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The depart-ment of in-between affairs: liminality as a space for negotiation, story-telling and re-making of identities

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Abstract

The research explores ways to write about the concept of liminal space or being in-between. A familiar experience that is encountered at both an individual and universal level at varying degrees and situations. My research uses the theme of *im/migration* as a starting point to speak about liminality and placing this research in the context of South Africa and Eswatini because of my personal experience. In addition, my research considers how the historical residue from colonial and/or apartheid regimes have affected the ways we see ourselves and our inherited infrastructure in the broader perspective of the post-colonial. For example how borders that have been arbitrarily defined, have disturbed our understanding of belonging, creating conflicting ideas and consequently, have embedded bodies in a perpetual in-betweenness. More importantly, this research applies the idea of the 'experiential' as a methodology, and therefore a valid form of knowledge production contributing to the knowledge pool of *im/migration* and liminal space.

Keywords: Liminality, in-between, im/migration, experiential, borders