*
(*Poems from the Street – Interculturality and Writing Competence.*)
State Examination Thesis, TU Dresden.

Book Chapters | Beiträge in Sammelbänden

Andrä, Markus & Behnert, Maren (2024): „Ich werde maximal ermutigt, irgendwie“. *Die Straßenschule der Treberhilfe Dresden als sozialisatorischer Zwischenraum.*

(*"I Am Maximally Encouraged, Somehow": The Street School of Treberhilfe Dresden as a Transitional Socialisation Space.*)

In: Baros et al. (eds.): *Kritische Pädagogik und Bildungsforschung (Critical Pedagogy and Educational Research)*. Springer VS.

Behnert, Maren (2015): *Sprachhandeln von jungen Erwachsenen „auf der Straße“.*

(*Language Practices of Young Adults Living "on the Street".*)

In: Schneider & Sehm-Schurig (eds.): *Vom Sinn für den Augenblick*. Berlin: LIT Verlag.

Journal Articles | Beiträge in Zeitschriften

Behnert, Maren et al. (2022): *Schulabsentismus. Überforderung im Wirkungsraum Schule.*

(*School Absenteeism: Overload Within the School Environment.*)

Corax 5/2022.

Andrä, Markus & Behnert, Maren (2020): „Querläufer mit Bock auf Bildung“.

(*"Nonconformists with a Desire for Education".*)

Evaluation of the Street School Project. Corax 6/2020.

Behnert, Maren (2018): *Sekundäre Aneignung.*

(*Secondary Appropriation: Verbal Strategies in Social Space.*)

In: Sozialraum.de 1/2018.

Behnert, Maren (2016): *Kommunikativer Stil junger Erwachsener mit Lebensmittelpunkt Straße.*

(*Communicative Style of Young Adults Living on the Streets.*)

News Jumbo 51/52.

Behnert, Maren / Wolfer, Dieter (2014): *KLuB – Kompetenzen Leben und Bilden.*

(*KLuB – Living and Building Competencies: A Street Pedagogy Concept.*)

News Extra 49/50.

Behnert, Maren / Schramm, Peggy (2013): *Die Straßenschule.*

(*The Street School of Treberhilfe Dresden.*)

News Jumbo 41/42.

Behnert, Maren / Wolfer, Dieter (2012): *Die Magie des Zuhörens.*

(*The Magic of Listening: Containing as a Standard in Streetwork.*)

Online Portal Contributions | Beiträge auf Onlineportalen

Basfeld, Maren (2010): *Bedrohte Kindheiten: HIV und Aids.*

(*Endangered Childhoods: HIV and AIDS.*)

Basfeld, Maren (2010): *Bedrohte Kindheiten: Sexueller Missbrauch.*
(*Endangered Childhoods: Sexual Abuse.*)

Basfeld, Maren (2009): *Straßenkinder in Südafrika.*
(*Street Children in South Africa.*)

Brochures | Broschüren

Behnert, Maren (ed.) (2013): *Story of my Life.*
(*"Story of My Life": Street Children in Germany and South Africa Tell Their Stories.*)

Behnert, Maren (ed.) (2013): *KLuB – Kompetenzen Leben und Bilden.*
(*KLuB – Living and Building Competences: A Holistic Street Pedagogy Concept.*)

Behnert, Maren (ed.) (2012): *Blossom of the Street.*
Street-connected youth in South Africa write poetry.

Behnert, Maren (ed.) (2010): *"Am I a Street Child?"* Reading book on basic literacy, Heidelberg.

Behnert, Maren (ed.) (2006): *Die Kinder von Daveyton.*
(*The Children of Daveyton – Stories from the Lives of Street Children.*)

Presentations and Lectures | Vorträge

„Du machst das für Dich, bla bla bla...“
(*"You're Doing This for Yourself, Blah Blah Blah..."*)
Conference on Current Perspectives on School Absenteeism, FHD Dresden, 2023.

„Forschung am Lernort Straße“
(*Research in Street-Based Learning Environments*)
Evaluation and documentation of the Street School, 2021.

„Die Wirklichkeitskonstruktionen junger Menschen...“
(*How Young People Construct Reality – Implications for Street Pedagogy*)
Conference: *Die Zukunft ist jetzt!*, 2015.

„Othering junger Menschen mit Lebensmittelpunkt Straße“
(*Othering Processes Among Street-Connected Youth*)
National Streetwork Conference, 2015.

„Straßenschule: Bildung für Straßenkinder“
(*Street School: Education for Street Children*)
FES Conference, 2013.

„Research with street kids to develop street school education model“, 2013.

„Qualitative Research on Street Children“, Department of Social Welfare, University of Johannesburg, 2014.

„Marginalized Children Worldwide“, Workshop for UEM Bethel, 2013.

Conference Organisation | Organisation von Tagungen

- „Lernort Straße“ (Learning Environment: Street Education) – Conference with FES & Evangelische Hochschule Dresden, 2021.
- „Straßenpädagogik und Alphabetisierung als inklusiver Bildungsansatz“ – Conference organisation and documentation, 2017.
- „Zukunftschancen stärken – Bildungsgerechtigkeit in Dresden!“ – Organisier, 2013.
- „Internationale Straßenpädagogik“ – International conference, 2012.

Teaching | Lehre

- **Theorie und Methoden der Soziolinguistik**
(*Theory and Methods of Sociolinguistics*), TU Dresden
- **Kinderarmut bekämpfen – Zukunftschancen stärken**
(*Combating Child Poverty – Strengthening Future Opportunities*), FES
- **Oralität und Literalität in schriftfernen Milieus**
(*Orality and Literacy in Low-Literacy Contexts*), TU Dresden
- **Resilienz bei Straßenkindern**
(*Resilience in Street-Connected Children*), University of Heidelberg
- **Kritische Lebensereignisse**
(*Critical Life Events*), University of Heidelberg
- **Wie Straßenkinder auf der Straße lernen**
(*How Street Children Learn on the Streets*)
Seminar and interpreter at the Partner Conference of the Weltwärts Programme

Additional Academic Engagement | Außerdem

- Member and moderator in the interdisciplinary research group „Qualitas“ (Institut für Qualitative Forschung, Berlin)
Focus on Symbolic Interactionism and Grounded Theory Methodology.