

## Why on earth right-dislocate a pronoun? A comparison of Norwegian and German right-dislocation

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In most Germanic languages, a right-dislocated nominal phrase must be descriptively richer than its correlate. Whereas (1) is well-formed, for instance, (2) and (3) are not:

- (1) Ich mag die nicht, die zwei Männer.
- (2) \*Ich mag die zwei Männer nicht, ich.
- (3) \*Die zwei Männer mag ich nicht, die.

In Norwegian, however, pronominal right-dislocation is a frequent and fully productive phenomenon in oral speech. Subjects (and fronted objects) may co-occur with a right-dislocated pronoun, as illustrated in (4) and (5) below.

- (4) [Two friends are hiking in the woods. One morning one of the men asks the other man whether he wants to join him and go fishing. His friend then answers:]  
Trur jeg mediterer litt, jeg.  
Think I meditate a.bit, I  
'I think I'll rather meditate for a while.'
- (5) [The speaker is really angry with a young man. He is arguing with him, then asks a woman for more to drink before he continues to argue with the young man:]  
Du tror du er noe, du. Men du er bare en drittgutt  
You think you are something, you. But you are only a shit.boy  
'You think you are something. But you are just a lousy coward.'

In this talk, I will present the results from a recent corpus study of Norwegian pronominal right-dislocation. I will describe the effects that the construction leads to in context and propose an analysis for how to predict the data. In addition, I want to discuss whether the Norwegian data should influence the way right-dislocation is perceived and analyzed in Germanic languages more generally, including German. This is an intriguing question since most analyses of right-dislocation in Germanic languages rely heavily on the constraint that the right-dislocated phrase ought to be descriptively richer than its correlate.