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Exclusion and renewal: identity and Jewishness in Franz Kafka's "The Metamorphosis" and David Vogel's Married Life

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Francina Valk was born on 26 February 1932 in The Hague, The Netherlands. After high school she worked at the Human Resources department of *De Bataafse Petroleum Maatschappij* in The Hague. In the 1970s she completed a seven-year advanced teacher training (MO-a and b) for high school education in English at *The Nutsseminarium* in Amsterdam. From 1974 to 1992 she worked as an English language and literature teacher in the top forms of the *Rijks Scholen Gemeenschap voor Havo and Atheneum* at Alkmaar. There she prepared pupils for their final exams in English language and literature.

After her retirement in 1999 Valk aspired to a more academic approach to the English language. She enrolled for a doctoral degree in English language and Literature at the University of Amsterdam. She completed her doctoral degree in two years, under supervision of Prof. Dr. Pamela Pattynama.

Valk's interest in her own Jewish descent and an inspiring series of lectures about Kafka at the VU in Amsterdam led her to investigate literary dramatisations of identity in the work of Jewish writers living and working in an increasingly anti-Semitic *fin-de-siècle* and interbellum Europe.