“Today, we teach the kids where we are from”: Event filmmaking and diasporic homemaking among Indian Muslims in North America

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\textbf{Abstract (150 words)}

How do people make themselves at home in situations of migration, dispersal, and marginalisation? Recently, migration scholars have destabilized the idea that a home is bound to a dwelling, and are developing more processual ways of conceptualizing home. Here I bring this research agenda into conversation with the anthropology of events to conceptualize social events as a diasporic homemaking practice. I demonstrate how event filmmaking, a genre of ethnographic filmmaking, can be used as a method in studies of social events and diasporic homemaking. To develop this conceptual and methodological contribution, I discuss a film I made about the Vohra families reunion, a social event of Indian Gujarati Muslims (Vohras) in the U.S.A. and Canada. I interpret the reunion’s potential as a homemaking practice in the light of the social position of Muslims as a religious minority in the U.S.A., in India, and in the Indian diaspora.
References


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Films


