

Keynote

Carrying Loss and Finding Home: Migration Dialogues in Adult Education

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The presentation will explore how objects can serve as powerful tools for dialogue and mutual learning in the context of migration. For refugees, recounting personal stories of displacement is often a painful and vulnerable process. To facilitate more meaningful and less distressing conversations, we employed a method that centered around the objects migrants brought with them—items imbued with emotional and symbolic significance. These objects served several different functions, as: 1) Anchors of Normalcy, 2) Cultural Ambassadors, 3) Bridges between the Physical and Spiritual, 4) Sources of Comfort and Therapy, and 5) Shields. In addition to interviews, data included professional photographs which captured images of these objects, visually conveying their significance and enhancing the storytelling process.